

# GRADING POLICY

Adopted by Newcastle Netball members on  
21 May 2018



***Updated***

***Comments***

26 October 2019	Reviewed
19 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	Minor updates – Clause 7

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## **1. GRADING SUB-COMMITTEE**

- i. The Grading Sub-Committee shall be responsible for Grading.
- ii. The Grading Sub-Committee shall comprise of:
  - a. A Grading Convenor (executive position), elected at the Annual General Meeting.
  - b. A Junior/Intermediate Grading Coordinator, appointed by the Executive Committee from within the Committee.
  - c. A six (6) member committee, elected at the Annual General meeting each year.
  - d. A person to be appointed (by Executive Committee) to act in the capacity of scribe for the Committee.
- iii. Eligibility:
  - a. Nominees must be registered senior members of NNA.
  - b. Nominations for all of the Committee positions must be signed by two (2) registered senior members, and with the written consent of the nominee, shall be lodged with the Association Secretary on Registration Day each year.
  - c. Committee members and convenors should represent a cross-section of the association – with each member (including convenors) coming from a different club.
  - d. Additional Graders may be called on to assist and take part in practical grading, as directed by the Junior/Intermediate Grading Coordinator or Grading Convenor.

## **2. DUTIES OF GRADING COMMITTEE**

- i. All Graders should be conversant with NNA Grading Policy, in order that grading procedures are standardised.
- ii. Graders and convenors must be committed to ensuring as fair as possible competition for all teams registered in the NNA competition. They must not think of themselves as advocates for their own club.
- iii. On occasion graders may be asked to provide additional information or clarification about teams with whom they are aligned.
- iv. Attendance is mandatory at:
  - Paper grading
  - Practical grading
  - Grading Review

### **3. GRADING PROCESS**

Prior to registration a representative from all clubs will be invited to attend an information-gathering forum convened by the Grading Convenor and Junior/Intermediate Co-ordinator to discuss Junior/Intermediate grades. The objective of the forum is to discuss the possible make up of divisions to allow clubs to enter their teams accordingly.

After registration:

- i. **Sub Junior** Teams will be paper graded.
- ii. **10yrs** will be court graded on the first Thursday night following NNA Registration Day.
- iii. **11yrs, 12yrs, 13, 14 & 15yrs** will be paper graded.
- iv. The graders will decide if an **open intermediate** competition is viable. If so it will initially be paper graded. Court grading may be required. If not, nominated teams will be placed into alternate grades.
- v. **Cadets** will be paper graded.
- vi. **21's and Greater 23's** will be paper graded.
- vii. **Seniors** (excluding Great Bank Open Championship) will be paper graded.
- viii. **Greater Bank Open Championship** - where there are more than eight (8) teams applying or eligible for a position in the Greater Open, court grading may be required on the first Thursday night after NNA Registration.
- ix. **PWD** will be paper graded if required.

If necessary, any of the above grades other than 10yrs and Greater Bank Open Championship may be required to attend court grading. If teams need to attend you will be contacted on the first Thursday after NNA Registration Day.

### **4. PAPER GRADING**

- i. Teams will be paper graded.
- ii. Clubs shall provide accurate information on registration papers.
- iii. Clubs shall provide contact numbers for people who may be contacted on grading day.

- iv. Where possible grades should consist of eight (8) teams.
- v. Clubs shall be advised of provisional grading at the grading review session.

## **5. PAPER GRADING GUIDELINES**

Paper grading will be based on past results and individual player history.

- i. Teams who retain five (5) players from the previous season generally shall be recognised as retaining their identity.
- ii. The grading committee will take the following into consideration in combination when conducting paper grading:
  - a. Win/loss ratio and goals for/against ratio in competition.
  - b. Final series performance.
  - c. Number of teams entered in age group.
  - d. Where possible the top two teams from previous season will be promoted and the bottom two teams relegated.

## **6. COURT GRADING**

The 10yrs age group will be court graded each year. Other grades may be court graded as decided by the Grading Committee.

- i. Scores shall be recorded in the 8yrs and 9yrs age group in order to facilitate a more effective initial paper grading prior to the practical grading the following year.
- ii. Names of players in attendance at court grading will be checked from the team sheets.
- iii. Teams will not be court graded with less than (5) registered players and the Grading Committee's decision on grade allocated is final.
- iv. During court grading, graders may request information from coaches regarding the strength of the available team. ie. key players unavailable etc.

## **7. GRADING REVIEW & APPEALS**

- i. On the day after paper grading (Sunday) a representative from each club is required to view the provisional grades in the clubhouse 9.00am-1.00pm.
- ii. Clubs must be aware that these grades may alter following review.
- iii. The Provisional Grading summary must remain in the clubhouse.
- iv. If any club wishes to question any grading, then at that time they can meet with the graders & discuss their concerns. A time limit of 15 minutes for this discussion applies to allow for all concerns to be discussed.
- v. If after this discussion there are still concerns, they may submit a written appeal by 2.00pm that day to the Grading Appeals Panel Convenor that will be considered by the Grading Appeals Panel\* later that day.
- vi. If a representative cannot attend this viewing then he/she may phone to acquire the information, but a written appeal MUST be lodged by 2.00pm on that day.
- vii. The FINAL GRADES will appear on the website the next day (Monday)

**NO FURTHER APPEALS WILL BE ACCEPTED**

\*The Grading Appeals Panel will consist of 5 (five) executive members. The Convenor to be nominated by the panel.