

## **LIVERPOOL ZONE BY-LAWS FOR NETBALL**

Conveners have the option to modify rules prior to the season if circumstances be required and if all competing schools agree.

### **1 DRESS:**

1.1 School sports or netball uniforms should be worn.

1.2 Hats with hard brims are not permitted to be worn on the court. Students are to be instructed to wear sports shoes or other appropriate footwear. Soles of shoes should have enough grip for the surfaces on which the game is played. Footwear with spikes/studs is not allowed.

### **2 SUPERVISION:**

2.1 Each school needs to supply a teacher to umpire/supervise each game.

2.1a See General Rule 7, Pupil Behaviour

2.2 It is recommended that neutral qualified officials be used for semi-finals and finals.

### **3 EQUIPMENT:**

3.1 Where possible, goal posts should be padded. No part of the goal posts should protrude onto the court.

### **4 VENUES:**

4.1 The court surface should be free of obstructions.

4.2 Courts should be correctly marked out for the game. Hydrated lime must not be used to mark courts.

4.3 The immediate surrounds of the court perimeter should have a space clear of any objects or obstacles, e.g. equipment.

4.4 Each school is responsible for removing all the rubbish from the side of the courts they have played on, when they leave. See also General Rule 19, Venues.

### **5 SAFETY:**

5.1 Fingernails must be kept short and smooth.

5.2 No jewellery is to be worn. Earrings are not to be worn or taped.

5.3 Boundaries of the courts should be clear of spectators and belongings to avoid interfering with the safe movement of players and umpires.

5.4 A well equipped medical kit must be readily available. Each school should supply their own.

5.5 Where possible, ice should be available for the treatment of injuries.

## **6 TEAMS:**

6.1 If there are sufficient teams and everyone agrees there is to be 3 division levels in the Junior and Senior competitions, otherwise there will be 2.

6.2 Teams are to be graded according to:

- a. An equal even number (or as close to) teams in each division so that byes are minimised.
- b. Input by schools as to what grade they believe they should be in.
- c. If time permits and schools agree, a grading round can be designated whereby each school plays two half games.

6.3 Junior teams are comprised of students in Years 3 and 4, and Senior teams are students in Years 5 and 6.

6.4 A Junior A must be the better team. If a school is entering only one team it must be in the Junior A competition; except under the social team rule.

6.5 There may be no more than two boys on the court at any one time. Each boy must start in different thirds of the court.

6.6 Schools fielding multiple teams in the same competition (e.g. two netball teams) will have the first two weeks of the season to finalise their sides. From Week 3 of that season onwards, students must remain in their chosen side and cannot move between 'A' and 'B' teams. This also includes any finals that a team may have qualified for.

## **7 DURATION OF MATCHES:**

7.1 Junior teams play first and should commence by 12.45pm. Games should be completed by 1.30pm.

7.2 Senior teams play after the juniors and should commence by 1.35pm and should be completed by 2.25pm.

7.3 Junior teams will play 8-minute quarters; 2 minutes between quarters.

7.4 Senior teams will play 10-minute quarters; 2 minutes between quarters.

7.5 If teams are late starting please shorten the game accordingly so it finishes within the time frame.

7.6 There will be a central time keeper.

## **8 UMPIRING CONDITIONS:**

See General Rule 16, Refereeing Conditions.

8.1 Each school needs to supply their own umpire each week for each game.

8.2 Qualified neutral umpires are recommended for semis and finals.

## **9 RULES:**

All Australian Netball Association standard rules apply, with the exception of the following Junior rules:

9.1 Juniors will play modified rules according to All Australian Netball Association:

- Juniors may hold the ball for 6 seconds
- Juniors are not placed “out of play”
- Juniors must defend at a distance of 1.3m
- Juniors are allowed to shuffle their feet when in possession of the ball.

9.2 Juniors cannot play in Senior games, except under the forfeit and social team rule.

9.3 Juniors use a size 4 ball.

9.4 Seniors use a size 5 ball.

9.5 Unlimited interchange in both senior and junior games shall apply at an interval. Replacement players may re-enter game. See also General Rule 10, Replacements.

9.6 There will be no injury time played.

9.7 Results: see General Rule 3, Results.

9.8 Forfeiture: see General Rule 2, Forfeiture.

9.9 It is recommended that the Senior B teams follow the standard stepping rule, but allow SLIGHT on the spot shuffling.

## **10 MERCY RULE:**

10.1 In a junior game, if the goal difference exceeds more than 8, only an 8-point difference will be reflected on the scoresheet.

10.2 In a senior game, if the goal difference exceeds more than 15, only a 15-point difference will be reflected on the scoresheet.

## **11 SEMIS AND FINALS:**

11.1 In the event of a tied placing result at the end of the regular season, which will affect the semi-final draw, the team with the larger goal difference will be the higher ranked team. If tied, the team with the most ‘for’ goals will be the higher ranked team.

11.2 In the event of a tied game in a semi-final, the team who finished the regular season as a higher rank will progress through to the finals.

11.3 In the event of a tied game at the end of a final, both teams will become joint premiers.