



FASSIFERN NETBALL ASSOCIATION

2026

The Fassifern Netball Association has been providing a base to participate in an inclusive recreational activity within a small rural community since 1992.

As well as promoting a healthy lifestyle, our association also provides opportunities for young men and women to develop leadership and life skills; through teamwork, the challenge and commitment of representing the club at regional/state level, umpiring or volunteering. We also run a very successful social competition.

We are a family focused association and encourage all ages to be involved, whether they are coaching, scoring or helping in canteen.

This booklet provides information regarding membership, costs and commitments, plus a general outline of our rules and regulations.

Keep as a handy guide throughout the season.

FNA
Player
Handbook

WELCOME TO FASSIFERN NETBALL ASSOCIATION

Our regular season runs from late March to early September. We start with two muster/grading weeks to sort out teams and divisions, then come back in April (Term 2) for 14-16 playing weeks.

Games are played at the Fassifern Netball courts (Boonah Show Grounds) every Monday night.

We also run a fun Social Mixed season each year in October/November (Term 4).

For more information about our season, the competitions on offer and our fees please visit our website. www.fassifernnetball.com

Details of our current Executive & Management Committee can also be found on our website.

A BRIEF OUTLINE OF HOW OUR ASSOCIATION OPERATES

The Association is run in accordance with the Constitution of Netball Queensland (NQ) rules, Fassifern Netball Association (FNA) By-Laws and Model Rules.

As with most sporting organisations, our association is run by players and their families and friends. It should be remembered that all the Executive and Committee members are **unpaid volunteers** who put considerable time and effort into the job and would appreciate your support and assistance where possible.

GENERAL MEETINGS are held on the third Tuesday of each month (or as advised) at the Netball Association's Clubhouse at 6.00pm. Meeting dates for the year are given out at the start of every season and on our website. **All members** are encouraged to attend and participate, as your input is welcomed.

Meetings are conducted in line with standard meeting procedure, and all Executive and Committee decisions are subject to approval of the members present at meetings. **All teams are required to have a representative at each meeting, any team without a representative will have two (2) leaderboard points deducted from the competition tally.**

THE EXECUTIVE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO AMEND THE ASSOCIATION RULES AT ANY TIME.

PLAYERS MUST HAVE PAID THEIR TOTAL MEMBERSHIP IN FULL BEFORE TAKING THE COURT TO BE COVERED BY INSURANCE.

NO EXCEPTIONS CAN BE MADE AS THE ASSOCIATION CANNOT TAKE THE RISK.

TEAM COACHES & TEAM MANAGERS RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Be at assigned court at least 10 minutes prior to game time (according to the current draw).
2. Ensure that the players comply with uniform policy (see below)
3. Fill in the score sheet with team names including substitute players.
4. Ensure court and team duties are carried out per the draw (umpiring/canteen duties)
5. Provide a scorer for the duration of the game.
6. Teams must toss for the centre pass or goal end before the game commences
7. Teams must line up on transverse line ready for nails, jewelry and uniforms to be checked by umpires.
8. Have a representative attend all General Meetings throughout the season. Teams not represented will be deducted two (2) leaderboard points.
9. Any team who wishes to **forfeit** a game must notify a member of the Executive **before 4pm on the scheduled game day**. The opposing team is automatically awarded the leaderboard points for a winning game (3 points). Teams who do not notify anyone will also be deducted two leaderboard points.
10. A minimum of 5 team members are required for a game to count towards leaderboard points, otherwise the game must be forfeited.
11. Ensure that all players and parents are aware of the **code of conduct** contained in this handbook.
12. Be aware of the **photo policy** below.
13. Managers and coaches are to ensure that all junior team players have equal court time.

UNIFORMS

1. All players must take the court in full matching uniform by the fourth week of the competition or the team will be penalised two leaderboard points (not game points).
2. Umpires, Team Coaches and Managers are responsible for monitoring uniforms at the start of a game and must give players time to rectify (find a matching uniform) before the penalty is enforced. The infringement can't be flagged at the end of a game.
3. The uniform must be approved by the Executive at the commencement of the season.
4. Uniforms acceptable to the association for Open Division are
BOTTOMS: skirt, bike pants, tights, leggings or shorts. *All must be the same plain colour (preferably black), no big logos or patterns. Shorts must have no pockets, zips or buttons.*
TOPS: Matching team shirt, *with or without a collar or sleeves.*
5. NetSetGo divisions are provided with a uniform top by Netball Australia, and they may also wear the FNA polo shirts/dresses.
6. Intermediate and Cadets divisions have a compulsory FNA uniform (A-line dress or polo shirt) that they are required to wear. Purchased via the duty desk.
7. Fingernails must be short and smooth. No tapping allowed. Specific netball gloves may be worn.
8. Hair must be suitably tied back.
9. **No jewelry can be worn.**
Exceptions: Wedding bands or Medical bracelets may be worn and must be securely taped. Newly pierced ears may be taped for up to 6 weeks only. No other exceptions will be made.
7. Appropriate lightweight sandshoes must be worn.
8. **Winter months:** Wearing warmer clothing (long sleeve shirt under uniform top or long black tights) is permitted provided uniformity of colour among all team members is observed. No tracksuit pants with pockets and no tracksuit hoodies are to be worn under/over uniform.
9. **Finals – Full regular uniforms (shorts and top) must be worn for semi finals and finals.**

COACHES

All teams benefit from coaching, and the Association encourages all teams to have a suitably qualified coach. If your team is unable to find a coach or if you are interested in coaching a team, please see the coaching convenor. For insurance purposes, coaches must be registered members of the association [Non-playing members]. You must register via our website. The Fassifern Netball Association will endeavor to provide coaching courses throughout the season.

RULES OF PLAY

1. Teams must have five (5) registered players in uniform before taking the court. All substitute players must also be in full uniform. SUB must be written beside their name on the score sheet.
2. Any player found guilty of disputing an umpire's decision on the netball court, or any other form of misconduct, shall be liable to be disqualified from taking part in any match under control of the Association. The length of such disqualification is to be decided by the Executive. Umpires may report in writing about player behaviour to the Secretary.
3. After commencement of a game, umpires are not allowed to interchange, except in the case of illness or injury. The Umpire Convenor may make a decision on the night of competition for any extenuating circumstances.
4. In the event of a team being late no grace is allowed. One goal per minute will be added to the score of the opposing team (with 5 members on court) until at least 5 players of each team are on court in full uniform.
5. 3 points will be awarded for a win, 2 points for a draw and 1 point for a loss. A team wishing to protest shall notify the opposing team captain of its intention to protest at the conclusion of the game. All protests must be lodged in writing to the Executive for consideration within 48 hours after the match.
6. Before the start of a match, the names of all players & team officials must be provided to the scorers. Each team must name one player as captain. The officials shall be the umpires and scorers. **Each team must provide a scorer-** the two scorers sit together. Both scorers and umpires shall sign the card at the conclusion of the game.
7. Each team (except Junior division) must supply **one** or **two** umpires for the season whose names will be recorded and who will perform that team's umpiring duties. They will be expected to sit the theory exam and attain their Association Certification, at which time they will become "Pool Umpires".
8. A player may play as a substitute in her own division for any team as long as they play only **3 times** for each other team and plays in the **wing positions only**. A player may substitute in a grade higher than their own as long as they only sub **3 times**. Any more than three times in a higher division and they will have to play up in that division permanently.
9. Balls: Game balls only will be provided on fixture night. All teams are encouraged to have their **own** practice balls.
10. Bibs: All teams in the open division must supply their **own** bibs. Bibs may be ordered through the Duty Desk. Net Set Go, Intermediate & Cadets teams will all be allocated a set of bibs at the start of the season. They must wash & maintain the bibs then return them at the end of the season. Any lost or damaged sets of bibs must be replaced by the team.
11. For safety reasons and to protect our surfaces no bikes, skateboards, scooters etc. will be permitted on or around courts at any time.
12. Entry and exit to courts will be through Macquarie Street only. Please observe speed limit of **10km/hr** for the safety of our members and all users of the grounds.

FINALS

At the conclusion of fixture matches, finals shall be played as follows:

1. The team with the highest points tally [No.1] automatically enters the final. The No.2 team will play the No.3 team. The winner of 2 versus 3 will play in the final against team 1.
2. In the event of a tie in points, when any position has to be decided then 5 minutes each way will take place. In the event of a further tie, then the team which is the first to get 2 goals ahead will be deemed the winner.

REGISTRATIONS AND CLEARANCES

1. Initial registration of a team in Open Division requires at least 7 players to apply for membership.
2. Teams have the right to play new members up to the semi-finals. **No players may compete in semi-finals** without having played in their respective team **3 set fixture dates**.
3. Players are not allowed to register in more than one Open Division team participating on the one fixture competition night. Junior divisions may play up in a development team on the same night as determined by the Executive each season.
4. In the event of a team disbanding, its members shall be at liberty to play with any other team with the consent of the Executive. Clearance in written form must be obtained to transfer from one team to another during a season. One transfer only will be granted during any one season, unless in unforeseen circumstances, where the Executive may decide otherwise.
5. A player's age on 31 December in the current year shall determine the age group in which that player may play.
6. Non Playing Membership – any Coach, Umpire, Committee member who is not a registered player but volunteers on or around our courts must register online for non-playing membership in order to be covered by insurance.

CODES OF BEHAVIOUR FOR PLAYERS/PARENTS

1. Play by the rules.
2. Never argue with an official, if you disagree have your captain, coach or manager approach the official during a break or after the competition.
3. Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials and sledging of other players, deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent are not acceptable or permitted behaviours in any sport.
4. Work equally hard for yourself and/or your team. Your team's performance will benefit and so will you.
5. Be a good sport. Applaud all good plays whether they are made by your team or the opposition.
6. Treat all participants in your sport as you like to be treated. Do not bully or take unfair advantage of another competitor.
7. Co-operate with your coach, team mates and opponents. Without them there would be no competition.
8. Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit, not just to please parents and coaches.
9. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
10. Remember, children participate for their enjoyment NOT yours.
11. Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sport.
12. Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a game.

Any player/parent found guilty of disputing an umpire's decision on the netball court, or any other form of misconduct, shall be liable to be disqualified from taking part in any match under control of the association. The length of such disqualification is to be decided by the committee. Umpires may report in writing any such player to the secretary.

WET WEATHER POLICY

In the event of wet weather, a decision on the night's draw will be made by the Executive; Net Set Go Games at 2.50pm, Intermediate at 2.50pm & Open Division at 5pm. This decision will be based on whether the association can provide a safe playing environment. Conveners will contact team managers in the event of cancellation of fixtures and information will also be placed on our Facebook page.

If games are cancelled before play commences; teams are awarded two points.

If games are cancelled after commencing; if it's after half time the score stands, if it's before half time both teams are awarded two points.

PHOTO POLICY

Fassifern Netball welcomes you to take photographs of your child playing netball, however as it is difficult to take individual photos of your child during a game, it is requested that you seek permission from the manager, coach or captain of both teams prior to taking any photos.

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

The Fassifern Netball Association acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of every child and young person who has been entrusted to its care and is committed to working to provide a safe environment for all members.

The key principles of the Fassifern Netball Association's child protection policy are that:

- The child's welfare is, and must always be, paramount consideration.
- All children and young people have a right to be protected from abuse regardless of their age, gender, disability, culture, language, racial origin, religious beliefs or sexual orientation.
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

'THE BALL AND WHISTLE' CANTEEN

The Association operates a canteen every Monday night. It offers healthy home-style meals as well as other hot food, chips, burgers etc. There are also sweets, cold drinks, tea and coffee for sale. The proceeds from this canteen provide considerable funds for the Association and everyone is encouraged to make use of this service whenever possible.

Each division (junior and senior) will be rostered to help in the canteen.

REFUND POLICY

Players may apply for a refund within the first 4 weeks of competition if:

- they have sustained an injury at netball which results in them being unable to continue, or
- they have relocated to another area meaning they are unable to attend games in Boonah.

The refund will be less the non-refundable Netball Queensland capitation fees. The same criteria applies to REP players, the refund will be less than the \$100 deposit.

REPRESENTATIVE NETBALL

Fassifern Netball participates in the Darling Downs Inter District Netball Competition and has done for over 20 years. We also participate (and on rotation, host) in the Scenic Rim Challenge Carnival.

Trials for representative teams will be advertised at the end of our regular season (October/November) for the following year.

Fassifern Netball endeavors to provide an opportunity for players 11 to 16 years to play for our association at a representative level. Each year we offer trials across three age groups - 11/12, 13/14 & 15/16. The number of teams is dependent on the level of interest and number of players attending trials. FNA will always ensure they can find suitable Coaches for each team. Nominations for coaches are called for prior to the trial date and training courses can be provided throughout the year to equip interested members to become qualified coaches.