



Mornington Peninsula Nepean Football League

NETBALL BY-LAWS 2021

CONTENTS	PAGE
1. Definitions and Interpretations	3
2. Meetings	3
3. Correspondence	3
4. Sub Committees	3
5. Club Officials and Annual Reports	3
6. Fees	4
7. Commencement Date	4
8. Structure	4
9. Age Requirements	5
10. Grading	5
11. Forfeits and Non-Fielding Sides	5
12. Premium Players	5
13. Conduct of Matches	6
14. Netball Victoria Membership Registrations	7
15. Clearances	7
16. Ineligible/Unregistered Players	7
17. Team List Entries and Match Day Paperwork	8
18. Officials	9
19. Protests of Scoresheets	9
20. Umpires	10
21. Working with Children Check	10
22. Uniforms	11
23. Netballs	11
24. Courts	11
25. Weather and Cancelled Matches	12
26. Finals	12
27. Player Finals Eligibility	13
28. Interleague	13
29. Club Championship	14
30. Awards	14
31. Official League Function	14
32. Code of Conduct/Behaviour	14
33. Risk Management	15
34. Stoppages	15
35. Pregnancy	15
36. Photography and Videography	16
37. Social Media	16
38. Harassment and Discrimination	16
39. Complaints	17
40. Alcohol	17
41. Drug Policy	17
42. Infringements	17
43. Fines	18
44. Amendments to Rules and Special Circumstance Clause	18
45. Indemnity Clause	18
46. Appendix A – Schedule to Fines	19
47. Appendix B – Codes of Conduct	20
48. Appendix C – Netball Victoria Hot Weather/Smoke Pollution Guidelines	20
49. Appendix D – MPNFL Netball Court Supervisor	21

1. DEFINITIONS & INTERPRETATIONS

In these MPNFL Netball By-Laws, the following definitions and provisions apply:

- (a) The **'MPNFL'** or **'League'** means the Mornington Peninsula Nepean Football League Incorporated. Where there is any conflict between these By-Laws or the Rules of the MPNFL, the Rules of the MPNFL shall apply.
- (b) **'Club'** shall, for the purposes of these By-Laws only, mean and include such member Clubs of the MPNFL that field Netball teams in such Netball competitions conducted by the MPNFL and Netball associates of the MPNFL.
- (c) **'MPNFL Netball'** means such Netball Competition(s) as are conducted by the Mornington Peninsula Nepean Football League (MPNFL).
- (d) **'N.V.'** means Netball Victoria.
- (e) **'Complaints Manager'** for the purposes of the Netball Victoria Competition Complaints Handling Regulations, the Complaints Manager shall be the MPNFL Netball Operations Manager or the MPNFL Leagues Manager.
- (f) **'Complainant'** for the purposes of the Netball Victoria Competition Complaints Handling Regulations, the Complainant means the player, official, team or club who lodges the complaint.
- (g) **'Respondent'** for the purposes of the Netball Victoria Competition Complaints Handling Regulations, the Respondent is the player, official, team or club who the Complaint is made about.
- (h) **'Support Person'** for the purposes of the Netball Victoria Competition Complaints Handling Regulations, the Support Person shall be deemed as the club advocate.

In the event that any matter arises which is not provided for in the MPNFL Rules, these By-Laws, or in the Netball Victoria Rules, the MPNFL shall have discretion to determine such matter. Reference to the MPNFL herein shall include any person delegated the responsibility of administering the Netball Competition as employed by AFL South East or elected onto the AFL South East Commission.

2. MEETINGS

- (a) The MPNFL may convene compulsory meeting(s) for Club Officials as stipulated by the League from time to time. These compulsory meetings shall include, but are not limited to: Club Administrator Courses, Coaches Forums, Netball Operation Meetings, Presidents Meetings, and Finals Participants Meetings. All Clubs must be represented by at least one (1) delegate at all League meetings.
- (b) Notification on a League meeting will be sent to Clubs at least three (3) weeks prior to the scheduled date.
- (c) Clubs may submit Agenda items to the MPNFL at least ten (10) days prior to the Leagues meeting.
- (d) A reminder email will be sent to Clubs at least one (1) week prior to the League meeting including Notice of Meeting, Minutes of previous meeting and Meeting Agenda.
- (e) Meeting Minutes will be sent to Clubs within two (2) days following the League meeting.

Penalty - Failure of attendance by a Club at a MPNFL Meeting will incur a fine as set out in Appendix A - Schedule of Fines.

3. CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence from a Club must be from the Club President, Secretary, or nominated Committee Member and addressed to the relevant MPNFL employee. All correspondence from the MPNFL will be addressed to the Club President, Secretary or nominated Committee Member.

4. SUB COMMITTEES

The MPNFL may appoint sub-committees to assist the MPNFL throughout the season. Clubs may be requested to nominate members to sit on these committees and members do not have to sever ties at Club level to be involved on these committees.

5. CLUB OFFICIALS & ANNUAL REPORTS

- (a) All affiliated Clubs must, within fourteen (14) days of the holding of their Annual General Meeting, notify the MPNFL in writing, the names of all office bearers, their address, telephone number(s) and email address.
- (b) Clubs must inform the MPNFL of any change of personnel or changes of communication details for any individual listed, within seven (7) days of the change.
- (c) Clubs shall submit to the MPNFL, a copy of their budget of projected expenditures and income for their forthcoming season, prior to Round 1. In default of compliance herewith, the AFLSE Commission may impose penalties.

- (d) By no later than 31 January each year, Clubs shall submit to the MPNFL a copy of their:
- i. Audited profit and loss statement
 - ii. Balance Sheet
 - iii. Minutes of the AGM confirming acceptance of the financial report
 - iv. Confirmation of the lodgement of Club Activity Statement to Consumer Affairs Victoria

Penalty - Where a Club fails to comply may incur a fine as set out in Appendix A -Schedule of Fines.

6. FEES

- (a) Each affiliated Club or associate Netball Club shall pay to the MPNFL an Annual Fee as is fixed by the MPNFL and is due fourteen (14) days prior to the commencement of the season.
- (b) Payments can be made by direct deposit to the MPNFL Bank Account and must include the Club name as a reference or by cheque made payable to the MPNFL.
- (c) All affiliated Clubs participating in finals series matches must be financial with the league before the conclusion of the home and away matches. If a participating Club is not financial, the AFL South East Commission may at its discretion, remove all or any of its teams from their position in the final series matches and promote the next entitled financial teams in their place to participate in the finals series.

Penalty - Failure to pay Fees will incur a fine set out in Appendix A - Schedule of Fines.

7. COMMENCEMENT DATE

The date of commencement and duration of the season shall be determined by the MPNFL and shall be presented to the member Clubs no later than the date of the Annual General Meeting.

8. STRUCTURE

The MPNFL consists of two (2) Divisions. Netball Clubs are to play in each Division is determined by their associated Football Club and will correspond with their Division allocation. Grades in each Division shall be decided upon by the League on an annual basis and any other competitions as determined by the MPNFL.

Clubs of the MPNFL Netball consist of the following Senior and Junior teams;

SENIORS	JUNIORS
A Grade	17 & Under
B Grade	
C Grade	
D Grade	

Matches will be conducted under the following scheduled time frames:

Grade	Start Time	Quarter Length	Intervals (mins)
17 & Under	8.55am	4 x 12 minutes	2 - 3 - 2
D Grade	10.00am	4 x 12 minutes	2 - 3 - 2
C Grade	11.05am	4 x 15 minutes	2 - 3 - 2
B Grade	12.20pm	4 x 15 minutes	2 - 3 - 2
A Grade	1.35pm	4 x 15 minutes	2 - 3 - 2

9. AGE REQUIREMENTS

The Senior and Junior competitions are considered separate and as such, qualifications are recognised individually.

Junior: Minimum age – must be turning 14 years of age in the competition year being played.
Maximum age – cannot turn 18 in the competition year being played (1/1 to 31/12)

Senior: Minimum age – must be turning 15 years of age in the competition year being played.

Penalty - Where a Club fails with the age requirement of a player and plays an ineligible player will incur a fine set out in Appendix A - Schedule of Fines.

10. GRADING

- (a) All Clubs must field teams in all Grades (for the exception of 17 & Under section) of their respective competitions as determined annually.
- (b) Clubs must field their teams from A Grade down. Should a Club be unable to field a team in any Senior Grade, a letter requesting exemption from the lowest Senior Grade must be sent to the MPNFL Netball Operations Manager at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the start of the season. The MPNFL will decide on the exemption.
- (c) In the event that a Senior team cannot be filled, then D Grade will be dropped for the Club in question following permission from the MPNFL as stated in (b).
- (d) The 17 & Under section will continue as a separate Junior competition to the Senior competition within the MPNFL and will remain as an optional participation for Clubs from the 2021 season.
- (e) Players may not take the court in more than two (2) matches over any given day/round. (2 x Senior matches or 1 x Junior and 1 x Senior match).
- (f) Junior players eligible to play in the Junior competition may play only one (1) Senior game per day (including finals) and remain eligible to participate in their Junior competition.
- (g) Once a Senior player has taken the court in a specific Grade, they are ineligible to play in a Grade more than two (2) Grades higher or more than two (2) Grades lower over any given day/round. (ie. Play D Grade and A Grade).
- (h) Where a player has played six (6) or more games in a higher Senior Grade, she is then ineligible to play in any lower Senior Grade (including finals).
- (i) Junior players must play a minimum of five (5) games in their respective Junior age group to be eligible to participate in the Junior finals.

Penalty - Where a Club fails to comply will incur a fine set out in Appendix A - Schedule of Fines.

11. FORFEITS & NON-FIELDING SIDES

- (a) Notification of a forfeit must be sent to the MPNFL Netball Operations Manager and to the opposing Club before 9pm on the night prior to playing the match. In the event of a notified or unnotified forfeit, the offending team will be awarded nil (0) Premiership Points and a nil (0) to twenty (20) score, and will incur a fine as set out in the Schedule of Fines. The non-offending (opposing) team will be awarded four (4) Premiership Points, Club Championship points and twenty (20) to nil (0) score.
- (b) A team may submit a Team List within MyNetball for player qualification purposes where the opposing team forfeits.

Penalty - In the event of a notified or unnotified forfeit, the offending team will incur a fine set out in Appendix A - Schedule of Fines.

12. PREMIUM PLAYERS

- (a) A 'Premium' Netball Player is defined by the highest level of Netball they are selected or playing at the year of competition and two (2) seasons prior.
- (b) Junior or Senior Players who were selected/played the previous two (2) years or are currently selected/playing during the season to play in either the following are classed as 'Premium Players':
 - i. Victorian Open Team and Victorian 21 & Under Team
 - ii. Victorian Netball League (VNL) or Australian Netball League (ANL) - All Divisions
 - iii. Suncorp Super Netball (SSN)
 - iv. State and/or Australian Representative Teams - Female or Mixed
- (c) Each Club may select up to five (5) 'Premium Players' on the Team List and play up to three (3) 'Premium Players' on court at any given time for each MPNFL "A" Grade match.

- (d) Each Club may select up to four (4) 'Premium Players' on the Team List and play up to two (2) 'Premium Players' on court at any given time for each MPNFL "17 & Under" match. These Premium Players have further restriction that once they play in an Open match at premium level, they can longer play in the MPNFL 17 & Under competition.
- (e) 'Premium Players' who have played ten (10) or more games for the same MPNFL Club in season 2018 and 2019, are classified as a 'Home Grown Premium Player' and will not be classified as a 'Premium Player' as stated in (a) and (b) in the year of competition. 'Home Grown Premium Players' must play "A" Grade only and are not eligible to play in any Grade lower.
- (f) Clubs may apply for an exemption to (e) for players who did not qualify for the required ten (10) matches in a season to still be defined as a 'Home Grown Premium Player'. Considerations may be given for circumstances such as injury, illness or pregnancy. These players cannot be registered to or play for another MPNFL Club during the three (3) consecutive seasons.
 - i. Decision of the exemption as stated in (f) will be made by the MPNFL Netball Operations Manager, in consultation with the AFL South Each Chief Operations Officer. Applications must be made in writing to the MPNFL Netball Operations Manager by 31 March, 2021.
- (g) 'Premium Players' may meet a home grown status where they can demonstrate that they have played the minimum 2018 and 2019 seasons at a junior level (9 & Under – 17 & Under) for an affiliated junior 'feeder' Club. Where a Club does not have a 'feeder' Club or junior program in place, consideration may be given to Clubs that have a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in place covering the years the player(s) in question was playing. Players approved by the League that meet this criteria will be considered 'Home Grown Premium Players' and must play "A" Grade only and are not eligible to play in any Grade lower. The 'home grown' status will be considered by the League on a case-by-case basis.
 - i. Decision of the status of 'Home Grown Premium Players' as stated in (g) will be made by the MPNFL Netball Operations Manager, in consultation with the AFL South Each Chief Operations Officer. Applications must be made in writing to the MPNFL Netball Operations Manager by 31 March 2021.
- (h) No 'Premium Players' are eligible to play in "B", "C" and "D" Grades in the MPNFL competition.
- (i) Clubs may apply for an exemption to Rule (e) to allow a 19 & Under 'Premium Player' as stated in (b) ii. to play in "B" Grade only. Consideration may be given based on the applicants age and highest level of representation. 19 & Under 'Premium Players' who have previously played "A" Grade standard would not be considered for an exemption.
 - i. Decision of the exemption as stated in (i) will be made by the MPNFL Netball Operations Manager, in consultation with the AFL South Each Chief Operations Officer. Applications must be made in writing to the MPNFL Netball Operations Manager by 31 March, 2021.

Penalty - Where a Club fails to comply and plays an ineligible player will incur a fine set out in Appendix A - Schedule of Fines.

13. CONDUCT OF MATCHES

- (a) The rules of play in Netball matches shall be those of Netball Australia.
- (b) All matches must be played as arranged in the fixture by the MPNFL, however, competing teams may with approval by the MPNFL and by mutual agreement, play on a court or a time more convenient than that selected in the fixtures.
 - i. Requests for a re-scheduled match or change in match dates and times are to be emailed to the MPNFL Netball Operations Manager at least fourteen (14) days prior to the original match date. Requests within fourteen (14) days of the original match date will not be considered, unless the change is for exceptional circumstances then the MPNFL will review the request.
 - ii. Both Clubs must be in agreeance with the request of rescheduling before submitting the request to the MPNFL Netball Operations Manager. Such requests must include the proposed venue and time of match(es).
 - iii. If approval from the MPNFL is not given, the original match date and times are to be adhered to.
- (c) A captain of both competing teams with the presence of an Umpire shall toss a coin in order to determine starting ends and centre pass prior to the start of each match. The captain of the home team is to toss the coin, the captain of the away team is to call either 'heads' or 'tails' in the air.
- (d) In consultation with the Umpires, competing teams may, by mutual agreement, alter the duration of quarters or breaks due to extenuating circumstances.

- (e) At the conclusion of each round of home and away matches, the MPNFL shall prepare a ladder for each Grade and in addition to awarding four (4) points for each win, forfeit or bye and two (2) points for a draw, shall prepare a percentage table comparing the total points scored by each team against the total points scored against each team.
- (f) In the event there are uneven number of teams in a Grade creating uneven number of 'Byes' for competing teams, the MPNFL shall prepare a Match Ratio Ladder which reflects the number of 'wins' by each team against the number of 'matches played' by each team.
- (g) In the event that selection for the finals series is between teams with the same number of points, the team with the highest percentage will be entitled to participate in the finals series ahead of a team with the lower percentage points.
- (h) In the event that teams are level on points and percentage at the conclusion of the home and away matches, the higher position on the ladder shall be determined in the following manner: the team that has scored the most points 'for' shall be awarded the higher position on the ladder. In the event that the teams cannot be separated as in the team that has recorded the most 'away wins' shall be awarded the higher position on the ladder. In the event that the teams cannot be separated, the effected teams shall compete in a 'play off' match under such conditions as the MPNFL deems appropriate.

14. NETBALL VICTORIA MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATIONS

- (a) Netball Victoria Membership fees are set out annually by the Victorian Netball Association Inc. and shall be communicated to all Clubs by the MPNFL.
- (b) All players and coaches are required to complete their N.V Membership Registration with their MPNFL Club before taking the court on Match Day. Registrations are to be completed through the MPNFL Netball Victoria MyNetball link found on the MPNFL website – www.mpnfl.org.au and shall be communicated to Clubs by the MPNFL.
- (c) If players and coaches have registered and paid for their N.V Membership Registration with an external League or Association, players and coaches are required to complete a Secondary registration with their MPNFL Club through the MPNFL Netball Victoria MyNetball link. N.V Membership Registration fees will not be charged on Secondary registrations through the same MPNFL Netball Victoria MyNetball link.
- (d) Single Game Vouchers (SGV) will be available for purchase online and shall be communicated to all Clubs by the MPNFL.

Penalty - Failure to comply will result in the player or coach being ineligible to participate in the match and may be subject to a fine set out in the Appendix A – Schedule of Fines.

15. CLEARANCES

- (a) A Clearance is required if a Junior or Senior player request to play for another Club within the MPNFL in the year of competition and one (1) season prior. Clearances are to be administered through MyNetball.
- (b) Notification of Clearances will be forwarded to the receiving Club via automatic email generated by MyNetball. Clubs must ensure that their email addresses are up to date on MyNetball. A player cannot commence playing for the new Club until the Clearance has been granted nor are they to be registered with the new Club until the Clearance has been granted by all parties.
- (c) A player shall not be granted more than one (1) Clearance in any one (1) season except in exceptional circumstances. A Clearance shall not be granted after 30 June in the year of competition. Players who owe outstanding playing fees or are in possession of Club property may not be granted a Clearance.
- (d) If a response has not been received from the players current Club after five (5) days from receiving notification, the MPNFL will make a determination of the Clearance application.
- (e) Best and Fairest Votes will transfer with the player should they remain with a Club in the MPNFL.
- (f) The number of matches played in the current season will NOT transfer with a player to the new Club. The player will need to play the minimum number of matches required to qualify for finals with the new Club.

Penalty - Where a player takes part in any match without an approved Clearance she is deemed an ineligible player and will result in the Club receiving a fine as set out in Appendix A – Schedule of Fines.

16. INELIGIBLE/UNREGISTERED PLAYERS

- (a) In the event that the MPNFL substantiates that any player has played without first having been granted the necessary N.V Membership Registration, Clearance and/or permit, ineligible due to age requirements, or any other breach to play required under the MPNFL Netball By-Laws, and is therefore deemed ineligible, the

MPNFL will request a written explanation by the Club with which the player concerned has played outlining the reason to playing an ineligible/unregistered player for consideration following completion of the match. The Club may be subject to:

- i. If the Club wins the game:
 - Fine not exceeding \$250 as set out in Appendix A – Schedule of Fines
 - Loss of match points
 - Loss of all points 'for' pertaining to that game
 - And may be subject to further penalty as determined by the MPNFL
- ii. If the Club loses the game:
 - Fine not exceeding \$250 as set out in Appendix A – Schedule of Fines
 - Loss of all points 'for' pertaining to that game
 - And may be subject to further penalty as determined by the MPNFL

17. TEAM LIST ENTRIES & MATCH DAY PAPERWORK

- (a) A team may list up to twelve (12) players in any one (1) match, and there will be no limit on the number of substitutions made. Clubs must submit their pre-game Team Lists/Selections in MyNetball no later than 3pm the day prior to match day.
- (b) Any changes to Team Selections can be made on the day to both Scoresheets provided by the Home Club prior to the commencement of the match. Players who are no longer playing are to be crossed out, players who are late inclusions are to be written in. Names on the Scoresheets are not to be abbreviated.
- (c) Each Club is responsible for updating their own Team List changes that differ from their pre-game selections in MyNetball no later than 9am Monday following the match.
- (d) The home team only is responsible for entering the scores in MyNetball by 6pm on match day. Disputes by either team are to be lodged no later than 9am Monday following the match via MyNetball.
- (e) Any player who takes the court without having been named on both Scoresheets must be removed immediately and cannot participate in the rest of the match. Any goals scored by that player must also be removed. A free pass is awarded to the non-offending team where the ball was when play had stopped. The vacant position can be filled by a player listed on both Scoresheets after a goal, interval or injury stoppage.
- (f) Players named on both Scoresheets must have had court time during the match to be registered as a game 'played' and their playing position listed on both Scoresheets. Players who did not have court time for that match must be removed from the MyNetball online Team List as outlined in (c).
- (g) It is up to the home Club to provide the required Match Day Paperwork for match day.
 - i. 1 x pre-match Match Day Checklist
 - ii. 2 x Scoresheets are to be printed and provided for each Grade
 - iii. 1 x Umpires Match Report with envelope provided for each Grade
 - iv. 1 x large envelope for all Match Day Paperwork to be placed inside *(to be used if the Home Club wishes to deliver the Match Day Paperwork to the MPNFL)*
- (h) Each A Grade team is to provide the MVP Vote Card per match supplied by the League. The A Grade Coach is to vote for one (1) A Grade player per match from the opposing team.
- (i) A pre-match Match Day Checklist is available via the Netball Victoria website or at www.willis.com.au and must be supplied by the home Club. A home Team Official and away Team Official must complete the Checklist prior to all matches on match day. Any hazards identified must be documented, rectified if possible, reported to the appropriate agency (local council, reserve Committee) if major repair is required.
- (j) The Secretary of the home Club has the option to either:
 - i. **Deliver** the Match Day Paperwork Envelope containing both Scoresheets for all Grades ensuring full names of players and signatures of Captains, Scorers and Umpires are listed, 2 x MVP Cards, Umpires Match Report for each Grade sealed in the supplied envelope and completed Match Day Checklist to the MPNFL at Frankston Park by 12pm Monday following the match.
 - ii. **Upload** the completed Match Day Checklist and both Scoresheets for all Grades ensuring full names of players and signatures of Captains, Scorers and Umpires are listed to JotForm by using the online link provided by the MPNFL. 2 x MVP Vote Cards and Umpires Match Report for each Grade sealed in the supplied envelope and posted to the MPNFL.

Penalty - Where a Club fails to comply will incur a fine set out in Appendix A - Schedule of Fines.

18. OFFICIALS

- (a) The Officials of the game shall be the Scorers, a Timekeeper, Primary Carers, Court Supervisor and the Umpires.

Scorers

- (b) Each team must be accompanied by a Scorer and the Home Team is to provide a Timekeeper and two (2) time clocks.
- (c) The Scorers must act together. Player positions must be entered on both Scoresheets prior to the commencement of the game, whenever a positional change is made, and for each quarter. Scorers must verify the scores after each goal, at interval and at the end of each match. Scorers are to record each centre pass.
- (d) No one under the age of 15 may score or time keep. Each junior Scorer must be accompanied by a responsible Senior over 18 years of age at all times.
- (e) Scorers are to ensure both Scoresheets have been signed by both Scorers, Captains and Umpires. Fully signed Scoresheets indicate that the scores/results are correct.
- (f) For the purpose of promotion of the game, a Live Scorers app may be used for MPNFL Netball matches if the league determines so. If Live Scores are to be used, it will be the responsibility of the home Club to enter the Scores.

Timekeepers

- (g) At ten (10) seconds to go, the Timekeeper MUST FOLLOW THE NEAREST UMPIRE and notify him/her when the quarter has ended. At intervals, the Timekeeper must notify Umpires when thirty (30) seconds and ten (10) seconds remains prior to the start of the game, the end of an interval or a stoppage.

Club Secretaries/Team Managers

- (h) Each team must ensure Team Lists/Selections on both Scoresheets provided by the home Team are completed, and all names are correct prior to the commencement of the match. Players who are no longer playing are to be crossed out, players who are late inclusions are to be written in. Changes to Team Lists/Selections must be entered by the relevant Clubs Team Manager in MyNetball no later than 9am Monday following the match.
- (i) All players must appear on the Scoresheet as they appear in MyNetball. Club Secretaries have until Round 3 to correct any errors in MyNetball.
- (j) Players who marry throughout the season are to play under the same name as registered with the MPNFL and Netball Victoria at the beginning of the season.
- (k) The Secretary of the home Club only is to ensure all Match Day Paperwork is in the supplied envelope before sending to the MPNFL by 12pm Monday.

Primary Carers

- (l) Each teams Primary Carer must be identifiable by wearing the MPNFL approved vest for the full duration of each match and be a suitably trained and competent Primary Carer. A Team Manager may be a Primary Carer.

Court Supervisor

- (m) The position of the Court Supervisor will be the responsibility of the Home Club except during finals, unless communicated by the league otherwise. The Court Supervisor is to be identified by wearing the MPNFL approved vest for the full duration of each match. Refer to Appendix C – MPNFL Netball Court Supervisor for responsibilities.
- (n) No one may consume or be under the influence of alcohol or drugs whilst officiating.

Penalty - Where a Club Official has not completed the required responsibilities, the Club will receive a fine as set out in the Appendix A - Schedule of Fines.

19. PROTESTS

- (a) If a Scorer, team or Club believes the Scoresheet is incorrect and cannot be rectified between the Scorers on match day, the Scoresheet is not to be signed by the Clubs Scorer or Captain.
- (b) Clubs can lodge a protest. To lodge a protest Clubs must submit in writing to the MPNFL Netball Operations Manager by 10am Monday following the match. The MPNFL Netball Operations Manager will advise the result of the protest and the decision will be final.

20. UMPIRES

- (a) All umpires must have their credentials up to date and have a current N.V Membership Registration with the MPNFL prior to umpiring in the MPNFL competition, and shall be communicated to all Clubs by the MPNFL. The MPNFL Netball Operations Manager will review Club Umpires credentials. Umpires have until Round 3 of the MPNFL Netball Competition to have a current N.V Membership and up to date credentials.
- (b) Any Umpire umpiring on behalf of a MPNFL Club who does not have a current N.V Membership will not be able to continue within the MPNFL until confirmation of their registration is received by the MPNFL Netball Operations Manager.
- (c) Club Umpires umpiring the MPNFL Junior Competition and/or players under the age of 18 must have a current Working with Children Check. A copy of the card must be provided to the Club Secretary who is required to provide a copy to the MPNFL.

Penalty - Any Umpire found umpiring without a current N.V Membership or Working with Children Check after Round 3 of the MPNFL Netball Competition, the offending Club will receive a fine as set out in the Appendix A – Schedule of Fines.

- (d) An Umpire may not play in the game in which she is respectively officiating.
- (e) All Umpires are to be dressed in white, a skirt for females and shorts for males (no trousers or leggings). Player Club tops are not to be worn.
- (f) Each Club is to encourage two (2) members to complete the Netball Victoria Umpires Theory Exam and Level One On-line Course.
- (g) An Umpire may not umpire more than two (2) consecutive MPNFL matches on any given day except in exceptional circumstances. Approval from the MPNFL must be obtained for more than two (2) games to be officiated by an Umpire.
- (h) Clubs are responsible for payment of their own Umpires, whether this refers to Club Umpires or Umpires sourced through the Peninsula Netball Umpires Association (PNUA).
- (i) Preference will be given to Umpires from outside the MPNFL Club Umpires for finals. The MPNFL may select badged Umpires from within the MPNFL who have been talent identified and hold a minimum B Badge.
- (j) An Umpire must not criticise or coach any team while a competition match is in progress. Umpires shall adhere to Netball Australia's Code of Conduct. Disciplinary action may be taken by the MPNFL for an Umpire's action that is deemed inappropriate.
- (k) In the situation where a Club Umpire does not attend for a game:
 - i. the offending team has the opportunity to supply an alternative Umpire in a reasonable time; or
 - ii. the non-offending team may provide the Umpire if able; or
 - iii. failing all attempts to find a replacement, the team that has failed to supply the Umpire will forfeit the match
 - iv. where this is a panel Umpire, the MPNFL will consult with both clubs.

Penalty - Where a Club fails to comply with (k) i. ii. or iii. the Club will receive a fine as set out in the Appendix A - Schedule of Fines.

- (l) Umpires are required to complete an Umpires Match Report supplied by the home Club after each match noting any sanctions given, record Players, Team and Spectators behaviour or any other notes the Umpires deem necessary to report to the MPNFL Netball Operations Manager.
- (m) At the conclusion of each home and away match, the Umpires shall award three (3) votes to the player considered to be the Best and Fairest player in the match, two (2) votes to the player considered to be the second Best and Fairest, and one (1) vote to the player considered to be the third Best and Fairest. Votes are to be recorded on the Umpires Match Report and sealed in the provided envelope.

21. WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK

- (a) A Working with Children Check is applicable to all persons working with Juniors up to the age of 18. It is a mandatory MPNFL Netball By-Law for all Officials to obtain this check if they undertake any of the following roles:
 - i. Club personnel including Coaches, Primary Carers etc. appointed or seeking appointment for reward.
 - ii. Volunteer personnel who will or are likely to travel away overnight with teams of players under 18 years of age.
 - iii. Persons appointed or seeking appointment to a role in which that person is likely to have individual and unsupervised contact with players under 18 years of age.
 - iv. Club Umpires umpiring the Junior Competition and/or players under the age of 18.

- (b) The Working with Children Check Application is online at: <http://www.justice.vic.gov.au/workingwithchildren/>
- (c) Clubs are to send a copy of each Working with Children Check card to the MPNFL Netball Operations Manager and associated Clubs will need to keep a photocopy of the card on file.

Penalty - Where a Club fails to comply will incur a fine set out in Appendix A - Schedule of Fines.

22. UNIFORMS

- (a) The Secretary of each Club shall register the Club uniform and colours with the MPNFL, for approval before being adopted. AFL South East Style Guide requirements must be met in MPNFL Club dress designs. Any Club with an existing dress design (prior to 2018) that does not meet the AFL South East Style Guide are required to adopt these requirements for the 2021 season. All Club uniforms is required to have the AFL South East logo placed on the right breast as worn and top centre of back neck, or in a position approved in writing by the AFL South East Chief Operations Officer.
- (b) AFL South East will work with individual Clubs who have an existing dress design (prior to 2018) to reach a mutual decision on new dress requirements for the 2021 season, if the Club is not in a position for new club uniform.
- (c) Clubs must notify the MPNFL in writing of any proposed changes to their uniform and provide an example of the design. The MPNFL will review the design to make sure the current AFL South East Style Guide is met (logo requirements). Approval from the MPNFL is required before any changes can be adopted by the Club.
- (d) Where a team's uniform colours are similar, the home team will wear their home bibs and the away team must change to another suitable colour.
- (e) Three (3) matches are allowed at the beginning of the season for teams to be fielded in their correct uniform.
- (f) A uniform is to comprise suitable Netball attire – A-Line dress, bodysuit with skirt, skirt, shirt, club socks and appropriate sports briefs in black or approved Club colour.
- (g) Players shall not be permitted to wear leotards or tracksuits. Gloves are only permitted for medical purposes and requires a medical letter to be submitted to the MPNFL for approval.
- (h) Nails must be short and smooth or may be taped with appropriate sports/material tape and be checked by the Umpire(s) prior to the match. Tape is to fully cover the nail – one (1) piece of tape over the top and one (1) piece of tape around the nail.
- (i) No jewellery is permitted with the exception of a wedding ring which must be taped with appropriate sports/material tape. A medical bracelet is acceptable and must be adequately covered.
- (j) A player is not permitted to play in a match with apparel or protective equipment which may cause injury to themselves or opponents. Approval for specialised protective equipment is to be sought in writing to the MPNFL with documentation supporting the necessity of the equipment and the length of time needed to be worn.

Penalty - Any MPNFL player out of uniform after the third match, the offending Clubs shall receive a fine as set out in Appendix A - Schedule of Fines.

23. NETBALLS

- (a) Each MPNFL Club will be provided with one (1) WorkSafe Gilbert Netball per competing team and will be included in the team fees to the league.
- (b) For all home and away matches, the home Club is to provide a suitable WorkSafe Gilbert Netball provided by the MPNFL and may include League sponsors logo. A spare netball shall be kept with the Timekeeper during the match.

Penalty - Any home Club unable to provide the suitable MPNFL approved Netball on Match Day shall receive a fine as set out in Appendix A - Schedule of Fines.

24. COURTS

- (a) All Club courts are to be situated outdoors, as the MPNFL is an outdoor competition. It has been resolved that due to the unavailability of some suitable local outdoor courts, Clubs may apply to the MPNFL to play at an indoor venue. Each Club will endeavour to play their home matches within the confines of, or as close as possible to the ground where their Football Club is playing.
- (b) Each home Club will be responsible for providing a court in fit condition, correct court markings and safe to play on which must be approved by the MPNFL and Netball Victoria.
- (c) Goalposts must be padded the full length of the goal post and nets must be provided for all goal rings except where Clubs are required to hire courts.

- (d) A Scoreboard capable of clearly showing the names of the competing teams and scores shall be supplied and operated by the home Club.
- (e) All venues used by the MPNFL Clubs must have an Automated External Defibrillator in sound operating order. This defibrillator must be accessible when the venue is in use.

Penalty - Failure to comply will result in a fine set out in Appendix A - Schedule of Fines.

25. WEATHER & CANCELLED MATCHES

- (a) In the event of inclement weather in Home and Away matches, both officiating Umpires in consultation with Netball Presidents or Captains of both Clubs shall decide whether the court and/or weather conditions are fit for play and a ten (10) minute break can be called. Following the ten (10) minute break, both officiating Umpires will determine the final decision to the future of the match.
- (b) A court is not fit for play in the event that lightning is visible at the Netball Court Venue or its immediate vicinity. Play must be suspended in such circumstances. Umpires shall call a ten (10) minute break or endeavour to resume play as soon as possible once the lightning risk is considered by the Umpires to have abated.
- (c) A game may be cancelled in the event that a game does not reach its conclusion due to factors such as:
 - i. The playing area and/or weather conditions becomes unsafe to continue as deemed by the Umpire(s) and are not able to resume play after a reasonable time
 - ii. A player or Umpire is seriously injured, that it is deemed inappropriate to continue play
 - iii. In the case of a night match, the lights fail
- (d) If a match is cancelled, the MPNFL Netball Operations Manager in consultation with both Clubs can determine an alternate date to reschedule the match based on the time of confirmed match cancellation and if deemed necessary.
- (e) If play has commenced and then the game abandoned prior to half time, or at half time, two (2) points will be awarded to each team. If play has commenced and then the game is abandoned after half time, the score will stand.
- (f) The decision for a match to be abandoned by the officiating Umpires must be recorded on one (1) of the Scoresheets for that match.
- (g) Umpires shall award votes for the Best and Fairest if the match is abandoned after half time.
- (h) The MPNFL adopts the Netball Victoria 'Hot Weather Guidelines' and 'Smoke Pollution Guidelines'. Refer to Appendix C – Netball Victoria Hot Weather and Smoke Pollution Guidelines.

26. FINALS

- (a) The control of all finals, including the allocation of courts shall be determined by the MPNFL.
- (b) Where a Grade has 7 or more competing teams, at the conclusion of the home and away season, the top five (5) teams in each Grade will participate in the finals series for their corresponding Grade. The finals will be played across four (4) weekends. The top team after the home and away season will not play Week One and will advance to Week Two.

TOP 5 - SENIORS JUNIORS		
Week	Final	Teams
WEEK ONE	Qualifying Final (QF)	2 nd v 3 rd
	Elimination Final (EF)	4 th v 5 th
WEEK TWO	Semi Final 2 (SF 2)	1 st v Winner QF
	Semi Final 1 (SF 1)	Loser QF v Winner EF
WEEK THREE	Preliminary Final (PF)	Loser SF 2 v Winner SF 1
WEEK FOUR	Grand Final	Winner SF 2 v Winner PF

- (c) Where a Grade has 6 or less competing teams, at the conclusion of the home and away season, the top four (4) teams in each Grade will participate in the finals series for their corresponding Grade. The finals will be

played across three (3) weekends. All competing teams will have a week break at the conclusion of the home and Away season and start finals Week Two (2) of the top five (5) finals.

TOP 4 - SENIORS JUNIORS		
Week	Final	Teams
WEEK ONE	WEEK BREAK	
WEEK TWO	Semi Final 2 (SF 2)	1 st v 2 nd
	Semi Final 1 (SF 1)	3 rd v 4 th
WEEK THREE	Preliminary Final (PF)	Loser SF 2 v Winner SF 1
WEEK FOUR	Grand Final	Winner SF 2 v Winner PF

- (d) In the event of teams being level on points at the conclusion of home and away matches, the position shall be determined by the percentage of goals scored 'for' and 'against'. In the event there are uneven number of teams in a Grade and a Match Ratio Ladder is applied, at the conclusion of the home and away matches the position may also be determined by the Match Ratio Ladder.
- (e) To be eligible to participate in finals, Clubs must pay all Football and Netball monies outstanding to the MPNFL, MDSS, Netball Victoria and AFL Victoria.
- (f) The MPNFL will supply the Match Day Netballs for the finals series. The winning team of the Grand Final will receive the match ball.
- (g) In the event of a draw in a final, there shall be a two (2) minute break during which teams may make substitutions and/or team changes.
 - i. At the end of the two (2) minute break, there shall be a further 2 x 5 minute halves played for 15 minute games and 2 x 3 minute halves for 12 minute games. The Centre Pass is taken by the team entitled to the next Centre Pass.
 - ii. There is a one (1) minute interval at half time and teams shall change ends.
 - iii. During both of these intervals, substitutions and team changes can be made.
 - iv. In the event of a draw remaining at the end of extra time, a signal shall be used to indicate that play shall continue until one (1) team has a two (2) goal advantage. No substitutions or team changes are allowed.

27. PLAYER FINALS ELIGIBILITY

- (a) A player must play eight (8) matches for their Club on separate days to be eligible to participate in finals.
- (b) Players must play at least six (6) of their required eight (8) Club matches during the Home and Away season in a Grade to qualify for that lower Grade's finals matches. Players named on both Scoresheets must have had court time during the match to be registered as a game played and their playing position listed.
- (c) Players who qualified in a lower Grade are permitted to play one (1) other match in a higher Grade for their Club in a final on the same day or weekend.
- (d) Junior players must play a minimum of five (5) matches for their Club on separate days in their respective Junior age group to be eligible to participate in the Junior finals.
- (e) Grading eligibility is considered part of finals qualification.
- (f) Teams found playing an ineligible player during finals will be considered to have lost that match.

Penalty - Should a player take the court that is ineligible for finals, the Club will receive a fine as set out in the Appendix A - Schedule of Fines.

28. INTERLEAGUE

- (a) The MPNFL participates in Interleague or Representative Competitions involving the MPNFL Netball Clubs. The MPNFL will invite awarded Best and Fairest, MVP and Team of the Year players from the previous year to represent the MPNFL.
- (b) If required, the League may ask the MPNFL Club Coaches to nominate players to be invited to trial for the MPNFL Interleague or Representative Competitions.
- (c) Players will be notified of training dates and venues at least fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the first training session that is determined by the MPNFL Netball Operations Manager in consultation with the elected MPNFL Interleague Netball Coach(es).

Penalty - Should a player fail to attend a training or match day without due notice may receive a fine as set out in the Appendix A - Schedule of Fines.

29. CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

- (a) Clubs shall be given points for wins during the season. The Club finishing with the most points shall be declared Club Champions and shall be presented with a trophy to recognise this achievement.

POINT SYSTEM	
Grade	Points
A Grade	3 points
B Grade	2 points
C, D and 17/U Grades	1 point
Note: ½ point(s) for a draw	

30. AWARDS

The MPNFL shall award a medal for the 'Best and Fairest' and 'Runners Up' player(s) in each Grade of the MPNFL Netball competition each year. The voting for the League Best and Fairest Award(s) shall be determined as follows;

- (a) At the conclusion of each home and away match, the Umpires shall award three (3) votes to the player considered to be the Best and Fairest player in the match; two (2) votes to the player considered to be the second Best and Fairest; one (1) vote to the player considered to be the third Best and Fairest. Votes are to be recorded on the Umpires Match Report and sealed in the provided envelope.
- (b) In the event of a tie for first place in a Best and Fairest Award, the award shall be shared, and no count back shall apply.
- (c) The MPNFL shall also make an award available for the Most Valuable Player (MVP) in the A Grade competition. This will be voted by the opposing A Grade coach after each round.
- (d) A 'Sharp Shooter' Award shall be presented to the player scoring the highest amount of goals in each Grade.
- (e) Any player who is found guilty of a charge by the MPNFL Tribunal during the home and away season shall be ineligible to win any MPNFL award for that season.
- (f) Other awards may be presented annually pursuant to such guidelines and voting system, as may be determined by the MPNFL.
- (g) Grand Final winners will receive a trophy, flag and medallion. Runners Up shall receive a medallion. The Best on Court player voted by the officiating Umpires will receive a Best on Court medallion.

31. OFFICIAL LEAGUE FUNCTION

- (a) A Club shall not conduct a function on the same date as an official MPNFL Function. This shall include, but not be limited to, the Annual Presentation/Awards Dinner, MPNFL and/or League or Netball Vote Count Night(s).

Penalty - Where a Club conducts a function the same date as an official MPNFL Function will incur a fine as set out in Appendix A - Schedule of Fines.

32. CODE OF CONDUCT/BEHAVIOUR

- (a) The MPNFL adopts the Codes of Behaviour as prescribed in the Netball Victoria Member Protection Regulation for all Players, Coaches, Umpires, Administrators, Officials, Parents/Guardians, and Spectators in relation to the MPNFL Netball Competition. The MPNFL does not tolerate any breaches of the Netball Victoria Codes of Behaviour. Refer to Appendix B – Netball Victoria Codes of Conducts/Behaviour.
- (b) Club Officials, Coaches and/or Captains are expected to discourage, counsel and administer the necessary action for unsportsmanlike or inappropriate behaviour. For any reports of serious misconduct, the MPNFL may refer the matter to the League Investigation Officer.
- (c) To lodge a serious misconduct or Complaint, refer to the MPNFL Netball By-Law 38. Complaints and Protests.

Penalty - The offending person(s) will receive a fine as set out in Appendix A - Schedule of Fines. Further action may apply by government agencies and/or suspension by an Independent Tribunal.

33. RISK MANAGEMENT

Netball Victoria Concussion Policy

The MPNFL adopts the Concussion Policy as prescribed in by Netball Australia. Reference:

https://memberhq.s3.amazonaws.com/nv-clubhouse/uploads/Concussion-Policy_FINAL-17.02.17.pdf

- (a) If a concussion is suspected, precautions are to be used to safely remove the player from the court when possible. A Sideline Modified Maddock Score should be performed along with a SCAT3 and a Netball Australia Head Injury Assessment Form - refer to attachments F, G, H provided by the MPNFL and within the Netball Victoria Concussion Policy.

Injury Reporting

Clubs are responsible for recording all injuries on an Injury Reporting Form (refer to MPNFL Website or Netball Victoria), including the MPNFL Interleague or Representative players.

First Aid

Each Club must provide a Primary Carer and be identifiable by wearing the MPNFL approved vest and be suitably trained. A First Aid Kit must be provided and stored in an easily accessible location for all appropriate personnel (Court Supervisor, Primary Carers, Umpires and Coaches) to access it.

34. STOPPAGES - BLOOD POLICY & INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The MPNFL adopts Sports Medicine Australia's Infectious Diseases and Blood Policy and Guidelines that is endorsed by Netball Australia. References:

<http://sma.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2009/05/infdisese.pdf>

http://sma.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2009/10/Blood_rulesOK-booklet.pdf

<http://netball.com.au/our-game/basic-rules-of-netball/>

Stoppages

- (a) An on-court player can call 'Time' to the controlling Umpire. If a player calls 'Time' and time is held for a player, the player concerned (that is the player whom 'Time' has been called for) must leave the court within thirty (30) seconds and that any treatment must be received off the court. It does not matter whether the player needs or receives treatment or not, and it does not matter whether any treatment given can be completed within thirty (30) seconds. The player is not permitted to continue if time has been held for them.
- (b) During a stoppage for injury/illness or blood, both teams may make substitutions or team changes, provided these are completed within the time allowed for the stoppage by the Umpires (thirty (30) seconds).
- (c) The player whom 'Time' was called for may be replaced during the stoppage. Alternatively, play may resume with the position left vacant. If the player concerned is Centre, one player must move to play at Centre to allow the match to continue. If the position is vacant, the Player concerned or substitute after advising the Umpire, can take the Court immediately after one of the following:
 - i. a goal has been scored (in this case, the Player concerned, or the substitute must play in the position left vacant);
 - ii. a stoppage for injury, illness or blood;
 - iii. an interval.
- (d) Only the Primary Carer(s) are permitted on court to assess the medical condition of the player in question and provide assistance. In the event that the Primary Carer(s) advise the Umpires that the player cannot be removed safely within thirty (30) seconds allowed, the Umpires will extend time for the player to leave the court. The Umpires may authorise other persons to assist the player to leave the court if needed.

35. PREGNANCY

The MPNFL adopts Netball Australia's Policy and Guidelines for women participating in Netball whilst pregnant. The MPNFL recommends that each player carefully considers the risks and their physical wellbeing to themselves and their unborn child and seeks regular medical advice throughout their pregnancy if choosing to play Netball in the MPNFL competition.

Netball Australia's Policy Extract – Oct 2016.

Netball Australia is committed to providing a safe and enjoyable environment for all its members, including pregnant

players. Netball Australia encourages all pregnant players to discuss their decision to continue playing during their pregnancy with their medical practitioner.

The following guidelines may assist Clubs/Associations when a pregnant player is involved:

A pregnant player should be aware that her own health, and the wellbeing of her unborn child, is of utmost importance in her decision about whether to continue playing sport.

Obtain expert medical advice as to the risks associated with playing sport when pregnant. She should ensure she understands this advice and where necessary question the advice until she is sure she understands the risks taken in participating in Netball.

Have regular antenatal reviews with her doctor, including ongoing review of her exercise participation. Take into account her changed physical condition, use common sense and not take unnecessary risks. Remember that the ultimate decision to participate in Netball will always be hers, whilst having regard to all the circumstances

For the full Netball Australia policy visit www.netball.com.au

36. PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOGRAPHY

Photography

- (a) Most people taking photos at sporting events are doing so for acceptable reasons and are using appropriate methods, for example, a parent videoing their child at a sports presentation or photographing their child on the field during play or a professional Photographer taking photos for a Club. Where a sporting event is held on a Club's private property, privately owned land, a school or council owned facilities, the owner of private property or venue is able to restrict, ban or require permission of photography/videoing anywhere in their venue. *(Reference: Australian Sports Commission Website)*
- (b) The MPNFL employs Photographers to attend various ground locations and these photos are placed in the weekly record and on the MPNFL website. These photos are available to all Clubs and players for purchase. Where Players, Clubs or Parents of Juniors request photos to not be taken, this needs to be submitted in writing to the MPNFL or a requested to the MPNFL Photographer on the day. Official League Photographers are identified by the MPNFL endorsed Media vests.

Videography

- (a) The requesting Club is to complete the 'Request to Video Form' and submit to the MPNFL a minimum of 48 hours prior to the scheduled match. Approval is required from the following parties before permission will be granted:
 - i. the opposing team, venue proprietors (if applicable), parents of any players under the age of 18. Still shots (photos) are permitted. The MPNFL will then confirm approval for the videoing to occur in writing to the requesting club.

Penalty - For any of the above, the Club will receive a fine as set out in Appendix A - Schedule of Fines and further action that may be deemed necessary by the MPNFL.

37. SOCIAL MEDIA

- (a) Any Player, Official or Club found to utilise a social media outlet to degrade, abuse, or defame another person, Club or league associate or staff member will be subject to a fine, suspension and/or other penalties as deemed appropriate by the MPNFL. Please refer to website www.playbytherules.net.au for information pertaining to social media standards and guidelines.

Penalty - The offending person(s) will receive a fine as set out in Appendix A - Schedule of Fines and further action that may be deemed necessary by the MPNFL.

38. HARRASSMENT & DISCRIMINATION

- (a) Any Player, Official or Club found to discriminate or harass another person, Club or League associate or staff member will be subject to a fine, suspension and/or other penalties as deemed appropriate by the MPNFL. They may also be referred to other governing bodies for further investigation. Refer to the Equal Opportunities Act 2010, www.humanrightscommission.vic.gov.au and www.playbytherules.net.au.

Penalty - The offending person(s) will receive a fine as set out in Appendix A - Schedule of Fines. Further action may apply by government agencies and/or suspension by an independent tribunal.

39. COMPLAINTS

The MPNFL adopts the Netball Victoria Competition Complaints Handling Regulation when lodging an official complaint to the MPNFL Netball Operations Manager.

- (a) Umpires and Club Officials (the Complainant) have the ability to lodge a complaint on a Player, Official, Team or Club (the Respondent) outside of the sanctions that can be applied under the Rules of Netball.
- (b) Any conduct of a Player, Official, Team or Club deemed to be unbecoming or bringing the game into disrepute will be reportable by one or both officiating Umpires, or a Club Official. Any report is to be recorded on the Netball Victoria Complaint Form supplied to Clubs and submitted to the MPNFL Netball Operations Manager or MPNFL Leagues Manager (Complaints Manager). Whilst the MPNFL have regard for the Netball Victoria Competition Complaints Handling Regulation, the MPNFL administrative process requires complaints to be submitted by 10am of the Monday after the match has been played. The Complaints Manager will consider any report and convene an Independent Tribunal, if necessary.
- (c) The Respondent will receive a copy of the Netball Victoria Complaint Form once received by the Complaints Manager. The Respondent will be sent the Netball Victoria Respondent Form to complete and send back to the Complaints Manager. Whilst the MPNFL have regard for the Netball Victoria Competition Complaints Handling Regulation, the MPNFL administrative process requires the Respondent Form to be submitted by 10am of the Tuesday after the Complaint Form is received.
- (d) If the Complaints Manager determines the matter should proceed to a hearing, the Respondent will appear before the Independent Tribunal who will have jurisdiction to impose penalties on the Respondent in the MPNFL.
- (e) The Respondent may receive penalties as deemed suitable by Independent Tribunal.
- (f) If the matter requires investigating, a fee of \$250 must accompany a protest. All complaints or protests referred to an Investigation Officer will commence the investigation within seven (7) days of the matter being referred to the MPNFL, unless an extension is requested.
- (g) All parties will be kept informed to the progress of the complaint or protest and receive the final outcome in writing. All complaints and protests will be finalised within 30 days unless the matter requires a more timely response.

40. ALCOHOL

- (a) Each Netball Court venue and Netball Court area is an alcohol-free venue and is to be managed by the Court Supervisor.

Penalty - *The offending person(s) will receive a fine as set out in Appendix A - Schedule of Fines. Further action may apply by government agencies and/or suspension by an independent tribunal.*

41. DRUG POLICY

- (a) Each Netball Court venue and Netball Court area is a drug and smoke free venue and is to be managed by the Court Supervisor.
- (b) The MPNFL prohibits the use of performance enhancing substances and views any such use as detrimental to both the sport of netball and the spirit of the game. For more information please refer to Netball Australia's Anti-Doping Policy -

<http://netball.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/Netball-Australia-Anti-Doping-Policy-effective-1-Jan-2015.pdf>

Penalty - *The offending person(s) will receive a fine as set out in Appendix A - Schedule of Fines. Further action may apply by government agencies and/or suspension by an independent tribunal.*

42. INFRINGEMENTS

Clubs will be notified by the MPNFL if they have infringed the Rules or By-Laws as soon as the League becomes aware of the breach. The offending Club may be subject to a fine as set out in Appendix A - Schedule of Fines or further penalties as applicable.

43. FINES

- (a) The MPNFL shall be empowered to issue fines in accordance with the MPNFL Netball By-Laws and the Statement of Rules.
- (b) All fines stated in the Rules and By-Laws shall be automatically levied, however, Clubs wishing to appeal against such fines shall do so in writing to the MPNFL
- (c) The MPNFL shall have the authority to confirm, reduce, amend or withdraw such fine. The decision of the MPNFL shall be final. Refer to Appendix A – Schedule of Fines.

44. AMENDMENTS TO RULES AND SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCE CLAUSE

- (a) Any direction from Netball Victoria or Netball Australia or amendments to the Rules of Netball shall automatically be amended and communicated to Clubs.
- (b) Where an MPNFL Netball By-Law is silent or absent, a decision can be made that ensures the integrity of the MPNFL Netball Competition is maintained at all times.
- (c) The MPNFL may, in using its reasonable discretion, in exceptional or extenuating circumstances, alter, vary or waive the requirements set out in these By-Laws relating to the MPNFL. The MPNFL may consult with Clubs, Members and relevant governing bodies.

45. INDEMNITY CLAUSE

Except where provided or required By-Law and such cannot be excluded, the MPNFL and its respective Directors, Officers, Members, Servants or Agents are absolved from all liability however arising from injury or damage, however caused, arising whilst participating as a member.

46. APPENDIX A – SCHEDULE OF FINES

By-Law	Offence	Amount
2	Non-attendance at an MPNFL Meeting	\$50
5	Non-submission of Annual Report	\$250
6	Non-payment of Fees	\$250
10,11	Failure to Comply – Non-Fielding a Side	Up to \$250
9,10,12,14,15,16,26	Playing Ineligible/Unregistered Player(s)	Up to \$250
14	Unregistered Coach(es)/Umpire(s)	\$100
11	Failure to Comply – Notification of Forfeit	\$25
11	Failure to Comply – Un-notified of Forfeit	\$50
17	Failure to lodge paperwork by the due date/period	\$100
17	Failure to upload match results by 6pm Match Day	\$50
17	Failure to update Team Lists by 6pm Match Day	\$50
18	Failure to Comply – Official Duties	\$25
20	Incorrectly dressed Umpires	\$25
20	Failure to Comply – Umpire Non-Attendance	\$50
20,21	Failure to provide proof of current Working with Children Check (<i>fee per official, per week</i>)	\$25
22	Incorrectly dressed Player (<i>after Round 3</i>)	\$50
23	Incorrectly used Match Day Netball by Home Club	\$50
28	Failure to attend training/match day for Interleague/Representative team without due notice	\$50
31	Holding a Club Function on the same day as an Official League Function	\$200
32,38	Failure to Comply – Code of Conduct/Behaviour	Up to \$250
36,37	Failure to Comply – Photography, Videography, Social Media	Up to \$250
40	Alcohol – under age drinking or alcohol found by persons at Netball Court venue/Netball Court area	\$100
41	Drugs/Smoking – Performance enhancing drug use or smoking by persons at Netball Court venue/Netball Court area	\$100

47. APPENDIX B – NETBALL VICTORIA CODES OF CONDUCTS/BEHAVIOURS

The MPNFL adopts the Codes of Behaviour as prescribed in the Netball Victoria Member Protection Regulation for all Players, Coaches, Umpires, Administrators, Officials, Parents/Guardians, and Spectators in relation to the MPNFL Netball Competition.

The MPNFL does not tolerate any breaches of the Netball Victoria Codes of Behaviour.

Click below to access each Code of Conduct/Behaviour.

- [Child Safety Code of Conduct](#)
- [Child Safety Policy](#)
- [Code of Behaviour – GENERAL](#)
- [Code of Behaviour – PLAYER](#)
- [Code of Behaviour – COACH](#)
- [Code of Behaviour – ADMINISTRATOR](#)
- [Code of Behaviour – PARENT/GUARDIAN](#)
- [Code of Behaviour – SPECTATOR](#)
- [Code of Behaviour – UMPIRE](#)

48. APPENDIX C – NETBALL VICTORIA HOT WEATHER & SMOKE POLLUTION GUIDELINES

The MPNFL adopts the Netball Victoria Hot Weather and Smoke Pollution Guidelines as prescribed. On match day, Clubs and officials (including Umpires) are to refer to the processes as stated in 25. WEATHER & CANCELLED MATCHES and act responsibly.

Click below to access the guidelines below.

- [Netball Victoria Hot Weather Guidelines](#)
- [Netball Victoria Smoke Pollution Guidelines](#)

49. APPENDIX D – MPNFL NETBALL COURT SUPERVISOR

Role of the Court Supervisor

- This position will be the responsibility of the Home Club except during the finals series where it will be undertaken by the MPNFL
- The appointed Home Club person may change for each game but not during the game
- The appointed Home Club person must be familiar with the MPNFL Netball Rules and By-Laws, and is mature and competent to make decisions relating to safety on the day
- The appointed Home Club person is to act in an unbiased manner at all times
- The appointed Home Club person must not be involved in any other role while acting as Court Supervisor
- The appointed Home Club person must remain court side for the duration of the game
- The appointed Home Club person is to wear the supplied MPNFL Court Supervisor High Visual vest
- The appointed Home Club person will act with the approval and authority of the MPNFL

Duties of the Court Supervisor

- The Court Supervisor must ensure that the Match Day Checklist is filled in correctly and by an Official of both teams
- The Court Supervisor must ensure Timekeepers are in place and aware of the Rules and their responsibilities
- The Court Supervisor must ensure Scorers are in place and aware of the Rules and their responsibilities
- The Court Supervisor must ensure Coaches and Team Members remain in the designated bench areas
- The Court Supervisor must ensure Primary Carers are clearly identifiable with a First Aid armband or Vest
- The Court Supervisor must attend to and resolve Spectators and Parent's behaviour
- The Court Supervisor must ensure the Netball Court venue/area remains an alcohol free and drug/smoke free venue at all times
- The Court Supervisor must address any officials, off court players and coaches conduct
- Should an Umpire not be in attendance, the Court Supervisor is to contact the MPNFL Netball Operations Manager for guidance of an agreed resolution. If neither can be reached, the decision of the Court Supervisor will be deemed to be that of the MPNFL.
- The Court Supervisor must ensure the safety of Umpires
- The Court Supervisor must ensure the court side is clear for Umpire movement during play
- The Court Supervisor must ensure a copy of the MPNFL Netball By-Laws are available court side
- The Court Supervisor must ensure all Rules of Netball Victoria and the MPNFL Netball By-Laws of are adhered to and administered fairly and without bias