

MPNA

Squad Policies

2025





COURT TIME POLICY

Policy Title	Court Time	Policy Owner	MPNA Squad Program
Date Created	MPNA Executive Committee	Version	V1.0
Endorsed	1 st September 2024	Endorsed by	A.Calder, MPNA Governance Team, NV
Next Review	1 st August 2025		

Mornington Peninsula Netball Association (MPNA) is focused on the success of all athletes, coaches and the association program as a whole.

Whilst a large focus is put on team success an equally large focus is about providing a positive experience to all players who have been selected into our squad teams.

1. Court & Positional Placement:

- 1.1 Players will be played in positions that meet the needs of the team at the time.
- 1.2 These positions may vary throughout the year and can be dependent on many factors.
- 1.3 Positions that players are placed in may differ from those of other teams they play for, as each team is unique and has a variety of skill level.
- 1.4 Coaches are encouraged to ensure that players in the 11U, 13U and 15U age groups are enabled to maintain their flexibility and skill growth by playing them where possible in more than 1 position.

2. Weekly Games – 11U, 13U & 15U

ROUNDS

- 2.1 All players in 11U, 13U & 15U are required to be provided with at least 2 quarters (or equivalent minutes) of every game during the rounds unless:
 - 2.1.1 They were not at training in the week prior to the game
 - 2.1.2 They are injured
 - 2.1.3 Their effort has been below the expected requirements and parents have been involved in remediation of behaviors.
- 2.2 Where a player does not attend training the coach may choose NOT start this player in their starting 7 for the following game.
- 2.3 Where a player is not given the required time, or is planned not to be given the required time this must be communicated with the Head Coach and squad coordinator as parents will need to be kept informed of extenuating circumstances.
- 2.4 All team members must be made to feel that they have been worthy contributors to the game. This can include being members of the substitution bench as this was the role that the coach needed the athlete to undertake at that particular time.



COURT TIME POLICY CONTINUED

FINALS

- 2.5 11U do not participate in finals
- 2.6 All team members in a 13U & 15U representative team must participate in at least 1 quarter (or equivalent minutes) of all finals unless there are extenuating circumstances which include:
 - 2.6.1 injury,
 - 2.6.2 non-attendance at training
 - 2.6.3 poor attitude
- 2.7 Where a team member does not attend training the coach may choose NOT to start this member in their starting 7 for the following game.
- 2.8 All team members must be made to feel that they have been worthy contributors to the game. This can include being members of the substitution bench as this was the role that the coach needed the athlete to undertake at that particular time.

3. Weekly Games – 17Under

ROUNDS & FINALS

- 3.1 There is no minimum court requirement for 17U athletes.
- 3.2 The coaches are advised to position athletes as they see fit to ensure success of the team in each game.
- 3.3 Training attendance, injury and effort are all taken into consideration for court time in the 17U age group.
- 3.4 Where an athlete does not attend training the coach may choose NOT to start this player in their starting 7 for the following game.
- 3.5 All team members must be made to feel that they have been worthy contributors to the game. This can include being members of the substitution bench as this was the role that the coach needed the athlete to undertake at that particular time.

4. Tournaments – 11U, 13U & 15U

ROUNDS

- 4.1 A minimum of 30% court time will be provided to all players during rounds

FINALS

- 4.2 No minimum is required for finals however coaches are encouraged to utilise all opportunities to have all players participate in finals .

5. Tournaments – 17Under

ROUNDS & FINALS

- 5.1 No minimum is required for tournaments however coaches are encouraged to utilize all players as much as possible to ensure the success of the team.



PLAYER MOVEMENT POLICY

Policy Title	Player Movement Policy	Policy Owner	MPNA Squad Program
Date Created	MPNA Executive Committee	Version	V1.0
Endorsed	1 st September 2024	Endorsed by	A.Calder, MPNA Governance Team, NV
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The purpose of the Player Movement Policy is to assist in the decision making when a playing position becomes available in a squad team, and the position cannot be filled by a player who is currently in that team.

1. WEEKLY GAMES – Single Game Fillin

- 1.1 Where all players are available a full team of 10 is to be taken to weekly games.
- 1.2 Players may be unavailable for a number of reasons including:
 - 1.2.1 injury,
 - 1.2.2 illness,
 - 1.2.3 compulsory school activity etc
- 1.3 Where players are unavailable a coach must take no LESS than 8 players and may choose to do the following:
 - 1.3.1 Play with the available players from their regular team (min of 8 required)
 - 1.3.2 Elevate a player for that game from the team directly below (where elevation occurs a maximum of 9 players will be selected)
- 1.4 The player must be requested from team below
- 1.5 The 2 coaches will discuss the required player and agree together outlining why player is required, what position/type of player is needed.
- 1.6 The Coach of lower team is to determine which player should get the opportunity to play up.
- 1.7 Coaches are to make decisions that are in the best interest of the player and the teams involved.
- 1.8 Coaches must be aware of the relevant by-laws governing player movement
 - 1.8.1 Waverley: 3 games in the higher team and then player cannot move back down.
 - 1.8.2 FDNA: 4 games in the higher team and then the player cannot move back down.
 - 1.8.3 A player cannot play in more than 1 team on any given night in the same competition.
- 1.9 These one-off instances should be finalized between the 2 coaches concerned as above.
- 1.10 The squad coordinator **must** receive an email to squad@mpna.com.au advising of fill-in to allow tracking of players across teams as soon as the change is agreed. This must occur prior to match day where practicable as players will need to be registered on netball connect accordingly.
- 1.11 The Head Coach and squad coordinator do not need to be involved in the decisions unless the 2 coaches are unable to agree in which case the Head Coach will liaise with the coaches and assist in the decision making process.



PLAYER MOVEMENT POLICY CONTINUED

2. TOURNAMENTS – single day fillin

- 2.1 All teams are required to take 10 players per team to each tournament.
- 2.2 Players may be unavailable for a number of reasons including:
 - 2.2.1 injury, illness,
 - 2.2.2 compulsory school activity etc
- 2.3 Tournaments will be scheduled to minimize the impact of illness and injury on teams.
- 2.4 For example not all teams in each age group are scheduled to play all of the same tournaments eg: 15.1, 15.2 may go to different tournaments to 15.3, 15.4 which will allow players to be available for fill ins on each occasion.
- 2.5 Players will ideally not play more than 1 team up or down when being asked to fill in.
- 2.6 Some players may be asked to play down a team if that is what is in the interest of all teams participating at the tournament.
- 2.7 Coach must consult coach of other team and advise the squad coordinator as soon as possible via squad@mpna.com.au – outlining why player is required, what position/type of player is needed. This will ensure accurate records of all player movements are kept.
- 2.8 The Coach of lower team is to determine who will get the opportunity to play up.
- 2.9 Coaches are to make decisions that are in the best interest of the player and the teams involved.
- 2.10 Decisions on players need to be made with as much notice as possible.

3. WEEKLY & TOURNAMENTS – Long Term

- 3.1 Players may become unavailable for a number of reasons including injury and illness
- 3.2 Where this occurs for greater than 3 weeks MPNA will look to make player movements across teams if this is in the best interest of each team.
- 3.3 MPNA aims to have a minimum of 10 players per team at all times.
- 3.4 As soon as a long term absence arises the following should occur:
 - 3.4.1 parent is to email squad@mpna.com.au advising reason for absence.
 - 3.4.2 Coach is to notify the Head Coach & Squad Coordinator immediately so that appropriate measure can be taken to minimize impacts on teams.
- 3.5 In consultation with the coaches involved, the Head Coach will make a decision on a replacement player from the team below based on what is the best outcome for the club and athlete concerned.
- 3.6 Prior to this decision being finalized the Head Coach will liaise with Squad Coordinator to obtain approval for this movement. The reason that approval is required is that there is often background information that is held which may impact decisions and must be taken into consideration.
- 3.7 The coach and Head Coach will then offer the position verbally to the player and should this be accepted the Squad Coordinator will then move forward with offering of a position to a new player.
- 3.8 The administrator will be required to register players as required.
- 3.9 Unless there are extenuating circumstances that are approved in writing by the executive committee no player will be included in the MPNA teams if they did not trial.

4. NETBALL VICTORIA TALENT IDENTIFICATION

- 4.1 Where a player is TID at Association Champs or State Titles the Head Coach will reward this by giving these players the opportunity to play in the 1st team at upcoming tournament/s and will work with the current coach as to which player is being replaced.



SELECTIONS POLICY

Policy Title	Selections Policy	Policy Owner	MPNA Squad Program
Date Created	MPNA Executive Committee	Version	V1.0
Endorsed	1 st September 2024	Endorsed by	A.Calder, MPNA Governance Team, NV
Next Review	1 st August 2025		

Playing for MPNA in representative netball is a privilege, not a right. As a general principle, the rep selection process aims to be independent and to eliminate any scope for influence or favoritism. Our goal in selection is to place athletes into viable teams where every available player who has the ability or potential to play representative netball is given this opportunity. Note that this means some prospective players may not be selected. Selection to an MPNA representative team is for a period of approximately 12 months from Selections in Sept/Oct through to the end of the following August which includes one full playing season.

Selection trials are mandatory for both new and existing rep team players.

1. Selection Criteria

Key selection criteria for prospective rep players (including those already playing rep in the previous season) are prioritised by:

- 1.1 Trial Days:
 - 1.1.1 Performance on 'that day' only.
 - 1.1.2 Skills, ability, game-sense
 - 1.1.3 Foundation skills: ball handling, footwork, specialist skills
 - 1.1.4 Fitness: speed, change of direction, strength / power
 - 1.1.5 Mental skills: recovery from mistakes, ability to re-focus, accountable, leader / creates change, works as a member of a unit
 - 1.1.6 Decision making skills
 - 1.1.7 Team balance - Are the best individual players the best combination?
 - 1.1.8 Style of play: Need different styles of players so there is the option to change the style of play in a match i.e.) attacking vs defending midcourt; long vs close shooter, impact players
 - 1.1.9 Commitment, attitude and work ethic
 - 1.1.10 "Coachability": ability to focus, listen and learn
 - 1.1.11 Potential for development
- 1.2 Team Selection:
 - 1.2.1 Ratings from selections will form the basis of the teams however movements may be made dependent on Team Balance and required positions.
 - 1.2.2 Match Play - In the final week of pre-season & the first training in January (compulsory) athletes will be given the opportunity to take the court in match play which will assist the coaching panel with the final team placements.
 - 1.2.3 Athletes will be assigned to the team that is most appropriate to their level of skill relative to balance and playing requirements of the respective teams.
 - 1.2.4 Team balance is an important but often misunderstood consideration: all teams need to be balanced in terms of relative height, specialist skills and



SELECTION POLICY CONTINUED

strengths, and ability commensurate with receiving reasonable court time. This sometimes means that a player may be selected in a team to ensure team balance while another player of similar ability may be selected in a higher or lower team.

** NB: Whilst coaches may have been tentatively allocated to age groups and teams coaching positions will be finalised post player allocation to teams to ensure players needs are put first.

2. SELECTORS

- 2.1 Panel of selectors elected by the Head Coach and approved by Executive Committee.
- 2.2 No parent/relative of a player may select within the age group of that player. This includes both squad selections and team selections.
- 2.3 Each court will have 2 panels available
 - 2.3.1 Where available up to 2 independent selectors
 - 2.3.2 Where available 2 coaches/MPNA representatives
- 2.4 The 2 panels will sit separately of each other to ensure that there can be no influence from the current coaches who may be aware of players from previous years / other competitions
- 2.5 The aim will be to have the same selectors available across the 3 trial dates however this may not be feasible and MPNA reserves the right to allocate selectors as they deem appropriate.
- 2.6 If it occurs where a parent/relative of a player is coaching in the same age group the coach will be removed from the entire Team Selection and all other age group coaches, Head Coach & MPNA executive member will be present to finalise decisions.
- 2.7 Where votes on athletes for selection are tied the Head Coach will cast the final vote.

3. SELECTION TRIALS & SELECTOR RESPONSIBILITIES:

- 3.1 performance "that day" only
- 3.2 each selector on panel writes notes and rates each player using netball trials app or where paper is used this is provided directly to squad coordinator for entry into system.
- 3.3 where required coaches reports will be requested and provided to assist with prior knowledge and other performances of potential players. These will be provided in writing and will include skills / weaknesses Improve / potential attitude / commitment attendance / group dynamics can be requested where players are not able to be separated on paper.
- 3.4 Selection panel's decision is FINAL
- 3.5 Each selector will accept that the group decision may differ from individual selectors' and past coaches views
- 3.6 Strict adherence to MPNA policies and procedures will be maintained
- 3.7 Selectors are to declare conflicts of interest
- 3.8 Confidentiality: Do not discuss decisions, conversations regarding selections
- 3.9 Hand over all notes at the conclusion of selections
- 3.10 COLLATION of all selection information provided is completed by the Squad Coordinator and the Head Coach. Each panels results will then be calculated and compared separately and final decisions will be made with the Head Coach, Squad Coordinator and/Or a Member of the Executive Committee along with the respective coaching team to ensure a transparent outcome for all.



SELECTION POLICY CONTINUED

4. TRIALLING ATHLETE RESPONSIBILITIES

- 4.1 INJURED / UNAVAILABLE PLAYERS:
 - 4.1.1 To submit explanation and medical certification (where appropriate) to squad@mpna.com.au. They must also still register to netball trials to be considered for a position
- 4.2 COMMITMENT:
 - 4.2.1 Other commitments during season to be declared prior to position being accepted
- 4.3 DISCLOSURE
 - 4.3.1 Athletes will be required to declare if they are trialing at other locations. This assists with planning as there is a large number of athletes trialing.
- 4.4 DISPUTES & APPEALS
 - 4.4.1 The squad team selection policy, as with all published squad season information, makes it very clear that team selection has a number of criteria that are taken into account.
 - 4.4.2 There are no provisions made for selection into rep teams for reasons of friendship, previous year grouping, or a player's or their family's perception of his/her ability compared to others.
 - 4.4.3 Accordingly, MPNA does not offer a complaints mechanism for this
 - 4.4.4 Selection panel's decision is FINAL
 - 4.4.5 No verbal discussions will be undertaken
 - 4.4.6 Players who do not make the final squad may request written feedback on their individual selection performance / coaches reports to squadcoach@mpna.com.au
 - 4.4.6.1 This request must be in writing
 - 4.4.6.2 The response will be a written summary of information available.



COACHING POLICY

Policy Title	Coaching Policy	Policy Owner	MPNA Squad Program
Date Created	MPNA Executive Committee	Version	V1.0
Endorsed	1 st September 2024	Endorsed by	A.Calder, MPNA Governance Team, NV
Next Review	1 st August 2025		

MPNA is committed to providing a positive experience at representative level netball for all athletes, coaches and administrative staff. Our focus and mantra at all times is we do 'what is best for the athletes'

MPNA Values the contribution of their coaches and wants to ensure that we have policies and procedures in place to ensure success of our coaches, athletes and program. As coaching can be challenging and difficult we are putting processes in place to protect you as an MPNA coach.

1. COACHES:

- 1.1 Coaching qualification requirements:
 - 1.1.1 Team Coaches
 - 1.1.1.1 11U - Minimum foundation working towards development
 - 1.1.1.2 13U, 15U - Minimum development
 - 1.1.1.3 17U - Minimum development however Intermediate or willingness to work towards would be preferred
 - 1.1.2 Assistant Coach
 - 1.1.2.1 All ages - foundation minimum
- 1.2 Where possible no TEAM COACH will coach their child's age group
- 1.3 Where there is a lack of suitable coaches a parent/relative of a player may be considered but under no circumstances will they coach their own child. They will be required to submit a letter to the executive committee via netball@mpna.com.au explaining where they would like to coach and why.
- 1.4 No parent/relative will be involved under any circumstances in the TEAM selection of their child/relative. This means that they will not take part in discussions around team selection in that age group as well due to perceived biased.
- 1.5 Decisions on coaching will be made between the Head Coach, Squad Coordinator with Final approval from the Executive Committee.



COACHING POLICY CONTINUED

2. COMMITMENT:

- 2.1 All coaches will be required to commit to:
 - 2.1.1 Tournaments
 - 2.1.2 Training
 - 2.1.3 Weekly games
 - 2.1.4 Extra activities including camp, specialist sessions, presentation etc.
 - 2.1.5 Required administrative & planning work as outlined in position description but will include:
 - 2.1.5.1 Provision of weekly game sheet to squad coordinator
 - 2.1.5.2 Provision of tournament sheets to squad coordinator
 - 2.1.5.3 Complete weekly points tally towards player awards
- 2.2 Illness, work commitments, holidays etc will be taken into consideration as we know that we are all busy and things come up. It is preferable to have as much notice as possible and email through to squad@mpna.com.au notifying of coaching unavailability.
- 2.3 Coaches will maintain confidentiality at all times and will act with integrity and inline with MPNA policies and procedures with the best interest of the MPNA program in mind.
- 2.4 Coaches will liaise with the Head Coach for all requirements from a Technical Level. The Head Coach is not required to act or take action on administrative or tasks that have been outlined as responsibility of the Squad Coordinator.
- 2.5 Coaches will liaise with the Squad Coordinator as per expectations set out.
- 2.6 Coaches will attend required meetings with exec and Head Coach.
- 2.7 Coaches will attend provided coach training.
- 2.8 Coaches who are parents will be required to fulfil both parental and coaching duties which include fundraising activities as per player agreement.
- 2.9 Coaches will notify squad coordinator AND Head Coach should they not be able to attend any of the above.
- 2.10 Coaches will plan and prepare squad training sessions as required to best meet the needs of their team.
- 2.11 Coaches will liaise and provide support to other team coaches as required throughout the season.