



**SS&A OVENS & MURRAY  
FOOTBALL NETBALL LEAGUE**



**HANDBOOK 2025**



AMAZING SERVICE, GREAT  
VALUE FOR MONEY, EXCEPTIONAL  
FOOD AND DRINK IN A  
WELCOMING SOCIAL SPACE

PLUS A RANGE OF COMFORTABLE SEATING, AND GREAT COFFEE FROM 9.30AM.



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# Ovens & Murray House

Office: 208 Fallon Street, North Albury NSW 2640

## SS&A OMFNL OFFICE BEARERS 2025

CHAIRMAN	<b>Mr. David Sinclair</b>	dsinclair@seven.com.au
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Netball Victoria - North East Region Manager		
<b>Chrissy Boehm</b>	0427 566 201	christinahoop70@gmail.com
OMFNL Netball Umpiring Co-Ordinator		

## Club Contacts 2025

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	President	Lindsay Rollings	0400 035 750	<a href="mailto:lindsayrollings81@gmail.com">lindsayrollings81@gmail.com</a>
	Secretary/Manager	Ellie Hodgson	0409 119 832	<a href="mailto:elliehodgson@me.com">elliehodgson@me.com</a>
	Club Contact - Football	Aaron West	0404 832 362	<a href="mailto:aaron.west@alburytigers.com.au">aaron.west@alburytigers.com.au</a>
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	A Grade Coach - Netball	Amy Platt	0438 499 657	<a href="mailto:plattamy12@gmail.com">plattamy12@gmail.com</a>
	B Grade Coach - Netball	TBC		
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	17&U Coaches- Netball	Emily Black Liz Quade	0435 841 970 0428 279 119	<a href="mailto:emilyblack.2597@gmail.com">emilyblack.2597@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:equade13@gmail.com">equade13@gmail.com</a>
	15&U Coach - Netball	Bree Longley	0400 237 783	<a href="mailto:breelongley@hotmail.com">breelongley@hotmail.com</a>
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	Thirids Coach - Football	Jake Gaynor	0487 585 032	<a href="mailto:jakegaynor@live.com.au">jakegaynor@live.com.au</a>
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	<b>Corowa Rutherglen Football Netball Club</b>			
	Co-Presidents	Rowena Black Beau Longmire	0427 353 846 0427 367 063	<a href="mailto:rowena.black@bigpond.com">rowena.black@bigpond.com</a> <a href="mailto:beau@longmireptyltd.com.au">beau@longmireptyltd.com.au</a>
	Secretary	Emma Forrest	0438 335 031	<a href="mailto:operations@corowarutherglenfnc.com.au">operations@corowarutherglenfnc.com.au</a>
	Club Contact - Football	Beau Longmire	0427 367 063	
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	B Grade Coach - Netball	Jo Cresswell	0420 541 949	
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	15&U Coaches - Netball	Darby Griffin Lou Madden	0459 684 233 0437 290 102	<a href="mailto:darbygriffin13@outlook.com">darbygriffin13@outlook.com</a> <a href="mailto:maddenlouise4@gmail.com">maddenlouise4@gmail.com</a>
	Senior Coach - Football	Daryn Cresswell	0401 581 295	<a href="mailto:sale@executivegardenscapes.com.au">sale@executivegardenscapes.com.au</a>
	Reserves Coach - Football	TBC		
	Thirids Coaches - Football	Peter Whyte Mark Athanitis	0428 337 214 0428 752 444	<a href="mailto:whytep1996@gmail.com">whytep1996@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:markathanitis94@gmail.com">markathanitis94@gmail.com</a>
	Tel.			<b>PO Box 79, Corowa, NSW, 2646</b> <b><a href="mailto:operations@corowarutherglenfnc.com.au">operations@corowarutherglenfnc.com.au</a></b>
	<b>Lavington Football Netball Club</b>			
	President	Peter Barwick	0411 133 697	<a href="mailto:pbarwick4@bigpond.com">pbarwick4@bigpond.com</a>
	Secretary	Stephen Chalmers	0418 690 838	<a href="mailto:schalmers@outlook.com">schalmers@outlook.com</a>
	Club Contact - Football	Graham Hart	0403 295 504	<a href="mailto:grahamhart72@gmail.com">grahamhart72@gmail.com</a>
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	A Grade Coach - Netball	Sarah Meredith	0418 461 953	<a href="mailto:s-meredith91@hotmail.com">s-meredith91@hotmail.com</a>
	B Grade Coach - Netball	Maddi Lloyd	0428 544 031	<a href="mailto:m.gracelloyd@gmail.com">m.gracelloyd@gmail.com</a>
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	17&U Coaches - Netball	Mel Davies	0417 343 055	<a href="mailto:melaniedavies1985@gmail.com">melaniedavies1985@gmail.com</a>
	15&U Coach - Netball	Leanne Meredith	0472 272 529	<a href="mailto:leanne.meredith@meredithroofing.com.au">leanne.meredith@meredithroofing.com.au</a>
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	<b>Myrtleford Football Netball Club</b>			
	President	Rob Miotto Luke Chapman	0407 184 448 0400 114 412	<a href="mailto:rob.miotto@chhwoodproducts.com.au">rob.miotto@chhwoodproducts.com.au</a> <a href="mailto:lchapman925@gmail.com">lchapman925@gmail.com</a>
	Secretary/Manager	Taryn Bromilow	0417 344 953	<a href="mailto:taryn@alpinesaints.com.au">taryn@alpinesaints.com.au</a>
	Club Contact - Football	Luke Chapman	0400 114 412	<a href="mailto:lchapman925@gmail.com">lchapman925@gmail.com</a>
	Club Contact - Netball	Lee Cappellari	0408 270 402	<a href="mailto:lee.cappellari@gmail.com">lee.cappellari@gmail.com</a>
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	17&U Coach - Netball	Bridget Flint-Chapman	0402 348 423	<a href="mailto:flint_diva@hotmail.com">flint_diva@hotmail.com</a>
	15&U Coach - Netball	Sophie Pitts	0418 778 721	<a href="mailto:pittssophie0@gmail.com">pittssophie0@gmail.com</a>
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## Club Contacts 2025

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	B Grade Coach – Netball	Emily Browne		
	C Grade Coaches - Netball	Sophie Kohlhagen Annalise Barlow		
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	Wangaratta Football Netball Club			
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	Secretary	Kate Sleeman		<a href="mailto:secretary@wangmagpies.com.au">secretary@wangmagpies.com.au</a>
	Club Contact - Football	Joel Fisher	0407 700 525	<a href="mailto:footballops@wangmagpies.com.au">footballops@wangmagpies.com.au</a>
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	A Grade Coaches - Netball	Shae Cunningham	0407 556 664	
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	17&U Coaches - Netball	Megan O’Keefe Laura Fisher		
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	Reserves Coach - Football	TBC		
	Thirids Coach - Football	Chris Knowles	0401 901 119	<a href="mailto:knowlesy96@hotmail.com">knowlesy96@hotmail.com</a>
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	Secretary	Graeme Taylor	0419 373 154	<a href="mailto:gtaylorwang@bigpond.com">gtaylorwang@bigpond.com</a>
	Club Contact - Football	Barry Sullivan	0419 373 988	<a href="mailto:sullivan_family2@bigpond.com">sullivan_family2@bigpond.com</a>
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	Thirids Coaches- Football	Dan McCarthy Mick Pellegrino	0419 368 908 0417 398 012	<a href="mailto:danmccarthy@racing@gmail.com">danmccarthy@racing@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:mickpellegrino74@gmail.com">mickpellegrino74@gmail.com</a>
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## Club Contacts 2025

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Thirids Coach - Football	Greg Andrews	0409 538 145	corowasigns@iprimus.com.au	
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	Wodonga Raiders Football Netball Club			
	President	Zennon McCarty	0427 224 038	zennon.mccarty@icloud.com
	Secretary	Michelle St John	0417 289 030	shelleystcan@gmail.com
	Club Contact - Football	Brad Smith	0407 100 163	Brad.Smith@team.telstra.com
	Club Contact – Netball	Leonie Mooney	0409 585 280	leonie.mooney@bigpond.com
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	C Grade Coach - Netball	TBC		
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	Yarrowonga Football Netball Club			
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	Secretary	Vicky Long	0402 861 049	vicky.long@thalesgroup.com.au
	Club Contact - Football	Xavier Leslie	0409 324 037	
	Club Contact – Netball	Vicky Long	0402 861 049	vicky.long@thalesgroup.com.au
	A Grade Coach - Netball	Lauren Mulquiney		
	B Grade Coaches- Netball	Olivia Lovell Bridget Cassar		
	C Grade Coaches - Netball	Bree Strawhorn Helena West		
	17&U Coaches - Netball	Sarah Moore Maddy Allan		
	15&U Coach - Netball	Emma Sinclair		
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Thirids Coaches - Football	Leigh Masters Matt O'Dwyer	0437 428 058		
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# SS&A O&M FOOTBALL NETBALL LEAGUE

# 2025 SPONSOR RECOGNITION



## Naming Rights Partner



## Major Partners



RTO 3094



## Official Partners



## Associated Partners







## SS&A OMFNL Important Dates 2025



MON 13 <sup>th</sup> JAN	OMFNL Board Meeting	SS&A Club	6:30 pm
MON 10 <sup>th</sup> FEB	OMFNL Board Meeting	SS&A Club	6:30 pm
TUE 11 <sup>th</sup> MAR	OMFNL Board Meeting	SS&A Club	6:30 pm
WED 12 <sup>th</sup> MAR	OMFNL Netball Delegates and P&D Meeting	SS&A Club	7:00 pm
SUN 16 <sup>th</sup> MAR	Trainers/Medical Forum	SS&A Club – Skylight Lounge	10.30 am
MON 17 <sup>th</sup> MAR	Operations Meeting - Wangaratta	Wangaratta FNC	6:30 pm
TUE 18 <sup>th</sup> MAR	Operations Meeting – Albury/Wodonga	North Albury FNC	6:30 pm
WED 2 <sup>nd</sup> APR	Coaches Meeting (Football and Netball)	SS&A Club	6:00 pm
WED 2 <sup>nd</sup> APR	2025 OMFNL Season Launch	SS&A Club – Studio Lounge	7:00 pm
SAT 5 <sup>th</sup> APR	Season Opener	WJ Findlay Oval	
SAT 12 <sup>th</sup> APR	Round 1	Various	
MON 14 <sup>th</sup> APR	OMFNL Board Meeting	SS&A Club	6:30 pm
FRI 18 <sup>th</sup> APR	Round 2 – EASTER (Fri, Sat, Sun)	Various	
FRI 25 <sup>th</sup> APR	Round 3 – ANZAC DAY (Fri & Sat)	Various	
SAT 3 <sup>rd</sup> MAY	Round 4	Various	
SAT 10 <sup>th</sup> MAY	Round 5	Various	
MON 12 <sup>th</sup> MAY	OMFNL Board Meeting	SS&A Club	6:30 pm
SAT 17 <sup>th</sup> MAY	Round 6	Various	
SAT 24 <sup>th</sup> MAY	Interleague Football & Netball vs GVL	WJ Findlay Oval, Wangaratta	
SUN 25 <sup>th</sup> MAY	Netball Victoria NE Zone Qualifying	Shepparton	
SAT 31 <sup>st</sup> MAY	Round 7	Various	
SAT 7 <sup>th</sup> JUN	Round 8 – KINGS BIRTHDAY	Various	
TUE 10 <sup>th</sup> JUN	OMFNL Board Meeting	SS&A Club	6:30 pm
SAT 14 <sup>th</sup> JUN	Round 9	Various	
THU 19 <sup>th</sup> JUN	Hall Of Fame Media Conference 1 of 2	SS&A Club – Locker Room	11:30 am
SAT 21 <sup>st</sup> JUN	Round 10	Various	
THU 26 <sup>th</sup> JUN	Hall Of Fame Media Conference 2 of 2	SS&A Club – Locker Room	11:30 am
SAT 28 <sup>th</sup> JUN	Round 11	Various	
SUN 29 <sup>th</sup> JUN	Netball Association Championships	Melbourne	
SAT 5 <sup>th</sup> JUL	Round 12 – INDIGENOUS ROUND	Various	
MON 7 <sup>th</sup> JUL	OMFNL Board Meeting	SS&A Club	6:30 pm
WED 9 <sup>th</sup> JUL	OMFNL Netball Delegates and P&D Meeting	Wodonga Raiders FSC	7:00 pm
SAT 12 <sup>th</sup> JUL	Round 13	Various	
WED 16 <sup>th</sup> JUL	Hall of Fame Function	SS&A Club - Auditorium	6:30 pm
SAT 19 <sup>th</sup> JUL	Round 14 – SPLIT ROUND	Various	
SAT 26 <sup>th</sup> JUL	Round 14 – SPLIT ROUND	Various	
SAT 2 <sup>nd</sup> AUG	Round 15	Various	
SAT 9 <sup>th</sup> AUG	Round 16	Various	
MON 11 <sup>th</sup> AUG	OMFNL Board Meeting	SS&A Club	6:30 pm
SAT 17 <sup>th</sup> AUG	Round 17	Various	
SAT 23 <sup>rd</sup> AUG	Round 18	Various	
SAT 30 <sup>th</sup> AUG	Qualifying Final	TBC	
SUN 31 <sup>st</sup> AUG	Elimination Final	TBC	
SAT 6 <sup>th</sup> SEP	2 <sup>nd</sup> Semi Final	TBC	
SUN 7 <sup>th</sup> SEP	1 <sup>st</sup> Semi Final	TBC	
MON 8 <sup>th</sup> SEP	OMFNL Board Meeting	SS&A Club	6.30 pm
SUN 14 <sup>th</sup> SEP	Preliminary Final	TBC	
MON 15 <sup>th</sup> SEP	Morris & Toni Wilson Medal Count	SS&A Club, Auditorium	6.30 pm
THU 18 <sup>th</sup> SEP	OMFNL Grand Final Media Conference	Lavington Sportsground	11.00 am
SUN 21 <sup>st</sup> SEP	OMFNL Grand Final	Lavington Sportsground	
MON 13 <sup>th</sup> OCT	OMFNL Board Meeting	SS&A Club	6.30 pm
MON 10 <sup>th</sup> NOV	OMFNL Board Meeting	SS&A Club	6.30 pm
WED 12 <sup>th</sup> NOV	OMFNL Netball Delegates and P&D Meeting	Corowa Rutherglen FNC	7.00 pm
MON 8 <sup>th</sup> DEC	OMFNL Netball Annual Meeting	SS&A Club	7.00 pm
MON 8 <sup>th</sup> DEC	OMFNL Annual General Meeting	SS&A Club	7.00 pm



SS&amp;A OVENS &amp; MURRAY FOOTBALL NETBALL LEAGUE

## OFFICIAL FIXTURE 2025

<b>Season Opener</b> Wang Rovers v Wangaratta	<b>5 April</b>	<b>Interleague</b> Saturday 24 May	<b>Round 13</b> Wang Rovers v Raiders Wodonga v Wangaratta Myrtleford v Yarrawonga Corowa Rutherglen v Albury North Albury v Lavington	<b>12 July</b>
<b>Round 1</b> North Albury v Wang Rovers Raiders v Myrtleford Albury v Yarrawonga Wangaratta v Corowa Rutherglen 6pm Lavington v Wodonga 6pm	<b>12 April</b>	<b>Round 7</b> Wang Rovers v Corowa Rutherglen Wodonga v Myrtleford North Albury v Yarrawonga Lavington v Wangaratta Raiders v Albury	<b>31 May</b>	<b>Hall Of Fame Function</b> Wednesday 16 July
<b>Round 2 - Easter Weekend</b> Wodonga v North Albury Fri 18th Wang Rovers v Albury Fri 18th Corowa Rutherglen v Raiders Sat 19th Myrtleford v Lavington Sun 20th Yarrawonga v Wangaratta Sun 20th	<b>18, 19 &amp; 20 April</b>	<b>Round 8 - King's Birthday Weekend</b> Myrtleford v Wang Rovers Albury v Wodonga Corowa Rutherglen v North Albury Yarrawonga v Lavington Wangaratta v Raiders	<b>7 June</b>	<b>Round 14 - Hall of Fame Split Round</b> Lavington v Albury Sat 19th Wangaratta v Wang Rovers Sun 20th Corowa Rutherglen v Myrtleford Sat 26th Yarrawonga v Wodonga Sat 26th Raiders v North Albury Sat 26th
<b>Round 3 - ANZAC Round</b> North Albury v Albury Fri 25th Wodonga v Raiders Fri 25th - 3pm Wangaratta v Myrtleford Fri 25th - 3pm Wang Rovers v Lavington Sat 26th Corowa Rutherglen v Yarrawonga Sat 26th	<b>25 &amp; 26 April</b>	<b>Round 9</b> Wang Rovers v Wodonga North Albury v Myrtleford Lavington v Corowa Rutherglen Raiders v Yarrawonga Albury v Wangaratta	<b>14 June</b>	<b>Round 15</b> Wang Rovers v Yarrawonga Wodonga v Corowa Rutherglen North Albury v Wangaratta Lavington v Raiders Albury v Myrtleford
<b>Round 4</b> Yarrawonga v Myrtleford Lavington v North Albury Raiders v Wang Rovers Wangaratta v Wodonga Albury v Corowa Rutherglen	<b>3 May</b>	<b>Round 10</b> Wang Rovers v North Albury Wodonga v Lavington Myrtleford v Raiders Corowa Rutherglen v Wangaratta Yarrawonga v Albury	<b>21 June</b>	<b>Round 16</b> Corowa Rutherglen v Wang Rovers Myrtleford v Wodonga Yarrawonga v North Albury Wangaratta v Lavington Albury v Raiders
<b>Round 5</b> Wodonga v Yarrawonga North Albury v Raiders Albury v Lavington Myrtleford v Corowa Rutherglen	<b>10 May</b>	<b>Round 11</b> Albury v Wang Rovers North Albury v Wodonga Lavington v Myrtleford Raiders v Corowa Rutherglen Wangaratta v Yarrawonga	<b>28 June</b>	<b>Round 17</b> Wang Rovers v Myrtleford North Albury v Corowa Rutherglen Lavington v Yarrawonga Raiders v Wangaratta Wodonga v Albury
<b>Round 6</b> Yarrawonga v Wang Rovers Corowa Rutherglen v Wodonga Wangaratta v North Albury Raiders v Lavington Myrtleford v Albury	<b>17 May</b>	<b>Round 12 - Indigenous Round</b> Lavington v Wang Rovers Myrtleford v Wangaratta Yarrawonga v Corowa Rutherglen Albury v North Albury Raiders v Wodonga	<b>5 July</b>	<b>Round 18</b> Wodonga v Wang Rovers Myrtleford v North Albury Corowa Rutherglen v Lavington Yarrawonga v Raiders Wangaratta v Albury

NB: Senior football matches begin at 2pm unless noted otherwise



FINALS

Qualifying Final	30 August
Elimination Final	31 August
2nd Semi Final	6 September
1st Semi Final	7 September
Preliminary Final	14 September
<b>GRAND FINAL (Lavington Sportsground)</b>	<b>21 September</b>

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and not having a Share Capital**



# **ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION**

As amended at the Annual General Meeting of the  
OMFNL conducted on 6 December 2021

1. In these Articles unless there is something in the subject or context of them which is inconsistent:

**AFL VC** means the AFL Victoria Country.

**AFL VC Rules** means the rules and regulations from time to time of the AFL Victoria Country.

**Annual General Meeting** means the Annual General Meeting held each year as required by the Corporations Act and these Articles.

**Articles** mean these Articles of Association.

**Board** means the Board of Directors established pursuant to these Articles.

**Bylaws** mean the Bylaws of the OMFNL.

**Chairman** means the person appointed pursuant to these Articles.

**Director** means a member of the Board and a director of the Company.

**Club** means the football and netball clubs of Albury, Corowa-Rutherglen, Lavington, Myrtleford, North Albury, Wangaratta, Wangaratta Rovers, Wodonga, Wodonga Raiders, Yarrawonga and if any of the Clubs do not presently manage and run both football and netball teams, then the football Clubs and netball Clubs of these localities, and such additional or other Clubs as may from time to time be granted the right to participate in the OMFNL.

**Company** means the Ovens and Murray Football Netball League Limited.

**Corporations Act** means the Corporations Act 2001 as amended from time to time.

**Delegate** means the persons appointed by Clubs as their representatives pursuant to these Articles.

**Football** means the game of Australian Football.

**General Manager** means the General Manager of the OMFNL.

**Netball** means the game of netball administered by Netball Australia.

**Operations Manager** means the Operations Manager of the OMFNL.

**OMFNL** means the Ovens and Murray Football Netball League Limited.

**The Tribunal** means the OMFNL Tribunal.

**Writing** and **written** shall include printing, typing, lithography and other modes or representing or reproducing words in a visible form.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

2. The membership of the OMFNL consists of the Clubs affiliated with the OMFNL from time to time.
3. A Club will cease to be a member of the OMFNL if:
  - a) The Club resigns from membership of the OMFNL by written notice and the resignation is accepted by the OMFNL;
  - b) The Club is expelled from the OMFNL in accordance with these Articles; or

- c) The Club has a resolution passed or an order made for its winding up or a liquidator, provisional liquidator, administrator, receiver or receiver and manager is appointed in respect of the Club or over its business or assets.
4. Clubs will be entitled to appoint Delegates to represent their interests as follows:
- a) A Club which fields both football and netball teams will be entitled to appoint two (2) Delegates.
  - b) Where separate Clubs represent the competing football and netball teams of a locality, then they will jointly appoint two (2) Delegates.
- Only one of these two (2) delegates will have the right to vote at Delegates' Meetings.
5. Each Club will at least seven (7) days prior to the first Delegates Meeting in each calendar year will give notice in writing to the General Manager of the name of its Delegates for the following year and will nominate which of the Delegates will be the Club's voting Delegate.
6. In the event of the death, retirement or expulsion of a Delegate the Club of that Delegate will within seven (7) days give notice in writing to the General Manager of the successor to that Delegate and of any change in the Club's voting Delegate.
7. Each Delegate will continue in office until their successor is appointed, or until their office is otherwise terminated under these Articles.
8. A Club may withdraw its appointment of a Delegate or changing the voting status of Delegates by giving notice in writing to the General Manager.
9. A Delegate is not the trustee or agent for the Club that appointed them but must act independently for the encouragement and promotion of football and netball in accordance with the objects of the OMFNL set out in its Memorandum of Association.
10. If any Delegate is guilty of any conduct which in the opinion of the OMFNL is unbecoming or prejudicial to the interests of the OMFNL or of football or netball then the OMFNL may terminate the appointment of the Delegate provided that at least seven (7) days notice in writing is given to the Delegate of the Delegates' Meeting at which the resolution for their expulsion will be proposed and of the allegations against them. Prior to the resolution proposing that the Delegate be expelled being put to the meeting the Delegate will be given opportunity to provide an explanation of or defense to the allegation.
11. **If a resolution is passed by a 75% majority of Delegates at a Delegates' Meeting specifically called for the purpose then a Club may:**
- a) Be expelled;
  - b) Be suspended from, excluded from or will forfeit the right to be represented by a Delegate(s);
  - c) Forfeit some or all premiership points gained by a team of a Club; or
  - d) Be fined, if the Club:
    - e) Is guilty of conduct which is unbecoming of a Club or is prejudicial to the interests of the OMFNL or of football or netball;
    - f) Is unable to obtain and retain occupancy rights over a ground approved by the OMFNL for that Club;
    - g) Fails to pay to the OMFNL any monies due by the Club to the OMFNL within fourteen (14) days notice of notice having been given to the Club;
    - h) Fails to provide the financial statements in the form required by the OMFNL within fourteen (14) days of the OMFNL having requested them; or
    - i) Accepts as a playing member any player in contravention of the Permit Regulations of the OMFNL.

At least seven (7) days before Delegates' Meeting at which the resolution is proposed the Delegate(s) of the Club and the Club are to be given notice in writing of the meeting and of the proposed resolution and the basis for the proposed resolution. At the Delegates' Meeting the Club will be given the opportunity to give in writing or orally an explanation of or defense to the basis for the resolution.

**12. A Delegate will cease to hold office if:**

- a) They die;
- b) If they give notice in writing to the General Manager that they resign;
- c) If they are not nominated by a Club as their Delegate for the following year or if their Club notifies the General Manager that they have withdrawn the appointment of that Delegate;
- d) If they are expelled in accordance with these Articles;
- e) If the right of their Club to appoint a Delegate is suspended, excluded or forfeited by the OMFNL in accordance with these Articles; or
- f) If they are absent without permission of the OMFNL from more than three consecutive Delegates Meetings;

**13. a) The OMFNL will elect as an honorary life member any person who has:**

- i) Served as a Director for a continuous period of at least ten (10) years;
- ii) Served as a Director for an aggregate period of at least fifteen (15) years;
- iii) Served as a Director and/or official of a Club for a continuous period of at least fifteen (15) years;
- iv) Served as a Director and/or official of a Club for a period of at least twenty (20) years (including a period of at least five (5) years as a Director);
- v) Served as an official of a Club for a period of at least twenty (20) years (including at least one (1) year as a President, Secretary or Treasurer of a Club); or
- vi) Has rendered special services to the OMFNL.

**and** has a resolution proposing them as an honorary life member passed by a 75% majority of Delegates at an Annual General Meeting of the OMFNL.

- b) The OMFNL will **award qualified life membership** to any players who participate in not less than three hundred (300) Senior Grade matches or two hundred and fifty (250) A Grade games of netball. For this purpose, matches played whilst representing the OMFNL will be taken into account;
- c) **Honorary life members** and **Qualified life members** are entitled to attend the Annual General Meeting of the OMFNL, but are not entitled to notice of or attendance at any other meetings of the OMFNL and are not entitled to vote at any meetings of the OMFNL.



## **THE BOARD**

- 14.** The affairs of the OMFNL will be managed and controlled by a Board which, in addition to any powers and authorities conferred by these Articles, may exercise all powers and do all things consistent with the objects of the OMFNL, except for :
- a) Admitting any Club to or expelling or suspending any Club from the OMFNL competition;
  - b) Amalgamating or joining in any other League;
  - c) Taking over the administration of any additional football club;
  - d) Providing financial assistance to any Club (other than by payment of advances of finals dividends, loans or grants no greater than \$30,000.00) or guaranteeing the obligations of any Club;
  - e) Purchasing or disposing of any capital asset with a cost of more than \$30,000;
  - f) Borrowing any money otherwise than for the ordinary purposes of the OMFNL or to give any security for borrowing except as expressly authorised in any budget approved by the Delegates;
  - g) Undertaking any major capital works (including major works in relation to existing assets of the OMFNL) involving a total expenditure of more than \$30,000; and
  - h) Adding to, deleting or amending the OMFNL Bylaws.

The Delegates may at any time revoke, withdraw, alter or vary all or any of those powers and authorities.

- 15.**
- a) The Board will consist of not more than nine (9) Directors.
  - b) The Delegates will elect a total of seven (7) Directors, of whom six (6) will represent the interests of football and one (1) will represent the interests of netball (the Elected Directors). The Elected Directors will hold office for two (2) years. If a casual vacancy arises the Board may appoint a replacement Elected Director to serve until the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting. At that time the Delegates will elect a person to serve any remainder of the term.
  - c) At the first Board Meeting after the Annual General Meeting the Elected Directors will by resolution appoint up to two (2) Directors who will be selected by reason of their skills and attributes, which will be those skills and attributes which are considered to be most beneficial to the OMFNL at that time (Co-opted Directors). Co-opted Directors will be appointed for a term of two (2) years, with one (1) Co-opted Director retiring each year. Upon any casual vacancy arising for a Co-opted Director, the newly appointed Co-opted Director will serve the balance of that term.
  - d) Each Club (or in the event of separate football and netball Clubs for a locality, then jointly) is entitled to nominate one person for election to the Board as a Director, however if a current Director was nominated by that Club then the Club is precluded from nominating a Director.
  - e) Upon election or appointment as a Director, the Director must resign from any office which they hold at a football or netball Club and cannot subsequently hold an office in a football Club or netball Club whilst a Director of the OMFNL.
  - f) Nothing contained in this Article prevents a retiring Director being nominated for re- election.
- 16.**
- a) The Board will at the first Board Meeting after the Annual General Meeting elect a Chairman and a Deputy Chairman for a term of up to two (2) years (but not to exceed their term of appointment as a Director).
  - b) The Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Directors, General Manager and Operations Officer must not be a Delegate or officer of any Club. They will be paid remuneration as determined by the Board.

17. a) The General Manager and Operations Officer are entitled to attend Board Meetings, but are not entitled to vote.
- b) The Chairman is not entitled to a deliberative vote at Board Meetings. All resolutions before the Board will be decided in the first instance by a show of hands and in the case of equality the Chairman will have a casting vote.
18. The position of a Director becomes vacant:
- a) If they die;
- b) If they resign;
- c) If they become bankrupt or apply to take advantage or take advantage of any law relating to bankrupt or insolvent debtors or compound with their creditors or make an assignment of their estate for their benefit;
- d) If they are removed from office pursuant to these Articles;
- e) If they are disqualified from office under the Corporations Act;
- f) If they are convicted of an offence involving fraud or dishonesty; or
- g) If they are absent without the consent of the Board from all Board Meetings held during a period of six (6) months.
19. A Director may be removed from office at a Board Meeting after having been given not less than seven (7) days notice in writing before the Board Meeting at which the resolution is proposed of the resolution and the basis of the proposed resolution. At the Board Meeting the Director will be given the opportunity to give in writing or orally an explanation of or defense to the basis for the resolution.
20. The Board may delegate to one or more sub-committees the exercise of a function of the Board and will provide the sub-committees with Terms of Reference which the Board may vary from time to time.
21. An act performed by the Board, a Director or a sub-committee is taken to be validly performed, even if the act was performed when:
- a) There was a defect in the appointment of a Director or a member of a sub-committee;  
or
- b) A Director or a sub-committee member was disqualified.

#### **PATRON**

22. The OMFNL may appoint a Patron of the OMFNL who will hold office for as long as the OMFNL may determine. The Patron is entitled to attend all meetings of the OMFNL but is not entitled to vote.

#### **MEETINGS**

23. An Annual General Meeting must be held by the end of December in each year. The General Manager must give the Clubs not less than fourteen (14) days notice in writing of the meeting.
24. The ordinary business of the Annual General Meeting is:
- a) To confirm the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting;
- b) To receive from the annual financial report of the OMFNL:
- c) To conduct any necessary election to fill vacant Elected Director positions, in the event that there are more candidates than vacant positions; and
- d) Any special business of which notice has been given in accordance with these Articles.

- 25.** Meetings other than Annual General Meetings will be called Board Meetings, Delegates' Meetings or Special Delegates' Meetings.
- 26.** The Chairman will convene not less than nine (9) Board Meetings each year.
- 27.** The Chairman will convene not less than four (4) Delegates' Meetings (including the Annual General Meeting) each year.
- 28.** The Chairman may convene a Special Delegates' Meeting or a Board Meeting whenever he thinks fit.
- 29.** a) The Chairman will give notice of a Special Delegates' Meeting within fourteen (14) days of receiving:
- i) A resolution to do so by a Delegates' Meeting; or
  - ii) A requisition in writing signed by not less than fifty (50) per cent of the Clubs which sets forth the object of the meeting.
- b) If the Chairman fails to convene a Special Delegates' Meeting in the circumstances set out above, a Special Delegates' Meeting may be convened in accordance with the provisions of the Corporations Act as to the convening and conduct of requisitioned special meetings.
- 30.** a) Subject to the provisions of the Corporations Act relating to special resolutions and to these Articles not less than fourteen (14) days' notice must be given specifying the place and day and the hour to Clubs of any Delegates' Meeting and to Directors of any Board Meeting.
- b) Notwithstanding paragraph a) of this Article, the OMFNL may call a meeting on shorter notice, which will be deemed to have been duly called if:
- i) In the case of a meeting called as the Annual General Meeting, by all Clubs entitled to attend and vote at the Annual General Meeting; or
  - ii) In the case of any other meeting, by a majority in number of those having a right to attend and vote at the meeting, and being a majority together representing not less than eighty per cent (80%) of the total voting rights at the meeting of all those present having the right to vote.

Any meeting requiring resolution to remove or appoint a director or remove an auditor will not be subject to a shorter notice period.

- 31.** a) No business will be transacted at any Board Meeting unless a quorum of Directors is present at the time when the meeting proceeds to business. The quorum is Five (5) Directors (including the Chairman) present in person.
- b) No business will be transacted at any Delegates' Meeting unless a quorum of Delegates is present at the time when the meeting proceeds to business. The quorum is eight (8) Delegates present in person (providing that each of those Delegates is authorised to vote). For the purpose of this Article the word "Delegate" includes a person appointed by a Club as an alternate or substitute for their Delegate in the event of their Delegate being absent from the meeting.

## **PROCEEDINGS AT MEETINGS**

- 32.** If within thirty (30) minutes from the time appointed for a meeting a quorum is not present:
- i) If convened pursuant to a requisition - it will be dissolved; and
  - ii) In any other case - it will stand adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and place. Notice of the adjourned meeting will be given to those entitled to attend.
- 33.** The Chairman will preside at all meetings or if he is not present within fifteen (15) minutes after the time appointed for a meeting or is unwilling to act then the Deputy Chairman will preside at the meeting. If neither the Chairman nor the Deputy Chairman is present then the Directors or Delegates present (as the case may be) will elect one of the Directors to be Chairman of the meeting.
- 34.** The Chairman may, with the consent of any meeting at which a quorum is present (and must do if so directed by the meeting), adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place but no business will be transacted at any adjourned meeting other than the business left unfinished at the meeting from which the adjournment took place. When a meeting is adjourned for thirty (30) days or more, notice of the adjourned meeting will be given as for the original meeting. Otherwise it will not be necessary to give any notice of an adjournment or of the business to be transacted at any adjourned meeting.
- 35.** At any Delegates' Meeting or Board Meeting a resolution put to the vote will be decided on a show of hands. The Chairman will not have a deliberative vote. In the case of an equality of votes the Chairman will have a casting vote. A declaration by the Chairman that a resolution has on a show of hands been carried or carried unanimously or by a particular majority or lost will be recorded in the Minute Book and will be conclusive evidence of the fact.
- a) At least one (1) week prior to the Annual General Meeting a Club may by notice in writing to the General Manager appoint an alternate for their Delegate(s). The appointment of an alternate Delegate may be revoked by the Club by notice in writing to the General Manager at any time and the Club may appoint another alternate.
  - b) A Club may by notice in writing to the General Manager appoint a substitute for a Delegate to attend a particular Delegates' Meeting if the Delegate and the alternate cannot attend.
  - c) At a Delegates' Meeting an alternate or substitute may exercise any rights and powers of a Delegate.
- 37.** A Board Meeting may be held by using any technology that allows Directors to clearly and simultaneously communicate with each other.
- 38.** The Board may pass a valid resolution without a Board Meeting being held if a majority of Directors entitled to vote on a resolution cast their vote either in favour or against that resolution. Voting intention must be provided in writing to the General Manager by the time nominated for the close of voting.
- 39.** Any Delegate or Director who has a financial interest in any existing or proposed contract or arrangement with the OMFNL must disclose their interest to the meeting at which that contract or arrangement is first considered, or if the interest is later acquired, at the next meeting. No Delegate or Director will vote in respect of any contract or arrangement in which they are interested and if they do vote, then their vote will be disregarded. All declarations of interest under this Article will be recorded in the minutes.
- 40.** The General Manager may give a Club notice in writing that unless the Club pays all monies (including fines) due by it to the OMFNL or makes an arrangement satisfactory to the OMFNL within fourteen (14) days that their Delegate may not take part in the proceedings of any Delegates' Meeting or be entitled to vote at that Delegates' Meeting. Failure to rectify the default will result in this consequence.

## **PAYMENTS AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

**41.** Each Club must:

- a) Pay to the OMFNL any annual fee determined by the OMFNL;
- b) Pay to the OMFNL any levy determined by the OMFNL; and
- c) Within fourteen (14) days of being requested to do so by the OMFNL, forward to the General Manager a statement of receipts and payments of the Club for any period nominated, in the form and containing the information the OMFNL requires.

## **TRIBUNAL**

- 42.**
- a) The Tribunal will hear and determine charges against Clubs, players, coaches and members of the training staff of a Club and may impose penalties or fines in relation to charges against them, including for giving unsatisfactory evidence.
  - b) The Board will appoint and remove Tribunal members and in considering appointments, will consider nominations submitted by the Clubs.
  - d) The General Manager will determine the time and place of Tribunal hearings.
  - e) The Tribunal will consist of three (3) panel members in each instance
  - f) The Tribunal Chairman may co-opt a panel member on a casual basis where sufficient panel members are not available to sit in any instance.
  - g) No Director may act as an advocate in proceedings before the Tribunal.
  - h) Proceedings of the Tribunal will be in accordance with the VCFL Rules.
  - i) The findings of and penalties imposed by the Tribunal are final.
- 43.** The General Manager will appoint an Investigation Officer (who must not be a Director or Delegate) whose functions and duties will be to obtain and supply to the General Manager any evidence available in relation to allegations or charges referred to them for investigation.
- 44.** In the event that the General Manager considers that action is required in relation to an allegation or charge (other than a charge laid by an officiating umpire pursuant to the Laws of the Game) which may or may not have been the subject of a reference to the Investigation Officer, he will refer the allegation or charge to the Tribunal.

## **NETBALL SUB-COMMITTEE**

- 45.** The Netball Sub-Committee will have responsibility for all operational matters concerning the conduct of OMFNL netball competitions.

## **MINUTES**

**46.** The Operations Manager will keep record of :

- a) All appointments of Officers made either at Delegates' Meeting or Board Meetings;
- b) The names of the Directors present and voting at each Board Meeting;
- c) The names of the Delegates present and voting at each Delegates' Meeting; and
- d) All resolutions and proceedings at all Delegates' Meetings and Board Meetings.

## **SEAL**

47. The common seal of the OMFNL will be kept in safe custody and will only be used by the authority of the OMFNL and every instrument to which the seal is affixed must be signed by at least two Directors or such other person or persons as are appointed by the OMFNL for that purpose.

## **AUDITOR AND ACCOUNTS**

48. An auditor or auditors will be appointed in accordance with the provisions of the Corporations Act and the accounts of the OMFNL will be audited each year.
49. The General Manager will receive all monies on behalf of the OMFNL and will as soon as possible pay them into the OMFNL's bank account. Cheques drawn on or withdrawals made electronically from the OMFNL's bank account will be signed or electronically directed by persons authorised to do so by the OMFNL.
50. The financial year of the OMFNL ends on 31 October each year.

## **BYLAWS**

51. The OMFNL may make, amend, or delete Bylaws as and when necessary.
52. No Bylaw will be added to, altered, or deleted except upon a resolution being passed by a 75% majority of Delegates present at a Special Delegates' Meeting called for that purpose.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

53. In the event of any question arising which is not provided for in these Articles the Board has the power to decide it.
54. a) Every Director, official and other officer or employee of the OMFNL will be indemnified out of the assets of the OMFNL against any liability incurred by them in defending any proceeding, whether civil or criminal, in which judgment is given in their favour or in which they are acquitted or in connection with any application under the Corporations Act in which relief is granted to them by the Court in respect of any negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust, or in any instance where the conduct does not arise from a lack of good faith.
- b) To the extent permitted by the Corporations Act, the OMFNL may enter into and pay for a policy of insurance insuring any Director, official and other officer or employee of the OMFNL or any former Director, official and other officer or employee of the OMFNL against any liability incurred as a Director, official or other officer or employee of the OMFNL. However, this does not apply in relation to either of the following liabilities:
- i) A liability arising out of conduct involving a willful breach of duty in relation to the OMFNL.
  - ii) A contravention of section 182 or 183 of the Corporations Act.
55. Any application, notice, nomination or other document to be delivered to the General Manager is deemed to have been delivered if addressed to the General Manager and delivered to the office of the OMFNL.
56. No Article may be rescinded or altered or a new Article made except by a special resolution passed by a majority of not less than seventy-five percent (75%) of the Clubs entitled to vote and present at the Annual General Meeting or at a Special Delegates' Meeting where not less than fourteen (14) days' notice has been given specifying the resolution, subject to Article 30(b).
57. A ninety percent (90%) majority of the Clubs may at the Annual General Meeting or at a Special Delegates' Meeting resolve that the OMFNL be wound up or dissolved and upon the passing of a resolution to this effect the activities of the OMFNL will terminate immediately.





# BYLAWS

Updated at OMFNL SGM  
9<sup>th</sup> December 2024

## **1. AFL VICTORIA COUNTRY RULES**

These Bylaws must be read in conjunction with the Rules and Regulations of the AFL Victoria Country (**the AFL VC Rules**). In the event of any inconsistency between these Bylaws and the AFL VC Rules, the provisions of the AFL VC Rules will prevail. In this clause 'the AFL VC Rules' also includes any frameworks or guidelines issued by AFL VC from time to time which the OMFNL Board may adopt, discard or amend in part or in full, in its absolute discretion.

## **2. NAMES OF CLUBS**

Each Club must register its name with the OMFNL. No Club may alter its name without the prior approval of the OMFNL.

## **3. COLOURS OF CLUBS**

Each Club has the right to wear colours approved by the OMFNL and no Club will change its colours without the approval of the OMFNL.

The following colours have been approved:

ALBURY		
Regular	<b>Guernsey:</b>	Black with gold sash
	<b>Socks:</b>	Black and gold hoops
	<b>Shorts:</b>	Black with gold inserts
Alternate	<b>Guernsey:</b>	Predominantly gold with black
	<b>Sock</b>	Black and gold hoops
	<b>Shorts:</b>	White with black and gold inserts
COROWA-RUTHERGLEN		
Regular	<b>Guernsey:</b>	Royal blue and white vertical stripes
	<b>Socks:</b>	Royal blue
	<b>Shorts:</b>	Royal blue with white inserts
Alternate	<b>Shorts:</b>	White with royal blue inserts
LAVINGTON		
Regular	<b>Guernsey:</b>	Black with teal, red and white
	<b>Socks:</b>	Black with teal and white hoops
	<b>Shorts:</b>	Black with teal and white inserts
Alternate	<b>Guernsey:</b>	Predominantly grey with black and white
	<b>Shorts:</b>	White with black and teal inserts
MYRTLEFORD		
Regular	<b>Guernsey:</b>	Black, white, and red panels and black back.
	<b>Socks:</b>	Red, white, and black hoops
	<b>Shorts:</b>	Black with red and white inserts
Alternate	<b>Guernsey:</b>	Predominantly red/white with black
	<b>Socks:</b>	Red, white, and black hoops
	<b>Shorts:</b>	White with black and red inserts
NORTH ALBURY		
Regular	<b>Guernsey:</b>	Green with gold vee
	<b>Socks:</b>	Green and gold hoops
	<b>Shorts:</b>	Gold with green inserts
Alternate	<b>Shorts:</b>	White with green and gold inserts
WANGARATTA		
Regular	<b>Guernsey:</b>	Black and white stripes
	<b>Socks:</b>	Black
	<b>Shorts:</b>	Black with white inserts
Alternate	<b>Guernsey:</b>	Predominantly white with black
	<b>Shorts:</b>	White with black inserts

Wangaratta Rovers		
Regular	<b>Guernsey:</b>	Brown and gold vertical stripes
	<b>Socks:</b>	Brown and gold hoops
	<b>Shorts:</b>	Brown with gold inserts
Alternate	<b>Shorts:</b>	White with brown and gold inserts
Wodonga		
Regular	<b>Guernsey:</b>	Maroon with white side panels and monogram
	<b>Socks:</b>	Maroon
	<b>Shorts:</b>	Maroon with white inserts
Alternate	<b>Shorts:</b>	White with maroon inserts
Wodonga Raiders		
Regular	<b>Guernsey:</b>	Navy with red yolk and Raider logo
	<b>Socks:</b>	Red
	<b>Shorts:</b>	Navy with red inserts
Alternate	<b>Shorts:</b>	White with red and navy inserts
Yarrawonga		
Regular	<b>Guernsey:</b>	Navy and white hoops
	<b>Socks:</b>	Navy and white hoops
	<b>Shorts:</b>	Navy with white inserts
Alternate	<b>Shorts:</b>	White with navy inserts

Each player who is a registered player of the OMFNL must wear the items of uniform and apparel directed by the OMFNL, including playing uniform and other items of apparel to be worn by players attending official OMFNL fixtures and events. This includes both the Regular and Alternate uniforms which must be worn as appropriate.

If a player fails to wear such items of uniform and apparel prescribed by the OMFNL pursuant to this Rule, a fine as set out in the Schedule will be imposed by the OMFNL upon the Club for each player of the Club in respect of whom there is a breach.

Each Club may obtain approval of the OMFNL for two sets of short colours to be designated by the Club as first selection and alternate selection respectively.

The "home team" will adopt its first selection of short colours and the "away team" will wear white shorts.

For final series matches, the selection of shorts to be worn will be determined by the OMFNL.

#### **4. OMFNL AND CLUB LOGOS**

a) **OMFNL logo on players guernseys:**

The emblem of the OMFNL must be included on all guernseys and in a position on each guernsey as approved by the OMFNL for each Club.

- i) On the left shoulder - to be of dimensions 61 mm high by 75 mm wide.
- ii) On the back of the guernsey and within each number at the bottom of each number - to be of dimensions 21 mm high and 17 mm wide.

b) **AFLVC logo on guernseys:**

- i) All guernseys must have the approved AFLVC logo on the guernsey as directed by the AFL VC.
- ii) All guernseys must be purchased through an approved AFL supplier.

c) **AFL VC logo on shorts:**

- i) Only shorts as approved by the AFL VC with the appropriate AFL VC insert may be worn and must be purchased through an approved AFL VC supplier.
- ii) Shorts must be in the colours of the Club and must have the correct coloured inserts.

d) **Sponsor's logos on guernseys & shorts:**

- i) The size of the sponsors' logos on guernsey's is not to exceed 18,000mm<sup>2</sup> or such other size directed by the OMFNL. The size of the sponsor's logo on players' shorts is not to exceed 7,500mm<sup>2</sup> or of such other size directed by the OMFNL.
- ii) Sponsor's logos may be positioned on the front chest area of the guernsey and on the back of the guernsey above and/or below the number or in such other position approved by the OMFNL. Sponsor's logos may be positioned on the front left and/or right leg area of the shorts or such other position directed by the OMFNL.
- iii) Logos are to be referred to the General Manager of the OMFNL ("the General Manager") for checking for compliance with this Bylaw prior to being included on a Club guernsey.
- iv) Clubs are not permitted to conclude negotiations with a sponsor whose name or product would be detrimental to the image or interest of the OMFNL.
- v) Prior to finalisation of arrangements with any new sponsors, contact is to be made with the General Manager to seek advice as to whether entering into arrangements with the sponsor may contravene Bylaw 4(d)(iv).

e) **Size of numbers:**

The numbers on the back of guernseys must be not less than 27.9 centimetres in size.

f) **Under-shorts:**

Any protective gear or under-shorts worn must be skin toned or the colour of the Club shorts on the day.

g) **Socks:**

Only AFLVC approved socks may be used in OMFNL matches.

## **5. NUMBERS**

- a) i) Each player must wear the number notified by their Club. The number must be of a type and size and attached to the guernsey in a place directed by the OMFNL.
- ii) If a player fails to wear the number notified by the player's Club to the OMFNL for publication, a fine as set out in the Schedule will be imposed upon the Club for each player of the Club failing to wear the notified number.
- iii) If a player is not included in the players notified to the OMFNL for publication or if they play under a different number to that notified, the change of number must be announced over the public address system prior to the commencement of the match. A breach of this Bylaw will result in a fine as set out in the Schedule.
- iv) If a player changes his number during the course of a match the change must be announced over the public address system prior to the commencement of the next quarter. A breach of this Bylaw will result in a fine as set out in the Schedule.

## **6. COMPETITION CONDITIONS**

### **a) Home and away matches:**

- i) In all matches four points will be counted for a win, two for a draw. In the event of a forfeit the Club receiving the forfeit will receive four points. In the event of two or more Clubs tying on points at the end of the home and away matches, these Clubs will be positioned in order of percentage, determined by the proportion of points scored for and against each Club during the home and away matches.
- ii) In the event of there being a tie for first, third or fifth position on the ladder at the end of the home and away matches i.e. Clubs having the same points and percentage, then their positions will be determined by aggregating the points scored by the Clubs during the matches which they played against each other during the home and away matches, with the Club having the greater points total being awarded the higher position on the ladder.
- iii) Unless otherwise determined by the OMFNL:
  - 1) All Third Grade home and away matches will commence at 10.00 a.m. and be played over four (4) quarters of twenty (20) minutes (no time-on);
  - 2) All Reserve Grade home and away matches will commence at 12.00 noon and be played over four (4) quarters of twenty two (22) minutes (no time-on); and
  - 3) All Senior Grade home and away matches will commence at 2.00 p.m. and be played over four (4) quarters of twenty (20) minutes plus time-on.
- iv) Clubs must observe the OMFNL Equalisation Guidelines, and the AFL Victoria Community Club Sustainability Program, including AFL Victoria Player Points System and Allowable Player Payments Rules.
- v) A Club that regularly has reduced player numbers may request the OMFNL to impose a corresponding limit on opposition player numbers in any match. The OMFNL may grant such a request and implement such change in its sole and absolute discretion.

### **b) Final series matches:**

At the conclusion of the home and away matches the first five Clubs on the premiership ladder ("the ladder") will play off for the premiership under the final five system.

- i) First Weekend:

#### **Elimination Final**

The Club placed fourth on the ladder will play the Club placed fifth on the ladder. The loser of the Elimination Final is eliminated from the final series.

#### **Qualifying Final**

The Club placed second on the ladder will play the Club placed third on the ladder.

- ii) Second Weekend:

#### **First Semi-Final**

The winner of the Elimination Final will play the loser of the Qualifying Final. The loser of the First Semi-Final is eliminated from the final series

#### **Second Semi – Final**

The Club placed first on the ladder will play the winner of the Qualifying Final.

- iii) Third Weekend:

**Preliminary Final**

The winner of the First Semi-Final will play the loser of the Second Semi Final. The loser of the Preliminary Final is eliminated from the final series.

- iv) Fourth Weekend:

**Grand Final:**

The winner of the Second Semi-Final will play the winner of the Preliminary Final.

**c) Final series matches duration:**

- i) All Third Grade final series matches will be played over four (4) quarters each of seventeen minutes (17) plus time-on;
- ii) All Reserve Grade final series matches will be played over four (4) quarters each of seventeen minutes (17) plus time-on; and
- iii) All Senior Grade final series matches will be played over four (4) quarters each of twenty (20) minutes plus time-on.

**d) Draws in final series matches:**

In the event of a draw in a final series match extra time will be played in the following conditions:

- i) There will be an interval of five (5) minutes between the end of regular time and the commencement of extra time. The timekeeper will sound the warning siren three (3) times at three (3) minutes and twice (2) at four (4) minutes. Clubs not having dispersed and moved to position at the sound of the four (4) minute sirens will be reported to the OMFNL by the field umpires. The timekeeper will sound the siren again at the five (5) minute mark to recommence play.
- ii) Extra time will consist of two (2) halves each of five (5) minutes duration plus time-on.
- iii) Teams will maintain the same ends as at the completion of regular time and will exchange ends after the first five (5) minute period.
- iv) During a Senior Grade game, in the event that scores are level following the first two (2) periods of extra time then this sequence will be repeated until a result is determined.
- v) During a Reserves Grade game or a Thirds game, in the event that scores are level following the first two (2) periods of extra time, teams will maintain the same ends, and the timekeeper will sound the siren to recommence play. Play is to continue until a result is determined, such result to be the first score achieved by either team. This will end the game.
- vi) Coaches and other Club staff other than those permitted to enter the arena during normal time, will only enter the field to address players during the interval between the end of regular time and the commencement of extra time.

**e) Grounds for final series matches:**

Final series matches will be played upon grounds determined by the OMFNL.



f) **Qualifying conditions for playing in final series matches:**

- i) A player must play in at least three home and away matches for their Club to be eligible to participate in a final series match.
- ii) If a Club has all three teams playing final series matches on the same weekend, that Club can select players in such teams as it sees fit, subject only to Rule 6(f)(i) and the age restrictions applying to the Third Grade.
- iii) A player who has played more than half the scheduled home and away matches at Senior Grade will be ineligible to play in final series matches in a Reserve Grade team.  
*e.g. in an 18 week season a player is eligible to play finals in the lower grade team if he has only played 9 matches in the higher grade, but is ineligible if he has played 10 matches.*
- iv) An exception to Bylaw 6(f)(iii) is when a Club is engaged in both the Senior Grade and Reserve Grades in that weekend of finals.
- v) To be eligible to participate in a Reserve Grade final when the player's Club Senior Grade Team is not engaged in that weekend of the finals, the player must have played no less than two home and away matches for their Club in the Reserve Grade or Third Grade.
- vi) To be eligible to participate in a Third Grade final when the player's Club only has a Senior Grade Team or Reserve Grade Team (or neither of the two) playing on the same weekend, that Club can only select a player in the Third Grade if the player has not played more than half the home and away matches in Senior Grade and Reserve Grade.  
*e.g. a player will be disqualified if they have played 6 Senior Grade matches and 4 Reserve Grade matches in an 18 match home and away season.*
- vii) For permit player finals qualification refer to AFL Victoria Country Rules & Regulations or applicable Area Agreement.
- viii) For the purpose of finals qualification and player eligibility:
  - 1. a Coates Talent League Under 18 competition match (e.g. Murray Bushrangers) shall be considered a Senior Grade match.  
For the avoidance of doubt, such matches are considered matches of the player's Club Senior Grade for the purpose of finals qualification and player eligibility under Bylaw 6(f)(i) and 6(f)(iii) and 6(f)(vi).
  - 2. a player who has played more than twelve (12) 1<sup>st</sup>/Senior 18 home and away games for a club affiliated with a senior state league competition in that season will not be eligible to play in a finals series match.
- ix) Any player who is on an AFL or VFL club list must play at least half of the scheduled home and away matches to be eligible to play in final series matches or be delisted by their AFL or VFL club.
- x) Matches played in the final series do not count toward qualification.
- xi) For the purposes of final series qualification, a player playing in two matches in the same home and away round will only be credited with the match played in the higher grade.

## **7. THIRD GRADE COMPETITION**

- a) To be eligible to play in the OMFNL Third Grade competition a player must not turn eighteen (18) years before or on 31 December in the preceding year.
- b) Teams competing in the Third Grade competition will consist of twenty two (22) players, not more than eighteen (18) of whom may take part in a match at any time, the remaining players being interchange players.

## **8. POSTPONEMENT OR CANCELLATION OF MATCHES**

The General Manager, at the OMFNL's discretion, may postpone or cancel any match in the event of a Force Majeure Event. In this clause Force Majeure Event means:

- unfavourable weather;
- earthquakes, fires or other physical natural disaster;
- acts of war, acts of terrorism, riots, civil or military disturbances, national or state-wide industrial disputes, or any other unlawful act against public order or authority;
- epidemic, pandemic, public health crisis, any governmental restraint, impacts from the exercise of governmental powers; and
- any other event which is not within the OMFNL's reasonable control.

A decision to postpone or cancel a match will be made and notified to the Clubs as soon as possible. The OMFNL will schedule the playing of any postponed match at any convenient time prior to the commencement of final series matches.

## **9. MATCHES BETWEEN CLUBS OUTSIDE SCHEDULED COMPETITIONS**

Outside scheduled OMFNL competitions, a Club must not play another OMFNL Club without the OMFNL's approval.

## **10. BALL TO BE USED**

- a) For each Senior Grade home and away match the home Club will submit two new red footballs (each approved by the OMFNL) to the visiting Club for choice, provided that in the event of a game which commences at 3.00pm or later, the home Club will submit two new yellow footballs.
- b) By agreement between Clubs, two new red footballs may be used in a Senior Grade match.
- c) For use in the event of emergency the home Club will arrange for not less than two additional footballs to be delivered to the Umpires' dressing room prior to the start of the match.
- d) For the purpose of this Bylaw the approved footballs are Sherrin with approved League sponsor logos.
- e) In Reserve Grade and Third Grade matches one new ball and one other ball of suitable condition (to be determined by the match umpires) must be supplied for the choice of the visiting Club.
- f) A breach of this Bylaw will result in a fine as set out in the Schedule.

## **11. ADMISSION PRICES**

- a) At all grounds registered with the OMFNL for home and away matches there will be a uniform price of admission determined by the OMFNL. Aged and invalid pensioners will be admitted to all home and away matches on production of pension cards at a price determined by the OMFNL.
- b) Admission prices for the finals series will be decided by the OMFNL.
- c) The holders of carer's companion cards and children 12 years and under will be admitted to all matches free of charge. Proof of entitlement or age may be requested.
- d) OMFNL guest passes will be issued by the General Manager to media personnel, trophy donors to the OMFNL, Morris Medal winners, Wilson Medal winners, life members of the OMFNL, Hall of Fame inductees and recognised guests of the OMFNL.
- e) Holders of AFL Victoria service medallions and holders of guest passes issued by the OMFNL will be admitted free to all matches upon production of their medallions or guest passes.
- f) Normal admission charges will be paid by all visiting players and officials except for Third Grade football players and all netball players under the age of eighteen (18) years who will be given passes and will be admitted free to all matches upon production of their passes.

- g) The host Club for any final series match will pay a hosting fee as advised by the OMFNL and any entitlement to free admittance for its "workers" will be as provided in the OMFNL's Finals Hosting Rules.
- h) In the final series the host Club will after adding the privilege fee, account to the OMFNL for the net amount of the gate moneys and privilege fees.

## **12. OMFNL PUBLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

Clubs are to supply information in electronic format for OMFNL publications as requested, including accurate team lists, no later than 12.00 noon on the Tuesday before the commencement of the next round of scheduled matches. A breach of this Bylaw will result in a fine as set out in the Schedule.

## **13. ANNOUNCEMENT OF TEAMS**

- a) All Clubs are to electronically lodge with the OMFNL particulars of their Senior Grade, Reserve Grade and Third Grade teams (consisting of a maximum of eighteen (18) players, four (4) interchange, and three (3) emergencies).
- b) Electronic lodgement of teams is to be completed by:
  - i) 8.30 p.m. Thursday if they are playing on a Friday night or Saturday; and
  - ii) 5.00 p.m. Friday if they are playing on a Sunday or public holidays. Teams playing on a Sunday or public holidays are also required to announce an extended list consisting of eighteen (18) players, six (6) interchange [seven (7) for Third Grade] by 8.30 pm Thursday.
- c) Failure to electronically lodge any team as required by Bylaw 13(a) will result in a fine as set out in the Schedule.
- d) The Senior Grade team will comprise eighteen (18) players in position, an interchange of four (4) and three (3) emergencies, making a total of twenty-five (25) players. Teams must be named with the emergencies not included in the team listing of twenty-two (22). No expanded bench is to be named, other than as provided in Bylaw 13(b)(ii).
- e) Late changes to selected teams will result in a fine as set out in the Schedule.
- f) A fine as set out in the Schedule will be imposed upon Clubs who drop players from the original twenty-two (22) Senior Grade players to the Reserve Grade or Third Grade team that particular weekend or who use players in the Senior Grade team after not including them in the twenty-five (25) players lodged with the OMFNL.

## **14. TEAM SHEETS**

- a) The team manager of each Club must meet with the team manager of the other competing Club and the Umpires:
  - i) For Third Grade matches - 30 minutes before the scheduled time for commencement of the match; and
  - ii) For Senior Grade and Reserve Grade matches - at three quarter time of the preceding game, and deliver to each of the opposing team manager and the umpires a team sheet listing:
    - iii) The names of all players of the Club and their guernsey numbers;
    - iv) The interchange players;
    - v) The captain;
    - vi) The coach;

- vii) The official runner;
  - viii) The water carriers;
  - ix) Any Club umpire;
  - x) The Club umpire escort;
  - xi) The official trainers of the team;
  - xii) the interchange steward; and
  - xiii) the timekeeper.
- b) All team sheets must be completed electronically. A breach of this Bylaw will result in a fine as set out in the Schedule. The home team is responsible for printing off copies of all official team sheets for that day.
  - c) All day and/or area permit forms in respect of any player must be sighted by a responsible official of the opposing Club and signed by this official prior to the commencement of the match.
  - d) All team sheets are to be signed by a responsible official of the Club.
  - e) After each match the Secretary of the home Club must forward to the OMFNL Operations Officer of the OMFNL a copy of each team sheet along with the umpires' report of the match.

## **15. REPORTS OF MATCHES**

- a) Team Managers of both competing Clubs must attend at the Umpires' rooms and complete and submit all necessary match day documents required by the OMFNL within twenty (20) minutes of the end of play.
- b) The home Club must electronically lodge all match day information the OMFNL requires including correct scores on a quarter by quarter basis, best players and goal kickers for all grades played:
  - i) On or before 5.30 pm for matches starting at 2.00 pm; and
  - ii) Within 30 minutes of the end of matches scheduled to start at other times.

The information submitted will include particulars of any reports made by umpires in any grade on that day or alternatively advise "all clear".

- c) The Secretary of the home Club will submit to the OMFNL Operations Manager:
  - i) All match day documentation and information designated by the OMFNL as "priority" to be received by 8.00 am the next business day after the match; and
  - ii) All other required match day documentation and information by 5.00pm on the next business day after the match or if sent by express post, to be posted not later than the closing time for express post on the next business day after the match.

The match day documentation currently required includes the official score card certified "correct" by both official scorers, team sheets, time cards, umpires reports, OMFNL awards, interchange sheets, and day and area permits (if any). A breach of this Bylaw will result in a fine as set out in the Schedule.

## **16. ATTENDANCE AT THE UMPIRES' ROOM**

The Secretary or Team Manager of all Clubs must attend the Umpires' Room within twenty (20) minutes of the conclusion of the match to receive the "all clear" or to be notified of any report. A breach of this Bylaw will result in a fine as set out in the Schedule.

## **17. PROOF OF COMMUNICATION**

Wherever these Bylaws and the Articles of the OMFNL provide for a time limit for lodgement of any communication the onus of proof of lodgement within time is on the initiating Club.

## **18. TIMEKEEPING**

### **a) Duties and Powers of timekeepers:**

The provisions of the AFL Laws of the Game apply with respect to the duties and powers of timekeepers.

### **b) Clocks and Sirens:**

- i) Each Club must supply one clock for the use of the Club timekeeper;
- ii) Each ground upon which OMFNL matches are played must have a bell or siren of a type approved by the OMFNL;
- ii) The operation of the siren is under the control of the timekeepers appointed for the match; and
- iv) The timekeepers will at the end of each quarter continue to ring or sound the bell or siren until the field umpire acknowledges that they have heard the bell or siren by blowing their whistle and holding their two hands over their head.

### **c) Times for starting matches:**

The OMFNL will determine the starting time for matches, the times by which teams will enter the field for the commencement of matches and the penalties to be paid or incurred by Clubs for failure of their teams to enter the field by the times determined.

- d)
  - i) In the case of a yellow card the Timekeepers of both Clubs must liaise with each other and agree upon the time the offending player(s) left the field. Based on that time both timekeepers then need to work out the 15 minute playing time penalty to reach the milestone time when the player can re-enter the field. These times are to be recorded on the offending player's Club team sheet and initialled by each timekeeper.
  - ii) In the case of a red card the timekeepers of both Clubs must liaise with each other and agree upon the time the offending player(s) left the field. Based on that time both timekeepers then need to work out the 20 minute playing time penalty to reach the milestone when the red carded player can be replaced. The offending red carded player cannot re-enter the match and can only be replaced by another named player after 20 minutes. These times are to be recorded on the offending player's Club team sheet and initialled by each timekeeper.

e) **Procedure for Sounding Siren:**

<b>Start of Match</b>	<b>No. of Occasions</b>
Five minutes prior to the scheduled starting time of the Match and as Umpires enter the Arena.	Once
Two minutes prior to the scheduled starting time. <i>Clubs are permitted to warm up on an agreed half of the field until the sounding of this warning.</i>	Twice
One minute prior to the scheduled starting time and as a signal for the toss of the coin. <i>It is the responsibility of each club to ensure that their captain is at the centre circle prior to this warning. Following the toss players must move to their positions immediately.</i>	Once
Scheduled starting time (start of Match) Once. <i>Clubs not ready to start at the official starting time will be reported to the OMFNL by the field umpires, who will complete an official report following the completion of the match. A breach of this Bylaw will result in a fine as set out in the Schedule.</i>	Once
End of first quarter Once.	Once
<i>Interval time six (6) minutes for all grades</i>	
<b>Start of Second Quarter</b>	
Two minutes prior to the scheduled starting time Twice.	Twice
One minute prior to the scheduled starting time Once. <i>Clubs not having dispersed and moved to their field positions at the one-minute warning will be reported to the OMFNL by the field umpires.</i>	Once
Scheduled starting time (start of quarter) Once	Once
End of second quarter Once	Once
<i>Interval time twenty (20) minutes for Seniors, ten (10) minutes for Reserves &amp; Thirds</i>	
<b>Start of Third Quarter</b>	
Five minutes prior to the scheduled starting time of the quarter and as Umpires enter the Arena. <i>All half-time entertainment (if any) must cease at this warning, any instances of exceeding this time will be reported to the OMFNL.</i>	Once
Two minutes prior to the scheduled starting time Twice. <i>Clubs must move to their field positions at this warning. Clubs not ready to start will be reported to the OMFNL by the field umpires.</i>	Twice
One minute prior to the scheduled starting time Once.	Once
Scheduled starting time (start of quarter) Once.	Once
End of third quarter Once.	Once
<i>Interval time six (6) minutes for all grades</i>	
<b>Start of Final Quarter</b>	
Two minutes prior to the scheduled starting time Twice.	Twice
One minute prior to the scheduled starting time Once. One minute prior to the scheduled starting time Once. <i>Clubs not having dispersed and moved to their field positions at the one-minute warning will be reported to the OMFNL by the field umpires.</i>	Once
Scheduled starting time (start of quarter) Once	Once
End of fourth quarter Once	Once

- f) If a team of a Club has not entered the field within fifteen (15) minutes after the scheduled time the Club will (in addition to any fine set out in the Schedule) forfeit the match and the premiership points for the match unless a satisfactory explanation for the delay is provided to the OMFNL. In the event of a match being forfeited on the scheduled day, if the Club who has forfeited the match provides an explanation to the OMFNL which the OMFNL considers satisfactory, then the OMFNL in its absolute discretion may determine that the match be played on a subsequent day or otherwise finally decide the matter.

## **19. INTERCHANGE STEWARDS**

- a) Each Club must provide one interchange steward for senior matches only. Their name must be recorded on the official team sheet.
- b) Each interchange steward must record their own Club's player interchange records. This includes the numbers of players who leave and enter the field and the time they entered and left the field
- c) Interchange stewards must monitor players eligible to interchange throughout the match and must ensure they cross the boundary line at the same place within the marked lines, player off first, player on second.
- d) Interchange stewards must sit together in a location designated by the OMFNL.
- e) A player who does not leave the field as required by Bylaw 19(c) is unable to re-enter the field for the remainder of the match. Both interchange stewards must agree there has been a clear breach before this consequence is applied.
- f) Where a player does not enter the field as required by Bylaw 19(c), the interchange steward and/or a field umpire must report the circumstances to the OMFNL, including the scores at the time. The OMFNL may apply a sanction including the imposition of a fine or the reversal of the match result.
- g) At the completion of the match each steward must sign their own interchange steward control sheet and initial the opposition Club's sheet.
- h) Interchange stewards are encouraged to report to the OMFNL any infringement of this Bylaw.

## **20. SCORE BOARDS, SCORE KEEPING AND TIME CLOCKS**

- a) Score boards must be erected in a prominent position on each ground approved for use by the OMFNL and scores must be posted to the score boards by a competent person.
- b) The goal umpires are the official scorers. The goal umpires will confer and check their scores at the end of each quarter. In the event of any discrepancy between the scores kept by the goal umpires they will check the scores against the scores kept by the timekeepers.
- c) At the end of each quarter the goal umpires will communicate with the score board attendant to ensure that the scores displayed are correct.
- d) Time clocks must be erected in a prominent position on each ground approved for use the OMFNL and are to be of a design and size so that they may be easily read by all persons attending the match.

## **21. ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION**

No form of electronic communication (such as walkie-talkie or mobile telephone) will be used on the field during the progress of a match, excepting in the area between the arena fence and the boundary line.

## **22. UMPIRES**

- a) Any umpire who is directed to attend an OMFNL Board meeting or the OMFNL Tribunal and who fails to do so will be dealt with in the OMFNL's absolute discretion.
- b) An umpire (with the exception of "club umpires") is not eligible to officiate in a match involving the Club of which he was a player until a period of three (3) years has elapsed since he last played for that Club.
- c)
  - i) Umpires' dressing rooms must be kept clear of all persons except the umpires and no visit is permitted before, during or after the match by any persons except the Secretary or Team Manager of the competing Clubs.
  - ii) Separate shower facilities must be provided for the umpires and Clubs must work towards having separate shower facilities for female umpires.

A breach of this Bylaw will result in a fine as set out in the Schedule.

- d) Club officials, coaches and players must not engage in public comment on umpires. A breach of this Bylaw will result in a fine as set out in the Schedule.
- e)
  - i) It is the responsibility of each Club to supply an umpires' escort who must be listed on the official team sheet.
  - i) The escort must wear the escort identification supplied by the OMFNL.
  - ii) The escort must be a mature person, capable of assisting the umpire in a crisis.
  - iii) The escorts are to be at the umpires' room five (5) minutes prior to the umpires going on to the field.
  - iv) The escorts must accompany the umpires on to the field prior to the match and prior to the start of the second half and off the ground at the completion of the second and final quarters.
  - v) The escorts must go to the centre of the field and stand with the umpires during quarter time and three quarter time breaks.
  - vi) The escort must move quickly to the umpires as soon as the end of each quarter is signalled.
  - vii) In the event of an incident involving the umpires the escorts must remain with the umpires and ensure their safe departure from the field.
  - viii) The Umpires must be escorted to the door of the Umpires' Room before the escorts are considered to have completed their duties
  - ix) The Umpires will record any breach of this Bylaw in the match day report.
  - x) Any breach of this Bylaw will result in the OMFNL imposing a fine as set out in the Schedule.
- f) No Club coach or Club official is permitted to speak to umpires during the progress of a match or at intervals. The club captain only is permitted to enter into the centre square during the intervals. All team addresses must be given outside the centre square. A breach of this Bylaw will result in a fine as set out in the Schedule.
- g) The home Club is responsible for the security of the Umpires' Rooms and any possessions of the umpires left in the Umpires' Rooms e.g., tracksuit tops.

## **23. LEAGUE AWARDS**

- a) This Bylaw applies to the following OMFNL awards for the player(s) adjudicated by the field umpires to be the fairest and best in home and away matches:
  - i) Senior Grade - the "Morris Medal".
  - ii) Reserve Grade - the "Leo Burke Medal"; and
  - iii) Third Grade - the "Leo Dean Medal".
- b) The player adjudged fairest and best will receive three votes, the player adjudged second fairest and best will receive two votes and the player adjusted third fairest and best will receive one vote.
- c) Within twenty (20) minutes of the conclusion of each match the field umpires will record their assessment of the three fairest and best players in the match in order of preference in a sealed, addressed and stamped envelope marked with the name of the award for that grade. The secretary of the home Club is responsible for lodging the envelope at the OMFNL Office on the first working day after the match with all other "non-priority" documentation.



- d) At the end of the home and away matches in each season the votes will be counted and the player(s) receiving the highest number of votes is/are to receive the award. In the case of two or more players receiving an equal number of votes, joint winners will be declared and will receive the award.
- e) Any player found guilty of an offence or who has accepted a set penalty suspension is ineligible to receive the award in that season, except in the instance of a time wasting offence(s) and offences where no period of suspension has been imposed.

A player who is ineligible is ineligible for awards in all grades, regardless of the grade in which the penalty was incurred.

- f) The umpires will be instructed that votes are to be awarded to players irrespective of whether they have been found guilty of an offence in a match during that season and irrespective of whether they have been reported during that match.
- g) A player to whom ByLaw 23(e) applies will only be ineligible for OMFNL awards in the season in which the relevant offence occurred. A player issued any form of penalty as result of an offence in a finals game will not be ineligible for OMFNL awards in that season, or in the following season or seasons, even if all or part of the penalty is to be served in the following season or seasons.

## **24. REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS**

- a) If a representative match is to be played in the same round as "home and away" matches have been scheduled then the OMFNL has first call on the services of players. If a selected player is not able to play he will not be permitted to play with his Club during that round unless the General Manager is satisfied that the reason for the player not representing the OMFNL is legitimate e.g. that the player cannot obtain leave of absence from his employment so as to travel to the venue of the match.
- b) The OMFNL will appoint the coaching staff of all representative teams.
- c) The OMFNL will appoint a chairman of selectors of each representative team and up to four selectors, one of whom will be the coach.
- d) The selectors will appoint captains and vice-captains of all representative teams.

## **25. TRAINERS/MEDICAL STAFF/WATER CARRIERS/RUNNERS**

- a) Prior to the commencement of each season each Club must submit to the General Manager a written list of their official trainers and medical staff.
- b) Each trainer/medical staffer must be registered by the OMFNL. As a condition of registration the OMFNL may require:
  - i) That the trainer/medical staffer hold qualifications as determined by OMFNL.
  - ii) The payment of a fee as determined by the OMFNL any match.
- c) A Club may use a maximum of six (6) trainers/medical staff and/or water carriers during any match.
- d)
  - i) Trainers/medical staff will wear an OMFNL vest over the top of their Club uniform with the Club name and an allocated number for each trainer/medical staff member.
  - ii) All Water Carriers staff will wear an OMFNL vest over the top of their Club uniform with the Club name and an allocated number for each water carrier member.
  - iii) When not carrying water to players, all water carriers must stay within one (1) of four (4) marked squares (of 2m × 2m dimensions) on each boundary adjacent to the point where the 50m arc intersects with the boundary.
- e) Water carriers and trainers must be listed on the team sheet in the appropriate section showing their name and number.

- f) Both participating clubs in each match must have a stretcher and Jordan frame placed at their interchange bench. A breach of this Bylaw will result in a fine as set out in the Schedule.
- g) No Coach or assistant Coach may act as a runner, trainer or water carrier in any OMFNL match.
- h) Team Runner(s)
  - i) The team runner(s) shall dress in the uniform determined by the OMFNL.
  - ii) Not have affixed to his or her person any communication device which includes but is not limited to portable radios, headsets, microphones or earpieces.
  - iii) Enter and exit the playing arena via the interchange where (2) club runners are used with only (1) runner allowed on the field at any one time. Should a club use (1) runner only, the runner may enter and exit the playing arena from any point of the ground.

## **26. BREACH - LAWS OF THE GAME**

- a) The AFL VC Rules will be applied for all reportable offences under the AFL Laws of the Game for field offences.
- b) The provisions of this Bylaw will apply to all matches including practice matches at which there are officiating umpires.
- c) Charges to be determined by the OMFNL Tribunal will be heard at a time and place determined by the General Manager of the OMFNL.
- d) Provided that the OMFNL Tribunal is satisfied that no substantial miscarriage of justice will result, the OMFNL Tribunal may proceed to hear and determine any charge even if there has not been compliance with one or more of these Bylaws.
- e)
  - i) Club officials and player must not publicly comment on the contents of a written report or a charge prior to the determination by the OMFNL Tribunal. A breach of this Bylaw will result in a fine as set out in the Schedule.
  - ii) Club officials and player must not publicly comment on the OMFNL Tribunal or the OMFNL Board or staff and must not otherwise make public comments bringing the OMFNL into disrepute.

A breach of this Bylaw will result in a fine as set out in the Schedule.

- f) If a Club makes an allegations or complaint against an umpire the OMFNL may take such action in its absolute discretion as it may consider appropriate.
- g) An official of a Club who uses abusive, threatening or insulting language to an umpire on the day of a match or otherwise misconducts himself will be liable to a fine as set out in the Schedule.
- h) **AFL Victoria Country Investigation:**  
In the event any party is determined by the OMFNL Independent Tribunal to be guilty of a charge resulting from an AFL Independent Investigation all expenses associated with that investigation as determined by the OMFNL will be payable by their club.
- i) **Tribunal Fees**
  - i) Players found guilty at Tribunal will incur a fine to their club of \$150.
  - ii) Players who successfully challenge a Set Penalty after pleading guilty and using their good record to receive a reprimand are exempt to any Tribunal Fees.

## **27. SET PENALTIES**

- a) The Club of a reported player must notify the reporting umpire within twenty (20) minutes of the end of the match or of being advised of the report whichever last occurs, whether the reported player accepts a set penalty or wishes the matter determined by the OMFNL Tribunal.
- b) If after accepting a set penalty a player wishes to have the report determined by the OMFNL Tribunal, his Club must notify the General Manager by 10.00 am on the Monday after the report.

## **28. EXPULSION, SUSPENSION AND DISQUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS**

- a) A Club expelling or suspending a player will within seven (7) days of the expulsion or suspension provide in writing to the General Manager particulars of the name and address of the suspended or expelled player and of the offence. The General Manager will then give the player written notice of his rights pursuant to the AFL VC Rules. No suspended player will be allowed to play until either his suspension has expired or otherwise been removed.
- b) No disqualified player will be allowed to play with or coach any Club or hold any office or act in any capacity for a Club until the disqualification has expired or been removed. A player may play in Club practice matches or pre-season matches and any playing coach may act as a non-playing coach of his Club during the period of his disqualification. A disqualified coach may not enter the field or act in any official capacity for their Club and may not address the players (or speak to any individual player) of the Club whether on or off the field. These restrictions apply prior to, during and after the match (up to 6.00 pm on the day of the match). Any breach of this Bylaw will be dealt with by the OMFNL in its absolute discretion.

## **29. INFRINGEMENTS**

- a) Where the OMFNL is of the opinion that a Club or any coach, player, trainer, official or employee of a Club has contravened the provisions of the Memorandum and Articles of Association or the Bylaws the OMFNL may deal with the matter in any manner which in its absolute discretion it thinks fit.
- b) Where the OMFNL is of the opinion that a Club or any coach, player, trainer, official or employee of a Club has been involved in conduct which is unbecoming, is likely to bring the game of football into disrepute or is prejudicial to the interests of the OMFNL, then the OMFNL will refer the matter to its Investigations Officer for investigation pursuant to the "Conduct Unbecoming " provisions of the AFL VC Rules.
- c) Where the OMFNL is of the opinion that coach, player, trainer, official or employee of a Club may have committed a reportable offence under the Laws of the Game of Football the OMFNL may refer the matter to the Investigation Officer for investigation and if the Investigation Officer reports that there is a case to answer, then to the OMFNL Tribunal.

## **30. MATCH REVIEW**

- a) The OMFNL will before the commencement of each season and otherwise as necessary from time to time appoint persons for the purpose of forming a Match Review Panel when requested.
- b) The members of the Match Review Panel must not hold any other office with the OMFNL or any OMFNL Club, nor have done so for a period of 12 months prior to their appointment. A person may not be both a member of the OMFNL Tribunal and Match Review Panel. The identity of Match Review Panel Members will not be disclosed or publicised. A Match Review Panel Member must not be involved in a review if they have been involved in any way with one of the Clubs who participated in the match under review. "Involved in any way" includes as a player, office bearer or holder of any other official capacity with one of the Clubs who participated in the match under review during the preceding 3 years.
- c) Any participating Club or the umpiring body to whom the officiating match day umpires are affiliated  
(**the umpiring body**) may request that any on-field incident with respect to which no AFL Victoria Country Notice of Report has been issued by the match day umpires (**the incident**) be reviewed by a Match Review Panel (**a review request**).

- d) The OMFNL “Match Review Form” which identifies the incident must be completed and signed by:
  - (i) the requesting Club’s president and senior coach; or
  - (ii) the Umpire Development Manager of the umpiring body and one of the officiating match day umpires.
- e) If the party submitting a review request has footage of the incident which they want considered or upon which they may later seek to rely then this must be submitted with the review request together with a statutory declaration to the effect that the footage has not been altered or edited. Failure to produce relevant footage at this stage may result in the OMFNL Tribunal refusing to allow its admission as evidence at OMFNL Tribunal proceedings arising out of the review request.
- f) The Match Review Form must be received by the OMFNL by 12.00 pm the second day after the match with respect to which the review request is received unless otherwise determined in writing by the OMFNL General Manager. If the Match Review Form is lodged by a club, a deposit of \$250 shall accompany the Match Review Form which shall be forfeited in whole or part in the event the Match Review Panel considers it frivolous.
- g) Upon receiving the review request the OMFNL will as soon as possible appoint a 3 member Match Review Panel who must complete the review by 12.00 pm the third day after the match with respect to which the review request has been received unless otherwise determined in writing by the OMFNL General Manager.
- h) Upon a review request being received the OMFNL will inform the two Clubs and the umpiring body that a review is being conducted. If any of the parties who did not submit the review request has footage of the incident which they want considered or upon which they may later seek to rely then this must be submitted to the OMFNL as soon as possible together with a statutory declaration to the effect that the footage has not been altered or edited. Failure to produce relevant footage at this stage may result in the OMFNL Tribunal refusing to allow its admission as evidence at OMFNL Tribunal proceedings arising out of the review request.
- i) If there is no footage of the incident the subject of the review request then the OMFNL will inform each Club and the umpiring body and advise them of the reason for there being no footage of the incident.
- j) If there is footage of the incident then the OMFNL will then provide the footage (consisting of both OMFNL official footage and any footage submitted by any party) to the Match Review Panel members as soon as possible. The Match Review Panel members will then review the footage and determine if any AFL Victoria Country Rules have been breached. They may consider all possible breaches which are apparent from a consideration of the footage, not just those which may have been nominated by the review request.
- k) The Match Review Panel members may meet to review the footage together or may do so independently. The Match Review Panel may regulate their proceedings as they see fit. Decisions will be made by majority vote.
- l) Upon the Match Review Panel making its decision the 2 Clubs and the Umpiring Body will be informed of the decision as soon as possible.
- m) If the Match Review Panel determines that there is no case to answer this does not affect rights to request an AFL Victoria Country Independent Investigation.
- n) If the Match Review Panel determines that there is a case to answer then:
  - (i) The OMFNL General Manager may offer a set penalty under the guidelines of the AFL Victoria Country Report Form; or
  - (ii) A report may be referred to the OMFNL Tribunal for determination, in which case all parties will be provided with a completed report sheet.
- o) The umpiring body will provide an advocate to prosecute all reports referred to the OMFNL Tribunal for determination resulting from Match Review Panel reviews. Match Review Panels members will not attend and cannot be called as witnesses at OMFNL Tribunal proceedings.

### **31. CODE OF CONDUCT**

Clubs are responsible for the actions and behaviour of their coaches, players, trainers, officials employees and supporters, before, during and after all matches and at all official OMFNL functions and at the OMFNL Tribunal. The Clubs are responsible for ensuring that their coaches, players, trainers, officials, employees and supporters comply with any OMFNL or AFL VC Code of Conduct and policies.

### **32. FAILURE TO ATTEND MEETING AS DIRECTED**

- a) Any coach, player, trainer, official or employee of a Club who fails to attend any OMFNL Tribunal, OMFNL Board or other meeting of the OMFNL which they may have been directed to attend will be dealt with as the OMFNL Tribunal may think fit.
- b) Any person failing to attend upon the OMFNL Tribunal after having been requested by the Chairman of the OMFNL Tribunal to so upon reasonable notice will be fined as set out in the Schedule in addition to any penalty which the Tribunal may impose.

### **33. PROTESTS - DISPUTED MATCHES**

- a) Protests involving disputed matches must be lodged in writing with the General Manager not later than seventy two (72) hours after the completion of the match to be disputed and must be forwarded to the opposing Club at the same time. The onus of proving lodgement within the time limit is on the disputing Club.
- b) The disputing Club must deposit \$2,000.00 with the OMFNL at the time of lodging the protest.
- c) The General Manager will review the grounds of protest:
  - i) If the protest is frivolous - it may be dismissed:
  - ii) If the protest is irregular or involves the jurisdiction of the OMFNL Board - a meeting of the OMFNL Board will be called as soon as possible to consider the protest. The OMFNL Board may hear evidence. The OMFNL Board may in appropriate cases decline to make a determination and remit the protest to the OMFNL Tribunal for determination.
  - iii) Otherwise, the protest will be referred to the OMFNL Tribunal for determination.
- d) No protest may be withdrawn without the consent of the OMFNL.
- e) If the disputing Club does not have a determination made in its favour then the OMFNL Board may in its absolute discretion forfeit all or part of the moneys deposited by the disputing Club.
- f) Either Club affected by the determination may appeal to the AFL VC.
- g) In the event of evidence given in the appeal to the AFL VC being other than as given before the OMFNL Tribunal or OMFNL Board then this evidence must be forwarded to the Secretary of the opposing Club and also to the OMFNL.

### **34. CLUB IN DEFAULT**

If a Club has not paid any moneys due by it to the OMFNL and the OMFNL gives it notice in writing that unless it remedies the default within seven (7) days that "sanctions" will apply and the Club fails to remedy the default within that time, then from the expiry of that period and until the default is remedied, the following sanctions will be applied:

- a) The Club's delegates may not participate in OMFNL decision making;
- b) The Club may play, but will not be awarded any premiership points for any match they win during this period (but no points will be awarded to the losing team). Points "for" and "against" will continue to be added for percentage purposes; and
- c) The Club will not participate in any final series match in any grade. In the event of this sanction being applied the final series will be played in the order of the first five (5) financial Clubs on the ladder.

Each of these sanctions will lapse upon remedy of the default, but will not be retrospectively removed.

### **35. FINES**

Any fine imposed by these Bylaws on any coach, player, trainer, official or employee of a Club will be payable by their Club.

### **36. RELEASE OF VIDEO FOOTAGE**

All Clubs acknowledge that footage of games conducted by the OMFNL and taken by the OMFNL, agents, employees or contractors, is the property of the OMFNL and the General Manager may release such footage, after consultation and with the approval of the Chairman or Vice Chairman, upon request, on a case by case basis.

## SCHEDULE OF FINES

BYLAW	COMMENT	AMOUNT
3 & 4	Each incorrect item of playing uniform	\$50, maximum \$500
5	Failure by a player to wear number listed in publication	\$50
10	Failure to use OMFNL/AFL VC endorsed ball	\$100, maximum \$1000
12	Failure to meet OMFNL publication requirements	\$100
13 (c)	Failure to announce teams as required	\$100
13(e)	Late changes to selected team	\$100
13(f)	Selected players dropped from First Grade to lower grades	\$100
14(b)	Failure to complete team sheet correctly	\$100
15	Failure to correctly lodge match day documents	\$100
16	Failure to attend umpires rooms within designated time post match/ failure to receive "all clear"	\$100
18(d)	Late start – start of match Late start – after half time	\$10 per minute \$5 per minute
22 (c)	Approaches to umpires	1 <sup>st</sup> offence - \$100 2 <sup>nd</sup> offence – 200 Subsequent offence - \$400
22 (d)	Public comment on umpires	\$250 - \$1000
22 (e)	Failure to escort umpires	Under 18's - \$20 Reserves - \$50 Seniors - \$100
22 (f)	Speaking to umpires during course of game	\$100
25 (d)	Failure of water carriers/runners and trainers to fulfill roles correctly	\$100
25 (f)	Failure to supply stretcher & Jordan frame	\$100
26 (e)	Public comment on tribunal or OMFNL	\$250 – maximum \$1000
26 (i)	Guilty verdict at Tribunal	\$150
32 (b)	Failure to attend summoned meeting. i.e. board/delegate or tribunal	\$500

These fines are those which may be imposed by the General Manager or Operations Manager without seeking a determination from the Board of the OMFNL. In appropriate cases the General Manager or Operations Manager may refer the infringement to the Board in circumstances where it is considered that the fine in the Schedule is not sufficient given the gravity of the infringement.



### AREA AGREEMENT – Ovens & Murray FNL and District Leagues

This agreement is signed pursuant to the AFL Victoria Country Rules and Regulations pertaining to clearances and permits and in particular clause 2.10 whereby an interchange of players between Clubs of the above-mentioned Leagues may take place without clearance and is subject to any provisions contained within this agreement.

#### PROVIDED HOWEVER:

- (i) That this Agreement is in force for the current season only.
- (ii) That the player(s) concerned are acquainted with AFL VC regulations 2.1 and 2.5 regarding one day permits to Major Leagues and eight (8) matches.
- (iii) That prior to each match played, the player shall obtain permission to do so from his parent club. The permit shall be completed online via the “type 2” selection as required under Regulation 2.1 of the AFL VC Rules and Regulations.
- (iv) With the exception of players of junior age competitions, players of any club having a bye will not be allowed to play with another club on that day, unless he has previously played with that club in the current season under this agreement. The club playing the player from the other League shall show his registered club on the match team sheet. ***Players of third 18 teams of Senior Grade competitions are not to be classified as players of junior age competitions.***
- (v) That this agreement cannot be altered unless agreed to by the **AFLNEB Region Manager**.
- (vi) That in order for a player playing under such Area Permit to participate in a finals series in that season the player must have played a minimum of five (5) games in the team of the grade in which he has been selected to play in the finals and has met any additional league eligibility requirements.

#### LOCAL CONDITIONS:

Registered players must be given preference over any permit player.

Any player who has played District League Seniors shall not be eligible to play in any Junior League match on the same weekend.

No permits are issued for Junior Players to play Senior or Reserve grade.

#### Permit Purpose Statement

A permit request should only be approved providing that at least one of two purposes is achieved:

- a) A player is being permitted to a higher level of football being Junior or District player to a Major League in which case up to 22 players may appear on the team sheet or;
- b) To ensure a team achieves a maximum number of 20 players in which case, if using a permit player, no more than 20 players may appear on the team sheet.

#### 1. Permit Conditions

The following Permit condition shall apply to all AFL North East Border League Agreements:

- 1.1 If a team has at least 1 permit player, they shall not be allowed to have more than 20 players on the team sheet
- 1.2 A maximum of 4 permit players shall be allowed on any one team sheet
- 1.3 A player may play a maximum of 10 permits in total, including finals, in any one season
- 1.4 Permits may be issued in more than 1 league but must not exceed 10 in total
- 1.5 Permits shall not be issued to any player after June 30<sup>th</sup> unless they have played on a eligible permit with that team prior to June 30<sup>th</sup>
- 1.6 Permit players shall only play in the one team on the one day
- 1.7 AFL Victoria Country and League finals eligibility criteria shall apply

## **2. INTERCHANGE OF PLAYERS**

The following Permit condition shall specifically apply to Permits between the Ovens & Murray FNL and district leagues:

- 2.1 No permits issued for players who have played 3 or more Ovens & Murray FNL Senior matches in the previous or current season.
- 2.2 Albury Wodonga Junior Football League (AWJFL) and Wangaratta & District Junior Football League (WDJFL) - Any player who plays major league seniors or reserves shall be ineligible to play in any junior league match on the same weekend.

## **3. FINALS PERMITS & ELIGIBILITY**

The following Permit condition shall specifically apply to Finals Permits between the Ovens & Murray FNL and district leagues.

- 3.1 Ovens & Murray FNL players are not permitted to play in Tallangatta & District FL finals.
- 3.2 Tallangatta & District FL, and Ovens & King players are permitted to play Ovens & Murray FNL finals provided the player must have played a minimum of 5 games in the team of the grade in which he has been selected to play and has met any additional league eligibility requirements.
- 3.3 Ovens & Murray FNL players are permitted to play in the Ovens & King finals provided that the players total number of permits for the current season does not exceed 10, including finals.
- 3.4 AWJFL and WDJFL players are permitted to play OMFNL U/18 Finals provided that the player must have played at least 5 H&A games in the team of the grade in which he has been selected to play finals and has met any additional league eligibility requirements.

## **4. REPORTED PLAYERS**

A player playing on permit that is reported shall face the Tribunal of the League of which the offence was committed. Any penalty that is imposed shall apply in all competitions.

## **5. PERMIT BREACHES**

Any breach of Permit arrangements and agreements will be referred to AFL Victoria Country Rule 1.3 – Penalty for playing ineligible or unregistered players.

## **6. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES**

Any clubs requesting special circumstance considerations must apply in writing to the AFLNEB Region Manager prior to June 30<sup>th</sup> annually.

This agreement has been agreed to by the relevant leagues and will remain valid unless revoked by the AFLNEB Region Manager.

**No Area agreement is in place with the Hume Football League**





## **SS&A OVENS & MURRAY FOOTBALL NETBALL LEAGUE**

### **EQUALISATION GUIDELINES**

#### **Aim:**

- To provide football for grades, other than the Senior grade, where insufficient numbers exist prior to a match commencing.

#### **Spirit of the Policy:**

- To have a game played.
- To maximise player involvement.

#### **AFL Laws of the Game state:**

- Minimum playing numbers on the field at any one time is 14 per team.
- Maximum playing numbers on the field at any one time is 18 per team.
- Clubs who agree to start a match with less than 18 on the field, should have at least (1) player on the interchange.
- Maximum playing numbers per team is 22 for all grades.

#### **Procedures:**

*NB: procedures are not in any specific order and are not required to be applied in total.*

- Even playing numbers on the field at the beginning of the match.
- If one team has less than 18 players in total, then both teams must have the same number of players on the field, with a minimum of one interchange player.
- If playing numbers are reduced below 16 a side on the field, the match will be reduced in game time (4x15 min quarters – no time on).
- Field umpires in control of the match are to be made aware of the agreement between clubs on the day – OMFNL to determine if there is a requirement for documents to be completed and signed off by the umpires acknowledging the agreement.
- Clubs are encouraged to liaise with each other with respect to team numbers should (1) or both teams have trouble fielding 18 players on the field.
- Excess players (above the agreed starting number) will form an extended interchange bench.
- Players may be loaned from the opposition team to even up numbers.
- On loan players must appear on the team sheet of the team they represent on the day and be indicated as “on loan players”/matchday permit players.
- Loaned players are unable to change team mid match.
- If a team is unable to field 14 players and is unable to borrow players from the opposition, the match is declared a forfeit, although a match is encouraged to take place with even numbers taking the field.
- Additional players above (22) can be provided for (extended interchange bench) only after agreement by both teams, Field Umpires and OMFNL Operations Manager.
- Once a game commences, if the numbers of either team are reduced below the minimum on-field number (14), due to injury or “order-off” rule, the game is to proceed.
- Equalisation Guidelines do not apply in finals.

Reviewed December 2024

# Ovens & Murray Football Netball League Netball By Laws



As amended by the OMFNL Netball Sub-Committee  
March 2024

# **OVENS & MURRAY FOOTBALL NETBALL LEAGUE**

## **("OMFNL") NETBALL BY LAWS**

### **Background**

- 1.1 The OMFNL shall have control and management of all matches played by member clubs under the official rules of the Australian Netball Association and shall have the power to settle all disputes in connection with these matches.
- 1.2 The OMFNL shall encourage and promote the game of netball.
- 1.3 The OMFNL shall affiliate annually with the Netball Victoria .

### **Fees**

- 2.1 Fees shall be determined annually at the Annual Meeting.
- 2.2 Club Affiliation shall be paid by the first round of the Home and Away matches

### **Admission of Clubs**

- 3.1 All clubs shall nominate at the Annual Meeting teams in the following order: 1<sup>st</sup> - A Grade Women, 2<sup>nd</sup> - B Grade Women, 3<sup>rd</sup> - C Grade Women, 4<sup>th</sup> - 17 & Under Girls, 5<sup>th</sup> - 15 & Under Girls.
- 3.2 Each club must field senior teams in the nominated order of grades for all home and away matches for the current season, and junior teams in the nominated order of grades for all home and away matches for the current season. 'Senior' teams include A Grade, B Grade and C Grade; 'Junior' teams include 17 & Under, and 15 & Under.
- 3.3 Each club must register its colour and uniform with the OMFNL. Only regulation netball uniform, black or matching pants and regulation footwear shall be acceptable.
- 3.4 Clubs shall not be permitted to change uniform without obtaining permission from the Executive Committee.

### **Player Registration and Clearances**

- 4.1 The OMFNL Registrar shall keep record of all registered players.
- 4.2 All players participating in OMFNL matches must be registered with Netball Victoria and the OMFNL. Registration with Netball Victoria and **affiliation** with an OMFNL club **assumes** OMFNL registration.

Each club must pay the player registration fee prior to the commencement of the season.

A player registering after the commencement of the season must be registered through Netball Victoria and their affiliated club prior to taking the court.

Clubs must nominate players who will be deemed to be a part of the clubs 17 & under and 15 & Under teams, prior to the season commencing..

- 4.3 After the commencement of the season new players may be registered up until 5.00 p.m. on the Friday before the commencement of the fourth last round of matches.
- 4.4 If a player should wish to transfer to another club, that player shall submit to the Executive Committee:
  - 4.4.1 A written request for transfer to another club;
  - 4.4.2 A written request for the player from the gaining club;
  - 4.4.3 An 'Agreement of Release' from the previous club.
- 4.5 The Executive Committee shall have the power to grant or refuse clearances according to the best interests of the OMFNL. Other considerations will include outstanding fee, procession of uniform, equipment or club property.

- 4.6 A player will be granted no more than one clearance during a season. No clearances will be granted after the start of the second half of the season.
- 4.7 Should an unregistered player participate in any Home & Away matches, the team for which she played shall lose four (4) premiership points. All players will be credited with having played the game except the unregistered player.

### **Player Eligibility**

- 5.1 A player must play at least six (6) **ROUNDS** with a club to be eligible to play with that club in a finals match.
- 5.2 A player who has played more than eight (8) Home & Away games in a higher grade shall not be permitted to play in a lower grade.
- 5.3 A senior player shall not play more than six (6) quarters in the Ovens & Murray Netball OMFNL competition in any one round. If a player is required to play more than four (4) quarters in one (1) round, that player must play at least three (3) quarters in a lower grade (in that round) before being eligible to play in a higher grade (in that round). A detected breach of this rule will incur a fine of \$200.00 and a loss of four (4) premiership points.  
A junior player shall not play more than eight (8) quarters in the Ovens & Murray Netball OMFNL competition in any one round, across a maximum of two (2) grades. A detected breach of this rule will incur a fine of \$200.00 and a loss of four (4) premiership points.
- 5.4 A player shall not be credited as having played a game unless they take the court.

### **Conduct of Matches**

- 6.1 In each grade, complete rounds of matches shall be played in accordance with the Ovens & Murray Football fixture.
- 6.2 Four (4) points shall be allocated to a winning team. Four (4) points shall be allotted to a team receiving a forfeit plus a ten (10) to nil (0) percentage. Two (2) points shall be allotted for a draw. Two (2) points may be allocated for a match cancelled as a result of unusual or extreme circumstances. This decision shall be at the discretion of the Executive Committee.
- 6.3 The OMFNL Registrar shall keep a weekly tally of all results for all grades.
- 6.4 The OMFNL will determine the starting times and order of matches prior to the commencement of the season. The duration of matches shall be:
  - 6.4.1 15 & Under Girls (4 x 15 minutes)
  - 6.4.2 17 & Under Girls (4x 15 minutes)
  - 6.4.3 C Grade Women (4 x 15 minutes)
  - 6.4.4 B Grade Women (4 x 15 minutes)
  - 6.4.5 A Grade Women (4 x 15 minutes)

Three (3) minute breaks shall be allowed at the first and third intervals and a five (5) minute break will be allowed at the second interval.

The OMFNL will determine Grand Final starting times.

The Executive may approve alternate times for matches and breaks on game days.
- 6.5 In the event of a team being more than 15 minutes late, the opposing captain with a full team may claim the match. A score sheet must be completed and forwarded to the OMFNL Registrar. ***No player from either team will be credited with having played the game.***
- 6.6 Any club being unable to field teams on any day shall notify the opposing club by 9.00am on the day of the match. The team receiving the forfeit must complete the score sheet and forward it to the OMFNL Registrar.

- 6.7 For each match both clubs must provide one (1) scorer. The home team shall provide a timekeeper with two (2) accurate time clocks, one (1) Injury Report Sheet and one (1) supplementary score sheet. During the match scorers shall sit together and cross check scores in order to avoid differing score sheets. If there are differences in the final scores the home score sheet shall be regarded as the official result.
- 6.8 The home club shall be the first named on the score sheet.
- 6.9 Umpires will be supplied by the OMFNL subject to availability. Clubs are required to supply an Umpire for 17 & Under Girls and 15 & Under Girls matches unless notified by the Umpires Coordinator.
- 6.10 The score sheet shall:
- 6.10.1 Be signed by both captains;
  - 6.10.2 Be signed by both umpires;
  - 6.10.3 Be dated.
- 6.11 All score sheets must be received by the OMFNL by 5pm the Tuesday following the match.
- 6.12 The home team shall have the responsibility for lodging score sheets and vote cards by the correct time. Late lodgment of a score sheet shall incur the loss of two (2) premiership points from the team responsible. A lost score sheet shall cause the responsible team to lose four (4) premiership points. The OMFNL Registrar shall notify the pertinent club within one (1) week should an infringement relating to the lodgment of score sheets occur.
- 6.13 Players may only participate in matches if they are wearing the correct uniform.
- 6.14 In the event of two (2) or more forfeits in one grade, the Executive has the right to re-grade teams from within that club.
- 6.15.1 The playing rules shall be those of the World Netball – Rules of Netball unless otherwise stated in these By-Laws.

#### 16.5.2 **Rolling Substitutions:**

- a) The rolling substitution stands at the designated area.
- b) Before leaving the designated area, the substitute tags (with hands) the player leaving the court.
- c) Only one (1) rolling substitute per team can be made at a time.
- d) Play is not to be held up for rolling substitutions. If play is delayed, the player will be penalised under Rule 19.2. Delaying play.
- e) Players must observe the offside rules as they enter / leave the court. Sanction: Free pass where the infringement occurred (offside area) unless this places the non-infringing team at a disadvantage, or advantage is applied.
- f) Players must not interfere with the umpire's movement during the substitution. Sanction: Free pass where the ball was when play was stopped (advantage may be applied).
- g) If a player leaves the court as a rolling substitution, and there is no player in the designated area, the replacement player is treated as a late player (as per Rule 3.8) and must wait until a break in play to enter the court.

*3.8. Any late player may, after advising the umpire, take the court in the vacant position/s at the next break in play. Action: Any late player is sent from the court until the correct time for entry and possession is awarded to the opposing team where the ball was when play stopped. Terminology: Incorrect entry*

**Incomplete Match:**

If a Match is unable to commence or continue within the time scheduled for the Match for reasons beyond the control of either Team (including circumstances where it is unsafe for the Match to proceed) the following shall apply:

- 6.16.1 Match Not Commenced: The result of a Match which is unable to commence for reasons beyond the control of either Team shall be determined by the Controlling Body.
- 6.16.2 Prior to Half Time: If a Match has commenced but is not able to proceed at any time within the time scheduled for the Match, the Teams shall depart from the Court. If the Match is unable to recommence within a 30-minute period, the Match shall be deemed to be drawn and the scores of the Teams at the time the Match was interrupted shall be used in calculating the percentage of each team.
- 6.16.3 Half Time & Beyond: If the Half Time interval has been reached and the Match is unable to proceed at any time within the time scheduled for the Match, the Teams shall leave the Court, or in the case of Half Time, not return to the Court. If the Match is unable to recommence within a 30-minute period, the scores of the Teams at the time the Match was interrupted shall be deemed to be the final scores of the Match. The Team with the highest score shall be deemed the winner of the Match and the scores shall be used in calculating the percentage of each Team.
- 6.16.4 Match Not Able to Proceed: Unless otherwise determined by a Controlling Body, an Umpire shall, having regard to the health and safety of the Players and any other relevant circumstances, determine whether a Match is unable to commence or proceed. An Umpire must determine that a Match is unable to commence or proceed for such time as lightning is present at or Within the Immediate Proximity of the Court where the Match is being conducted.
- 6.16.5 Recommencing of Play: Where a Team is directed to recommence play by an Umpire and the Team fails, refuses or neglects to recommence play, the Team shall be deemed to have forfeited the Match.
- 6.16.6 The Controlling Body may vary the length and scheduling of the intervals, to suit practical circumstances.

**Umpires**

- 7.1 Only registered umpires shall be allowed to umpire matches. New umpire registration is as for new players' registration. Umpires are required to be registered members of Netball Victoria.
- 7.2 Umpires registration fees shall be determined at the Annual General Meeting.
- 7.3 The Executive Committee may elect to form an Umpires' Panel if it deems it necessary to administer umpiring within the OMFNL.
- 7.4 The Executive Committee may allocate independent umpires to any match it deems necessary. If the Executive Committee appoints only one umpire, the home team shall supply the second umpire. The respective clubs shall share the cost of the combined umpire/s equally.
- 7.5 No umpire shall umpire more than two (2) games on any given day.

**Umpires and Disciplinary Action**

- 8.1 There shall be two (2) umpires who shall have control of the game and give decisions. They shall umpire according to the rules and decide on any matter not covered by the rules. The decisions of the umpire shall be final and shall be given without appeal – Rule 3.1.1.
- 8.2 Any member reported to the Netball Sub-Committee for:
  - 8.3.1 Disputing an umpire's decision on the court;
  - 8.3.2 Refusing or neglecting to abide by the OMFNL Rules and By Laws;
  - 8.3.3 Conduct unbecoming, which is prejudicial to the interests of the OMFNL's netball competition.

Shall be liable to be suspended from membership or disqualified from taking part in any matches under the OMFNL's control for such time as may be decided by the OMFNL's Netball Sub-Committee. 46

- 8.3 Offending members shall:
- 8.3.1 Be notified in writing that they have been reported for alleged misconduct on or off the netball court;
  - 8.3.2 Be notified of the time and date of the Netball Sub-Committee Meeting at which the report will be considered and any subsequent disciplinary action that may result;
  - 8.3.3 Be directed to attend the meeting and speak in answer to the report or, if the Netball Sub-Committee should, clarify any points.
- 8.4 The reporting umpire/s shall:
- 8.4.1 Be notified in writing of the time and date of the Netball Sub-Committee Meeting;
  - 8.4.2 Be directed to attend that meeting to speak of the report, or should the Netball Sub-Committee require, clarify any points.

Any reports and / or protests must be in writing and given to the OMFNL Secretary within 48 hours of the game. The right to appeal to Netball Victoria against any decision is provided.

### **Disputes**

- 9.1 Administrative disputes shall be lodged in writing in the first instance to the Netball Sub-Committee within 48 hours of the matter arising.
- 9.2 If the Netball Sub-Committee is unable to resolve the matter it may elect to appoint a tribunal of three (3) independent persons for the purpose of resolution.
- 9.2.1 Tribunal members shall be notified within 24 hours of the OMFNL General Manager receiving the dispute notice;
  - 9.2.2 The tribunal meeting shall be held no later than four (4) days after the dispute notice;
  - 9.2.3 Witnesses may be called to give supporting evidence;
  - 9.2.4 All parties involved in the dispute shall be notified by the OMFNL General Manager;
  - 9.2.5 Disputing parties shall be heard separately;
  - 9.2.6 Minutes of the tribunal meeting shall be kept by the OMFNL General Manager;
  - 9.2.7 Disputing parties shall be notified of the tribunal decision as soon as possible verbally and in writing.
- 9.3 The Committee will impose the prescribed penalty or any other penalty to any member that fail to adhere to this By Law.
- 9.4 Any member of a team or club who does not agree with a penalty or action of the Committee made under this By Law, may advise the Committee within 48 hours of the penalty or decision being made.
- 9.5 The Committee may then;
- 9.5.1 Discuss the issue with the relevant team or Club and make a decision regarding the matter. The Committee shall inform the party/ies involved of their decision either verbally or in writing; or
  - 9.5.2 Have an informal meeting with the relevant party/ies in order to discuss and resolve the dispute.

**The Committee's decision is Final.**

### **Finals**

- 10.1 At the conclusion of the home and away matches the top five (5) teams in each grade shall participate in their respective grade finals. In the event of teams being level on points their position shall be determined by percentage.
- 10.2 Final matches will be played at the same venue as the Ovens and Murray Football finals as approved by Netball Victoria.
- 10.3 The Netball Sub-Committee shall appoint Badged Umpires for all finals. The Netball Sub-Committee shall nominate / roster official scorers, timekeepers and duty teams for the finals.

- 10.4 At the end of play if both teams have the same score extra time of two five (5) minute halves will be played to determine the winner, the following applies;
- i) Two-minute break will be held – teams may be coached, make changes and substitutions.
  - ii) At 30 seconds to go teams will be called to the court – they will have changed ends. Centre pass is taken by the team entitled to the next centre pass. Play begins on the umpire's whistle.
  - iii) After five (5) minutes, time will again be called.
  - iv) Teams will change ends, no time, no coaching, substitutions or changes may be made, centre pass is taken by the team entitled to the next centre pass. Time restarts on the umpire's whistle when players are in position. A further five (5) minutes will be played.
  - v) If scores are equal at the end of the second five minutes, play continues until one team has a two-goal advantage.

**NB Injury time will be umpired as usual as per the rule book.**

i.e. if the player for whom time has been called is involved in position changes or comes off the court, changes and substitutions may be made by that team. The other team may make any changes or substitutions when injury time is called.

10.5 Player Eligibility:

- 10.5.1 For a player to be eligible to play in an A Grade Women's Final, that player must be registered and have played at least six (6) rounds with that club;
- 10.5.2 For a player to be eligible to play in B Grade Women's Final, that player must be registered and have played at least six (6) rounds with that club and not more than eight (8) games in A Grade Women's.
- 10.5.3 For a player to be eligible to play in C Grade Women's Final, that player must be registered and have played at least six (6) rounds with that club and not more than eight (8) games in a higher grade.
- 10.5.4 For a player to be eligible to play in 17 & Under Girl's Final, that player must be registered and have played at least six (6) rounds with that club and not more than eight (8) games in a higher grade.
- 10.5.5 For a player to be eligible to play in 15 & Under Girl's Final, that player must be registered and have played at least six (6) rounds with that club and not more than eight (8) games in a higher grade.

**Best and Fairest**

- 11.1 The Ovens and Murray Netball OMFNL shall conduct a Best and Fairest competition in all grades. The winner shall be a player who receives the most umpires' votes during the home and away matches. There will not be a countback.
- 11.2 For each match the umpires shall confer and complete a vote card. Three (3) votes shall be awarded to the best player on the court, two (2) votes shall be awarded to the 2<sup>nd</sup> best player and one (1) vote shall be awarded to the 3<sup>rd</sup> best player on the court. The home team will issue the umpires with a vote card for each match. The umpires shall seal it in the envelope provided. The card color-coded for each grade. There shall be provisions on each card for full player name and club.

The home team shall have responsibility of forwarding the vote cards to the OMFNL Registrar. Counting of votes shall take place after the last home and away game.

**Representative Sides**

- 12.1 The Netball Sub-Committee shall decide each year whether or not to select a representative side/s to play in any other pertinent matches.
- 12.2 The Netball Sub-Committee shall contact or appoint a Sub Committee to control:
  - 12.2.1 Squad Selection
  - 12.2.2 Player Selection



- 12.2.3 Coaching Appointments
- 12.2.4 Management Appointments
- 12.2.5 Representative team finances
- 12.2.6 Representative team uniforms
- 12.2.7 Representative team training
- 12.2.8 Representative team discipline
- 12.2.9 Any other officials as required

12.3 Where a team or team's selection for a home and away competition match is affected by a player or players of official's requirement for Ovens & Murray Representative duty, the Netball Sub-Committee shall have the powers to redirect the date of play of the Ovens & Murray match. The Executive will negotiate with the clubs involved to reach an agreement.

12.4 Team Selection Panels:

- 12.4.1 A minimum of three (3) Selectors must be appointed for each team and shall be made up of the Team Coach and two (2) other selectors;
- 12.4.2 Selectors may be appointed to more than one panel.

**The Selectors decision shall be final.**

If in any year a representative side is not selected any member club of the OMFNL may apply to the Executive to represent the OMFNL. If the Netball Sub-Committee deems that this club does not meet a required standard then permission shall not be granted.

**General Rule**

- i) In the event of any club or registered player violating any of the rules of the OMFNL or neglecting to comply with the directions of the OMFNL or the Netball Sub-Committee that club or player shall be liable to a fine, suspension or expulsion as determined by the OMFNL.
- ii) Any club or player under suspension shall forfeit all rights and privileges held under the OMFNL.
- iii) Club officials, players and umpires must not make public comment towards the OMFNL, OMFNL Board & staff, member clubs or players that may bring the OMFNL into disrepute. This includes inappropriate comments posted on social media about individual OMFNL or club members. Any members(s) found breaching this bylaw may be sanctioned under General Rule i).

**Annual Meeting**

- a. The Annual Meeting is to be held not later than the end of February each year. Notice in writing of the Annual General Meeting is to be given to the clubs not less than fourteen (14) day's prior to the meeting. Two (2) delegates from each club must attend and shall have voting rights at the Annual Meeting. Clubs not represented by two (2) delegates at the Annual Meeting shall incur a monetary fine of \$500.
- b. The ordinary business of the Annual Meeting shall be:
  - i. To confirm the minutes of the preceding Annual Meeting.
  - ii. To receive Executive Committee reports upon transaction of the Association during the preceding year.
  - iii. To elect Executive Committee for the following twelve (12) months.
  - iv. Election of new office bearers by the Sub-Committee and positions shall include Chairperson, Registrar and other designated portfolios.
- c. The Annual Meeting may transact special business of which notice is given to the Association Secretary fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting.
- d. The Annual Meeting shall be in addition to any other General Meetings that may be held during the year.
- e. The Chairperson shall occupy the chair. In the Chairperson's absence the meeting will be chaired by any other nominated member of the Sub-Committee.

- f. A matter arising shall be determined on a show of hands, unless a ballot is required. A resolution shall be declared by the Chairperson and subsequently recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
- g. The minutes of the Annual Meeting shall be recorded by the Sub-Committee Secretary and reported to the next Annual Meeting for verification.
- h. In the case of a tied vote the Sub-Committee can make a recommendation to the Board.

#### **Club Delegates Meetings**

- a. At least three (3) Delegates Meetings shall be held during each season. The quorum for all Delegates Meetings shall be representing not less than 60% of all member clubs.
- b. Clubs not represented by two (2) delegates at the Delegates Meetings shall incur a monetary fine of \$500.
- c. All clubs shall be notified in writing not less than fourteen (14) days prior to each Delegates Meeting.
- d. The conduct of the Delegates Meetings shall be in accordance with **Annual Meetings** e, f, g, & h.

#### **Special Circumstances Clause:**

Where this By Law is silent a decision can be made that ensures the integrity of the OMFNL is maintained at all times.

The committee may in using its reasonable discretion, in exceptional or extenuating circumstances, alter, vary or waive the requirements set out in this By Law relating to the OMFNL..

#### **Changing a By Law:**

New By Laws may be added, or existing By Laws be changed at the Annual Meeting or any Delegates Meeting.

Notices of motions pertaining to the addition of new By Laws or the changing of existing By Laws shall be lodged in writing with the OMFNL General Manager three (3) weeks prior to the meeting at which the motion is to be put.

Such notices of motions shall be distributed to all club secretaries with the 'Notice' of meeting and the Agenda for that meeting.

#### **Risk Management**

##### **13.1 Injury Reporting**

- 13.1.1 All clubs are responsible for recording all injuries on the Injury Reporting Sheet provided.
- 13.1.2 The team manager of OMFNL representative teams are responsible for recording all injuries on the Injury Reporting Sheet provided.

##### **13.2 Pre-Match Checklist**

- 13.2.1 A pre match checklist will be completed prior to all OMFNL matches, programs and training.
- 13.2.2 Any hazards identified will be:
  - 13.2.2.1 Documented;
  - 13.2.2.2 Rectified if possible;
  - 13.2.2.3 Reported to the appropriate agency (Local Council, Reserve Committee) if major repair is required.

##### **13.3 Pregnancy**

As per Netball Victoria Infonet RM1 – Pregnancy & Netball.

##### **13.4 First Aid**

- 13.8.1 All clubs will provide a First Aid Kit complying with Netball Victoria Infonet RM2 – First Aid for Netball.
- 13.8.2 A volunteer at each club will maintain the First Aid Kit and supplies. An inventory is to be completed on a weekly basis.
- 13.8.3 The Home Club will have a designated room or area for the treatment of injuries. The room or area should be kept clean and accessible at all times.
- 13.8.4 The competing clubs will ensure that a qualified First Aider is present at all competition / training.

### 13.5 **Emergency Procedures**

Emergency phone numbers – Ambulance, Doctor, Physiotherapist, Health Clinic and Police and Emergency Procedure Plan is to be displayed in the First Aid Kit.

### 13.6 **Weather**

In case of extreme weather conditions the OMFNL will follow Netball Victoria Infonets RM3 and RM5.

### 13.7 **Blood Policy and Infectious Diseases**

The OMFNL will adopt Netball Victoria Infonet U4 and RM6 relating to Blood Policy and Infectious Diseases.

### 13.8 **Pre Participation Screening / Medical Indemnity**

13.8.1 All personnel involved with the OMFNL will be required to complete a medical indemnity for (Netball Victoria Infonet RM7).

13.8.2 A designated official will store all forms and bring them to all events.

13.8.3 All forms will be destroyed at the conclusion of the season.

### 13.9 **Smoke Free**

The OMFNL will adopt a SmokeFree policy as prescribed by Quit Victoria. This will include indoor venues and outdoor court surroundings.

### 13.10 **Responsible Serving of Alcohol in Sporting Clubs**

The OMFNL will adopt a Responsible Serving of Alcohol Policy as prescribed in the Netball Victoria Member Protection Regulations.

### 13.11 **Drug Policy**

The OMFNL does not support 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.

The Netball Victoria Drug Policy, August 1993 as amended from time to time, is implemented and will apply for all OMFNL competitions.

## **Dress Code**

### 14.1 **Competition**

14.1.1 Refer to By-Laws 3.3 and 3.4;

14.1.2 The OMFNL must approve all on court uniforms;

14.1.3 Clubs must notify the OMFNL in writing of any proposed changes to their uniform. The Ovens & Murray OMFNL must approve all changes;

14.1.4 Uniform requirements as per Netball Victoria Infonet A7;

14.1.5 The OMFNL representative colours are black and gold;

14.1.6 Players will not be permitted to take to the court unless they are in full uniform.

14.1.7 Players numbers must be positioned on the right-side panel at the bottom of a player's dress and must be a minimum eight (8) centimetres high.

14.1.8 Clubs and suppliers to refer to OMFNL Uniform Specifications Guidelines for further clarity.

## **Correspondence**

15.1 All correspondence must be in writing from the Club Secretary or authorized person to the OMFNL Secretary.

15.2 All correspondence from the OMFNL will be addressed to the Club Secretary or authorized person.

### **Protests**

- 16.1 A team wishing to protest must:
  - 16.1.1 Not sign the Official Scoresheet and notify the Committee of the intention to protest;
  - 16.1.2 Lodge the protest in writing with the OMFNL Secretary within 48 hours of the match being played.
- 16.2 A club shall have a right of appeal to the Committee within 48 hours of notification of the penalty.
- 16.3 The Committee will advise the result of the appeal and this decision shall be final.

### **Dispute Resolution**

- 17.1 The Committee will impose the prescribed penalty or any other penalty to any member that fail to adhere to this By Law.
- 17.2 Any member of a team or club who does not agree with a penalty or action of the Committee made under this By Law, may advise the Committee within 48 hours of the penalty or decision being made.
- 17.3 The Committee may then:
  - 17.3.1 Discuss the issue with the relevant team or club and make a decision regarding the matter. The Committee shall inform the party/ies involved of their decision either verbally or in writing; or
  - 17.3.2 Have an informal meeting with the relevant party/ies in order to discuss and resolve the dispute.

**The Committee's decision is final.**

### **Netball Sub-Committee**

- 18.1 The Sub-Committee will consist of not more than seven (7) members, who will be elected by the member clubs delegates at the Annual Meeting.
- 18.2 The elected Sub-Committee will hold office for one (1) year. If a casual vacancy arises the Sub-Committee may appoint a replacement to serve out the remainder of the term.
- 18.3 Each Club is entitled to nominate one person for election to the Sub-Committee.

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