



Red Angels Netball Club Grading Guidelines

Aim

Red Angels Netball Club (Club) is committed to ensuring team grading is conducted fairly and effectively. The Club will make every attempt to undertake grading and team selection using the following guidelines.

Scope

Grading is the process of establishing the composition of our teams to compete in the Kingston and District Netball Association (KDNA) competition.

The aim of grading is to form teams that have a balanced group of players of similar ability levels across all playing positions. Grading will also be influenced by the number and ages of players registered with the Club each year - eg 16 registered players in a particular age group will form two (2) teams of 8 players each, whereas 18 registered players would mean two (2) teams of 9 players each.

Purpose

Netball is a graded, competitive sport from the age of 10 with representative opportunities (Netta is not graded). To ensure the best chance of success for all our teams and the greatest level of enjoyment and development for our players, it is necessary to grade players into teams with players of similar ability. Stronger players always enjoy the challenge of harder, faster competition and do not develop to their potential if graded to a lower team to be kept with a friend.

Similarly, players who are placed in teams above their ability will also not develop to their potential when being constantly overshadowed by more talented players around them. In such situations, these players can quickly become disheartened and lose self-esteem.

Players and parents should also be aware that success for a team one year does not always ensure they will remain together the following year. Due to the nature of change, new registrations and differing development rates of all players from season to season, player movement in and out of such teams may still occur.

Players and parents are urged to be objective and reasonable in their expectations, and to encourage their children to be happy in their chosen sport no matter what team they are ultimately placed in.

The Selection Committee

All grading is undertaken on behalf of the Club by our Selection Committee. The following people form the Selection Committee:

- the Executive Committee – President, Secretary, Treasurer and Registration Secretary
- the Coaches by them providing their coaches assessments at the end of each season
- independent assessors as nominated by the Executive Team – one for each playing group ie U11s, U13s, U15s and U17s

Grading Criteria

In assessing the overall skills of a player within an age group, the Selection Committee will take into account:

- a. Footwork
- b. Speed and Agility
- c. Ball Handling Skills
- d. Attacking Skills
- e. Defending Skills
- f. Perception/Cognition Skills
- g. Sportsmanship and Attitude

The Grading Process

Coach's Evaluation

At the end of the season, each coach is asked to provide a written evaluation of each player in their team. This evaluation covers areas such as skills, attendance at training and games, teamwork and attitude. All such reports will remain confidential and be viewed only by the Selection Committee and the Club's Executive.

Independent Player Assessments

During the season, Selection Committee members will attend various games and report their observations of player's skill levels back.

Formation of Teams

Prior to the commencement of each season the Selection Committee set aside a day to place all our players in teams. In order to form teams, the Selection Committee will take into consideration the Coaches' Evaluation, the Selection Committee's Evaluation and the number of players registered with the Club within each age group prior to determining the final placement of each player.

All grading decisions of the Selection Committee should be respected by the Red Angels community.

Nomination of Teams to KDNA

Following the formation of teams, the Selection Committee will determine an appropriate grade under which to submit the team for registration with KDNA (eg A Grade or B Grade). Whilst the Selection Committee determines these grades based on their assessment of the team during the grading process and with the team's best interests and abilities in mind, these are only recommended grades for KDNA nomination purposes.

Under clause 18 of the KDNA By-Laws:

18. GRADING & FIXTURES

- 18.1 A Match subcommittee will be appointed by the KDNA Management Committee to evaluate and grade all teams.
- 18.2 The KDNA Management Committee has the right to reject any team applying for entry to the competition.
- 18.3 The KDNA Management Committee will be the ultimate adjudicator of all grading decisions.
- 18.4 If a team is re-graded, premiership points and a percentage of 100% will be transferred into the new division.

- 18.5 Fixtures will be arranged for all competitions indicating courts and times. Copies will be forwarded to Clubs prior to the season commencing. The "home" team is the first-named team in the fixture.
- 18.6 The KDNA Management Committee will determine the appropriate grade or division for each team and will determine the playing times and venue of matches. 18.7 Teams may be re-graded after the commencement of a Competition at a time to be determined, but that time shall be no later than the end of the fifth (5th) round. Unless approval is given by the KDNA Management Committee, teams will be re-graded once only in any competition.

Announcement of Teams

Once the grading process has concluded and the Selection Committee has formed teams, Coaches are allocated and given their team list. Your Coach will be in contact with you at their earliest convenience to advise you of which team you are in.

Netta - 9 Years Old

Players aged 8-9 years playing in the modified, non-competitive, competition (Netta) are not graded.

Requests to play with friends will be accommodated where possible, depending on the overall number of registrations in each age group. Requests relating to team placement of Netta players must be made at time of registering. The Club, however, encourages players to join as individuals so players and parents get to meet new friends – this process also makes it more comfortable when they enter a graded playing age group at 9 years and above.

Players Playing Out Of Their Age Group

The general policy of the Club is that all players play within teams of their own age group. However, on occasion, there may be exceptions to this rule.

During grading, should the Selection Committee identify a player of exceptional talent for whom a team of similar ability does not exist within their own age group, then that player may be offered the opportunity to play in a higher age group.

In addition, should the Club have insufficient player registrations in adjacent age groups to form full teams, players may be requested to play up an age group in order to form a team of composite age. In such instances, the players asked to play up an age group will be selected based on them being of similar ability to the other players in the team in which they will be placed.

New Players

Playing history and team numbers will be taken into account when placing new players.