



Blackburn South Netball Club Inc.

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Policy Date: **April 2024**

Policy Name: **Grading Policy**

Committee Responsible: **BSNC Executive Committee**

Club Philosophy

At BSNC, we believe netball is a sport available equally to boys and girls and we strive for a club culture that enables kids to have fun whilst supporting players to be the best they can be. We provide opportunity for children and teenagers to engage in physical activity, develop friendships, build their skills and most importantly enjoy their sport.

Rationale

Grading provides our independent selectors and grading committee with the opportunity to assess each individual against the criteria below to enable a team of players to be selected that coaches can successfully work with and develop to their full potential. Consultation from current coaches will be done prior to grading (and afterwards) to ensure two data points are used for decision for team selections. A combination of these data points will be used to make final team selections. Should parents have concerns after this selection, they may refer to the BSNC Constitution which details our grievance policy.

Goals

Formation of balanced, cohesive teams is the main objective of grading, allowing teams to be placed into appropriate sections to enable BSNC to participate in the Whitehorse Netball competition. Please note final section placements are made by Whitehorse, not BSNC.

1. Grading provides the opportunity to be in (and play against) teams with players of similar attitude & ability;
2. Grading aims to ensure the ages of players within a team (where possible) does not exceed two school years for our junior teams. Exception to this rule is for senior teams which will be driven by ability, then age;
3. Allows an equal opportunity to participate; and
4. Allows an equal opportunity to contribute to the team's performance.

Who

All Primary and Secondary school age players. Those players who are currently in a Saturday team are required to attend grading. The club reserves the right to regrade Monday night 'Go' teams at any time.

Related policies

Terms & Conditions

Grievance Policy (refer to BSNC Constitution)



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Review Date

The policy will be reviewed on an annual basis.

The Grading Process

BSNC will invite independent selectors to run the grading process.

Grading can occur either as a (1) stand alone grading session, or (2) during 1-2 weeks of normal Saturday competition.

If a player is unable to attend the grading session (or Saturday competition), placement in a team will be at the Grading Committee's discretion, after consultation with their previous coach.

As a result of the grading process, players may be selected in a higher or lower team than their current team. BSNC acknowledges every player progresses and develops at different speeds, which may impact player movements – both up and down. Please make sure your player is aware of this prior to grading.

A grading day session will run for approximately 2 hours, and will include:

- Group warm up
- Game play – players will be given a minimum of 3-4 games.
- Games will be 6 minutes
- Teams during trials will be pre-selected depending on players preferences (as per registration details)
- The selectors may make changes throughout the session as required
- Group cool down

Selection Criteria

The following is a list of the specific criteria that will be assessed on the grading day.

1. Foundation skills

- Court awareness : Spatial awareness, court positioning, court balance
- Ball handling : Passing, catching, control
- Footwork : Understanding and displaying correct fundamentals, balance, fluidity
- Specialist skills
- Advanced skills displayed, game knowledge/maturity, attacking, defending

2. Fitness

- Speed : Reaction time, explosiveness, change of pace
- Agility : Acceleration, deceleration, change of direction, balance, coordination
- Power
- Strength
- Endurance



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3. General

- Ability to follow instruction
- Team focussed
- Good sportsmanship
- Communication skills
- Work ethic
- Intensity
- Ability to focus and re-focus after mistakes
- Coachability
- Consistency

Final selection

- Teams will be advised prior to the commencement of the season via email. This will include team name, coach, team manager and training day.
- Final section placements for each team are made by WNA, not BSNC.
- If grading occurs during normal Saturday competition (over 1-2 weeks) players will be contacted individually by phone if they are impacted by a change to their team or player placement.
- Teams will be made up of up to 9-10 players, however depending on skill mix your team may have 8-9 players.
- The BSNC internal grading committee consists of the BSNC President, BSNC Vice President and BSNC Coach & Players Convenor.
- No refunds will be given for players unhappy with their team placement. Appeals will only be considered if it is related to skill and ability misplacement. This may involve independent selectors attending a game to assess the player and providing feedback directly to parents and President. Refer BSNC constitution for our grievance policy.
- Appeals to be made to the President – bsnetballclub@hotmail.com