

Canterbury Netball Club Grading Policy

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Aim

Canterbury Netball Club (CNC) is committed to ensuring team grading is conducted fairly and effectively. The aim of this policy is to ensure grading of teams is undertaken in this manner, and in the best interests of the Club and players.

What Is Grading?

Grading is the process of establishing the composition of our teams to compete in the Boroondara Netball Association (BNA) competition. The aim of grading is to form teams that have a balanced group of players of similar ability levels across all playing positions. Grading will also be influenced by the number and year levels of players registered with the Club each year.

Netball is a graded and a competitive sport, from Year 5 with representative opportunities. To ensure the best chance of success for all our teams and the greatest level of enjoyment and development for our players, it is necessary to grade players into teams with players of similar ability.

Stronger players always enjoy the challenge of harder, faster competition and do not develop to their potential if graded to a lower team to be kept with a friend.

Similarly, players who are placed in teams above their ability will also not develop to their potential when being constantly overshadowed by more talented players around them. In such situations, these players can quickly become disheartened and lose self-esteem.

Players and parents should also be aware that success for a team one year does not always ensure they will remain together the following year.

Due to the nature of change, new registrations and differing development rates of all players from season to season, player movement in and out of such teams may still occur.

Players and parents are urged to be objective and reasonable in their expectations, and to encourage their children to be happy in their chosen sport no matter what team they are ultimately placed in.

Players Playing Out Of Their Year Level

The general policy of the Club is that all players play within teams of their school year group. However, on occasion, there may be exceptions to this rule. During grading, should the CNC identify a player of exceptional talent for whom a team of similar ability does not exist within their own age group, then that player may be offered the opportunity to play in a higher Year Level.

In addition, should the Club have insufficient player registrations in adjacent Year Levels to form full teams, players may be requested to play up a Year Level in order to form a team . In such instances, the players asked to play up an age group will be selected based on them being of similar ability to the other players in the team in which they will be placed.