



Oakhill Drive Netball Club

TEAM SELECTION (JUNIOR) POLICY

Our Commitment

At Oakhill Drive we believe that junior sport should be safe, enjoyable, inclusive and maximise individual participation.

Our club acknowledges that positive experiences in junior competition will contribute to children developing a lifelong love of sport.

What We Will Do

- Emphasise to coaches and parents that junior sport is about participation, not competition.
- Modify rules and equipment where possible to include children and young people of all abilities and encourage their participation (where our sport offers modifications).
- Try to match junior players with others of their own ability (e.g. if there are enough players, have two teams in an age division).
- Provide junior players with a broad range of experiences (e.g. participating in different positions).
- Provide equal playing time for all juniors, regardless of their ability.
- Consider boys and girls under 12 years of age playing on the same team.
- Ensure that all team members play in the finals.

What We Ask You to Do

Coaches and Club Officials

- Focus on promoting participation, not winning and losing.
- Ensure all team members have the chance to play, rotate through positions and receive equal playing time.
- If you coach your own children, treat them like all other team members (e.g. rotations, playing time, participation).

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Parents

- Help the coach where possible at training and games.
- Focus on your child's effort and performance, not the score.
- Encourage your child and other team members in a positive and inclusive way.
- Recognise that all children have differing skills and abilities and all children should be encouraged to participate in sport.

Players

- Treat coaches, managers, umpires, club officials and each other with respect at all times.
- Encourage your team members.
- If you can't say something kind or helpful, please say nothing.
- Play to the best of your ability and uphold the Oakhill Drive Netball Club's values at all times.

Grading Committee Qualifications and Requirements

The grading of teams is a responsibility that Oakhill Drive Netball Club takes seriously, and we acknowledge our role in assisting the fair positioning of players in Junior Teams.

Oakhill Drive Netball Club will ensure the following:

- 5 Grading Committee Members will be selected by the Executive Committee to represent the club. This Sub-Committee may be selected from existing club members or may include representatives from other clubs asked to assist to provide an unbiased view. This may occur where ODNC Committee Members have children playing in a particular age group.
- Grading Committee Members are encouraged to have completed the Netball NSW "Select for Success" short course to ensure a good understanding of the way teams can be constructed to benefit players and player relationships.
- Members of the Grading Committee will have at least 4 years' experience in either playing, coaching, or umpiring netball.
- No member of the Grading Committee may grade an age group which contains their own child.

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Procedure for Team Selections and Grading Requirements

New club members will be considered based on their skill level and previous coaching /managing comments (where possible) to ensure that all positions are adequately covered in each team.

BHSNA grade teams based on the results of that team from the previous year & the abilities of those team members. BHSNA allow us to register up to 12 players per team, however this can make it difficult to ensure all players get equal playing time.

We aim to carry a minimum of 8 players per team. Exceeding these numbers will be at the discretion of the Grading Committee and Executive Committee, in consultation with the assigned Coach (where possible).

In some instances, a player may be asked to “Play Up” a grade or age based on the overall requirements of the club. Both players and parents will be consulted prior to final placements.

Where an age division has enough players to form two teams or more, the following will be taken into account:

- Are the higher & lower graded teams returning teams from the last season? If so, as many existing team members will be kept together providing skill levels are similar.
- At registration, players may be asked whether they wish to be considered for a “competitive team” (A Grade/ High B Grade – subject to selection through the Grading process), or whether their focus is on playing with friends for fun and fitness.
- Where a lower graded player has requested to be considered to play in the highest grade team, the previous seasons coach as well as the new season coach (where possible) in conjunction with the Grading Committee will meet to discuss what is best for the player, the teams, and the club.
- If there are more than nine (9) players registered in any age group, the players’ abilities will be assessed by previous coaches and the Grading Committee and players will be placed in appropriately graded teams.
- Physical grading may be conducted after a ‘paper grading’ has been completed by the Grading Committee and all registrations have been received. Please note that physical grading of players is not always a necessity.

During the netball season it is within the Grading Committee’s scope to attend games and observe all players who may need to be graded the following season.

Failure to attend Grading Day will result in the Grading Committee making the decision to place the player in the most suitable team based on their previous performance and ability or in the case of a new player, that player may be placed in the lower graded team. This is subject to the Grading Committee’s discretion.

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Players & parents will be notified of “preferred” team placements PRIOR to the lodgement of that team to BHSNA. Any requests by parents or players to change teams will be handled by the Grading Committee with all initial requests put forward to the Grading Committee Coordinator. The Executive Committee will have final say on team placement, on the advice of the Grading Committee’s recommendations.

We make every effort to ensure that the grading process results in players being satisfied with their team placement, however we do recognise that it is not always possible to please everyone.

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