# Springers Leisure Centre Netball Competition By Laws

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## 1. Introduction

South East Leisure manages competitions at Springers Leisure Centre, delivering competitions in line with the rules and regulations of the governing body. These by-laws are designed to provide information to all participants on how the competition will be managed and provide the greatest possible enjoyment for these involved in competitions.

South East Leisure reserves the right to adjust these by-laws and adjudicate in the best interests of the competition to ensure quality, safety and enjoyment of participants. This includes all aspects relating to administering the competition and is not limited to items covered within these by-laws.

## 2. Team Contact

a. Each Team must register for the competition by the registration due date. This registration process includes providing a team name and paying the team registration fee.

b. Each team must nominate primary and secondary contact people, the responsibilities of these contacts include;
   i. Distribute fixtures to all team members,
   ii. Complete score sheets / registration of games prior to each game,
   iii. Pay game fees to reception before each game,
   iv. Ensure all team members are in full correct uniform,
   v. Ensure all team members aware of all by-laws and insurance procedures.

c. The Team Contacts are responsible for ensuring the online fixture is checked at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled game time as changes can be made. Where changes are made within 48 hours of the scheduled game, the team contact will be communicated with by either phone or email. Fixtures can be found through the venue website (https://springersleisurecentre.com.au/netball/).

d. South East Leisure reserves the right to adjust fixtures as required. Where changes are made within 48 hours of the scheduled game, the Team Contact will be notified.

## 3. Team Registration

a. Submission of team entry and payment doesn't necessarily constitute entry into the competition, this is pending assessment from South East Leisure.

b. All team registration fees must be paid for in full at the time of submitting the team registration.

c. Teams will not be entered into the competition until the registration fee is paid in full.

d. Team registration fee is non-refundable unless an exception is made by South East Leisure.

e. Teams or individuals will not be eligible to register for a new season where there are any outstanding fees.

f. Team registration and playing fees shall be set by South East Leisure.

g. The grading period is at the discretion of South East Leisure, changes may be made at any point in the season if necessary.

h. Teams must list a minimum of 9 players on their team entry unless an exception is made by South East Leisure.

i. South East Leisure reserves the right to refuse team registration, without giving reasons.

j. Where a team has any outstanding fees within a season, South East Leisure reserves the right to remove the team or individual from the competition, with all outstanding fees payable.

k. Where a team withdraws prior to the conclusion of a season, a withdrawal fee of $200 is payable, in addition to any other fees incurred.

## 4. Player Registration & Eligibility

a. All players must fully complete an online registration prior to participating.

b. Any player not registered with the team, must register via the online registration form prior to the game.

c. All players must be registered prior to each game and names displayed on the scoring platform. Anyone not listed on the scoring system prior to the second half will be ineligible for the remainder of the game.

d. South East Leisure reserves the right to refuse registration to any individual, without giving reasons.

e. Player details obtained through the registration process must be completed in full and accurate as these details will be used for player registration and insurance purposes.

f. Any player participating under a false name or another players will result in the team they are playing for to forfeit each game in which the offending player participated in. Additionally, this is a reportable offense and suspensions may apply.

g. Where player registration details haven't been fully completed, games will not count toward finals eligibility, nor will they be covered by player insurance if injury occurs.

h. It is the individual's responsibility to update personal details should these change.

i. Players must be within the relevant age range for the competition within which they will be playing. These age limits are;

   i. Senior competitions – 15 years of age and over (unless there is written consent from a parents).

   ii. The age of a person is defined by their age at the conclusion of the season

j. Players may not transfer from one team to another during the season in any one competition. In exceptional circumstances, a formal request can be submitted in writing to South East Leisure, who has the authority to grant an allowance.

k. Players can only represent / fill in for teams in the same or higher grade.

l. Teams can have a maximum of 12 players registered and participate in a game.

m. Any player who has played in the VNL competitions or higher in the past 12 months must play in the A-Grade competition.

## 5. Game Results

a. Championship points (ladder points) for games are awarded as follows;

   i. Win - 3 points

   ii. Draw – 2 points

   iii. Loss – 1 point

   iv. Forfeit For – 3 points

   v. Forfeit Against – 0 points

   vi. Bye – 0 points

b. In addition to the above championship points, the forfeit score will be 10-0 in favour of the team with the forfeit win.

c. Ladder positions will be determined on by a Points Ratio, where the total points as listed above are divided by the number of games played (forfeits for and against are included). Byes do not count toward the games played.

## 6. Game Fees

a. Game Fees are set by South East Leisure.
b. Game Fees must be paid at venue reception prior to the commencement of the game.
c. Games will not proceed where both teams haven't paid the Game Fee and a forfeit will apply where Game Fees aren't paid.

## 7. Timing Rules & Regulations

a. Grading and regular season games will be structured as follows (subject to Extreme Weather Guidelines being applied);
    i. 45-minute time schedule
    ii. 4 x 9 minutes quarters
    iii. 2-minute half time interval
    iv. Straight changeover between the 1st/2nd quarters and the 3rd/4th quarters
    v. The clock does not stop at any stage
    vi. Umpires shall start the game clock at the scheduled starting time of the match. Should either team not be ready to start at the allocated time, a 1 goal per minute will be added to the oppositions score as a penalty.
    vii. The first team listed on the schedule will take the initial centre pass and will then alternate thereafter.
    viii. The team listed second on the schedule has the choice of end to start the game.
    ix. Each team must have a minimum of 5 players in full uniform on the court at the commencement of the game. One of these players must play the 'Centre' position.
    x. An official can ask any player for proof of identity, including a player's name, date of birth and residing address.
    xi. The umpire shall notify the teams when there are 10 seconds remaining before the half time break will conclude.
    xii. The players are responsible for having their playing bibs on and be in position prior to the start of play.
    xiii. Players not on court when the umpires whistle to commence play, cannot take the court until a goal is scored.
b. Finals games will be structured as follows (subject to Extreme Weather Guidelines being applied);
    i. 50-minute time schedule
    ii. 4 x 9 minutes quarters
    iii. 2-minute half time interval
    iv. Straight changeover between the 1st/2nd quarters and the 3rd/4th quarters
    v. Umpires shall start the game clock at the scheduled starting time of the match. Should either team not be ready to start at the allocated time, a 1 goal per minute will be added to the oppositions score as a penalty.
    vi. The first team listed on the schedule will take the initial centre pass and will then alternate thereafter.

vii. The team listed second on the schedule has the choice of end to start the game.
viii. Each team must have a minimum of 5 players in full uniform on the court at the commencement of the game. One of these players must play the 'Centre' position.
ix. The umpire shall notify the teams when there are 10 seconds remaining before the half time break will conclude.
x. The players are responsible for having their playing bibs on and be in position prior to the start of play.
xi. Players not on court when the umpires whistle to commence play, cannot take the court until a goal is scored.

c. Extra time for finals games will be structured as follows;
   i. 2 x 3-minute periods
   ii. Straight changeover between periods
   iii. Players can be changed at the conclusion of any period

## 8. Mixed Competition

a. A minimum of one male must be on the court at all times.
b. A maximum of three males must be on the court at all times.
c. Each male is to play in a third only, 1 x attack, 1 x centre and 1 x defence.

## 9. Finals Eligibility

a. Team sheets will consist of a maximum of 10 qualified players only
b. All players must be registered in the scoring system prior to each game
c. Each players must have participated in a minimum of 7 games for his/her team in that season to be eligible to finals in that season and grade.
d. Any outstanding monies must be paid in full prior to any team taking the court in finals.
e. Teams wishing to appeal in regard to player finals eligibility must lodge their appeal in writing to competitions@southeastleisure.com.au, no later than seven days before the team's first finals game. Any supporting documentation (i.e. medical certificate to show games missed due to injury) must be submitted with the appeal.
f. Appeals will be reviewed by South East Leisure Management. The player will be notified of the decision, with this being final and no further correspondence will be entered into.

## 10. Finals Structure

a. The finals structure of competitions will be dependent on the number of teams in the grade. The number of teams to qualify for finals will be as follows;
   i. 4-7 teams - 4 teams qualify for finals (1 v 4, 2 v 3)
   ii. 8+ teams – 8 teams qualify for finals over 2 weeks (1 v 4, 2 v 3, 5 v 8, 6 v 7)
b. All finals games are elimination, with the winning side advancing to the next week.

## 11. Forfeits

a. Teams unable to play a scheduled game, the team captain must notify Springers Leisure Centre by calling (9701 5900).

b. Teams forfeiting must pay a fee to cover umpire and team sheet fees. This fee varies depending on the amount of notice provided;
   i. More than 48 hours notice = Equal to **Single** team sheet fee.
   ii. Less than 48 hours notice or no notice provided = Equal to **Double** team sheet fee.
c. All fees must be paid prior to the next fixture game or arrangements made with South East Leisure prior to the scheduled game day, to pay Springers Leisure Centre over a satisfactory period.
d. South East Leisure will assess all teams with multiple forfeits within a season and it is up to the sole discretion of South East Leisure to disqualify a team from the competition.
e. Umpires will commence all games at the scheduled start time. Teams not on court with a minimum of 5 players shall be penalised by the opposition being awarded 1 goal per minute.
f. Teams will forfeit a match where they are 10 minutes late. The offending team will have a forfeit against applied (0 championship points and 0-10 result). The opposition will be awarded a forfeit win.

## 12. Uniforms

a. Uniforms must not present a genuine safety risk to the wearer or other players (ie, pockets, buckles and/or zips are not allowed)
b. A team must wear a matching colour scheme in both top and bottoms. The design of both may differ for each individual ie combination of t-shirt & skirt, shorts, singlet & leggings but must be the same colour.
c. Acceptable bottoms include leggings, compression shorts, or skirt.
d. During the grading period, exceptions can be made for new teams upon request to South East Leisure management.
e. Letters are to be a contrasting colour to the body of the bib.
f. Bib letters must be permanently affixed, not taped.
g. Uniforms must be in good condition. Players with torn bibs will not be permitted entry on the court.
h. If in the opinion of the umpire, bib colours are similar, the team listed first on the fixture has colour priority. The team listed second must wear alternate bibs (available at reception when there is a clash situation). It is the responsibility of the team needing to wear alternative bibs to do so prior to the game commencing, the game clock will start at the scheduled start time.
i. At the start of any season after grading period, all teams are to be in full uniform.
j. After grading, any player out of uniform is penalised 3 goals per incorrect item (i.e. 3 points per top, 3 points per bib, 3 points per shorts/skirt). The 3 points are placed on the oppositions score at half time.
k. Where a single player has registered for their first game, they are allowed to participate in their first game without penalty. When participating in their first game, uniform standards must be complied with, or they will not be allowed to participate. Note: uniform hire is available at reception.
l. Should any player have blood on their uniform, this must be changed immediately. Players are not permitted on the court where blood is present (be this wet or dry blood stains).

## 13. Player Physique & Accessories

a. Only non-marking sports shoes are to be worn. Street shoes and any type of shoe which can mark the court is not allowed.

b. All jewellery must be removed or the player is not permitted entry onto the court. This includes but is not limited to watches, Fitbits, studs, necklaces, rings, earrings or anything which may present a hazard. Flat wedding bands can be worn where they are taped and don't present a hazard.
c. Fingernail checks will be completed and nail must be smooth and not protruding over the finger, as viewed from the palm side of the hand. Players can tape their fingernails with a Padded tape. Players who can't meet this criteria will not be permitted to enter the court.
d. Players wishing to wear gloves must have prior approval from South East Leisure. Players seeking approval from South East Leisure must provide sufficient evidence as to why this is allowed (i.e. medical certificate from a doctor).
e. Soft, pliable hair accessories (i.e. bobby pins, small clips) are permitted to be worn. Any hair accessory which may present a hazard (i.e. beads) is not permitted and the player will not be allowed onto court.
f. Headscarves are permitted so long as they do not present a hazard to the individual or others. This includes head scarves or other items worn for religious reasons, held in place with bobby pins or clips.
g. Braded or plaited hair that swings free from a players head is not allowed as it may present a hazard to other players. Players with braded or plaited hair must either roll their braid/plait into a bun or remove the braid/plait.
h. Sweat bands can be worn above the elbow and on the forehead if needed.

## 14. Injuries

a. Blood rule: A player bleeding, has an open wound or has blood on them must leave the court immediately and have the affected area covered/cleaned, prior to re-joining the game. Players are not permitted entry onto the court where blood is present on a player's uniform or accessories (i.e. sweatband).
b. All injuries and incidents must be reported to the Supervisor and/or the Duty Manager as soon as possible and complete a first aid/incident report form. An injured player may request an insurance claim form that will be sent out via email by South East Leisure management.
c. Teams are responsible for sourcing their own ice for recovery purposes, Springers Leisure Centre will provide first aid and treatment for injuries sustained while participating.
d. No injury time is allowed, the clock does not stop.
e. Play shall stop for injury at the discretion of the umpire.

## 15. Bench Officials

a. A minimum of one competent bench official must be provided by each team for each game (Mixed Only)
b. One competent bench official must be provided by the "Home Team" or team first listed on the team sheet for each game (Ladies).
c. Where teams don't have sufficient players to fill the court and provide a bench official, the umpires may ask players to sit off to ensure there is a bench official (even if this result in fewer than seven players on the court).
d. If there are issues with the bench officials provided for a game and an issue is raised, it can be required that the scorers provided by the teams rotate the tasks of scoring and clock.
e. All bench officials must be competent and be of a minimum age of 14 years old
f. Under no circumstances may either of the umpires act as the bench official.

g. Where a conflict exists between the score recorded and the score displayed on the scoreboard, the scoring system will take precedence.

## 16. Abandoned Matches

a. In the event of a match not being able to be completed during the regular season due to circumstances beyond the stadiums control (i.e. power blackout, roof leaks, emergency evacuation), South East Leisure reserves the right to reschedule the game.

b. Where a game is not rescheduled, the following actions will be taken;

   i. Match abandoned before half time – where a minimum of 18 minutes of play cannot be completed, the match will be treated as a draw and game fees will be refunded. Should the game be able to recommence within 15 minutes of play stopping, the time lost will be removed from the playing time and the game continued from where it stopped (i.e. scores, remaining time will resume as they were when play stopped).

   ii. Match abandoned after half time – where a minimum of 18 minutes of play has been completed, the match result will stand when play stopped and game fees will not be refunded. Should the game be able to recommence within 15 minutes of play stopping, the time lost will be removed from the playing time and the game continued from where it stopped (scores, player fouls, timeouts etc resume as they were when play stopped).

   iii. Match abandoned due to on court discretion – South East Leisure management will investigate the nature of the on-court discretion and determine an appropriate outcome and match result. Where the on-court discretion is inconclusive, the scores will stand at the point of the game being called off.

c. Where a match is abandoned, all scores when play is stopped will count for percentages.

## 17. Grading

a. As required a grading period will occur at the start of the season. South East Leisure will determine the grading period required, taking into consideration the number of teams entered, changes to team rosters and the number of new teams entered.

b. Grading of teams may see teams moved up and down grades.

c. South East Leisure reserves the right to grade and regrade teams at any time for the benefit of the competition.

d. Any team which joins a competition after the first round, a loss will be added to their championship points for every round missed.

## 18. Suspensions

a. South East Leisure reserves the right to suspend players, coaches and spectators from the competition at any stage and determine the suspension period.

b. Players, coaches and spectators who are under suspension by any netball tribunal are not eligible to participate or spectate the competition.

c. Teams who play suspended players or coaches will be considered a forfeit and not be awarded any championship points and have a 0-10 result applied.

d. Refer to Appendix 1 for the investigation process.

## 19. Penalties

a. South East Leisure do not tolerate inappropriate behaviour for competitions.
b. Any player who is acting inappropriately can be sent off the court for a period of 5 minutes.
c. Players who have been sent off can only return once advised by the umpire.
d. Any player that is ejected/disqualified out of the game is required to leave the court area, or in severe circumstances leave the venue.

## 20. Behaviour Standards

a. All those attending the venue are required to abide by the venue conditions of entry and code of behaviour. South East Leisure reserve the right to expel patrons from the venue and/or where deemed appropriate, apply a ban from the venue.
b. Those under the influence of alcohol/drugs or attempt to bring alcohol/drugs into the venue, will be refused entry or asked to leave.
c. Patrons who cause damage to the venue are required to pay for the cost of repair, as determined by South East Leisure.
d. South East Leisure reserves the right to remove players and/or teams from the competition at any stage or not allow the entry of individuals or teams.
e. Any act which causes damage to any part of the venue carries a minimum 2-week suspension. Person/s caught will be evicted from the venue immediately.
f. The venue is to be treated with respect at all times, including but not limited to placing rubbish in bins.
g. Individuals are responsible for personal belongings; the venue holds no responsibility whatsoever.

## 21. Spectators / Team Followers

a. Any spectator entering the venue is subject to the same rules and restrictions, terms and conditions of entry and code of behaviour as players and coaches.
b. Any spectator who abuses, disputes the umpire decisions or behaves in any way which the umpire believes is disruptive or has a negative impact on an official, player or another patron; shall be reported to South East Leisure management. Punishment for such offences can be as serious as being banned from the venue.
c. Alcohol is prohibited from being brought into Springers Leisure Centre.
d. Smoking and vaping is prohibited in/or around Springers Leisure Centre.
e. Photos and videos of teams, players and spectators is prohibited unless approved of by venue staff and/or participating teams. Out of respect of players and teams, permission must be sought prior to filming or taking photos.

## 22. Protests

a. Any team wishing to lodge a protest in respect to any game must verbally inform the umpire of the intention to lodge a protest. The protest must be made in writing to competitions@southeastleisure.com.au no later than 3 days after the game concluded. Protests will be reviewed by South East Leisure management and the team notified of the outcome.

## 23. Miscellaneous

a. South East Leisure will make the necessary ruling on any matter which isn't specifically covered within these competition by-laws.

b. South East Leisure reserves the right to impose penalties and/or restrictions as deemed appropriate for any breach of by-Laws or actions. These decisions will be made in the best interests of the game, competitions, safety and enjoyment of those accessing Springers Leisure Centre.

c. South East Leisure reserves the right to adjust these by-laws at any time and adjudicate in the best interests of the competition to ensure quality, safety and enjoyment of participants.

## Appendix 1 – Investigation Process

When an incident occurs, involving a player, coach, official or spectator, the following process will take place. Players, coaches, officials and spectators of the competition must participate in the investigation process when requested to do so.

**Incident**

When an incident occurs, South East Leisure can be made aware through a number of avenues. Where possible people involved or witnessing the incident will be asked to provide details in writing. Methods which South East Leisure may be made aware of an incident include the following:

- Incident is reported and documented in writing
- Staff are made aware of an incident which has occurred
- Observation made by staff member and incident report completed

**Investigation**

Where an incident has occurred or allegedly occurred, South East Leisure will review any information available, this may include the following:

- Review statements from those involved or who witnessed the incident
- Make contact with additional people who witnessed the incident
- Obtain information from officials
- Review CCTV footage
- Hold meetings with those involved and/or who witnessed the incident

**Outcome**

At the conclusion of the investigation process, South East Leisure will make a determination and this decision will be final. Outcomes will vary depending on the nature of the incident but may include:

- Warnings
- Suspension
- Expulsion from the competition
- Fines

## Appendix 2 – Heat Guidelines

A variety of methods may be implemented during extreme weather conditions. South East Leisure will make a determination on when the heat guidelines are implemented and advise players prior to the commencement of the game.

Temperature checks will be completed by the venue and at all times, this temperature is the official temperature decisions will be based on.

**Stage 1**

The following may be implemented when temperatures reach 33°C.

- 45 Minute Schedule
  - Quarters are reduced to 4 x 8-minutes
  - 4-minute half time interval
  - 1-minute interval between the 1st/2nd quarters and the 3rd/4th quarters
- 50 Minute Schedule
  - Quarters are reduced to 4 x 8-minutes
  - 4-minute half time interval
  - 2-minute interval between the 1st/2nd quarters and the 3rd/4th quarters

**Stage 2**

The following may be implemented when temperatures reach 35°C.

- 45 Minute Schedule
  - Quarters are reduced to 4 x 7-minutes
  - 4-minute half time interval
  - 2-minute interval between the 1st/2nd quarters and the 3rd/4th quarters
- 50 Minute Schedule
  - Quarters are reduced to 4 x 7-minutes
  - 5-minute half time interval
  - 2-minute interval between the 1st/2nd quarters and the 3rd/4th quarters

**Stage 3**

The following may be implemented when temperatures reach 38°C.

- South East Leisure staff will make the determination if games need to be cancelled
- Games abandoned before it commences or before or at half time are considered a 0-0 draw
- Games abandoned after half time, are consider complete and the score stands as a final result