

GRAFTON NETBALL ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



2025 OFFICE BEARERS

Executive Committee:

President	Kristie Colling
Vice President	Cathy Walls
Secretary	Kellie Bray
Minute Secretary	Kylie Dick
Treasurer	Trudi Blair
Registrar	Cyndi Allen
Umpire's Convenor	Rhiannon Searle
Coaching Co-ordinator	Amy Jones
Representative Liaison Officer	Amber Watters
Canteen Supervisor	Brooke Burton
Media Officer	Lara Robinson

Additional Office Bearers:

Indigenous Liaison Officer	Kyra-Lee McCann
Member Protection Information Officer	Mark Newman
NetSetGo Co-ordinator	Bonnie Bruce

Club Delegates

Northside Netball Club	Courtney King Ashley Harris
Rhinos Netball Club	Alex Moar Brooke Hansford
S&S Netball Club	Zaly Campbell Bianca Youngman



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Members, Players, Coaches, Sponsors and Supporters,

The end of another season of Netball is fast approaching and it has been a jam packed year of great Netball, new endeavours and amazing successes.

This is the year that was 2025;

- ❖ 14 Net participants
- ❖ 14 Junior teams
- ❖ 26 Senior teams
- ❖ Div 1 & Div 3 Regional League Teams
- ❖ 3 Junior and 1 Senior Rep teams and an 11s Development Squad

There have been a lot of success on and off the court with both our Winter competition & Rep program.

A huge congratulations to all teams that made finals and to all players who showed their dedication, hard work and sportsmanship throughout the year. It has been wonderful to see all the new young umpires coming through our Umpiring program and the mentorship provided by experienced Umpires is commendable. Our Winter competition was evenly matched and showed great depth in all grades and the future is looking good.

GNA also hosted a very successful All Age carnival with huge numbers and we were proud to offer for the first time a mixed division, which was a highlight.

This year our Olivia Rogers Scholarship recipients were Shakaiya Brown, Maya Barnes, Quinn Blanch & Nevaeh Kennedy, once again thank you to Peta and the Confident Girls foundation for their support of our local athletes

Our Under 17s Rep team had a hugely successful year taking out the Div 3 title this year. This was such a great team, supported by an experienced and passionate Coaching staff and it is such a thoroughly deserved win.

Again, we were able to have 2 teams competing in the North Coast Regional League Competition, finishing 4th in Div 1 and Runners up in Div 3.

We welcomed new Sponsors, Big River Gym who put our Representative players through their paces each week and we introduced our branded bike shorts with the support of Under Road Boring Australia.

I would also like to thank our wonderful sponsors of both our Saturday Comp and Representative teams, who make playing this sport we love that bit more affordable;



- ❖ Our Major Sponsor Blue Goose Hotel
- ❖ Clarence Valley Wholesalers
- ❖ Lovin' Life FM 103.1
- ❖ Big River Gym
- ❖ Under Road Boring Australia
- ❖ Chemist Warehouse Grafton
- ❖ The Athlete's Foot
- ❖ Twin Rivers Constructions
- ❖ Inspirations Paint
- ❖ Sportspower Grafton
- ❖ Lifestyle
- ❖ Bonnie's Flowers
- ❖ Grafton Radio Taxis
- ❖ Headspace
- ❖ G&D Richards Transport
- ❖ Greater Bank

This year Our Association has had a lot of changes and has adapted well, learning and growing together as a community for positive outcomes this year and into the future.

Looking forward to many more great things next year as well.

Kristie Colling
President

2025 RESULTS

	Winner	Runner Up	Player of the Match
Blue Goose Hotel Grade	Northside Goal Diggers	Northside Blaze	Samantha Austin (Northside Blaze)
Lifestyle Grade	City Bluefires	Northside Thunderbirds	Leah Bancroft (City Bluefires)
Twin Rivers Grade	City Opals	S&S Novas	Miranda Scully (City Opals)
Richards Transport Grade	Northside Netty Heads	GNA Development	Sophia Wright (GNA Development)
Clarence Valley Wholesalers Grade	Northside Hurricanes	Rhino Rainbows	Caitlin Martens (Northside Hurricanes)



Encouragement Award	S&S Soul Sisters	Volunteer of the Year	Lisa Cummins
Most Improved Senior Team	City Opals	Eulalie Hayes Coach of the Year	Amy Jones
Most Improved Junior Team	GNA Development	Olivia Rogers Memorial Award	Eliza Sacco
Most Promising Team	Rhino Rainbows	Association Coaching Award	Bonnie Bruce
A Grade Player of the Year	Kyle McCann		
Association Umpire Awards	Miranda Scully, Niah Lawrence, Phoebe Gardner, Sadie Brown, Marlie Robinson		

REGISTRAR'S REPORT

We need to ensure that clubs come to grading meetings with complete names of players in teams to help ensure teams are graded into the correct grades.

We only re-graded 2 teams this year from D grade to C grade. Thus, only leaving 3 teams in D grade. We allowed our development team to play in D grade to alleviate a bye in this grade.

This year we had seven grades comprising of the following number of teams;

- A grade – 8 teams
- B grade – 7 teams
- C grade – 7 teams
- D grade – 4 teams
- Purple – 7 teams
- Green – 7 teams

Cyndi Allen
Registrar

TREASURER'S REPORT

Summary of Financial Affairs – Appendix 1.



UMPIRING REPORT

I would like to sincerely thank everyone who gave up their time to umpire this season. Without umpires, Grafton Netball Association simply could not run a successful competition. A big thank you goes to all our dedicated, experienced, and beginner umpires – your efforts are truly appreciated.

I've been especially impressed with the number of new umpires this year and hope they continue to develop their skills and confidence. I look forward to seeing them on court in Grafton for many years to come. A special thank you also goes to those who mentored our beginners – your guidance makes such a difference.

Thank you as well to all the clubs within GNA, who worked together tirelessly to cover umpiring commitments. It has been a huge task, but with everyone's cooperation, we managed to successfully fill every game this season.

In 2025, GNA continued to use the umpire level system, supporting umpires as they progress through their stages, as well as the vest system, which again received very positive feedback.

This year we celebrated a fantastic achievement – congratulations to **Miranda Scully and Trudi Blair** on receiving their National C Badges! Both have worked incredibly hard over the last couple of years to reach this milestone.

Thank you to those who took time out of their busy lives to umpire Regional League, Junior State Titles, and Senior State Titles:

- **Regional League** - Billie Atkinson, Sarah Hughes and Cyndi Allen
- **Jnr State Titles** - Cyndi Allen, Kyle McCann, Bridget Watters, Tegan Watters
- **Snr State Titles** - Cyndi Allen

A massive shoutout also goes to the following umpires, who have been recognised for their hard work and commitment this season:

- Marlee Robinson
- Sadie Brown
- Niah Lawrence
- Phoebe Gardner
- Miranda Scully

Looking ahead to 2026, we hope to see even more umpires reach their badges. To achieve this, we'll need more enthusiastic mentors to support our up-and-coming umpires while continuing to guide our beginners.

Thank you again to everyone who has contributed to umpiring this season – your efforts ensure the ongoing success of netball in Grafton.

Rhee Searle
Umpire's Convenor



REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

In 2025, Grafton Netball Association fielded an 11 years Development Squad in addition to representative teams in the 12s, 13s, and 14s division at Junior State Titles, a 17s team at the Senior State Titles, and two Regional League teams that competed in Divisions 1 and 3 respectively at the NNSW North Coast Regional League competition.

In addition to the major championships, teams also competed at a range of North Coast regional carnivals representing GNA with pride. This season, teams also attended a beach bonding day and trained once per week at the courts and once per week at the Big River Gym developing players skills, fitness, and strength on and off the court resulting in players demonstrating resilience through many challenges from rain, heat, wind, floods, sickness, and injuries throughout the season and at the state titles.

12 Years

Coach: Courtney King

Manager: Bernice Pitt

Team: Kyla Archer, Sadie Brown, Sienna Carmichael, Luca Hopkins, Ruby-Kay Joyce, Niah Lawrence, Amelia McPherson, Azaliya Nichols, Ivy Watling

Netball NSW Junior State Titles, Penrith, Division 4, 6th Place

In their first year of representative netball this team showed great sportsmanship, development and drive. With each game they grew in confidence and at the end of day 3 of state titles they finished a very respectable 6th place.

Award Winners:

Coaches Award: Amelia McPherson

Players Player: Luca Hopkins

Consistency Award: Niah Lawrence

President's Award: Kyla Archer

13 Years

Coach: Brooke Burton

Asst Coach/ Manager: Carly Woods

Team: Faith Chamberlain, Phoebe Gardner, Sienna Giordano, Indi Hopkins, Zakya Lee, Arya Little, Tilly Robertson, Eliza Sacco, Miranda Scully, Bonnie Woods

Netball NSW Junior State Titles, Penrith, Division 4, 14th Place

The 13 years team this representative season showed great resilience, overcoming all sorts of weather, sickness, and injuries. Overcoming these challenges, they showed their love and commitment for the game along with their positional diversity, finishing a respectable 14th place at the junior state titles.



Award Winners:

Coaches Award: Zakya Lee

Players Player: Bonnie Woods

Consistency Award: Miranda Scully

President's Award: Eliza Sacco

14 Years

Coach: Kristie Colling

Manager: Samantha Austin

Team: Caylee Austin, Addison Bowling, Kyla-May Bowling, Shakiaya Brown, Arana Carmichael, Sophie Ensbey, Ally Martens, Aquilla Ward, Sally Whitburn, Jayme Whittaker

Netball NSW Junior State Titles, Penrith, Division 3, 4th Place

The 14s team showed great skill, talent, and teamwork across the season and the three days of state titles in Penrith clocking up 15 wins and only 4 losses, resulting in 4th place on the overall ladder. In addition to a fantastic team result, Netball NSW Talent Identified Aquilla Ward and Talent Selected Caylee Austin, recognising both players for their outstanding skills and talent, a significant and rare achievement that GNA are incredibly proud of.

Award Winners:

Coaches Award: Addison Bowling

Players Player: Caylee Austin

Consistency Award: Aquilla Ward

President's Award: Ally Martens

17 Years

Coach: Amy Jones

Asst Coach: Amber Watters

Manager: Trudi Blair

Team: Ashlea Blair, Emily Dick, Molly Dick, Amelia Fels, Olivia Jones, Meliah McCann, Amber Powell, Angel Robinson, Bridget Watters, Ava Whiley

Netball NSW Senior State Titles, Campbelltown, Division 3, Winners

Consisting of a mix of ages of players, this team combined from the outset showing their skills and talent throughout the entire season including wins at North Coast Region carnivals over opens divisions teams including Inverell and Opens Championship Division team Lismore. In addition to local carnivals, the team travelled to the Lakeside carnival (South of Newcastle) where they beat a range of opposition including higher division teams of their own age and boys' teams, drawing huge, intrigued crowds. Over the course of the three-day state championship, they only lost one game by one goal. The team's bond, strength and dominance resulted in being crowned Division 3 State Champions! In addition to the team being crowned state champions, NNSW also recognised the skills and talent of two team members through Talent Identifying Ashlea Blair and Bridget Watters, a significant and rare achievement that GNA are incredibly proud of.



Award Winners:

Coaches Award: Ava Whiley

Players Player: Amelia Fels

Team Spirit Award: Amber Powell

President's Award: Ashlea Blair

Regional League Team 1

Coach: Kristie Colling

Asst Coach: Eliza Corcoran

Manager: Bernice Pitt

Team: Samantha Austin, Kellie Bray, Emersyn Burton, Candice Chevalley, Eliza Corcoran, Lyteeka Currie, Heidi Dalton, Amy Jones, Melanie Kamoto, Tahlia O'Hara, Lara Robinson, Zoe Taylor, Bridget Watters, Ava Whiley

Netball NSW North Coast Regional League, Coffs Harbour, Division 1, 5th Place

Boasting a combination of wise netballers and youth, this team took to the courts with vigour and determination. Having overcome a range of injuries during the late stages of preparation resulting in the shuffling of teams and player positioning the team fought hard to hold their heads high only narrowly losing several games finishing in 5th place.

Award Winners:

Coaches Award: Emersyn Burton

Players Player: Melanie Kamoto

President's Award: Kellie Bray

Regional League Team 2

Coach: Amy Jones

Asst Coach: Courtney King

Manager: Brooke Burton

Team: Ashlea Blair, Emily Dick, Molly Dick, Amelia Fels, Brooke Hansford, Ash Harris, Jacinta Jurd, Olivia Jones, Katie Martin, Meliah McCann, Angel Robinson

Netball NSW North Coast Regional League, Coffs Harbour, Division 3, Runners Up

Combining the vigour of a large contingent of the 17s representative team with the wise netballers of Brooke, Ash, Katie, and Jacinta, this team took to the court with great composure and positional diversity showing the opposition they were a force to be reckoned with winning all bar one of their round games ultimately ending up the competition Runners Up.

Award Winners:

Coaches Award: Amelia Fels

Players Player: Brooke Hansford

President's Award: Olivia Jones



Representative Umpires

Thank you to all who picked up a whistle during the representative season. For Regional League, Junior State Titles, and Senior State Titles we recognise the four umpires that represented GNA.

Cyndi Allen – Regional League, Senior State Titles, Junior State Titles

Kyle McCann – Junior State Titles

Bridget Watters – Junior State Titles, NNSW 2025 Developing Umpire Program

Tegan Watters – Senior State Titles (Macleay), Junior State Titles

Sponsors

A special recognition to our very valuable sponsors whose contribution made a significant substantial contribution to our athletes, reducing the costs for our athletes and their families.

The Blue Goose Hotel

103.1 FM Loving Life

Athletes Foot

Big River Gym

Chemist Warehouse

Clarence Valley Wholesalers

Flowers by Bonnie

G&D Richards

Headspace

Inspiration Paints

Under Road Boring Australia

Special Achievements and Talent Identification

Caylee Austin - A member of the GNA 14s state titles 4th place team, Caylee was NNSW Talent Selected at this year's junior state titles and invited to attend the NNSW skills camp.

Ashlea Blair – A member of the GNA 17s state championship winning team, Ashlea was NNSW Talent Identified at this year's senior state titles.

Kyle McCann – A GNA registered player who plays his representative netball for other neighbouring associations that have male teams, Kyle was a member of the Ballina Boys team that won the State Championship this year and was also selected in the Australian 15s School Boys Netball Team.

Aquilla Ward – A member of the GNA 14s state titles 4th place team, Aquilla was NNSW Talent Identified at this year's junior state titles.

Bridget Watters - A member of the GNA 17s state championship winning team, Bridget was NNSW Talent Identified at this year's senior state titles. Bridget was also a member of the 2025 NNSW Developing Umpire Program.

It was a pleasure to step in towards the end of the season to assist leading Grafton Netball through the very successful Junior and Senior State Titles. A special shout out to Hayley Sacco and the fundraising committee that worked tirelessly to raise much needed funds to reduce costs



for our representative program players. Thank you to the "purple army" of supporters at all of the carnivals and championships, your positive support has a great impact on the athletes and team success. I'd like to also acknowledge the time and effort of the volunteer representative coaches, managers and GNA Executive who work tirelessly around their own busy lives, striving to ensure the athletes get the best possible experience, skills, development, opportunities, and enjoyment of their representative netball experience.

Amber Watters
Rep Liaison Officer

ACHIEVEMENTS

2025 was a great year for Grafton Netball!

- ❖ We introduced a dedicated game ball for each timeslot bar 11.30 who use a size 4
- ❖ Our first ever Netball survey was put out to the community to gain feedback in regard to things they might like to see changed at GNA
- ❖ A portable physio table was purchased to be used at the Courts and for Rep carnivals/state
- ❖ Our new sponsor "Headspace" provided the executive committee and both our regional league teams new polo shirts.
- ❖ We had 2 Regional League teams this year, with Div 3 coming Runners up
- ❖ The upgrade of the Canteen kitchen and Canteen servery areas has been completed
- ❖ Our All Age carnival this year had our first ever Mixed grade which was a great success
- ❖ We commenced Walking Netball of a Saturday, numbers have been slowly growing, and we will be continuing to promote this
- ❖ We have had a new Sponsor 'Big River Gym' come onboard as a Sponsor of our Rep program offering Gym classes weekly starting with Regional League and then our Snr & Jnr Rep teams
- ❖ GNA welcomed a new sponsor "The Greater Bank"
- ❖ We had our first dedicated bonding day at Minnie Waters beach for the Snr & Jnr rep teams
- ❖ New Sponsor "Under Road Boring" come onboard to collaborate and bring forth the first GNA bike pants to match our Rep dresses
- ❖ We purchased new Electronic EFTPOS systems in the Canteen to enable stock control & better financial management
- ❖ We supported our sponsor Headspace, by completing the "Push Up Challenge" at the courts in June, to raise funds and awareness for mental health.
- ❖ We supported the 4th Annual "Day for Liv", which despite the wet weather was a successful fundraising day for their organisation
- ❖ Spring Twilight competition commencing October will introduce 2 point super shot into our Mixed and Ladies competitions as well as Walking Netball
- ❖ We have upgraded our GNA drink bottles to stainless steel double walled bottles



- ❖ Senior trophies this season were changed to a new stainless steel drink bottle for each player
- ❖ A new Microsoft email system was set up this year for GNA, which has been a successful transition
- ❖ A Woolworths Net Set Go grant & a Local Sports Program Grant were applied for this year; in the hopes we are able to gain funding for more shade.
- ❖ Clarence Valley Council Survey was completed to share our thoughts on areas of improvement at the courts. This included: More seating and shade, more toilets in particular male toilets & changerooms as well as upgraded carpark area and car parking spaces.
- ❖ This year we have been nominating a Clarence Valley sportsperson of the month each month. We had one of our nominations win – Bridget Watters – Congratulations
- ❖ During the Junior and Senior State titles we had 4 of our Rep players recognised by Netball NSW acknowledging their performance – Ashlea Blair and Bridget Watters (17's) and Aquilla Ward & Caylee Austin (14's). Caylee was also selected to attend the Netball NSW skills day – Congratulations to all 4 girls
- ❖ Kyle McCann was selected in the Australian school Netball team





A big thank you to everyone who helped make the 2025 season a success!
We look forward to seeing everyone again in 2026

