



West Ryde Rovers Netball Club

Junior Grading Policy

Up-dated: 26 September 2016

Document Objective

The main objective of this document is to formulate a process by which West Ryde Rovers (hereby referred to as WRR) can conduct its grading sessions on a yearly basis. This document is available to be viewed by members of West Ryde Rovers and the general community.

Objectives

1. Players : Provide a clear process for all players to be placed in a team that will:
 - a. best represent their level of skill and ability
 - b. maximise opportunities to develop and improve their skills
 - c. maximise their enjoyment and love of the game
2. Club:
 - a. ensure that players are placed in teams in a fair and equitable manner by independent persons
 - b. enable the Club to properly assess and nominate team placings (i.e. divisions) for the upcoming season.

Grading Committee

The Grading Committee is comprised of the elected Grading & Development Coordinator of the WRR Netball Management Committee, as well as senior members of WRR, including current and previous members of WRR Netball Committees, and/or experienced past and present coaches at WRR. All grading committee members will be approved by the WRR Netball Management Committee.

Coaches from previous seasons will be consulted to assist with grading for future seasons, this will be through the submission of Player Evaluation Sheets (Coaches Summaries).

The grading committee will make the final recommendations on team selections to the WRR Netball Management Committee for approval.

Age Groups

8-9yrs: no individual player grading, and no team ranking (no divisions)

10yrs - Cadets: individual player grading is mandatory

WRR preferred scenario for all teams is to only have a maximum of two (2) substitutes for any one team.

Grading Dates and Times

Exact grading dates and times will be advised when registrations are open for the commencement of the season.

Finalised teams will be released before ERNA registrations each season, this is generally in early February.

Late Registrations

Registrations will close 7 days prior to the first grading day. No registrations will be taken on grading days, unregistered players will not be able to participate in grading.

Late registrations will only be accepted if player vacancies still exist in applicable age groups.

Players that register after grading are unlikely to be considered for the highest graded team in their age group, although where there are exceptional circumstances a player may trial (at the discretion of the Grading Committee) to earn a place in this team.

Grading Attendance

All players are required to be financial members of WRR Netball Club (i.e. players are required to have their registration fees paid in full)

Grading for all junior players is compulsory, with the exception of 8 and 9yr olds.

Any player who will be absent from the grading session for their age group is required to notify the Grading Co-ordinator in writing prior to the grading day.

In a player's absence from grading sessions, the player's previous playing experience, coaches comments, player evaluation sheets and special requests will be assessed to determine the grading level of that player.

There is no guarantee that the player will play in the same team as last season.

No notification will result in the player being placed in a team at the discretion of the WRR Netball Committee.

The grading session for each age group is the best opportunity for all players to be graded in an appropriate team/division. Additional grading sessions will be added at the discretion of the Grading Committee.

Special Requests

Any special requests can be made on the player registration forms or submitted in writing to the WRR Registrar prior to the grading day.

Where a request to play with friends has been made, the players (if all agree) will be placed in a team at the level of the lowest graded player.

A request to play in the same team as previous season will be considered but not guaranteed.

Grading Processes

Netta (Under 8yrs and 9yrs)

In this age group WRR recognises that children want to play with their friends, so at all times it is the Club's objective to achieve this ideal scenario.

Under 9yrs teams will be subject to mid-season grading by WRR Netball Committee members to assist with following years grading in the under 10yrs, Player Evaluation Sheets will also be collected from this age groups coaches at the end of the season.

Juniors (Under 10yrs +)

To ensure that all players are placed in appropriate teams grading is compulsory for all junior players.

All players must grade in their own age group (i.e. the age that they are turning that calendar year). Players will be invited to attend grading of a higher age group at the discretion of the Grading Committee and will be contacted by the Grading & Development Coordinator prior to the grading days to confirm their attendance at the grading of the higher age group.

Under 10yrs age group is especially important, as it is the first year of competition and it is important to make sure we get the right players in the right division, as it can have a flow on effect for future years. In the under 10yrs age group, playing positions are not as important at grading as a player's all round skill set, as playing positions have not yet been established.

In other junior teams, playing positions will also be taken into account, to ensure teams have a fair spread of positions (defence, centre court and shooters), this may not always be a main point in grading especially if an age group is severely lacking in a particular position (i.e. All 11yrs teams may only have 1 dedicated defensive player)

As well as the grading session at the commencement of the season, players will be subject to mid-season grading by committee members and player evaluations sheets which will be completed by the teams coach – these assessments will be used for the following seasons grading.

Grading Day Process, will involve players signing-on when they arrive 15 mins prior to their grading start time. Signing-on will involve the players approaching the sign-on desk and nominating their playing positions, by indicating either 1 or 2 of DEFENCE, CENTRE COURT or SHOOTING.

DEFENCE positions will be considered to be GK, GD or WD.

CENTRE COURT positions will be considered to be WD, C, WA.

SHOOTING positions will be considered to be GA or GS.

If they select only SHOOTING – they will play both GA and GS. If they select only DEFENCE, they could play WD and GK.

Each grading game will be timed to 6 minutes, to ensure fair and even court time to all players.

Each player will be on court for a minimum of 2 grading games in their nominated position. This will be confirmed by checking against the sign-on sheet as well as verbal and visual confirmation with all players/parents following the grading.

Any disputes regarding the grading process (not the individual players grading) on grading day should be addressed directly with the Grading & Development Coordinator, so that the situation can be addressed if need be whilst the grading is still in progress.

Grading Criteria

When assessing players the grading committee will be looking at the following criteria:

- Ball control
- Passing / Catching technique
- Footwork
- Shooting accuracy
- Defensive skills (One on One defence)
- Speed and Endurance
- Teamwork
- Athletic ability
- Positional play
- Potential to improve

(The first 3 criteria will hold the most weight in assessments)

Player Notification

Players will be notified of all team allocations via the WRR website.

Initial team notifications are subject to change at the discretion of the WRR Netball Management Committee.

Disputes

All grading assessment sheets and player evaluation reports (coaches summaries) are the confidential property of WRR Netball Club.

Any disputes regarding grading must be received within 24 hours of team postings on the WRR website, this must be in writing to the WRR Netball Grading & Development Coordinator. The disputes will be heard at a specially convened meeting and an outcome/response will be made at that time.

Team Placings/Divisions

Teams are placed in division by Eastwood Ryde Netball Association, not WRR. These team placings/divisions are final.

Deregistration

Following the posting of the graded teams on the WRR website, any players deregistered after this point will forfeit \$50, as an administration fee to the club, at the discretion of the Management Committee.