

CHARLESTOWN NETBALL ASSOCIATION



UNIFORM AND DRESS CODE POLICY

Policy adopted: 01 November 2021

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1. Position statement

Charlestown Netball Association strongly believes that our clubhouse and courts should be a friendly and welcoming space for all. Our affiliated clubs and teams are encouraged to make their uniform requirements as inclusive as possible, to remove barriers and encourage participation.

2. Dress code principles

1. Clubs (and independent senior teams) are encouraged to offer **uniform options** within their registered uniform to their players, with coordinated colours and design for all uniform pieces.
2. If a club (or an independent senior team) provides uniform options for their members, all uniform options should result in players in the same team being **easily recognised as being in the same team**, i.e. if some players choose to wear shorts/top combination and others wear a dress, they should still be easily recognisable as the same team with their uniform colours and design.
3. **Players may not take the court unless attired in an approved uniform** or unless permission has been obtained by the Association prior to playing out of uniform.
 - a. Officials (either match officials or CNA Executive) have the right to stand off a player deemed out-of-uniform if the attire is not compliant with the uniform policy of the Association.
4. During games/competition:
 - a. No adornment or jewellery may be worn other than a wedding ring, medical alert bracelet/necklace, which shall be covered with tape in accordance with the official Rules of Netball (as published by the International Federation of Netball).
 - b. Fingernails must be short and smooth in accordance with the official Rules of Netball (as published by the International Federation of Netball).
 - c. Soft brimmed sun protection visors may be worn. Hard brimmed sun visors are not permitted on court. The Association has the discretion to decide when a visor brim is too hard to be allowed on court.
 - d. Long hair (shoulder length or longer) must be pulled back appropriately (e.g. ponytail, plaits/braids, etc).
5. **Representative teams/squads/personnel:** The same principles and guidelines will be applied to uniforms for players and personnel representing Charlestown Netball Association.

3. Approval of uniforms

1. All club and team uniform colours and designs must have approval from the Association.
2. Applications for uniform approval must be sent to both the Association Secretary and the Association Registrar.
3. If a club (or an independent senior team) has any player/s requesting to wear items of clothing that do not form part of the approved registered uniform options for the club/team, the club (or independent team) will need to submit a design and colour(s) to the Association for approval. The apparel will need to match the approved design and colours for the club/team to the approved registered uniform.
4. Any player may seek a variation to the uniform for medical, cultural, religious, or other reasonable grounds and must submit a request to the association, which may be granted or declined at the discretion of the association.
5. Clubs changing to a new approved uniform are allowed one season to do so. During this period, a club making a change over to a new approved uniform is permitted to have teams with players wearing either the old or new uniform provided the uniforms are of similar appearance and the players are easily recognised as being in the same team/club.
6. **For social competitions** (such as the twilight series, the CNA All-Age Carnival, etc), uniform approval does not need to be specifically sought from the Association, although team uniforms in these competitions must be consistent with the uniform requirements outlined below.
 - a. Officials (either match officials or CNA Executive) have the right to stand off a player deemed out-of-uniform if the attire is not compliant with the uniform policy of the Association.

4. Uniform requirements - Players

1. The uniform must allow free range of movement for the player and must not impede or affect play for either the player wearing the uniform or for other players on the court.
 - a. Players should not wear anything that could endanger themselves or other players such as pockets, zippers, hoods, belts, or large hair clips.
 - b. Players should ensure that when fastening items of clothing that the fasteners are not a danger to themselves or others.
2. Uniform options may include:
 - a. One piece options, such as a short sleeveless netball dress or a suitable bodysuit.
 - b. Two piece options, that comprise of
 - i. A top (such as a sleeveless singlet top, or short sleeved top); with

- ii. shorts, a short sports skirt, close fitting shorts (“bike shorts”), a skort, or close fitting leggings.
- 3. The uniform may also include hooded jumpers and tracksuit pants, although these items would typically be worn off-court and not during game time.
- 4. For specific items of clothing:
 - a. Dress, skirts, or skorts:
 - i. The dress/skirt/skort must be long enough to cover the bottom adequately when in natural standing position without having to be pulled down.
 - ii. Appropriate underwear must be worn underneath a dress/skirt/skorts. The underwear must be either black or in a darker colour matching the uniform/club colours. The underwear must be opaque (i.e. not transparent or see-through). The underwear must be high waisted, should not extend past the skirt hem, and should have a fitted leg cut which covers the bottom adequately (e.g. sports briefs, “scungies” style, “monkey-bar” style, or boy-leg style underwear).
 - b. Tops
 - i. Must provide some level of sun protection (e.g. no thin straps)
 - ii. Must be longer in length, preferably hip length (i.e. no crop tops or midriff tops).
 - iii. If sleeveless, arm holes cannot be too big.
 - c. Shorts, close fitting shorts (also known as bike shorts) or close fitting leggings:
 - i. Must be black or in darker colours consistent with club colours.
 - ii. Must be opaque (i.e. not transparent or see-through).
 - iii. Minimum length for bike shorts is mid-thigh.
- 5. No logos, slogans or patterns unless approved as part of the uniform by the Association.
- 6. All players must wear appropriate closed footwear (e.g. sandshoes, joggers, runners).
 - a. While it’s not compulsory to buy dedicated netball shoes, players are encouraged to wear strong supportive runners, as netball feet need all the support they can get.

5. Uniform requirements - Umpires

1. In the same way that players should feel comfortable in their playing uniform, match officials (umpires) should have the opportunity to choose a uniform they feel comfortable in.
 - a. Umpires may choose to wear a dress, or a top with a skirt, skort, shorts or long pants.
 - b. Individual uniform items for umpires should comply with requirements as outlined for Players (Section 4).
2. Umpires clothing must be distinct from the players' uniforms.
 - a. To facilitate this, CNA endorses **white** as the official 'block colour' for umpires in CNA competitions.
 - i. If wearing a two-piece uniform (e.g. comprised of a top and bottoms), the bottoms (such as shorts, skirt or long pants) should be white or black.
 - b. Team umpires: Team umpires may umpire in their team/club uniform, but their team uniform should be covered by a white shirt with sleeves, without obvious logos, patterns or images. The white shirt must cover the majority of their team uniform.
 - c. Badged umpires: Badged umpires are expected to wear a predominantly white uniform without obvious logos, patterns or images.
3. When umpiring on behalf of the association, Representative Umpires must be attired in the official umpire uniform from Charlestown Netball Association (in alignment with Netball NSW requirements).

6. Relevant information

See also

- CNA Competition Policy
- Netball NSW Inclusive Uniforms Guidelines (19 October 2021)

7. Policy Review

At a minimum, this policy will be reviewed every three years by the CNA Executive. The policy may be reviewed more frequently if deemed necessary by the CNA Executive.