

By law 1 – Committee of Netball Management

(a) A Committee of Netball Management consists of

- (i)** Board Member – Senior Netball Portfolio
- (ii)** Board Member – Junior Netball Portfolio
- (iii)** Board Member – Netball Portfolio
- (iv)** RDFNL Netball Manager
- (v)** RDFNL CEO
- (vi)** Any other member (general committee) as appointed by the RDFNL Board.

(b) The Committee of Management will impose the prescribed penalty to any member that fails to adhere to these by- laws, Netball Victoria policies or any other Association policies and guidelines.

By law 2 – Meetings

(a) A meeting of club netball co-ordinators will be held when deemed necessary by the Netball Committee of Management.

(b) A minimum of three meetings to be held each financial year pending Covid Restrictions.

(c) All Clubs must be represented by at least one representative at all Netball Meetings.

Penalty for non attendance: \$75.

By law 3 - Correspondence

(a) All correspondence must be in writing from the Netball Co-ordinator, Club President or Club Secretary to the RDFNL Netball Manager.

(b) All correspondence from the League will be addressed to the Netball Co-ordinator and Club President unless otherwise specified by the club.

(c) The League shall provide the following information in writing to all Clubs prior to the start of the season:

- (i)** League Contact Details
- (ii)** League venue address
- (iii)** League By-Laws
- (iv)** Fixtures
- (v)** League calendar of events
- (vi)** Details of courses and seminars.

(d) Clubs shall provide the following information to the RDFNL Netball Manager by 31st of January each year:

- (i) Contact Details
- (ii) Coach Details.

(e) Clubs shall be responsible to update these details with the RDFNL Netball Manager if any changes are made during the year.

By law 4- Finance

Part (i) Affiliation Fees

(a) The RDFNL Board of Management shall set fees for the Riddell District Football Netball League.

(b) Any club un-financial shall be dealt with by the RDFNL Board of Management as per the Statement of Rules and the Football By-Laws in place at the time.

Part (ii) Financial Management

(a) All financial matters will be handled by the Riddell District Football Netball League.

Part (iii) Reimbursement/Payments

(a) The Committee of Netball Management shall be entitled to claim approved expenses incurred whilst acting in an official capacity. Receipts must be produced. All claims shall be submitted to the RDFNL Board of Management.

By law 5 – Club Registration / Nomination of Teams

(a) The following fines, up to the amount but not exceeding the amount, will apply to teams who fail to affiliate at the start of the season.

A Grade Netball: \$2500

19 & Under Netball: \$1500

B Grade Netball: \$2000

Any Junior Netball grade: relevant affiliation fee

C Grade Netball: \$1500

(b) Under exceptional circumstances the RDFNL board may consider an offending club's appeal towards the sanctions set in part (a). Offending clubs need to show cause why the fine and penalties set in part (a) should not apply.

By law 6 – Netball Victoria Membership

All players, coaches and umpires must be registered through the Netball Connect system by the individual through each club's specific Netball Connect gateway.

All netball club officials must also be Netball Victoria registered prior to undertaking their roles with their RDFNL Club. Single game vouchers (SGV) are also available through the RDFNL netball portal.

By law 7– Age Requirements

- (a)** Minimum age requirement for the senior competition is turning 15 years by the December 31 'of the current year'.
- (b)** 19&Under: Player must be 19 or younger as of 31st December 'of the current year'. Therefore, players cannot turn 20 this year. This is a female only competition.
- (c)** 17&Under: Player must be 17 or younger as of 31st December 'of the current year'. Therefore, players cannot turn 18 this year. This is a female only competition.
- (d)** 15&Under: Player must be 15 or younger as of 31st December 'of the current year'. Therefore, players cannot turn 16 this year. This is a female only competition.
- (e)** 13&Under: Player must be 13 or younger as of 31st December 'of the current year'. Therefore, players cannot turn 14 this year. This competition is open to both girls and boys.
- (f)** 11&Under: Player must be 11 or younger as of 31st December 'of the current year'. Therefore, players cannot turn 12 this year. This competition is open to both girls and boys.
- (g)** The minimum age for 11&U is 9 years old at the commencement of the said season.
- (h)** Special age exemptions will be considered to assist with junior numbers, these must be submitted in writing to the RDFNL Netball Manager and RDFNL Netball Directors for approval.
- (i)** The RDFNL senior netball competition is a female only competition.
- (j)** The RDFNL Junior Netball competition is as a modified female competition and will allow boys to participate according to the following guidelines;
 - 11&U Competition – Eligible boys will be permitted to play in this age group.
 - 13&U Competition – Eligible boys will be permitted to play in this age group.
 - Males that turn 13 during the season will be permitted to participate for the duration of that season. If he is 13 by the first day of the season, the male will not be permitted to play that season.

By law 8 - Venues

- (a)** Each Club must play their home matches within the confines of, or as close as possible to the ground where their Football Club is playing.
- (b)** Each home Club will be responsible for providing a court in fit condition, which must be approved by Netball Victoria & the Riddell District Football Netball league.
- (c)** All Club courts are to be situated outdoors, as the RDFNL is an outdoor competition, unless approved by the Netball Committee of Management.

By law 9 – Competition structure

- (a)** Number of grades available is to be determined by the Netball Board of Management.
- (b)** Please refer to Football By-law 35.
- (c)** Any Senior club who cannot field teams in all grades **MUST** field an A Grade team. A and B grade must be filled before C grade.
- (d)** The Netball Committee of Management will be the sole adjudicator of all grading decisions.
- (e)** The first three round of competition will be graded with no premiership points recorded. The board of management will then decide which teams make up division one and division 2.
- (f)** Each Junior club is required to enter one (1) team in each age group. If a club wishes to enter two teams in an age group, they must seek approval from the RDFNL Netball Manager.

By law 10 – Dress Code

- (a)** Each Club must register its uniform with the Netball Committee of Management.
- (b)** The Netball Committee Management must approve all uniform colours, designs and styles. Position bibs shall be worn by all players. Letters must be 15cm high and worn front and back, above the waist of players.
- (c)** Clubs must notify the RDFNL Netball Manager in writing of any proposed changes to their uniform.
 - (i)** The Netball Committee of Management shall recommend changes to the RDFNL Board of Management.
 - (ii)** The RDFNL Board of Management shall have the sole right to approve or decline any changes to playing uniforms, after receiving a recommendation from the Netball Committee of Management.
- (d)** All clubs should have a set of clash bibs. It is the away team's responsibility to change bibs in the event of a clash.
- (e)** The League uniform is Navy/Red dress and white socks.
- (f)** Players will not be permitted to take the court unless they are in full uniform. If uniforms are not ready, approval must be sought and given by the Netball Committee of Management.
- (g)** Extracurricular uniform/attire notes:
 - (i)** Long nails are to be taped with appropriate netball tape in the following manner; one (1) piece of tape is to fully cover the top of the nail and one (1) piece of tape around the nail.
 - (ii)** Gloves are only permitted to be worn if accompanied by a current medical certificate. This certificate needs to be sighted by the match

Umpire before the player takes the court. Only plain cotton gloves with no metal clips, sharp adornments, velcro, rubber spikes or any other covering to enhance the catching of the ball shall be allowed to be worn.

(iii) No jewellery is to be worn.

(iv) Body piercing (ears, nose & eyebrow) must be removed, unless approved by the RDFNL Netball Committee of Management and accompanied by a medical certificate prior to game day.

(v) Taping, appropriate sports tape is to be used (no band-aids).

TONGUE PIERCINGS MUST BE REMOVED.

(vi) No adornment that may endanger player safety shall be worn.

(vii) Elastic headbands are acceptable during play. Plastic headbands must not be worn during matches.

(viii) Sponsors logos are not permitted on bibs, the exception being for the official RDFNL major netball sponsor - WorkSafe.

(ix) Socks must be white, black or club colours with the club logo (if preferred) and must be purchased through the RDFNL approved supplier. All team members must wear the same socks.

(x) Bike pants or boy legged briefs can be worn but shall be no longer than the dress when a player is standing upright.

(xi) In the event of extreme weather, long sleeved tops can be worn underneath the uniform. It must be similar colour to the uniform. For the 11 & under and 13 & Under competition, players may wear black leggings underneath the uniform.

By law 11 - Clearances

(a) A Clearance is required if a player wishes to transfer to another RDFNL Club during the current home and away season if they have played in the RDFNL in the previous year.

(b) No player will be granted more than one (1) clearance per season within the same league.

(c) A clearance is not required if transferring to another club within the RDFNL after three years away from the league.

(d) A clearance will not be granted after the 9th round in an 18-week season for the senior competition.

A clearance will not be granted after the 7th round in a 14-week season.

(e) Players who owe outstanding playing fees, are under contract or are in possession of club property will not be granted a clearance.

(f) Each club must process a clearance through the RDFNL Board of Management.

(g) The existing Club has seven (7) days to approve or deny the clearance. If the club fails to deny the clearance within 7 days, the league will automatically clear the player to the new club.

- (h)** All clearance notifications will be generated and sent via the RDFNL to relevant people.
- (i)** A clearance form is not required to the league before processing the clearance. If the league does request the clearance form, it must be received and signed by the player or parent/guardian (if under 18 years) within 24 hours of the request.
- (j)** If the Club refuses to clear the player (refer: conditions of clearance), the League will write to the player advising the reason why and forward a copy to both clubs. Any dispute arising from clearance restrictions will be dealt with according to the Grievance Procedure outlined by Netball Victoria.
- (k)** Penalty for playing without clearance: \$75 and loss of any competition points for the match(es) the player played in.

By law 12 – Conduct of Matches

(a) Game rules shall be those of Netball Australia, except:

(i) Timing - Refer part (c)

(b) The Board of Management shall determine a fixture and any changes thereof for the competition inclusive of the starting times, venues and days of play for all matches.

(c) Other than where prior arrangements have been made by the Board, games shall commence at the following times and shall consist of four quarters:

GRADE	START TIME	QUARTER LENGTH	BREAK TIMES
A Grade	1.15pm	4 x 15 mins	3 – 5 – 3
B Grade	12.00pm	4 x 12 minutes	2 – 4 – 2
C Grade	11.00am	4 x 10 minutes	2 – 3 – 2
19 & Under	10.00am	4 x 10 minutes	2 – 3 – 2
17 & Under	1.00pm	4 x 10 minutes	2 – 3 – 2
15 & Under	12.00pm	4 x 10 minutes	2 – 3 – 2
13 & Under	11.00am	4 x 10 minutes	2 – 3 – 2
11 & Under	10.00am	4 x 10 minutes	2 – 3 – 2

- (i)** The above times may be varied by the RDFNL Operations Staff.
- (ii)** Teams are to change ends at each quarter time break.
- (iii)** The Board of Management may vary the starting times and match conditions in finals.
- (iv)** If a club wishes to alter the starting time of a match during the Home and Away season then the club must notify the RDFNL Netball Manager and opposing club's netball delegate and coach five days prior to the match starting time. All changes must be approved by the League.

(v) A Netball Australia Game Day/Training Checklist must be completed via the Safe Netball app before the commencement of the first game of the day.

(d) Late Start

(i) All clubs are to be in position and ready to start at the time set by the League or the mutually agreed, prearranged time.

(ii) Team requires a minimum of 5 players for play to commence.

(iii) Late arrivals may join at goal intervals, quarter time break or injury time.

(iv) Once Umpires, Scorers, Time keepers and one team are in position and scheduled start time has passed the following action may be taken.

(v) If a team does not take the court at the required time - the clock shall commence. The Umpires shall instruct the scorer to award a 5 (five) goal penalty to the non-offending team. If the offending team still does not take the court within a further 30 seconds the game will be awarded to the non-offending team.

**Penalty: 4 Premiership points to non-offending team no changes to %.
Fine \$50.00 to offending team.**

(vi) However, all due consideration must be given when a change of venue has occurred. When a delay has occurred due to circumstances beyond anyone's control both delegates are to arrange a start time within 10 minutes of the scheduled start time.

(vii) If a club wishes to alter the starting time of a match during the Home and Away season then the club must notify the RDFNL Netball Manager and opposing club's netball Delegate and Coach five days prior to the match starting time. All changes must be approved by the League. Written consent from both clubs required before time change is considered.

(e) Injury/Illness/Blood Policy

(i) The umpires hold time for blood when noticed or for injury/illness when requested by an on-court player (in extreme circumstances the umpires may hold time without a request being made).

(ii) The player concerned **MUST** leave the court within 30 seconds and receive any treatment off the court. The time keepers advise the umpires when 10 seconds remain.

(iii) Only primary care person/s are permitted on the court to assess the player's medical condition and to assist the player from the court.

- (iv) In the event the primary care person/s advise the umpires that the player concerned cannot be removed safely within 30 seconds, the umpires will extend the time for the player to leave the court.
- (v) The umpires may authorise other persons (including team officials) to assist the player to leave the court if needed.
- (vi) Any blood on the ball or the court must be cleaned before play restarts and any blood-stained clothing replaced.
- (vii) During the stoppage both teams may make substitutions and/or team changes, provided these are completed within the time allowed for the stoppage by the umpires.
- (viii) If no substitution is made for the injured/ill player, or for a player who is bleeding, play may resume with the position left vacant. If the player is the centre and no substitution is made, one player must move to play as centre to allow the match to continue.
- (ix) If the position is left vacant the player concerned or a substitute may subsequently, after advising the umpire, take the court immediately after one of the following:
- (1) A goal has been scored (in this case the player or the substitute must play in the position left vacant).
- Penalty:** *Free pass where ball was when play stopped – the player is sent from the court until the correct time for entry.*
- (2) A stoppage for injury/illness or blood.
 - (3) An interval.

By law 13 – Scoring/Team Sheets

- (a) All teams must provide their own scorers for all matches. Scorers must sit together at the section provided at the court. Scorers must be fifteen (15) years of age or older except in the case of an eligible registered senior player who may not yet have turned fifteen (15). One team member must stand down if the team has no scorer.
- (b) The home club shall be required to supply all the necessary paperwork for the match including printing off of the scoresheet from the My Netball database management system. Clubs will be provided with all required paperwork by the League prior to the season.
- (c) One official Scoresheet will be used for each match. This scoresheet must list the complete and full names (both Given and Surname) of all players intending to take court. This scoresheet shall also indicate the positions played each quarter and the match score.
- (d) A team may have up to 12 players on a team sheet.
- (e) The first named team is responsible to return the scoresheet, and all relevant paperwork to the League.

Required paperwork include:

- Scoresheet

- Vote Cards
- Umpire report sheet

(f) A club official may add players to the team sheet at any time up until the commencement of the third quarter.

(g) At the game conclusion, to indicate their satisfaction that the information on the official scoresheet is correct, the official scoresheet is to be signed by;

(i) The captains of both competing teams, and

(ii) The scorers

(iii) The officiating umpires only sign the score sheet to state they have officiated that game.

(h) If a scorer, team or club believes the score sheet is incorrect, they must not sign it and follow the grievance procedures to protest.

(i) A team wishing to protest must: -

(1) Not sign the Official Scoresheet and notify the Committee of the intention to protest.

(2) Lodge the protest in writing with the RDFNL Netball Manager within 48 hours of the game being played.

(j) The RDFNL Netball Manager will advise the result of the protest and this decision shall be final.

By law 14 - Scoreboards

(a) All clubs are required to supply a working scoreboard for each RDFNL match.

(b) The home club is to ensure that the scoreboard is being operated by a suitable club member and must ensure that the score is kept up to date always.

(c) A fine of \$50 shall apply for clubs who fail to supply a scoreboard or fail to have it operated to a suitable standard.

By law 15 – Match Results, Competition Scores and Ladders

(a) Notification of results shall follow the below process:

(i) All results of the days play must be entered into the Netball Connect on-line results system by 6:00pm on the day of the match. The details required to be entered shall be decided by the Netball Committee of Management and communicated to clubs before the commencement of the season. It shall include, but not limited to, the final scores, goal shooters and best players. If the scores are entered incorrectly the objecting team is to notify the RDFNL Netball Manager. Clubs who enter

incorrect results repeatedly may be penalised at the Netball Committee of Managements discretion.

Penalty: Clubs who enter incorrect results repeatedly may be penalised at the Netball Committee of Managements discretion and will require further compulsory Netball Connect training.

(b) Grades where teams do not play in an even number of games shall refer to match ratio ladder.

(c) The competition scores and ladders shall be displayed on the League website via the Netball Connect competition database.

By law 16 – Player Qualification - Seniors

(a) All other eligibility criteria and player registration rules and by-laws must be followed.

(b) Players may play a maximum of 2 matches per round, during the home and away season with their club in any grade, subject to part (e).

(c) A player who has played more than one match in a round in a day shall only have their higher match recorded as match played when determining finals eligibility. The second match will not count when determining finals eligibility. A 19 & Under player will have the underage and the senior grade match recorded as qualification matches for both age group/grade.

(d) Any team may list up to 12 players in any one match, and there will be no limit on the number of substitutions made.

(e) Any player who has played six (6) matches in a higher grade, cannot play in a lower grade for the remainder of the season (except 19 & Under players refer to 16(c)).

If a player is found to have played a game in lower grade after they have already played 6 games in higher grade, they will lose premiership points for that round and the club will be fined \$100.00.

(f) Players must take the court in the match for it to be counted as a qualifying game. Players who remain on the interchange bench shall not have the match recorded as a qualifying game.

(g) Players in all grades must play at least four (4) matches in that season in one grade/age group to be eligible to participate in that grade's final series.

(h) A player can only play in one (1) finals match on the same weekend except for players in the 19 & Under competition who can play in two (2) matches maximum on

the same weekend, as long as they have met the qualification requirements as stated in 16 (g).

(i) Any player that has played in a higher level than A Grade, e.g. Suncorp Super Netball Competition, Australian Netball League or the Victorian Netball League within the past 12 months will only be permitted to play no lower than A Grade in the RDFNL competition, except if they are a 19 & under player, who are eligible to play in any grade.

By law 17– Player Qualifications – Junior Competition

(a) All other eligibility criteria and player registration rules and by-laws must be followed.

(b) Players may play a maximum of 2 matches per round, during the home and away season with their club in any grade.

(c) A player who has played more than one match in a round in a day will have both matches recorded as matches played when determining finals eligibility.

(d) Any team may list up to 12 players in any one match, and there will be no limit on the number of substitutions made.

(e) Players named on the team sheet must have taken the court at some stage for the match to register as a game played

(f) Players in all grades must play at least four (4) matches in that season in one grade to be eligible to participate in that grade’s final series, subject to all other criteria as per these by-laws.

(i) A player can only play in two (2) finals match on the same weekend.

By law 18 - Finals

(a) The Board of Management shall select the venues for each final in conjunction with the football competition finals.

(b) At the conclusion of the home and away matches the finals series shall be decided in the following manner:

Final Five System

Match A	Elimination Semi Final (Premiership ladder position 4 v 5)
Match B	Qualifying Semi Final (Premiership ladder position 2 v 3)
Match C	First Semi Final – (Loser match B v Winner Match A)
Match D	Second Semi Final – (Minor Premier v Winner Match B)
Match E	Preliminary Final – (Loser Match D v Winner Match C)
Match F	Grand Final – (Winner Match D v Winner Match E)

The Board shall decide at the beginning of each season as to the number of teams to contest the finals series.

Junior finals will follow a McIntyre Four System

McIntyre Final Four System				
Match A	1st Qualifying Final	Rank 1	V	Rank 2
Match B	1st Elimination Final	Rank 3	V	Rank 4
Match C	Preliminary Final	Loser A	V	Winner B
Match D	Grand Final	Winner A	V	Winner C

(c) Rule 17 shall apply when determining player eligibility for finals.

(d) Teams found playing an ineligible player during finals will be considered to have lost that match.

(e) Matches shall be conducted for finals as per home and away rounds. The starting time for finals matches may alter slightly to home and away match times and shall be set by the Board of Management.

(f) Drawn Finals:

(i) There is a four (4) minute time allowance to enable teams to change ends and scores will be verified on the official scoresheet.

(ii) Positional changes and substitutions may be made during changeover time.

(iii) The extra time is as follows:

GRADE	EXTRA TIME
A Grade	2 x 7 Minutes
B Grade	2 x 6 Minutes
C Grade & 19&U	2 x 5 Minutes
17&U, 15&U and 13&U Grades	2 x 5 Minutes

(iv) At the end of the first half there will be one (1) minute interval where substitutions again can be made. Teams change ends to begin the second half.

(v) Should there still be a draw at the end of the second half of extra time. Play continues until one team has a 2 (two) goal advantage.

(vi) During extra time, normal injury or illness procedures shall apply as per rule 9.3 of the Rule Book.

By law 19 – Forfeits/Cancellation

(a) If a game is cancelled before the match begins due to weather conditions, points shall be shared between the two competing sides. If a match is stopped after ½ time due to weather conditions, the scores will be recorded from the point at when the match was stopped. A Riddell District Football Netball League Official is to be contacted where possible, when a decision on whether the game shall continue or

not due to adverse weather conditions is to be made. If a Riddell District Football Netball League Official can't be contacted the match must continue.

(b) If a team wishes to forfeit, they must notify the RDFNL Netball Manager, opposing team, and umpires, at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled starting time. The following fines for a forfeit will apply for the following grades:

A Grade Netball - \$1000.

B Grade Netball - \$750.

C Grade Netball - \$500

19 & Under Netball - \$100.

17 & UNDER Netball - \$100.

15 & UNDER Netball - \$100.

13 & UNDER Netball - \$100.

11 & UNDER Netball - \$100.

(c) If a team forfeits and fails to notify authorities an additional \$100 fine per team, plus all umpire costs will be imposed.

(d) A team may submit a team sheet on the day of a scheduled game in the case where the opposing registered team forfeits. A team can name a maximum of 12 players on a score sheet where a forfeit applies which will count as a game played for all listed players when determining finals eligibility.

By law 20– Protests/Appeals

Part (i) Protests

(a) A Team wishes to protest must:

(i) Not, sign the official scoresheet and notify the committee of the intention to protest.

(ii) Lodge the protest in writing with the RDFNL Netball Manager within 72 hours of the match being played.

(iii) Lodge a \$500 bond with the RDFNL within 72 hours of the match being played which may be forfeited if the appeal is considered frivolous by the RDFNL Board.

(iv) If the complaint is considered severe enough, it may be referred directly to the hearing officer.

Part (ii) Appeals

(a) A Club shall have a right of appeal

(i) Lodge the protest in writing with the RDFNL Netball Manager within 72 hours of the match being played or notification of the outcome of a protest.

(ii) Lodge a \$500 bond with the RDFNL within 72 hours of the match being played which may be forfeited if the appeal is considered frivolous by the RDFNL Board.

(iii) The Board of Management shall hear the appeal.

(iv) If the case is heard by the hearing officer then, under the RDFNL regulations, the outcome cannot be appealed.

By law 21 – Selection of Representative Teams

The RDFNL will appoint a 17 & under, 15 & under and 13 & under coach on a minimum term of one year for all representative games involving the RDFNL.

Please Note: Players must play for a RDFNL club to be eligible for representative teams.

(a) The RDFNL Netball Directors, in conjunction with the RDFNL Netball Manager will organise the representative squad selection trials if required.

(b) Selection trials will be conducted under the following circumstances:

(i) All players who have submitted a player registration form, shall be informed of the date, time and place where selections will be held.

(ii) A minimum of three selectors must be appointed for each team and shall be made up of the team coach and two other selectors.

(iii) Selectors may be appointed to more than one panel.

(c) Selected teams will be published on the RDFNL website/Facebook page within seven (7) days of the final selection trial.

(d) The selector's decision shall be final.

By law 22 – Team Officials

The match officials are Umpires, Scorers and Timekeepers. The Team officials are Coach, Assistant Coach, Manager, and up to three (3) other personnel, one of whom must be a Primary Care Person who is qualified to diagnose and treat injured or ill players.

(a) All coaches, team managers and umpires must have a Current Netball Victoria registration and be registered with the RDFNL.

(b) In addition, the maximum of five players not on court at start of play, shall constitute the Team Bench.

(c) Team Officials and Bench players **MUST NOT** engage in any inappropriate comments or any form of inappropriate behaviour; including moving up and down the side lines or along the goal lines, during play.

(d) Club Coaches and Team Officials must stay in the designated bench area

during all Home and Away and Finals matches.

- (e) **The appointed specified Coach is the only member of the club that can Coach on Match Day.**
- (f) All coaches must have the minimum Foundation level coaching qualification by Round 3 of the season.

By law 23 - Working with Children Check

(a) This check replaces the police check and is free for volunteers. This is applicable to all persons working with Juniors up to the age of 18. It is mandatory for all coaches and volunteers to obtain this check.

By law 24 – Media

(a) Record

(i) All clubs shall submit netball team lists to the Netball Manager or authorised person for publication in the record by the required deadline as set down by the League.

(ii) All clubs will be required to be part of any media program as required by the league.

(iii) Any club not complying with the above shall incur penalties as determined by the Netball Executive Committee.

(b) Media Policy

Refer Riddell District Football Netball League “Media Policy”.

(c) Social Media

Refer Riddell District Football Netball League “Social Media Policy”.

By law 25 - Accreditation

(a) The League shall ensure that all officials have current appropriate minimum qualifications.

(i) For Coaches: “Foundation – Entry Level” coach accreditation.

(ii) For Umpires: As per Rule 28 of these by-laws.

(b) The League will not appoint any person to an official position unless that person to be appointed has achieved the minimum standard qualification/accreditation.

By law 26 – Umpires

(a) Umpires must be registered with Netball Victoria and, at a minimum complete the Rules of Netball Online Theory exam and complete the online Foundation Umpires course.

(b) Umpires must have attained the Level of a C grade badge within any Association under the administration of Netball Australia to be eligible to umpire in either A or B Grade.

(c) To be eligible to umpire a C grade and 19 & under, & any junior grade the umpire must have

(i) Completed the Rule of Netball Theory examination during the current season and obtain a pass mark of 70% AND complete the online Foundation umpires course.

(ii) In the event of a pass mark not being achieved, that umpire must sit the exam again within two weeks and pass.

(iii) Failure to sit the Umpires theory exam and pass, when required, the club is fined \$100 for every match umpired in that season.

(d) Each Umpire must supply the RDFNL Netball Manager with proof of accreditation prior to officiating their first game.

(e) A panel of badged umpires will be named by the RDFNL Netball Manager for all A and B grade matches.

(f) Each club to supply one umpire for the C grade and 19 & Under games & all junior grades. Umpire not provided, and no alternative arranged:

Penalty - Fine \$50.00

(g) Umpires on Competition Panels may not officiate:

(i) A Division in which they are a Coach, Player or Official.

(ii) A match involving a Club in which they are a Coach, Player or Official.

(h) Payment procedure shall be determined by RDFNL and shall be advised to clubs.

(i) Umpire Uniform Requirements:

(i) All female umpires must wear the Netball Victoria approved Umpires Shirt and a white skirt/shorts or a RDFNL approved umpiring skirt/shorts. Suitable shoes shall be worn.

(ii) All male umpires must wear the Netball Victoria approved Umpires Shirt and shorts distinct from those of the players and predominately white in colour. Suitable shoes shall be worn.

(iii) Track pants, compression pants and ¾ pants are NOT PERMITTED unless approved by the RDFNL Netball Manager.

By law 25 - Awards

(a) Presentation of all awards shall be made at the RDFNL Presentation Night.

(b) Recognition of achievements shall be made at the RDFNL Presentation Night.

(c) The Board shall arrange for best and fairest medals/trophies to be struck each year for each grade of competition.

(i) The A Grade Medal shall be known as "The Ryan Medal".

(ii) Runners Up Trophy for each section

(d) Voting for Best & Fairest shall be as follows:

(i) The match Umpires shall award votes for the best and fairest three players in each game. Voting shall be 3 votes for the best player, 2 votes for the second-best player and 1 vote for the third best player.

(ii) Votes shall be placed in the envelope provided and attached to the scoresheet.

(iii) In the event of a tie, two (or more) awards shall be presented.

(e) Team of the Year (seniors only) will be voted on by A grade coaches using a system sent out by the RDFNL Netball Manager. Clubs can not vote for players from their own club.

(f) Player of the Year/MVP (seniors only) will be awarded to the player who receives the most Team of the Year nominations from A Grade coaches.

(g) Rising Star (seniors only) will be awarded to the player who receives the most votes in the team of the year nominations while being under the age of 21.

By law 26 – Presentation Night

(a) At the conclusion of the home and away season for both the senior and junior competition Presentation Night will be held. The evening for the senior competition shall be called the Bowen & Ryan Medal Night.

(b) The dates and format shall be determined annually by the Board of Management of the Riddell District Football Netball League.

By law 27– Mediation & Grievance

(a) As per RDFNL Policies.

By law 28 – Disciplinary Procedures

Part (i) Interfering with League Officials

Any person from an RDFNL club who is seen to interfere with a league official shall be referred to the RDFNL board or independent tribunal.

Part (ii) Bringing the Game into Disrepute

Any person from an RDFNL club who is seen to bring the game into disrepute shall be referred to the RDFNL board or independent tribunal.

Part (iii) Discipline of a Member

The netball committee of management shall refer a dispute regarding the discipline of a member direct to the RDFNL board or independent tribunal as they see fit.

By law 29– Special Circumstances/Provisions Clause

(a) The Netball Committee of Management may in reasonable discretion, in exceptional or extenuating circumstances, recommend altering, vary or waive the requirements set out in all By-Laws relating to the Netball Competition.

(b) All recommendations by the Netball Committee of Management shall be referred to the Board of Management.

(c) Any matter not covered in these by-laws shall be referred to the Board of Management.

By law 30 – Risk Management

(a) First Aid

(i) Clubs must have a first aid kit on standby for all RDFNL matches.

(ii) Primary carer must hold a current/valid first aid certificate.

(iii) Clubs who fail to have a first aid kit on standby for all matches will be fined \$100.

(b) Netball Australia Court Facility Audit

All clubs must submit a Netball Australia Court Facility Audit to Netball Victoria to have the court approved for play.

(c) Pregnancy

As per RDFNL Pregnancy Policy.

(d) Weather

(i) Heat - Player safety is always the first priority; it is a preference that games are not conducted when the forecast temperature is expected to reach 36 degrees.

(ii) Inclement Weather - Home and away Games:

(1) Play cannot commence if the court: has been considered unsafe due to -weather conditions, as per the Game Day checklist. PLAYER SAFETY IS TO REMAIN THE PRIMARY CONCERN AT ALL TIMES,

(2) When it is agreed by both captains that it is unsafe for play to commence, 2 premiership points will be awarded to both teams with no change to ladder percentage.

(3) Team sheets are to be completed in full, with the complete details of those intending to play, this game will count towards a player's games tally in relation to finals qualifications. All players must be present, in the approved uniform and sighted by the umpire. A player's name cannot appear on the sheet if she is not present at the scheduled start time.

(4) Team Sheets are to be signed by both Captains and Umpires and marked "washout ", then forwarded to the RDFNL Netball Manager as normal.

(5) The result sheet is also to be completed and marked "washout" and forwarded to the RDFNL Office as per match day procedures.

(6) If play has commenced and the weather changes the condition of the playing surface, the following is to occur:

- If play is halted at or before half-time - Captains may choose to delay the start (or resumption) of play or take a temporary break in play for a period not exceeding ten (10) minutes, to assess if a change in weather conditions is likely. The game is to be considered a washout and 2 premiership points will be awarded to both teams and no change will occur to the overall percentage if play cannot commence at an agreed start time.
- If play is halted after the start of the third quarter - Captains also have the option of delaying the start or taking a break in play for a period not exceeding ten (10) minutes, to assess if a change in weather conditions is likely. If play is not able to resume, the game and 4 premiership points will be awarded to the team in the lead, as per the official score sheet, at the halt of play. This score line will stand in relation to the percentage points of the official association ladder. Team Sheets must be noted with the quarter and time remaining left in the game.

(iii) Cancelled Round: If more than half of the scheduled games per section are washed out. The whole round will be declared a washout. Two premiership points will be awarded to all participating teams -with no change to percentage points.

(e) Inclement Weather - Finals Games

- (i) Play is not to commence if the weather conditions are at an unacceptable level where the court surface is considered unsafe. The decision will be made by, the two captains, the two umpires and the RDFNL Finals Match Manager.
- (ii) If play is not able to commence within an acceptable timeframe on the day, the game will be rescheduled and played at a mutually agreed time and place.
- (iii) If play has commenced and weather conditions deteriorate during the course of the game making the court unsafe, the game is to stop on the umpire's whistle. The following options are available;
- (1) Wait for a reasonable time, which is not to exceed twenty (20) minutes, to restart and complete the remainder of the game.
- (2) The game will be re-scheduled for the following finals day at a time that allows all players a 45-minute break between the re-scheduled game and any subsequent final.

(f) Smokefree

As per Netball Victoria. This will include indoor venues and outdoor court surroundings.

(g) Responsible Serving of Alcohol in Sporting Clubs

As per Netball Victoria Responsible Serving of Alcohol Policy as prescribed by the Australian Drug Foundation's Good Sports Accreditation Program.

(h) Sun Protection

As per SunSmart policy as prescribed by the Cancer Council Victoria.

(i) Codes of Conduct

Codes of Conduct as prescribed in the Netball Victoria Member Protection Regulation.

(j) Drug Policy

As per Netball Victoria's policy.

COURT PREPARATION

- All courts must be prepared to a suitable playing standard well in advance of the scheduled start time.
- The Netball Australia Safe Netball checklist must be completed via the Safe Netball app before the start of the day's first game.

Penalty for non-completion: \$50 fine

EQUIPMENT

- All clubs are to keep all playing equipment at a suitable playing standard
- Approved Goal Post padding
- Goal Post nets

- RDFNL Score sheets for home games RDFNL Vote card
- Time Clock
- Approved Size 5 netball
- First Aid Kit
- Airhorn