

Charlestown Netball Association



GRADING POLICY

GOALS

The provision of a framework from which teams can be grouped into appropriate divisions to enable them to participate in the Association's 'Winter Competition'.

- 1) To deliver a competition catering for all age, skill and ability levels, within the resource availability of the Association, which provides the following features:
 - encourages and promotes continuing involvement in netball
 - an opportunity for teams to excel
 - supports the fun and participative elements of sport
 - supports on-going skill and development of individuals and teams alike
- 2) To strive to establish individual competition divisions which provide the following features:
 - a similar matching of skills
 - are reasonably competitive
 - enables individuals and teams to develop skills
- 3) Adoption of a flexible grading process to support the provision of an annual competition comprising of divisions which match the ever-changing needs of the Association.
- 4) To comply with the various rules and by-laws of the Association and other Peak Governing Bodies associated with netball and the delivery of sport in general.

SCOPE

The scope of the Grading Policy will be limited to the Association's annual 'Winter Competition'. The base for this competition will comprise, at a minimum, the following

Key Divisions:

❖ MODIFIED/NetSetGO:	Target Age Range & Max Age	6, 7, 8 & 9
❖ JUNIOR:	Target Age Range & Max Age	10, 11 & 12
❖ INTERMEDIATE:	Target Age Range & Max Age	14, 14 & 15
❖ SENIOR CADET:	Target Age Range & Max Age	16 - 20
❖ SENIOR	Target Age Range	OPEN

MINIMUM AGE

Minimum age for a player is 6 years old (reached during the year of competition)

ACCELERATION OF PLAYERS

Players who are younger than the stated target Age Range for a Key division are able to be accelerated upwards into that Division. However in this circumstance the Club or team involved must give close consideration to the skills and maturity level of the player being accelerated to ensure that the player will not be unduly disadvantaged.

COMPETITION STRUCTURE

The Association's resources, on a year to year basis, will dictate the final competition structure. However the number of teams wishing to participate will largely impact upon the structure. A situation may arise where a place within the competition cannot be granted to a team wishing to participate e.g. lack of court space.

PROPOSED DIVISIONS

SENIOR	A	A1	A2
	B	B1	B2
	C	C1	C2

NOTE: LOWEST SENIOR A DIVISION MAY BE UTILISED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNGER TALENTED TEAMS

SENIOR CADET	Cad 1	Cad 2	(Cad 3)
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INTERMEDIATE	Inter A	Inter B	Inter C	Inter D
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JUNIOR	12's Div 1	12's Div 2	(12's Div 3)
	11's Div 1	11's Div 2	(11's Div 3)
	10's Div 1	10's Div 2	(10's Div 3)

MODIFIED	White Division	9 yrs
	Blue Division	8 yrs
	Red Division	7/8 yrs
	Black Division	7 yrs

SIZE OF DIVISIONS

- ◆ The size of each division is dependant on the number of teams graded in each division, where possible divisions will be made of even numbers to avoid a bye.

REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis by the Executive Committee of the Association in close liaison with the Grading Convenor.

GRADING PROCESS

STEP 1:	INITIAL RANK ORDERING OF TEAMS
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Based on the previous season's performance, all teams will be ranked in comparative order and allocated an initial appropriate Division in the new season's competition.

Basis for rank Ordering will be combination of the following:

- ① win/loss ratio and goals for/against ratio in competition
- ② final series performance
- ③ eligibility of players to participate within Key Divisions
- ④ promotion/demotion between divisions e.g. bottom two teams drop down.

STEP 2:	NOMINATION BE NEW SEASONS TEAMS
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Full details of teams wishing to participate in new season's competitions to be provided by Association's Registrar.

RETENTION OF TEAM IDENTITY (Original Team)

- ✓ A team, which has retained at least 5 players' form the previous season, will be recognised as retaining its identity.
- ✓ A requirement should exist for a team to clearly make the statement that it is retaining its identity on the Registration Form

REQUEST FOR DIVISION

- ✓ Each nominating team should be given the opportunity to apply for a specific division. In the case of a 'new' team this request must be supported by evidence of previous seasons performance.
- ✓ Provision should be made on the Registration form to cater for this request
- ✓ Two scenarios will then exist:
 - ① 'Original' team ... one which is retaining past seasons identity
 - ② 'New' team.. Note: this may include a team with players new to the Association

STEP 3:	PRELIMINARY ALLOCATION OF DIVISIONS
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- ① 'Initial Rank Ordering' of all 'original' teams will then be reassessed
- ② 'New' teams will then be allocated a division based on 'best fit' subject to availability of space in their requested divisions.
- ③ Consideration given to impact of player movement across teams
- ④ Opportunity for Clubs and Independent teams to comment on preliminary allocation
- ⑤ Identification of any requirement to conduct a 'Grading Day' activity
- ⑥ Consideration of any appeals by: Grading Committee + one representative of all effected Clubs or Independent teams

STEP 4:	FINAL ALLOCATION OF DIVISIONS
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Fine tuning of preliminary allocation and submission of Final Competition Structure to Association for ratification

STEP 5:	NOMINATION BE NEW SEASONS TEAMS
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On-going review of team's performance during competition and re-assessment of Grading Process as required.

REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis by the Executive of Charlestown Netball Association in close liaison with the Grading Convenor.