



# Cheltenham Panthers Netball Club

*Pride Passion Power*



## Team Selection Policy

### Philosophy

Our mission is to promote, encourage and foster unity in our community netball club that allows its members to play netball and develop their netball skills in a fun, safe and fair environment, with the necessary equipment, facilities and personnel.

Our future is a club that embraces diversity and equality. A club which encourages and welcomes all children and adults in the community to participate in the sport of netball. A club that creates an environment where players feel they belong to the greater community, to play with familiar friends and meet new friends. A safe environment to have fun!

### Aims and Objectives

The aim of the grading policy is to ensure that team grading is conducted fairly and effectively and in the best interest of the players and club.

Grading is carried out on nominated days prior to season commencement to provide the Club with an indication of the number of teams and prospective grades. Grading will be carried out by either an external grading accessors or by the club's grading committee. Final input of the Grading conducted by an external grading accessors will be done by the club's grading committee.

The objective of this grading system is to:

- Create teams of similar skill and ability with a balanced group of players in both levels and playing positions
- Allow players and teams to play in a suitable competitive environment

During the grading process:

- Every player is treated as an individual member irrespective of previous team, grade or club
- Every player has an equal opportunity
- Players will be graded into their own age group i.e. the age they turn in the upcoming playing season

Grading is compulsory for every player wishing to play with Cheltenham Panthers Netball Club.



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## Grading Committee

The Grading Committee consists of the members of the current Executive Committee who will liaise with external selectors. Coaches will be asked for input prior to selections on players abilities and skill level.

The Cheltenham Panthers Netball Club Grading Committee determines the final grading of all teams.

## Grading Process

Grading will consist of several processes and these are to include:

- A detailed coach's evaluation report at the end of the season
- An assessment to be carried out towards the end of the season by the previous year's Grading Committee who will attend several games to review players skills
- Paper grading to be carried out prior to practical grading, taking into account the above reports and place players into teams for practical grading
- Practical grading will take place with a minimum of three (3) graders per age group. Graders will take into consideration the coaches' report, previous years grading committee members' reports, paper grading and play observed at practical grading.

Parents, players and coaches are not to approach the external grading assessors or the grading committee during the assessment process in an attempt to influence grading and team formation.

Grading will take place at Dales Park in Oakleigh, parents and coaches are not allowed on the courts and are to remain behind the fences. While the player's grading is in process the player is to remain on the courts seated under the shelter in case they are called on to the court.

## Registration is Compulsory

Players will only be considered for grading and team allocation if they have registered by the grading closing date. Closing dates will be advertised when the grading registrations process is opened. All players must be registered prior to the grading closing date to be eligible to be part of the grading process.

Players who register after this date will be placed on a waiting list and placed in a team only if space becomes available in an appropriate team. If a player is unable to attend the grading then they are to notify the club stating the reason why.



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## Foundation level (8 and 9 Years)

Cheltenham Panthers Netball Club recognise that our youngest players in U11s Foundation Level usually commence playing netball with their friends. The club will consider placing players in teams with their friends where possible within their age group. These requests must be received at the time of registration and can only be accommodated if numbers for an age group permit. The priority is that teams are made up of players of similar ability so that each player and the team can further develop their skills at an appropriate level.

When considering team allocation for our Foundation Level we will consider the following:

- Age (year of birth) of the players;
- Team balance, skill level of players;

## U11 and U13 age groups

Players will be assigned to a team based on the outcomes of the grading process.

Players will be invited to attend a grading session allocated to their age group where the independent grading assessors or the clubs grading committee will assess each player and place them in a team in accordance with their skill level.

Grading Criteria:

During the assessment process the following will be taken into consideration:

- Ball handling skills
- Footwork
- Positional Skills
- Speed and agility
- Fitness
- Versatility
- Sportsmanship and attitude

For a number of reasons, it may not be necessary for players to play an equal number of quarters during the session.

It is expected that a player wishing to be graded will do their best to prioritise attendance at the session. However, if a player is unable to attend the grading session, there will be consultation between team selectors and existing team coaches when assessing playing ability.

Requests to be graded into a specific team/age group will not be considered.



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## 15+ age groups

Will be considered on a season-by-season basis at the discretion of the Grading Committee.

## Teams

Teams will be allocated 8-9 players where possible. In certain circumstances the Club may vary this number to ensure teams are balanced based on number of registrations received. Team numbers will never be less than 7 and never exceed 10.

No player will have the right to remain in the same team from year to year. Allocation of players to teams will be determined as per this policy.

Teams will be selected at the completing of the grading process and will remain in place for the entire season.

Players and parents are asked to be reasonable and objective in their expectations and to encourage their children to accept their team selection.

Teams will be announced via email once the registration process is complete and final numbers of players confirmed.

A player may be selected by the Grading Committee for an older aged team if similar ability does not exist within their own age group so long as;

1. There are sufficient registered player numbers in the player's age group to facilitate a complete team/teams;
2. The player fits Kingston District Netball Association (KDNA) minimum age requirement;
3. Team numbers are balanced across both age groups; and
4. The player and their parent are consulted and agree with the decision.

## New players to the club who register after grading is complete

New players to the club who register after grading has been completed will be allocated into a team at the Executive Committee's discretion.

## Concerns

All selection decisions of the external grading assessors are final and all enquiries regarding player selection (pre and post selection) should be directed to the Executive Committee directly.



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We believe that playing outside of normal friendship groups is a great opportunity to meet new friends. Appeals based on a particular player being placed into a team with friends will not be considered as the Grading Committee will have created balanced teams.

We understand that grading can be an anxious time for our players, so please be assured that we will do our very best to keep the environment as relaxed and equitable as possible. We want our players to feel confident in our commitment to support them, encourage them to improve and enjoy the game of netball.