

NETBALL RULES

1. APPLICATION

- 1.1 These rules shall apply to all tournaments held under the jurisdiction of Australian National Sikh Sports and Cultural Council (ANSSACC).

2. DRAW

- 2.1 The Netball Tournament shall be conducted in either a round-robin series or group matches depending upon the number of teams competing. If there are eight or more teams participating in the competition, then a series of group matches fixtures will be devised as per Cl 6.5.
- 2.2 The Local Organising Committee shall produce a fixture of matches showing the date, time and venue. This fixture shall be submitted to the competing teams no later than **four weeks** prior to the date in which the Tournament is due to commence.
- 2.3 Teams can, via their registered club manager, provide feedback on the fixtures and request minor adjustments, up to two weeks prior to the commencement of the Tournament. Requests are not guaranteed to be accepted and will be subject to review.
- 2.4 The Local Coordinator, in conjunction with the National Coordinator(s), will review any requests for fixture adjustments and agree on final fixtures.
- 2.5 No changes to fixture times will be permitted within the two weeks prior to Tournament commencement.

3. LOCAL COORDINATOR (TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR)

- 3.1 The Local Organising Committee shall appoint a suitably qualified person to the position of Local Coordinator. The Local Organising Committee may appoint suitable additional coordinators to assist where necessary. The Local Organising Committee, subject to agreement by the ANSSACC Executive Committee, may appoint an independent Tournament Director (for example an official representative from a State netball body or a District netball association) as part of their local coordinator team.
- 3.2 The duties of the Local Coordinator(s) and Local Organising Committee shall be:
- (a) To generally supervise the Tournament on behalf of the ANSSACC Executive Committee.
 - (b) To conduct the Tournament in accordance with the Netball Rules and General Championship Rules.
 - (c) To appoint a duty team for each match of the Tournament, consisting of Umpires, Scorers and a Timekeeper.
 - (d) To arrange under his/her control, and only if necessary, any official meetings of team officials (Captain or Manager or Coach).
 - (e) To adjudicate upon:
 - (i) Any matter raised by any team official (Captain or Manager or Coach) in respect of any aspects of the Tournament to be raised with the National Coordinators;
 - (ii) Any matter raised by the Umpires;
 - (iii) Any matter relating to the conduct of any participating team or its officials in respect of any match should be raised with the Local Coordinator and then escalated to the National Coordinators.
- 3.3 The National Coordinators may suspend any player, reserve player or team official for one or more matches if he/she verbally or physically abuses an opponent, umpire, spectator or local / national coordinator, or if his/her behaviour has brought the game of Netball into disrepute before, during or after any match throughout the Tournament. Umpires can request that the National Coordinators review any such instances to determine the appropriate disciplinary action against a player.
- 3.4 Hence, the duties of the Local Coordinator shall be to assist the National Coordinators in the discharge of those responsibilities described in Clause 3.3 and to make or to supervise all arrangements for the smooth running of the Netball Tournament.

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- 3.5 The Local Coordinator(s) and National Coordinator(s) are not permitted to have any coaching involvement with any team participating in the netball tournament. Managerial involvement (such as team administration, logistics, and travel arrangements) is permitted, provided that this does not involve pre-game, in-game or post-game coaching or strategy.
- 3.6 The Local Coordinator(s) and National Coordinator(s) are required to disclose to the ANSSACC Executive Committee any actual conflicts of interest or potential conflicts of interest that a reasonable person may perceive, in relation to any coaching or managerial involvement they have with a team participating in the netball tournament.
- 3.7 The Local Coordinator(s) must be present at the Netball venue at all times for the entire period of the Tournament.
- 3.8 The National Coordinator(s) must either be present at the Netball venue or readily contactable at all times for the entire period of the Tournament.
- 3.9 The National Coordinators must attend each Australian Sikh Games held during their term as coordinators.

4. UMPIRES

- 4.1. The Local Organising Committee shall appoint qualified umpires to officiate all matches.
- 4.2. In any game the Umpires shall have the authority to administer the rules of play, as set by the (World Netball Rule Book (<https://netball.sport/game/the-rules-of-netball/>)). Decisions by umpires during the game shall be final and no appeals will be entertained.
- 4.3. Umpires are expected to always maintain discipline and have the right to report offensive behaviour.
 - Any verbal abuse is not acceptable and offending player/s may be warned once only and thereafter sent from the court for the remainder of the game (no substitution until Quarter time).
 - Any physical abuse is not acceptable and offending player/s will be disqualified for the remainder of the tournament and hereafter sent from the court for the remainder of the game (no substitution until Quarter time).
 - Team officials (Captain, Manager and Coach) are responsible for the behaviour of their team's supporters. Supporters or spectators engaging in anti-social behaviour (examples include, but not limited to, swearing, teasing, bullying, arguing) will be asked to leave the courtside for the remainder of the game. Failure of a team's supporters to follow the Umpire's instructions may result in the team forfeiting the match.
- 4.4. Umpires must not have an association with competing teams. For example: Umpire/s being the coach of any team, which can result in a conflict of interest. Offending teams will be disqualified from the tournament and shall discontinue remaining matches once found at default. Offending Umpires will be withdrawn from the tournament.

5. REGISTRATION & PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- 5.1 The Team Registration / Entry is to be submitted online via the ANSACC portal by the nominated date together with the registration fees. At least 14 days prior to the commencement date of the Australian Sikh Games, each participating team shall submit their team sheets via ANSACC portal, including the names of its players (Preliminary Squad Names of 12) and team officials (Coach and Manager).
- 5.2 All players must meet the Basic Participation Criteria as set out in the ANSSACC General Championship Rules, Terms and Conditions, including the Sikh Definition ID system.
- 5.3 A registered player is eligible to play for one team within each division of the tournament (i.e. player may compete in a mixed and opens team, however, shall not participate in two opens competition teams) only throughout the Tournament. Should a player be registered to play for more than one team within a division, that player shall be deemed ineligible throughout the Tournament. If during the Tournament any ineligible player is

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found to have played in any match, the team for which that player played for shall be deemed to have forfeited every match in which the ineligible player has taken part.

- 5.4 No more than 12 players shall be registered for each team and five players as a minimum.
- 5.5 Age groupings for Juniors Netball will be as per the ANSSACC General Championship Rules. The age of a player is determined by their numerical age as at 31 December in the previous year with respect to the current competition year.

Age Group	Age as of 31 st December (Previous year relative to current competition year)
Under 11	9 – 10 years old
Under 13	11 – 12 years old
Under 15	13 – 14 years old
Under 17	15 – 16 years old

Example 1: A player that was 16 years old as of 31st December in the previous year, with respect to the current competition year, will be registered in the Under 17 age group.

Example 2: A player that was 17 years old as of 31st December in the previous year, with respect to the current competition year, will not be eligible to play in the junior netball competition.

- 5.6 The National Coordinators have the right to seek information by whatever means deemed necessary and appropriate to confirm eligibility of the player and reserves the right to make a final decision in consultation with the Local Coordinators with regard to eligibility.
- 5.7 It is the responsibility of the team official (Captain or Manager or Coach) to declare and prove the eligibility of all their players and to ensure that all their players have completed the Sikh Definition ID process. Team officials must provide all required information four weeks prior to commencement of the Tournament. Team officials may also be required to provide all required information during the Tournament should doubt arise about any players.
- 5.8 Opens Ladies and Mixed Competition minimum age of players is 15 years old.

6. COMPETITION RULES

6.1 The Games

- 6.1.1 The matches in the Tournament shall be played in accordance with the World Netball Rule Book except where modified by the Organising Committee and in consultation with the ANSSACC National Netball Coordinators.
- 6.1.2 In the case where the Official Rules of Netball appear to be in conflict with the Rules set out by the Organising Committee, the Rules set by the International Netball Rule Book shall prevail. Team officials (Captain or Manager or Coach) must notify the Umpire prior to any match of any member of their team who has a medical condition that requires them to carry life saving medications, in case of emergency.
- 6.1.3 No match will be stopped to tie shoelaces.
- 6.1.4 In case of drawn games, five minutes will be played from each goal end by both teams. If from thereafter the scores still remain the same then the Timekeeper will hold time until the next goal is scored making that team the winning team and consequently the Timekeeper may then call full time (Note: Semi-Finals, Final and Grand Final only).

6.2 Score Sheets

- 6.2.1 Team officials (Captain or Manager or Coach) must correctly fill in their team details on the Score Sheets and present this to the Officials of the game 10 minutes prior to the start time of each game. Information on the score sheets will include names of each player and starting position.
- 6.2.2 No scorer can be the manager, coach or a player of a team competing in the game.
- 6.2.3 A scorer must be nominated by each team and scorers must stand/sit next to each other for the duration of the game.
- 6.2.4 It shall be the responsibility of the Umpire to send the completed score sheets to the Local Netball Coordinator after completion of each game.
- 6.2.5 The Coordinator must nominate a designed tent/stand for all Scoresheets to be handed into.
- 6.2.6 Advice of forfeited and/or abandoned games shall be recorded on the score sheet.
- 6.2.7 A breach of the above shall automatically result in deduction of two points from the offending team.
- 6.2.8 It is the responsibility of the Local Organising Committee to provide game scoresheets, pens and seating for the scorers.

6.3 Points

- 6.3.1 The following points shall be awarded:
- (a) two (2) points for a win
 - (b) one (1) point for a draw
 - (c) no point for a loss
- 6.3.2 The total points accumulated at the end of the Preliminary matches shall determine the placing and hence the Semi-Final play-offs.
- 6.3.3 If at the conclusion of the Preliminary matches, two or more teams are on an equal number of points, then the Count Back Points System shall apply.
- 6.3.4 Count Back System: The total number of goals scored by each team in the Preliminary matches will be added. Teams will be ranked in order of the highest total number of goals scored. If any team has had a forfeit against them, then goals scored in all Preliminary matches involving the forfeited team/s will be excluded, i.e. Count Back Points awarded to all team/s against the forfeited team/s will not be counted.

6.4 Duration of Matches

- 6.4.1 The duration of matches will be as per the below:
- Preliminary matches - Quarter Time: 8 mins, Half Time: 3 mins, Quarter Time: 1 mins
 - Semi-Finals - Quarter Time: 10 mins, Half Time: 3 mins, Quarter Time: 2 mins
 - Grand Final - Quarter Time: 12 mins, Half Time: 5 mins, Quarter Time: 3 mins
- 6.4.2 All matches shall consist of four quarters, with an interval at half time and quarter intervals between first-second and third-fourth. Teams shall change ends at each quarter.
- 6.4.3 No injury time will be recorded during Preliminary matches (Semi-Finals, Final and Grand Final only).
- 6.4.4 No amendments or requests will be entertained for changes in the duration of the time of the matches

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6.5 Pooling

6.5.1 If there are 8 or more teams participating in the competition, then a series of group matches fixtures will be devised as per the table below, based off rankings from the previous year's tournament results.

- Winner shall be seeded 1 and Runner Up 2
- Final 3 Loser to be seeded 3rd
- Final 2 Loser to be seeded 4th
- Teams 5 and beyond shall be ranked on final group stands: Points & Goal Differences
- In an instance where teams cannot be separated for seeding, National Coordinators may use their discretion

Pool A	Pool B
Seed 1 (Winner)	2 (R/UP)
4	3
5	6
8	7
9	10
12	11

6.6 Finals

- In the instance of less than 8 competing teams in the division
 - Final 1: 1st Place v 2nd Place. Winner advances to Grand Final. Loser to play in Final 3.
 - Final 2: 3rd Place v 4th Place. Winner advances to Final 3.
 - Final 3: Winner of Final 2 v Loser of Final 1. Winner advances to Grand Final
 - Grand Final: Winner of Final 1 v Winner of Final 3
- In the instance of more than 8 competing teams in the division
 - Semi Final 1: Winner of Pool A v Runner Up of Pool B
 - Semi Final 2: Winner of Pool B v Runner Up of Pool A
 - Grand Final: Winner of Semi Final 1 v Winner of Semi Final 2

6.7 On Court

- 6.7.1 It shall be the responsibility of each team to be in position on court at the scheduled time. Failure to do so shall result in the team conceding one goal penalty per minute up to 10 minutes. After 10 minutes, the team will automatically forfeit the match, resulting in the opposing team receiving two points as winner, and the forfeiting team being deducted two points.
- 6.7.2 If both opponents are in default as per Clause 6.5.1, the forfeited fixture shall stand as a loss and two points will be deducted from each team
- 6.7.3 The first centre pass will be awarded by the toss of a coin. The captains from each team will agree on who will toss the coin and the captain not tossing shall call heads or tails as the coin is tossed in the air. The winning team shall notify the Umpires of the decision and the losing team shall choose a goal end for the commencement of play.
- 6.7.4 Bleeding players must leave the court immediately and may not return until the injury is covered. It is mandatory for an Umpire to hold time for a player who is bleeding when no 'on court' players have called time it is the responsibility then of an Umpire to stop play by blowing the whistle and signal to the Timekeepers to hold time.
- 6.7.5 Normal injury time and procedures apply. In addition to treatment: (i) the wound must be cleaned and adequately covered; (ii) blood stained clothing shall be removed or cleaned; (iii) the ball and the court shall be cleaned if necessary. To restart play the Umpire shall signal to the Timekeepers and blow the whistle for play to be resumed.

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- 6.7.6 When numerous matches are played simultaneously and central timing is applicable the following will apply: When an Umpire notices a bleeding player, play is stopped and the player is asked to leave the court to have the injury treated; (i) The stoppage is treated as an injury/illness stoppage with **no time allowance**; (ii) All rules relating to substitution/team changes become operable (they may return **after** the next goal and **before** the next centre).
- 6.7.7 Only the team captain may approach the Umpires regarding any issues that may arise regarding their own team. Umpires may refuse non-captain player/s and be asked to have their captain approach them in their place.

6.8 Standards of Courts

- 6.8.1 Conditions of the courts must incorporate goal post padding for each court used to play on. This is for safety reasons and must be adhered too.
- 6.8.2 Secured goal posts and rings are necessary. It is unacceptable to have moveable goal posts and rings. It can also result in un-safe playing conditions.
- 6.8.3 Sandy or loose gravel surfaces must be cleared before the commencement of matches. Brooms should be available and used to smooth down all playing surfaces.

6.9 Failure to Play / Forfeiture

- 6.9.1 If during the course of a match, a team declines to continue a game or take it up where it left off, this team shall be deemed to have lost the match and all goals scored. The opposing team shall be deemed to have won the match, retaining their score levels at the time of forfeiture. The winning team will be awarded two (2) points for the win.
- 6.9.2 If a team withdraws from the Tournament before the completion of the Preliminary matches, all matches they have played in the Tournament shall be changed to wins win for the opposing team. All teams scheduled to play the defaulting team thereafter shall also be awarded two (2) points as a win.
- 6.9.3 A team refusing to play a match on its fixture shall be considered as having forfeited that game unless it advises the Netball Convenor that it is withdrawing from the tournament. If the game is forfeited, the opposing team will be awarded two (2) points for a win with a goal score of 4 to 0.
- 6.9.4 A deduction of two (2) points will apply to any team having forfeited a game.

6.10 Matches Stopped

- 6.10.1 Should a match be stopped by an umpire on account of extraordinary conditions, play shall be resumed as soon as possible with the score standing at the time of the interruption, and shall be completed to the end of the regulation time.

6.11 Disputes/Appeals

- 6.11.1 The ANSSACC Appeals Committee shall have the authority to deal with and resolve all disputes, protests, complaints, claims, violations, etc during the course of the Tournament.
- 6.11.2 Only one (1) team official (Captain or Manager or Coach) shall have the authority to raise any matters with regard to the Tournament.
- 6.11.3 Please refer to the attached information on Procedure for Appeal.

7. MIXED COMPETITION

- 7.1 Minimum one male player and maximum three male players on court at all times during the game.
- 7.2 One male player per court third (mid court, goal and defence)
- 7.3 If during the competition any male players are injured which results in the team being left with no male players, then play may continue provided the team still has 5 players on court.

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8. DRESS

- 8.1 Fingernails shall be kept short. No sharp adornment or item of jewelry shall be worn.
- 8.2 No jewelry to be worn. No taped earrings.
- 8.3 Each team will register the colours of their uniforms and bibs at the time of registration.
- 8.4 Netball uniforms must be worn for the duration of the Tournament.
- 8.5 Each team must supply two sets of bibs, one light and one dark. Both sets of bibs must be identified on the registration form. In the event of a clash, the team whose name is listed first will choose the colour of the bibs.
- 8.6 All players in a team shall wear colours of the same kind.

9. UNFORESEEN EVENTS

- 9.1 Should circumstances arise which are not provided for in these Rules, they shall be dealt with by the ANSSACC National Coordinators and in consultation with the Local Coordinator and his/her decision shall be binding on all the parties concerned.