



Waratah Netball Club

Team Selection Policy

Ver 3.1 – 01 October 2025



1. Aim

- 1.1 The aim of this policy is to ensure the selection of players and teams for Waratah Netball Club is conducted fairly and effectively. This policy covers both Club teams and Tri-series teams.
- 1.2 Unless specified, the term 'senior teams' includes Tri-series teams.

2. Objectives

- 2.1 To ensure players have the opportunity to perform to the best of their abilities.
- 2.2 To ensure teams have a balanced group of players in playing positions and players are of a similar ability level
- 2.3 To provide a pathway for players to reach the Club's top teams.

3. Introduction

- 3.1 Waratah Netball Club understands that many players prefer to play with team members from previous years. The Club acknowledges that this is often desirable, as it builds team cohesion and esprit de corps within the team, and players are often more comfortable playing with familiar team members. The Club will endeavour to support those members who request to 'play together' providing it does not compromise the Club objectives.
- 3.2 In balance with para 3.1, the pathway to the Tri-series must also be considered. The following teams are essential to the Tri-series pathway and should have teams created from the strongest players outside of the Tri-series teams:
 - Snr Div 1
 - 21 yrs
 - 17 yrs
 - 15 yrs
- 3.3 Attendance at trials is strongly encouraged for players nominating for senior teams, 21yrs, 17yrs, and 15yrs teams. In order to play in a senior team, players must be aged 15 years and over during the year of play
- 3.4 **"Formed Teams"**. For the purposes of this policy, a "Formed Team" is one that seeks to stay together as a full team, without going through selections. Complete teams of eight or more players who wish to register with the Club as a "Formed Team" may do so under the following conditions:
 - The Executive Committee agrees to the team being entered
 - The team will remain under and abide by the direction, rules, and policies of the Club.
 - The team acknowledges that they will not necessarily be allocated a coach
 - The team acknowledges that they will not necessarily be allocated a training court

- The team must use a Club approved team name
- The team must nominate the grade in which they seek to play to the Registrar.

4. Team Selection Panel Responsibilities

- 4.1 The role of the Selection Panel is to select teams for the Club that have a balance of playing positions and ability.
- 4.2 The Selection Panel is to comprise of at least three persons, usually senior or experienced coaches, and will be determined by the Club Executive in consultation with the Coaching Convenors.
- 4.3 The Selection Panel for Club selections and the Panel for Tri-series selections may, not necessarily, have the same panel members.
- 4.4 The Selection Panel should communicate their expectations of players on the day by written notification prior to trials and verbally on the day.
- 4.5 A list of registered players will be provided to the Selection Panel. The Panel will draft possible team combinations for trials, noting preferences and previous experience.
- 4.6 The Selection Panel may use electronic or cloud based systems for selections, however any information in those systems must be filed and accessible to the Club Executive.

5. Players' Responsibilities

- 5.1 Players will be notified of trials day and time, and expectations for the day. Players should make every effort to attend trials.
- 5.2 If a player is unable to attend trials, the player or representative should notify the Selection Panel , via email, message, before the day. In extenuating circumstances (eg illness or accident), they may notify a member of the Selection Panel on the day. Placement into a team for this player will be based upon previous playing history and, if available, any recommendations of the previous year's coach.
- 5.3 Players will be provided with a Player EOI form before trials. This form is to be filled in supplying player details and nominated team or grade. All players, including returning players, should complete the form. The EOI may be in the form of a electronic registration system (eg NetballTrials.com)
- 5.4 Players should nominate at least two preferred positions.

6. Team Selection

- 6.1 The timeline for trials is in Annex A.
- 6.2 The Selection Panel will convene prior to trials to conduct 'paper team selection'.
- 6.3 The Panel will also take into consideration previous playing history, although this will not be the primary indicator.
- 6.4 Players will trial in the position(s) that they nominate, but may be asked to also trial in other positions
- 6.5 The Selection Panel will assess players in the following areas:
 - technical skill, ball control, footwork, movement,

- tactical competency, teamwork, tactical awareness
- fitness
- mental aptitude/attitude
- game play.

6.6 Before making the final decision on team composition, the Selection Panel should consult with the team coach if one has been allocated.

6.7 The Selection Panel should also provide the Club Registrar with a recommendation as to which NNA grades the teams should be nominated for.

7. **Team Announcements**

7.1 Players will be notified of their team allocation by email. This will occur after consultation with the allocated team coach. Where possible team allocation and player notification should occur within 48 hrs of trials.

7.2 The Selection Panel will contact any player that cannot be placed in a team or whose preferences for team/grade could not be met. This contact may be made through a coach or manager.

8. **Appeals**

8.1 Players may appeal in writing within two days of notification of the teams. Appeals must be sent to selections@waratahnetball.asn.au. The Selection Panel will convene to consider any appeals and a decision will be made within five days.

8.2 The Panel's decision is final.

9. **Late Registrations**

9.1 Any registrations taken after team announcements will be considered if numbers within the player's age group support additional players, or player movement into a different grade or age group is available.

9.2 If a late registration is accepted, the player will be allocated to a team by the Selection Panel. The Panel will place late registrations where they are best suited.

9.3 Should the need arise for additional player/s to be registered into a specific team after the teams have been submitted to NNA, this will be considered upon application from the coach. The application is to be submitted to the Selection Panel via the Club Registrar. Consideration of any such application will be considered for that year only.

10. This policy is in effect 07 October 2025.

Annex A Team Selection Procedures

Timeline

Date	Action	Responsible Entity
Trials Day minus eight weeks	Courts booked – indoor facilities are preferred	Club Exec
Trials Day minus six weeks	Selection Panel formed	Club Exec
Trials Day minus five weeks	Trials day advertised via socials, website, and Club email	Selection Panel Lead icw Social Convenor, Website admin
Trials Day minus four weeks	Trials EOI sent out via socials, website, and Club email	Selection Panel Lead Selectors, Website admin,
Trials Day minus three weeks	Umpires confirmed	Umpiring Convenor
Trials Day minus two weeks	Trials procedures sent to coaches and players	Selection Panel Lead
Trial Day minus seven days	EOIs returned to Selection Panel	Trialists
	Selection Panel conduct paper grading	Selection Panel Lead
Trials Day (indicative timings):		
12.30	Selection Panel and Assistants arrive and set up	
12.45pm	Players Registration / Welcome	
13.00pm	Warm-up	
13.15pm	Trial Games	
16.00pm	Players released	
Trial Day plus 48 hours	Teams announced	Selectors

Supporting Roles: The Selection Panel should delegate the following secondary duties:

- **MC and Player Liaison** – to welcome players and reiterate information about the procedures on the day and expectations of the Selection Panel. This person is also to be point of call for players' questions.
- **Trials Registrar** – to register players on the day noting positions to trial and giving each player a number. Registrar to ensure all players have filled out a Team Selection Information Form. During court play, the Registrar will call players to and from court at the request of the Selection Panel.
- **Trials Assistant Registrar** – to track players court time and ensure all players have an opportunity to play in both nominated positions. Assist Registrar in manning the registration desk.
- **Photographer** – to take photos of players, in particular new members, and those with whom the selectors may be unfamiliar. This role may be undertaken by the Trials Assistant Registrar.

- **First Aid Officer** – to provide first aid as required.
- **Warm-up Coach** – To warm up each group of players using the KNEE warm-up program as a guide
- **Timekeeper** – to keep time on court with time of play determined by the Selection Panel.

Equipment Required

- three balls
- four sets of bibs
- Trials EOI forms
- pens, markers,
- at least three tables (2 x registration and 1 x selectors) and chairs,
- camera/phone,
- stopwatch/phone for timing,
- first-aid kit including ice
- sunscreen and gazebos (if outside venue).

Team Selection Day Procedure

- **Arrival:** Panel and duty personnel to arrive 15mins before the welcome to set up.
- **Trials Registrar:** to allocate numbers to each player and ensure that that number is on the player's arm. With the player's permission, take a photo of any new players to assist the selection panel.
- **Welcome.** The Welcome should include the following information:
 - Thanks for joining Waratah Netball Club. Emphasise Club values.
 - Introduce the key people on the day: Selection Panel, Player Liaison, First Aid officer, and warm-up coach.
 - Location of facilities: toilets, water
 - Remind players to remove all jewellery, stay hydrated and use sunscreen if outdoors.
 - Remind players if they are unwell, to call time.
 - Outline the reason for today – to create teams with players of similar ability and a balance of positions and to optimise the chance of success.
 - Outline what Selectors are looking for, as per para 6.5. Focus on your game.
- **Warm-up:** The warm-up is to be performed using the KNEE program as a guide.
- **Game play:** trial games to be played for 12-minute periods or otherwise determined by the Selectors.