

Netball Grading Policy

Chatswood Rangers has implemented a grading policy to ensure that the grading of players and teams is conducted fairly, based on a player's ability, skill level, commitment and attitude. Players and parents are asked to be reasonable and objective in their expectations and to encourage their children to accept their team selection.

Chatswood Rangers is committed to providing a safe and supportive environment for all volunteers including our Grading Convener, Committee Members, Grading Committee and Coaches. **Any form of abuse or harassment of volunteers as a result of disputed grading decisions will not be tolerated.**

Chatswood Rangers recognises that players have a variety of reasons to play netball and process a range of skills and ability. We are committed to the development of players, coaches and umpires and we encourage play that fits with being fair and competitive, whilst having fun in a safe environment.

GRAING PRINCIPALS

Grading is the process of establishing the number and composition of the Chatswood Rangers netball teams to compete in the Northern Suburbs Netball Association (NSNA) competition. The aim of grading players is to set teams, which have a balanced group of players, both in ability levels and playing positions. Grading is influenced by the number and ages of players registered with Chatswood Rangers and is compulsory for all players playing for under 10s through to seniors. Individual players will be graded into their own age group and evaluated on their skills and abilities.

- Players will be placed in a team which will enhance their enjoyment of the game,
- Players will be placed in a team/grade which is appropriate to their skill level,
- Players will be placed in a team which will enable them to attain desired skills,
- Teams will be selected to allow for a good balance in terms of positions.

FORMING TEAMS

Ideally numbers of players placed in a team will allow maximum court time for all players in the grade. We need to have a minimum of 8 players and aim to have a maximum of 10 players in any one team.

Several factors affect team formation:

- Number of players in each age group (some players may be asked to play up due to numbers and ability)
- Balance of positions in a team (i.e. shooting, mid court, defence)
- Representative players' restrictions

NetSetGo: Players will be placed in teams with their friends where possible within their age group. ***These requests must be received at the time of registration and can only be accommodated if numbers for an age group permit.***

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Under 10s to Under 15s: Players will be graded in their age group according to their ability. Coaching reports from the previous year are also taken into consideration. This ensures that players are playing at a level appropriate to their skill level, which should ensure that they get maximum enjoyment from their netball.

Senior Netball

It is anticipated that some senior teams will be registered as an entity. However, any other players will be graded based on their ability, positions and numbers to ensure appropriate team level.

GRADING PROCESS

All players must be registered prior to attendance at grading sessions. Any player who hasn't paid their registration fee will not be allowed to take the court for grading due to insurance requirements.

Following the close of on-line registration, a review is conducted of the number of players per age group, the number of teams likely to be formed and the spread of preferred positions (as included in the online registration form). Playing grids are developed to ensure all players take court in the grading session games in one of their preferred position and in one of the positions that their previous coach has selected against players of a similar level where possible. Players arriving late, leaving early or changing preferences without adequate notification to the Grading Convenor makes the fair rotation for all players more difficult. Please notify the Junior Netball Secretary if you are unable to attend; will be late; or will need to leave early from a grading session.

The Grading Committee considers the best mix of players including the number of defenders, mid court players, shooters and attack players to ensure the competitive composition of the team. Players will normally be graded into their appropriate age group (as at 31st December) and must attend the grading session for their age group (unless advised otherwise), however players may be selected for older age teams if appropriate or numbers require at the discretion of the club and following discussion with the player's parents. Please be aware that teams that are successful one year will not necessarily remain together the following year. This should be understood clearly due to the nature of change and development of all players from season to season.

GRADING COMMITTEE:

The Grading Convenor will select a minimum of three (3) appropriate graders to form a grading committee. Any nominations for the Grading Committee are to be received at the AGM for Chatswood Rangers. External graders can be included if necessary, at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

GRADING SESSIONS

Grading sessions are compulsory. We do however understand that some people may not be able to attend due to circumstances out of their control. We wish to emphasise that grading is one of the most essential components in preparing for a successful season and players should be aware that it is to their advantage

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to be seen by our graders as much as possible. Players who do not attend either grading days will be placed in a team based on paper grading. If you are unable to attend grading session(s) you must notify the Junior Netball Secretary (juniornetball@chatswoodrangers.com.au) as soon as possible prior to the day.

The Junior Netball Secretary will be your contact point on grading day, parents and players should **NOT** approach any of the graders. If you have any concerns, please raise them as soon as possible so they may be addressed.

Participation at Grading Day is acceptance of this policy.

The Grading Committee will conduct grading as per the description below.

Confidentiality of grading information

Chatswood Rangers does not release to any parent, player not involved in grading any information that may be considered sensitive contained in any documents/communication, including but not limited to grading and coaching reports/comments. The information generated by coaches and graders needs to be an open and honest assessment of players and potentially making public this sensitive information would limit their comments and undermine the effectiveness of the grading process. Grading sessions will consist of a series of short games with players taking the court at least twice. Chatswood Rangers endeavour to place players in their preferred positions as nominated on-line at least once. Players may be asked to play in a position that is not their preference at some point based on coaches reports or at Grading Convenor's discretion.

GRADING PROCESS

Grading is organised by the Grading Convenor and carried out by a Grading Committee setup by the Grading Convenor. Grading is based on:

- Previous season observations: during the previous season the Grading Committee or their representative may have observed players during their games.
- Previous season's coaches evaluation: this is a strictly confidential short written report by the Coach at the end of the season covering such topics as skill, fitness, attendance, teamwork, player position preference, coaches position preference for player and attitude. This information is confidential
- Ball handling (passing/catching) skills
- Positioning skills
- Perception and cognition skills
- Sportsmanship and attitude
- Footwork, speed and agility
- Positional play/understanding of game: during these sessions, graders may request to observe specific players in specific positions against other players to assist in their review of players. Following the initial grading session for each age group, a review is undertaken of grading results and new draft team lists and grids are compiled for the second session should it be required.

LATE REGISTRATIONS

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Late registrations will only be accepted if there is a vacancy in an appropriate team and at the discretion of Chatswood Rangers Junior Netball Secretary and Grading Convenor. Any players new to Chatswood Rangers who are registering late must be seen by graders prior to inclusion in a team. They will only then be considered for placement in a team. If they have requested to play in a particular team, then they will only be placed there if they are up to the standard and they are not taking the place of a returning Chatswood Rangers player who may otherwise have been moved into that team. Any players who have played previously with Chatswood Rangers who are registering late may be placed in a team based on previous history or may require to be seen by graders prior to inclusion in a team. Teams will be announced via email.

APPEALS PROCESS

It is hoped that players and parents appreciate the difficulty of grading and accept the decision of the grading committee. However, Chatswood Rangers recognises that players and parents/guardians of players disagree at times with the grading decisions made. If a player/parent/guardian consider that they/their child has been unfairly treated in the grading process, they must submit their concern **within 2 days** of the team lists being emailed to the Junior Netball Secretary: juniornetball@chatswoodrangers.com.au

Members of the grading Committee will reconvene to consider/investigate the complaint and will advise the family of their decision via email within 2 days of receiving the appeal. **No team placement reviews will be discussed over the phone.** If the player or parent/guardian of the player is still of the view that the grading process is not fair, then the matter will be referred to the Executive Committee to be dealt with at its next meeting and to be resolved and all decisions from there will be final.

Deregistration Players are not eligible for refunds should they choose to de-register due to dissatisfaction with team placement. Refunds for other reasons for de-registering are subject to registration refunding at the discretion of the Chatswood Rangers Committee. All de-registration requests with reason, **must be in writing** and sent to the Junior Netball Secretary via juniornetball@chatswoodrangers.com.au.

Suggestions on grading improvements

This is a guide for players and parents on the current grading process and the level of effort and thought involved with grading of Chatswood Ranger's junior players. The grading information is a working document being constantly reviewed and updated. If you wish to provide feedback or suggest improvement of the grading process, please send comments to the Junior Netball Secretary via juniornetball@chatswoodrangers.com.au

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