

## **QUEENSCLIFF NETBALL CLUB (QNC)**

### **GRADING POLICY**

Once players have completed the Net Set Go Program in the U8 & U9 age groups, grading takes place for the U10-U17 Age Groups. QNC is very aware that for most players their Saturday Netball is social with a desire to play with other similarly graded players, enjoying a sport they love. Netball does however become a graded and competitive team sport with representative opportunities after these first two foundation years.

As a result, all players in the 10 years and over age groups are graded at both Club and Association levels.

At Club level, all players in age groups 10-13 years MUST attend the Club grading sessions held in early to mid February each year after registration. Dates are publicised on the website and availability and attendance is the responsibility of players.

No player is individually notified of Grading dates & times. It is the responsibility of players to manage their attendance.

Please note the U10 Age Group usually has TWO MANDATORY sessions in early February. Sometimes a third session will be added when age groups number +50 kids. Not all children will necessarily need to be involved in the third trial.

Players in age groups 15-17 years are not required at grading sessions and will be paper graded only. There are sometimes occasions when a second grading may be needed for an age group or the U/15 Age Group requires physical grading. Notification is made to players & parents as soon as is practically possible.

QNC uses experienced coaches and former representative players to grade players individually and subsequently select appropriate teams for the winter competitions. There are many aspects taken into consideration when grading and selecting teams such as player experience, athleticism, ability, attitude, availability, previous coaches' appraisals, preferred playing positions and overall team balance. Grading is not an easy task, however experience has shown that, by and large, we get it right.

At an Association level, Manly Warringah Netball Association (MWNA) grade the teams that we have selected into the most appropriate comp grade (such as 13A, 12B, 11E, etc.) This is done on paper each year taking into account prior team performances and individuals' playing history.

Please note the U10 & U11 Age Group in 2021 has a further mandatory MWNA Grading Day. This day involves all U10 QNC Teams playing against other Clubs and sometimes each other. This day allows MWNA Graders the opportunity to grade the entire U10 Age Group for the Winter Season. This is a very important day for all U10 QNC Teams as the outcomes dictate the grade for the Winter Season. Attendance is mandatory and the date normally falls on a Saturday or Sunday in mid March. This date will be advised as soon as practically possible. It is expected that Teams will have already had a couple of training sessions prior to this Grading Day and are ready to be graded as a Team by MWNA.

Please be aware that it is ***impossible*** for the Club to accommodate ALL friendships between players, coaches and parents. The Club's main priority in forming teams is to select girls of approximately equal standard so that competition games will be evenly matched. New friendships often develop from meeting players in the teams for which girls have been selected. It is in no-one's best interest to select a girl in a team with players of significantly different ability (either better or worse).

In instances where Teams would like to stay together (U12 & above only) the Club Registrar needs a letter from the ENTIRE team stating as such, *before* Grading takes place. This letter needs to come from the entire squad of players involved, and should include all members of this group on the communication. We are an inclusive Club and we expect players to be included moving forward from year to year – not excluded – especially in the U12-U15 age groups. We also understand beyond these ages that other factors are considered in forming new Cadets teams for players to participate in that might be different to previous years.. The decision made by the Grading Convenor regarding pre-formed teams will be final and no discussion will be entered into.

#### Appeals

If you are dissatisfied with your child's grading please put your concerns in writing to the Club President via email to: [president@queenscliffnetball.asn.au](mailto:president@queenscliffnetball.asn.au) Appeals are open for each group for *24 hours after Teams have been posted to the Club website*. Any appeal made after this timeslot will not be considered.

Please DO NOT contact any of the graders directly.

All Teams are published on the Queenscliff Netball Club website after Grading is completed. [www.queenscliffnetball.asn.au](http://www.queenscliffnetball.asn.au)

Policy approved at Annual General Meeting 2015

Policy effective: Nov 2015

Updated : Jan 2021