

## PNA Competition Handbook 2022

The table below lists the key changes to the Competition Handbook for 2022. These changes have been approved by the PNA Executive.

### Formatting

The structure of the Competition Handbook has been amended by using headings that provide more detail about the content of that particular section. This change is intended to make navigating the Handbook more user-friendly and logical.

<b>Rule</b>	<b>Description of Change</b>	<b>Comment</b>
3.3 Grading	Added Rule 3.2 to include grading of players as well as teams. Apply to Year 5 and Year 6 only.	This is an issue at Primary School level where teams are selected based on groups of friends rather than ability, which can result in two or more teams from the same club being of equal strength. It is more difficult to apply the rule to older age groups where a new group of players can often register at a club as a team.
3.3 Grading	Open Div 1. Added Procedures 2.3 and 2.4	Feedback from clubs considered.
3.3 Grading	Changed 2.7 from “after the third <u>completed game</u> ” to “after the third <u>round</u> ”	Regrading will occur after the third round regardless of whether or not games are cancelled for any reason.
3.3 Grading	Changed 2.8 from “after the fifth <u>completed match</u> ” to “after the fifth <u>round</u> ”	Regrading will occur after the third round regardless of whether or not games are cancelled for any reason.
3.3 Grading	2.9 amended to reflect changes to 2.7 and 2.8 above	
3.7 & 3.8 Jnr 9-12 and Jnr 7/8	Delete Clause 5.0.	The onus is on clubs to ensure players are suitable as stated in rule 4.
3.9(8) Year 5 and 6	Allow smaller clubs with no team in the Year 5 comp an exemption to allow Year 5 players from their year 4/5 comp to play up into their year 6 comp when required.	Addresses an inconsistency in the rules that previously didn't allow a year 5 from the Year 4/5 comp to play in the Year 6 competition.
3.10(10) NSG	Centre Pass. Added “including at the start of every subsequent quarter.”	Clarifies the rule regarding centre passes in NetSetGO competitions
3.10(22) NSG	Clause 22 added. Within the NSG competition, the 'playing up' rule is only limited to playing up a year group, not within their own competition. For example, any year 2/3 team can borrow players from	It's about making netball enjoyable for the kids and encouraging them to want to keep playing, not about which team is better than the other or who is the best player.

Rule	Description of Change	Comment
	another team in that competition. Likewise, any year 4/5 team can borrow players from another team in that competition.	
3.12 Playing Up	Added new Clause 7.0	Consistent with 3.9(8) above
3.18(3) Concussion	Players who are under 18 years of age who have suffered a concussion must not return to play within 16 days, changed to “any player”.	Mandatory 16 day break now applies to all players regardless of age.
4.1 Umpires	Amended 6.2 to include “It is expected that the club will move the umpire to a more suitable standard of game and provide the umpire with training.”	Explains what is expected if an umpire is deemed “not competent” for a grade by the AUDO.
4.1 (6) Umpires	The words “unless their division is supplied a PNA Squad Umpire” has now been deleted.	The rule has been clarified to include those teams in Open and Jnr Div 1 that have an umpire allocated to their games by PNA. Those clubs must still have a suitable umpire available for their Div 1 teams. They are expected to reallocate that umpire if PNA provides one to their game.
4.1 (6&7) Umpires	Guidelines for minimum umpire badge levels. Umpires in Open Div 1 & 2 to have a B badge (minimum) or working towards. Open Divs 3 to 10: C badge min, Year 9-12: C badge min for Sat afternoon games.	Some clubs are allocating umpires who are not accredited or competent. Guidelines may become enforceable in future years.
4.1 Umpires	<p>Clause 8 has been added. “It is strongly recommended by PNA that all umpires complete the online Netball Australia Rules Theory Exam each year.”</p> <p>Clause 6.3 has been added. “All umpires allocated by clubs must be registered in the online membership database.”</p>	Some clubs are allocating umpires who are not registered, accredited or competent for the division they are umpiring.
4.4	NEW: Umpire Allocations for Finals	Provides clarity on the process for allocating umpires for finals.
5.2 Complaint Management	Added Clause 6.12. A full audio recording of the tribunal hearing will be taken and kept on file in the Association records. No copies will be available (Clause 7.2 also amended).	
5.3 Complaint/Incident Report	Complaint Card will be issued to each team. Teams must present their card to the Match Office if they want to make a complaint about behaviour or the standard of umpiring while the game is in progress. PNA Match Officials have powers to deal with poor courtside behaviour.	The current practice of accepting complaints from anyone about umpire standards and sending an umpire coach to the court during the game to observe the umpire contributes to a lack of respect for umpires. Furthermore, many complaints to the match office about the standard of umpiring are proven to be unwarranted and a waste of time.

<b>Rule</b>	<b>Description of Change</b>	<b>Comment</b>
6.2 WWCC	PNA adopts the NWA Working With Children Check Policy (Member).	PNA and our member clubs are bound by this policy due to our affiliation with Netball WA.
6.7 Inclusion Policy	NEW. Includes allowance for Transgender participants.	
7.1 Life Membership	Life Membership criteria reviewed to make applications easier to assess	
7.2 Competition Awards	Added Clause 3.0 PNA Rising Stars Team	To acknowledge the best players in Junior 9-12 Div 1

### By-Laws

Following a comprehensive review of the PNA Constitution and By-Laws at the end of the 2021 Winter season, it was revealed that most of the existing By-Laws were either duplicated in the Constitution or able to be incorporated into the Competition Handbook. As a result, there is no longer a separate PNA By-Laws document. The following changes to the Competition Handbook are from the old by-laws.

<b>Rule</b>	<b>Description of Change</b>	<b>Comment</b>
2.1 Affiliations	By-Laws 7.0 "Affiliation" and 9.0 "Fees" merged.	Taken from by-laws
3.3 Grading	By-Laws 2.1 and 4.0 inserted (Grading Committees)	Composition and duties of Grading Committees
4.1 Umpires	By-Laws 2.2 and 4.0 inserted (Umpire Committee)	Composition and duties of Umpiring Committee
5.2 (9.0) Complaint Management	<p>Composition and duties of Appeals Committee. Insert new 9.6 "The Appeals Committee shall be made up of three (3) people chosen by the Executive. The chairperson of the Appeals Committee shall possess suitable skills to conduct the Appeal hearing and may or may not come from the netball community."</p> <p>Insert new 9.7 "Members of the Appeals Committee must not have previously been involved in the matter being appealed or have a conflict of interest in any other way to the matter."</p>	Taken from by-laws