

Lancefield Football Netball Club



Netball Team Selection Policy & Procedures	Approval Date:	
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PURPOSE

To provide a fair and unbiased selection process, which facilitates the selection of the best team of athletes to potentially achieve the best results when representing the Lancefield Football Netball Club in each netball division.

POLICY STATEMENT

Lancefield Football Netball Club (LFNC) is committed to endorsing a fair and unbiased selection process where all athletes receive an equal opportunity to be selected to participate in their chosen competition, provided they satisfy the necessary selection criteria as outlined.

PROCEDURES

1. Selection Panel

A panel of people deemed suitable to select will be presented for this purpose, comprising of:

- The appointed Coach of each team i.e. A, B C and U19 grade
- A minimum of one independent selector as pre-determined by the Committee following referrals from the Netball Coordinator. This person could be a familiar umpire or past player but failing an independent selector being available the task will be delegated to the Netball Coordinator.

See *LFNC Netball Selection Personnel Expectations*

2. Trials

Trials will be advertised at least six weeks prior to the first trial session. Players will be required to apply by a specific date using the netball registration form, giving, amongst other information, the Grade they are wanting to be considered for and listing their two preferred playing positions in order. This form will be made available online and advertised through the LFNC Website and Facebook Page as a minimum. This will form the basis for selection and every effort will be made to play a player in both their preferred positions during trials.

Communication regarding trials will be through the LFNC Website and Facebook Page to ensure all potential players have the opportunity to register and no bias is perceived.

Whilst there is no pre-requisite, players will be considered based on:

- The grade noted on the Player Registration form.
- Their preferred playing positions however the Selection Panel could recognise potential in an alternative position and / or grade which would be discussed with the player.
- Past performance as a player, supporter, and contributor to the LFNC.
- Current Level of skills and physical fitness with consideration to any current injuries and the prognosis.

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To enable suitable teams/squads to be selected, compulsory attendance is required at a minimum of one of the earlier trial sessions, and the third session prior to the commencement of training for the new season. Trials will be called and held over two (2) consecutive weekends towards the end of the year with a third trial session to be confirmed prior to the first training session of the new season.

The first 2 sessions of trials will consist of warm up, skills and drills and match play.

Any player unable to attend either of the first two trial sessions and / or the third session and still wanting to be considered is to contact the Netball Co-Ordinator prior to the session commencing and explain why they cannot attend. It is expected that these reasons will be extenuating i.e., out of the player's control e.g., work, study, medical emergency, family emergency and will only be accepted if all the Selection Panel agree. Supporting evidence for your excuse may be requested. Even if an injured player cannot participate it is expected that they will still be able to attend and regardless of the reason offered, this would not excuse all 3 sessions.

U19's players will be required to play in their division and may have an opportunity to play in either C, B, or A Division as the occasion arises e.g. an emergency

Players will be notified within 7 days of the second trial session whether they have been selected into the LFNF Netball Squad and the potential grade they are chosen in, with confirmation of the grade after the third session and prior to the first training session of the new season.

All players who attended trials will be contacted regarding their outcome. Once players are notified of their acceptance into the squad and their potential team, they will be required to sign the Netball Code of Conduct acknowledging the Netball Program Policies and Procedures as an indication they accept their appointment. They will also be required to complete the Player Registration form giving all pertinent information regarding medical conditions including allergies, ambulance membership, next of kin, etc. Coaches of each grade may then choose to communicate directly with their playing group.

Should any players not be selected they will be provided with constructive feedback to aid their development. Clear and timely communication shall be maintained throughout the selection process to keep players and parents/guardians informed of progress and outcomes.

To enable players to feel confident following their selection and to commence building team unity and cohesiveness, new players who express an interest in joining the squad will need to wait until the next trials to join the Club UNLESS:

- They are of proven exceptional skills in which case, they will join A Grade
- Numbers at the Trials were lower than the number of third trial date and the first training session, limiting the players ability to fulfill their position within a Grade, the following will occur prior to seeking other players to join:
 - Players in a lower Grade maybe asked to fill the position, in which they can decline.
 - Players who were unsuccessful during trials could fill a C Grade position.

Prior to this happening the Selection Panel will need to be consulted and a decision made, with approval from the LFNC Committee.

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3. Squad/Teams

Consistency and cohesion are considered the key factors in achieving success both on and off the court. Squad sizes will be reviewed on an annual basis, based on the requirements to attain strength, unity, and development of the entire playing group. For this to occur the following will apply:

- At this time there will be a maximum of 10 players per grade, however this is at the Coach of that grade's discretion.
- Teams will be named by the Coach from these players on a weekly basis following the final training session for that week. Selection will be contingent upon several factors not limited to training attendance, skill level, fitness, playing combinations within the team but also function attendance and Club commitment.
- Unless it is an emergency, there will be no player movement within grades on a weekly basis. If, at any time, it is deemed necessary for a player from another grade to go up or down for any particular week, it will be discussed and decided by the relevant coaches of the two teams involved and the chosen player, keeping in mind that the aim of the LFNC Netball is to furnish the strongest most cohesive teams on a weekly basis.
- Before naming the teams after training on Thursday nights, the Coaches and Netball Co-Ordinator will meet to discuss any player movement. Once agreed, teams can be named.

4. Playing Coach

A Coach can be considered for playing however the following conditions apply:

- A playing coach **must** trial.
- The Selection Panel will determine which grade that playing coach is participate in. This may not be the team that playing coach is coaching, at which time a discussion will ensue to determine if the playing coach is willing to play in that particular team, if the coach of that team is prepared to have a playing coach or if the coach would prefer to focus on coaching.
- It is at the coach's discretion of the team the playing coach has been selected in, as to how much court time is given to that playing coach due to training constraints, as
- During training a playing coach is to make coaching and developing their coaching team their priority
- Before a playing coach is used in a higher grade as a replacement player, consultation must be made with the Netball Co-Ordinator with the view to rewarding a player from a lesser grade before a playing coach.

5. Training

- The entire squad will train on Thursday evenings commencing with warm up, skills and drills and finishing with match play.
- Each Coach will have input into the total squad training portion of the session and then be given the opportunity to segregate their squad for skills and drills training before coming back together for match play.
- To be considered for selection that week all players are expected to attend training.
- If unable to attend training the player must contact their Coach directly prior to training commencing to explain why they cannot attend. It is expected that these reasons will be extenuating i.e., out of the player's control e.g., work, study, medical emergency, family emergency. It is at the Coach's discretion as to whether this excuse will be accepted.

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- If a player is currently playing at a higher level e.g., VNL competition and they train at the same time as LFNC Netball Squad that player is excused without breach of the LFNC Netball Policies and Procedures
- If a player is injured, it is expected they will attend training in a supporting role.
- All players and officials are encouraged to attend the LFNC Rooms or other locations such as the Lancefield Hotel, at the conclusion of training for team selection announcements.
- Extra training sessions may be called at the Coach's discretion for their squad after consultation with their respective players and providing there is court availability.

6. Load Management

Except for the Under 19 squad, it is considered the player's responsibility for their own fitness and in conjunction with this, their load management to avoid injury thereby affecting their position within the squad. If this is considered an issue the relevant Coach can choose to discuss this with the player but cannot force the player to not play in any other competition outside of the LFNC.

7. Player Exemption

- In conjunction with the competition rules, a player exemption should only be applied for as a last resort as all effort should be made to fulfil teams in accordance with the respective age group i.e. Under 19.
- If an exemption is applied for this player, they will become part of the core playing group.
- Approval to apply for a player exemption must be sought from the LFNC Committee prior to applying.

DOCUMENTS

LFNC Netball Selection Personnel Expectations
LFNC Netball Selection Process
LFNC Netball Policy and Procedures
RDFNL Pregnancy Policy