

2024 Guide to Pride at PNA



This year PNA is introducing a Pride Round. This will run between the 9th – 11th of May. The purpose of this guide is to share with you the aims of PNA in holding this round and what you as a club can do to show your support!



WHY ARE WE HAVING PRIDE ROUND?

Our Pride round will celebrate gender diversity and promotes inclusivity for LGBTIA+ players. We feel it is important everyone feels safe, welcome and accepted at our association, whether they are a player, official, coach, staff member or supporter.

We show our commitment to inclusion through our Inclusion Policy - See Section 6.7 of our Competition Handbook. The first line of this policy states:

'PNA is committed to providing a safe, fair and inclusive sporting environment where all people can contribute and participate.'

WHAT DOES LGBTQIA+ STAND FOR?

An acronym for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/ questioning and intersex. It is used to refer collectively to these communities. The 'LGB' refers to sexuality/sexual identity; the 'T' refers to gender identity; 'Q' can refer to either gender identity or sexuality, 'I' refers to people who have an intersex variation, 'A' refers to asexual and the '+' is for other identities that fall under this umbrella.

BACKGROUND

The [NWA Inclusion Policy and Statements Supporting Information](#) provides us with some interesting statistics from a 2022 consultation with regional and metropolitan based associations. At a glance, some of the findings concerning the LGBTI+ community were published as follows:

- Around 10% of Australians may have a diverse sexual orientation, sex and gender identity;
- 1.7% of children born in Australia are estimated to be intersex;
- Transgender men and women experience higher rates of non-physical abuse compared to gay men and women;
- 42% of LGBTQIA+ people hide their sexuality or gender identify at social and community events;
- Most people, particularly women who play sport, are not concerned about the inclusion of women and girls who are trans;
- Most people, particularly women, do not support a blanket ban to exclude women and girls who are trans;
- Trans women have the lowest participation rates in LGBTQIA+ or mainstream events compared to the rest of the LGBTQIA+ community;

WHAT ARE WE DOING TO SUPPORT PRIDE ROUND?

At PNA we will be decorating our grounds with the colours of the rainbow and our staff will be accessorising to show our support.

The rainbow flag has widely been used to represent members of the LGBT community, colours reflect the diversity and the spectrum of human sexuality and gender. There are now over 20 flag designs that specifically represent different LGBTQIA+ groups.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Pride Flag was designed by artist Gilbert Baker at the request of Harvey Milk, the first openly gay man to be elected to office in California, USA. It made its debut at the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day parade in 1978.

Milk was a community leader and fighter for LGBT rights, as well as other marginalised groups. He was assassinated in November of the same year by a disgruntled city supervisor in opposition to some of his views.

A FEW IDEAS HOW TEAMS CAN SHOW THEIR SUPPORT:

- Coloured socks
- Hair ribbons
- Face paint
- Non-permanent tattoos
- Alternate bibs (provided they don't clash with the opposition or the umpires' ability to clearly identify teams)

REMEMBER nothing sharp, hard or that could cause harm to yourself or another player!

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

We encourage clubs, teams or individuals to show their support by joining in the colour celebrations! You can do this by accessorising. Anything worn on court must comply with our **Uniform Requirements** outlined in **Section 3.19 of our Competition Handbook**, and those outlined in the World Netball Rule Book.

We'd love for you to share pictures to our socials. Tag us on Instagram and Facebook and your team could have some prizes coming your way!

HELP FOR CLUBS TO BE LGBTIA+ FRIENDLY

There are some basic steps your club can take to help the LGBTIA+ community feel welcome and safe:

1. Encourage your members to educate themselves on LGBTIA+ terminology and meanings
2. Be informed about PNA and Netball WA Policies
3. Have an inclusive uniform option
4. Call out discriminating behaviour or language
5. Promote your club as a LGBTIA+ safe space through social media and website i.e. displaying flags

There are plenty of online resources for your clubs to better educate and equip themselves for inclusivity. Here are a few suggestions:

- [Australian Sports Commission](#)
- [ACON > Pride in Sport](#)
- [Play by the Rules > Conduct and Behaviour](#)