



# Policies Booklet

Alice Springs Netball Association

**The Alice Springs Netball Association, as the governing body for the sport in Alice Springs will:-**

- Provide a safe enjoyable, inclusive, and competitive environment
- Deliver innovative options for participation in netball across one's lifespan
- Exemplify consistency, transparency, and integrity through strong governance
- Promote positive collaboration with clubs and the broader community

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## 1.0 Alice Springs Netball Association

### 1.1 Codes of Conduct

- ASNA follow the Netball Australia National Code of Behaviour which are available for download via the ASNA website under “forms and policies” ([www.alicespringsnetball.com.au](http://www.alicespringsnetball.com.au)) or via Netball NT website under policies (<http://nt.netball.com.au>)
- Refer to section 5 for reporting and penalty guidelines for breach of codes of conduct
- The Netball Australia Member Protection Policy (2017) outlines outlines a position statement and handling procedures for a number of Member Protection issues. See Section 5.8 for details.

### 1.2 Insurance

- The affiliation of ASNA with Netball Australia means the Associations insurance is provided under a National Insurance Program. It covers all officials, volunteers, coaches, umpires, and players. This is on the provision that they are financial members of the Association and have completed registration via the Netball Connect Platform. Policy details are available from the insurers website [Welcome to the Netball Australia Insurance Website \(vinsurancegroup.com\)](http://vinsurancegroup.com)

### 1.3 Ochre Cards

It is mandatory for people who have contact or potential contact with children either paid or as a volunteer to hold a Working with Children Clearance Notice issued by the SAFE NT Screening Authority. There are penalties for failure to comply.

- Clearance notices are valid for two years from date of issue (unless revoked) and are transferable within employment fields. As a part of the assessment process, SAFE NT will consider the applicant’s criminal history record and other relevant information. Once a Clearance Notice is received, the applicant will be issued with an Ochre Card, a photo identification card, which can be used as proof that someone is cleared to work or volunteer in child related work.

For more information contact 1800 SAFE NT (1800 723 368) or

<http://www.workingwithchildren.nt.gov.au/index.html>

- A copy of the Ochre Card, once received, must be provided to the ASNA office/general manager/club representative to keep on file.

## 2.0 Uniform Policies

### 2.1 Association Uniforms

- The Alice Springs Netball Association official playing colours as registered with Netball NT are black, white, and gold, with the black and white being the predominate colour.
- These colours must be incorporated in all uniforms worn by players and team officials at Netball NT Championships and in any other matches in which an official ASNA team competes.
- If a patterned material is used as part of the official playing uniform, black and white must predominate with gold added to complete the pattern.
- Black, white, and gold must also be incorporated into any other garment issued to ASNA Representative Players and Team Officials as part of their official uniform e.g., walking out shirt
- The combinations of black and white or black, white, and gold are not to be registered as club colours
- If a change to the registered colour combination and or /material pattern is required, application must be made to Netball NT for approval at least six (6) months prior to the event at which the new colours are to be worn. It is advisable that a sample of the pattern / colour scheme accompany the request. Orders are not to be placed until such time as permission has been granted by Netball NT Management Team.
- Consideration of the registered colours of other affiliated associations must be made so that the proposed colour scheme does not closely resemble those of other associations

### 2.2 Club Uniforms

- All affiliated clubs must register their official playing colours, material pattern and type of uniform and bibs with the Executive.
- ASNA grant all affiliated clubs the option to provide flexible uniform options for their members. Examples of this include body suit, skirts, shorts, and tank tops.
- Colour and design of uniform must be consistent between garment types
- If a multi-coloured patterned material is part of the uniform, these registered colours, whether two or three, must be of approximate equal, prominence in the pattern.  
E.g.: Registered colours – red, blue & yellow. A patterned material must feature red, blue & yellow but may include other minor colours.
- Application to change the official colours, the style of uniform and/or the material pattern, must be made in writing to the Executive Committee at least six months prior to the start of the next competition. This will allow the Executive to discuss the matter at their ordinary meeting and then to reply in writing to the club stating their approval or changes to be deemed necessary and for these changes to be seen and approved before orders are made by the club. CLUBS SHOULD NOT ORDER NEW UNIFORMS UNTIL THE EXECUTIVE HAS FOWARDED PERMISSION
- To facilitate permission to change, clubs should forward a swatch of the preferred material, or failing that a clearly defined illustration of the proposed pattern, colour scheme and style of uniform.

- Approval to change will not be granted if proposed colours and / or pattern closely resemble those already registered by another club.
- Clubs which have had their changes approved but have not received the new uniforms from the manufacturer, must advise the Executive of the delay and the expected date when teams will be wearing the new uniform. Arrangements must also be made with Executive in regard to the uniform to be worn by their players in the meantime. Clubs must keep permission, in writing, to wear an alternate uniform until the new uniforms have arrived with the Executive. The Executive will advise, in writing, the approval/disapproval of the new uniform and approved requests will be included on the back of the court folders in the game boxes for umpires to refer to.
- Colours remain registered to each club for a period of two playing seasons after their withdrawal from the competition and must not be approved by the Executive for any other club during that period.
- Clubs must notify the Executive of any proposed logo to be worn by club/team sponsors, to ensure that no conflict of interest exists with ASNA and NNT sponsors.
- The size and required position/s of the logo must be included. In line with the policy of both ASNA and NNT, alcohol and tobacco sponsors are not allowed.

### 3.0 Player Health & Wellbeing Recommendations

Netball in Alice Springs is often played in very hot conditions in the middle of the day. Clubs and coaches are responsible for the health and safety of their players.

ASNA recommendations:

- No player plays more than eight quarters in any single day.
- All players have a medical check-up and are cleared by their doctor to participate before playing.
- No injured players take the court.
- All officials, coaches and volunteers hold a current Ochre card and up to date COVID Vaccinations and provide a copy to the ASNA office to keep on file.

### 4.0 Game Day Weather Policies

**All weather Policies should be followed for both trainings and games.**

Our competition is played outdoors. To minimise unnecessary disruption to the draws our preference is not to cancel games. While games will not be called off solely because it is raining, player/umpire safety is paramount and if the courts are deemed to be unsafe, matches will be cancelled.

The ASNA Weather Committee shall consist of three Executive Committee Members. General Manager may be included as one of these positions. Clubs are notified of any cancellations via ASNA Facebook, website and/or e-mail/phone.

## 4.1 Wet Weather Policy

During wet weather, matches will only be cancelled for the safety of players and match officials, match cancellations will not be based on player/umpire/spectator comfort.

The consideration of safety will consider many factors, including:

- amount and intensity of rain, sleet, hail.
- thunderstorm activity with lightning.
- water volume on the courts.
- lack of grip on court.
- player age level on court.

*If all outside games are unable to be played due to wet weather, then all games (indoor and outdoor) will be reduced to 2X15 minute halves and played in the stadium.*

### Wet Weather Policy during Finals

If any final is rained out, it shall be played on an alternate date as decided by the executive committee.

## 4.2 Lightning Policy

Our lightning Policy is based on the 30 / 30 rule which calls for all play to be stopped when the lightning / thunder ratio reaches 30 seconds or less (i.e., the time between when the lightning is seen, and the last thunder is heard is 30 seconds or less).

When the 30 second ratio has been reached, this means that the lightning seen is 10 km away and the next strike has a “significant risk”. All participants must be aware that in the event of lightning, play must not resume until 30 minutes after the last lightning strike and thunder.

## 4.3 Heat Policy

- Should temperatures reach or be forecast to reach 36 degrees (determined by the Bureau of meteorology’s website at 9.00am on match day) the following match conditions will be enforced on all outdoor courts.
- In addition, if at any time team or match officials have a heat related concern, they can request consideration of approval to implement the below match conditions. This should be agreed upon by both teams and officials and can occur on both indoor and outdoor courts.
- Adjusted heat related match conditions
  - Match duration to be shortened to 48 minutes with 4 x 12-minute quarters.
  - Breaks between quarters will be of 3-minute duration and half-time break 5 minutes
  - An additional one-minute drinks break is to be taken at the midpoint of each quarter. The match timer is to inform the controlling umpire at the 6-minute mark of the quarter. The umpire will then stop the play at the next break in play e.g. centre pass, ball out of court. The players will be allowed to leave the court for drinks break and the timer will be stopped. Play will be recommenced at the same position after the drink break.

- ASNA encourage all players to use sun protection and remain hydrated at all times particularly during times of warmer weather. This is the responsibility of individual players, coaches, and clubs.
- Shade structures exist on either side of the outdoor courts and ASNA encourage players to use these to seek shade during break times.

## 5.0 Protest, Complaints, Reports

Any complaint, report, or appeal must be made in writing to the ASNA Manager by 5pm the following day after the alleged offence occurred by completing the Incident Report Form (**Appendix 1 – Incident Report Form**) and returning via email to [netball@alicespringsnetball.com.au](mailto:netball@alicespringsnetball.com.au).

### Definitions

- **Complaint** - A written statement from a player, club official, or spectator, whether witnessed or not, that something is unsatisfactory or unacceptable
- **Report** - a written statement or account of an observed occurrence by an umpire or an ASNA official of an offence. A player who is sent off the Court is considered to be on automatic report.
- **Appeal** – A formal statement or action expressing disapproval of or objection to an outcome accompanied by a request for a reconsideration of the decision.
- **Match committee** – A sub-committee of no less than three members of the ASNA board convened to consider and decide on a complaint or report
- **Appeals committee** – A committee, independent of the Tribunal who considered the original complaint or report, convened to reconsider a decision of a Tribunal.

### 5.1 Management of Complaint

The ASNA Manager will perform the following duties following a complaint or report being received.

- **Step 1: Assess report for timeliness** - The Manager will assess a complaint or report for timeliness (within 24 hours of the incident occurring) and acknowledge receipt of complaint or report via email.
- **Step 2: Determine Avenue of Assessment** - The Manager will determine through which of the below avenues the complaint will be handled
  - By referring to relevant procedure in competition by-laws
  - By referring to procedure in Netball Australia Member Protection Policy (**refer to Member Protection Section**)
  - By referring to ASNA Match Committee for determination of Breach of Code of Conduct. If it is determined that this course of action is to be taken the manger will notify the ASNA Match Committee that a report or complaint has been received.
- **Step 3: Request A Response to Allegation** - The manager will notify the respondent that a report or complaint has been received. The nature of the complaint will determine whether

the respondent is dealt with directly or through the nominated contacts of the respondent's club. The manager will provide 48 hours' notice for a response via the completion of the **(see Appendix 1 – Respondent Form)**

- **Step 4: Gather any further information** – The Manager will gather any required supporting statements from key witnesses or officials to further help determine the case.
- **Step 5: Refer the Matter to the ASNA Match Committee** for determination of the alleged breach of code of Behaviour.

## 5.2 ASNA Match Committee

- Once the Respondent Form and key witness statements have been received the ASNA Match Committee will consider the matter and make a determination on the alleged breach of the Code of Behaviour by examining all written reports.
- The Match Committee is not required to have any person related to the alleged incident attend a Tribunal Meeting in person but may request attendance either to provide additional evidence or to personally hear the outcome of the Tribunal's decision.
- When determining a penalty, the ASNA match committee will be guided by the below penalty table (Table 1) but has the right to decide a penalty on a case-by-case basis due to nature and severity of the incident.
- The Manager will advise clubs and person/s involved of ASNA Match Committee decision in writing

## 5.3 Penalties

- In the event of any report or complaint being found by the Match Committee to be substantiated, they may impose the following penalties:
  - (a) A penalty as guided by section 5.4 detailed below:
  - (b) Order a match to be replayed
  - (c) Award the match to the non-offending team
  - (d) Recommend to the Committee that any Club, team, player, umpire, coach, member, or spectator be reprimanded, suspended or disqualified.
- Where a report has been substantiated and a penalty issued, the Club with whom the player or team is associated, will be required to demonstrate that it has taken appropriate action to mitigate future unsporting-like behaviour by either the player or the team in question.
- A failure of a club to demonstrate that they have taken remedial action, or where there are further substantiated protests or reports of unsporting-like behaviour, may result in ASNA applying further penalties, as outlined above, to the team or the club.

## 5.4 Penalty Guidelines

Offence	Suggested Penalty
Intentional Striking, or attempting to strike, (by fist, elbow or swinging arm)	3-12 match suspension based on severity



Intentional charging with shoulder, hip, or body or other undue rough play	1- 4 match suspension
Intentional Kicking or tripping, or attempting to kick or trip	1- 4 match suspension
Hair pulling or wrestling	1-4 match suspension
Spitting	1-3 match suspension
Persistent disputing decision, offensive language - 1 <sup>st</sup> Offence	Reprimand - 1 match suspension
Persistent disputing decision, offensive language - 2nd Offence within 2 seasons	2 match suspension
Being sent off Court – repeated infringement – remainder of game	1 match suspension in addition to charges that may occur for send-off offence
Being sent off Court – 2nd offence in season	2 match suspension in addition to charges that may occur for send-off offence
Other Breach of Code of Conduct	As determined by match committee

## 5.5 Right of Appeal

- A penalised person may appeal a decision of the Match Committee. In doing so the appellant must demonstrate a reconsideration of the decision is required based on one or more of the following grounds:
  - (a) That significant new or additional evidence has become available.
  - (b) That the penalty imposed by the Match Committee is not in accordance with the provisions of the By-law; or
  - (c) that the Match Committee failed to follow procedures or requirements of the By-law to the significant detriment of the person seeking the appeal.

## 5.6 Notice of Appeal

- The person seeking to appeal a decision of the Match Committee must lodge a notice stating full details of charges and results thereof and stating in full the grounds of appeal with the

ASNA manager within seven (7) days of the notification of a determination of a Match Committee hearing.

- Any determination of the Match Committee stands until the Appeals Committee has considered the grounds for the appeal, and if grounds exist, has heard the appeal in full and made a decision.

## 5.7 Appeals Committee

- On receipt of an Appeals notice the ASNA Manager shall convene an Appeals Committee to initially assess the grounds for an appeal.
- An Appeal Committee shall consist of no fewer than three (3) persons, with no more than 1 ASNA Board member, appointed by the Association from time to time to hear appeals as required by the Association.
- Any person involved in the original Match Committee will not be eligible to be a member of an Appeal Committee to reconsider the evidence and determine the appeal.
- An Appellant shall be notified within seven (7) days of receipt of the Notice of Appeal as to whether an appeal hearing is to be granted and the time, date, and place of the Appeal hearing, in the event that it is granted.
- If it is determined that Grounds for an Appeal exist, the Appeals Committee shall hear the appeal in accordance with this By-Law and have the power to alter the decision of the Match Committee as they see fit.

## 5.8 Member Protection Information

Netball Australia's Member Protection Policy 2017 outlines a position statement and handling procedures for a number of Member Protection issues including:

- Child Protection
- Taking Images of Children
- Anti-Discrimination, Bullying, Sexual Harassment, and Victimisation
- Sexual Relationships
- Pregnancy
- Gender Identity
- Cyber Bullying and Safety
- Social Networking Websites

ASNA have appointed Member Protection Information Officers (MPIO) trained to deal with disputes or issues which arise in relation to any of these issues. If you would like to speak to an Association MPIO please contact the ASNA General Manager at [netball@alicespringnetball.com.au](mailto:netball@alicespringnetball.com.au) who will then put you in contact with the appropriate officer. Netball Australia's Member Protection Policy can be accessed at [www.alicespringnetball.com.au](http://www.alicespringnetball.com.au) under "forms & policies".

## 6.0 Pat Gallagher Netball Centre

As per directive of the Alice Springs Town Council, for player safety and court care skates, scooters, bikes, rollerblades, skateboards or dogs are not to be used and/or present at any time within the Pat Gallagher Netball Centre. **This includes training times.**

At all times, competition and training, bikes are to be locked in the stands provided. Considering player safety, bikes are not to be taken onto the grassed area, or left near the seats, courts, fences, or shade structures.