

## NSNC GRADING PROCESS GUIDELINES

Grading is a process that occurs each year and is the way in which Newman Sienna Netball Club (NSNC) decides the composition of its teams for the upcoming season. NSNC is committed to ensuring that the grading of players is conducted in a fair and consistent manner with the best interests of players and club in mind. The aim of grading is to form teams which have a balanced group of players of similar ability across all playing positions.

We select teams to ensure the best chance of success, the greatest level of enjoyment and the highest potential for individual player development during each season. The grading process will also be influenced by the number of registered players in any season or age group.

The NSNC graded teams are submitted to Perth Netball Association (PNA), who runs the competition and decide which divisions the teams will play in for that year. NSNC does not have the final say in this process. PNA reviews all teams submitted by all the clubs that play in the competition, in this way, a fair competition of netball can be played.

At NSNC the decision of where players should be graded and what teams they will play in is an involved process. This document serves as a guideline for this process.

*Please note for returning players; just because a player has played in a certain netball team in a prior year, it does not necessarily mean that any player will always be selected in the same team. There is often movement amongst teams as some players do not return to the club, new players join and players develop their skills at different rates.*

### **Grading Committee**

The Newman Sienna Netball Club (NSNC) grading committee will consist of our Club President, Grading Coordinator and the NSNC Coaching Coordinator. In addition to this group, there are three external independent graders who all collectively work together to grade our players and help create our teams.

At all times the NSNC Grading Coordinator will oversee all the steps involved with the grading process.

### **Grading Day**

Players will be graded by the NSNC Independent Graders (These external graders are graders who do not have children who play netball at our club). The independent graders will be given a proposed team list which will be provided by the Grading Committee based on the registration of players and their preferred nominated playing positions.

Individual grading will be established by the following methods:-

- 1) Practical – trial matches on grading days viewed by the independent graders and/or grading committee.
- 2) Coaches reports from previous years and observation during the preceding year by the grading Committee.
- 3) All players are required to attend grading sessions.

Any player not attending grading sessions will be placed in the most appropriate team by the grading committee according to previous playing experience. On grading day every effort will be made for players to have the opportunity to trial in the position(s) nominated on their registration form. Court time for each player on grading day will be determined by the independent graders.

The following skills and attributes may be assessed but are not limited to:-

1. Ball Handling skills
2. Passing
3. Footwork
4. Speed and Agility
5. Attacking skills
6. Defending skills
7. Shooting style and Accuracy
8. Fitness
9. Versatility
10. Perception and Cognition skills
11. Ability to play as part of a team
12. Sportsmanship, Effort and Attitude

A player may be asked to play in a position that is not their preference to aid the grading process. These players will be marked as **playing out of position**.

When placing players in teams, consideration is given to:-

1. Team members who have similar skill and ability
2. Ensuring teams will have a suitable balance of position areas, that being (1) Shooters, (2) Mid-Court players and (3) Defenders
3. Team members individual positions to ensure adequate coverage of all court positions
4. Players attitude and approach to the game and her team and to training
5. The possibility that should the Club have insufficient registrations in an age group to form full teams, players may be placed up an age group in a mixed team of similar ability in order to place the player in a team.
6. Ensuring a team will be competitive for their recommended grade

### **Year 7 (New) Players to Newman Sienna Netball Club**

As there is no previous playing information available on these new players, they will all be evaluated in the same manner. Each player will be given equal time on court and will play in their nominated position(s). Players will initially be placed randomly into teams and then will be evaluated and graded based on their performance during the trial games, and then will be moved accordingly based on their playing ability.

### **Other New Players**

New players (other than Year 7's) to the club will be assessed by verbal communication prior to grading, selected into a grading team along with all other players and in accordance with NSNC grading policies, they will be placed into a team according to their performance on grading day under the same conditions as all other players.

## **Final Team Placement**

Teams will **NOT** be announced on grading day. All players will be advised of when the team announcement night will be, with plenty of notice given so that all can attend. This information will be provided to members via email and advertised on the NSNC website, Facebook and Instagram pages.

In some circumstances, due to team numbers needs, a player may be advised via email or by a phone call to their parent, by the Grading Coordinator that this player may be placed in a team outside of their age group. The decisions made by the grading committee will be final. Any correspondence regarding either pre- or post-placement in teams shall only be accepted in writing and forwarded to the Grading Coordinator. No verbal or abusive correspondence will be accepted on grading day or in a phone call after the announcement of teams.

Notwithstanding the policies set out above, NSNC Players are generally graded into teams determined by their school year group (ie) Years 7, 8, 9 & 10, however for Years 11 & 12, these players will grade as one-year group and teams may be a mix of year 11 & 12 players.

If the NSNC grading committee considers a player to be capable of playing in a higher age group due to their playing ability, the player and guardian of that player will be asked if that player would like to trial for higher honours. If the player is unsuccessful at grading in the higher age group the player will then return to their age group and grade accordingly. Movements of this type will only occur with confirmation by the nominated player and their family that they agree to do so.

## **Team Numbers**

NSNC understands that it can be difficult to manage a team with 10 players and will therefore do what is possible to have a maximum of 9 players per team, it is also understood that it can be just as difficult to have a team of 7 players, especially with injuries that occur throughout the season, therefore, NSNC will do their best to place players into teams of 8 or 9 where it is at all possible.

## **Recommendations to Perth Netball Association (PNA)**

Once all teams have been selected and registered, the Grading Committee will make its recommendation to PNA with respect to which division each team would be best suited, however PNA ultimately make the final decision on team grading and no changes can be made until the completion of Round 3 of the competition.

## **Late Registrations**

Registrations received after registration day will only be accepted at the discretion of the grading committee. This will depend largely on the number of players already registered in any given age group.

## **Cancelled registrations**

Any cancelled registrations will only be accepted for legitimate reasons, monies will be refunded minus any costs incurred by NSNC to register the player, or the completed grading of that player.