



# TRINITY NETBALL CLUB

## TEAM SELECTION POLICY

### PHILOSOPHY

Our mission is to promote, encourage and foster unity in our community netball club that allows its members to play netball and develop their netball skills in a fun, safe and fair environment, with the necessary equipment, facilities, and personnel. Our future is a club that embraces diversity and equality. A club which encourages and welcomes all children and adults in the community to participate in the sport of netball. A club that creates an environment where players feel they belong to the greater community, to play with familiar friends and meet new friends. A safe environment to have fun!

### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aim of the grading policy is to ensure that team grading is conducted fairly and effectively and in the best interest of the players and club.

Grading will occur near the end of the netball Spring season (usually late November) for the following Autumn season (commencing late February the following year) for players eligible for teams in the age groups of U11, U13, U15, U17 and Open.

The objective of this grading system is to:

- Create teams of similar skill and ability
- Allow players and teams to play in a suitable competitive environment
- Allow Trinity Netball Club to be represented in different sections of the Melbourne East Netball Association competition
- Allow opportunities for players to be eligible to play in a Representative competition

During the grading process:

- Every player is treated as an individual member irrespective of previous team, grade, or club
- Every player has an equal opportunity
- Grading will be carried out by an independent body

Grading is compulsory for every player playing in the U11 and up age group that is wishing to play with Trinity Netball Club.



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## REGISTRATION IS COMPULSORY

To be eligible to be part of the grading process and team allocation, players must be registered for the next season with the club. In the event registrations are not yet open, players must have paid the deposit as directed by the club.

Players who register after this date will be placed on a waiting list and placed in a team only if space becomes available in an appropriate team.

## U9 AGE GROUP

Trinity netball club recognise that our youngest players usually commence playing netball with their peers. The club will consider accommodating friendships where possible and when selecting teams however the priority is that teams are made up of players of a similar ability so that each player and the team can further develop their skills at an appropriate level.

When considering team allocation for our U9 players we will consider the following:

- Age (year of birth) of the players.
- Team balance, skill level of players.

The committee and current U9 coaches will assess each U9 player on their basic ball skills. We understand that many of our U9 players will not have played a game of netball before, and the grading process will most certainly take this into account.

## U11 TO OPEN AGE GROUP

Players will be assigned to a team based on the outcomes of the grading process. The grading process will be facilitated each year by an independent organisation.

Players will be invited to attend a grading session allocated to their age group where the independent grading assessors will assess each player and place them in a team in accordance with their skill level.

## GRADING CRITERIA

During the assessment process the following will be taken into consideration:

- Footwork
- Speed and agility



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- Ball handling skills
- Attacking skills
- Defending skills
- Fitness
- Versatility
- Perception and cognition skills
- Sportsmanship and attitude

Players will have the opportunity to trial in their preferred position and they may be asked to play in a position that is not their preferred position. This will help the assessment process. For several reasons, it may not be necessary for players to play an equal number of quarters during the session.

Parents, players, and coaches are not to approach assessors at any time during the assessment process to influence grading and team formation.

It is expected that a player wishing to be graded will do their best to prioritise attendance at the session. However, if a player is unable to attend the grading session, there will be consultation between team selectors and existing team coaches when assessing playing ability.

## NEW PLAYERS TO TRINITY WHO REGISTER AFTER GRADING

New players to the club who register after grading has been completed will be allocated into a team at the Committee's discretion.

## TEAMS

Teams will be allocated 8-9 players where possible. In certain circumstances the Club may vary this number to ensure teams are balanced based on the number of registrations received. Team numbers will never be less than 7 and never exceed 10.

No player will have the right to remain in the same team from year to year. Allocation of players to teams will be determined as per this policy.

Teams will be selected at the completion of the grading process and will remain in place for both the Autumn and Spring seasons of that year, subject to registration numbers.

Should a player of exceptional talent be identified at grading for whom a team of similar ability does not exist within their own age group, then a player may be offered the opportunity to play in a higher age group team so long as:-

1. There are sufficient registered player numbers in the player's age group to facilitate a complete team/teams.
2. Team numbers are balanced across both age groups.



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3. The player and their parent are consulted and agree with the decision; and
4. It is permissible by MENA.

## SPRING SEASON (MID YEAR)

It is the Club's aim to keep teams consistent in the Spring season. New players who register for Spring season will be assigned into a team if a vacant spot exists at the discretion of the Committee. Please see the "New players to Trinity who register after grading" section above.

If players from Autumn season do not register for the Spring season resulting in a reduced number of players in a team the Club will endeavour to replace that player: -

- Graded player: - with a player from a lower section team of the same age group with consideration of the player's grading results.
- Ungraded player: - with a new registered player in that age group with consideration to existing team numbers.

## CONCERNS

All selection decisions of the independent grading assessors are final and all enquiries regarding player selection (pre and post selection) should be directed to [enquiries@trinitynetball.com.au](mailto:enquiries@trinitynetball.com.au).

We believe that playing outside of normal friendship groups is a great opportunity to meet new friends. Appeals based on a particular player being placed into a team with friends will not be considered as the independent grading assessors will have created balanced teams.

We understand that grading can be an anxious time for our players, so please be assured that we will do our very best to keep the environment as relaxed and equitable as possible. We want our players to feel confident in our commitment to support them, encourage them to improve and enjoy the game of netball.