



GRAFTON NETBALL ASSOCIATION

REPRESENTATIVE PLAYER POLICY



1. Athlete Eligibility

1.1 To be eligible for selection, athletes must:

- Return a representative athlete nomination form by the specified date. Late nominations will only be considered in exceptional circumstances.
- Attend representative selection trials on the date/s specified by Grafton Netball Association. Any Athlete unable to attend selection trials may apply in writing to the selection panel for consideration, providing reason for non-attendance, netball experience, achievements.
- Meet eligibility criteria as defined in any relevant competition rules.

1.2 Athletes new to the area after teams have been selected can submit an application up to four weeks afterwards and may be invited to trial.

2. Athlete Trial Information

2.1 All athletes standing for selection will be allocated a number which the Representative Player Selection Panel will associate with this player for the duration of the selection period.

2.2 The Representative Player Selection Panel will ensure each athlete trials in their two preferred positions as indicated on the nomination form. However, an athlete may also be asked to trial outside their two preferred positions.

3. Athlete Selection Timing

3.1 Representative teams for Junior/Senior State Titles will be selected on a date specified by the Association, which will be advertised on the Grafton Netball Association website and Facebook page. The selection panel will select teams of either eight, nine, or ten players for each age group.

3.2 The Representative Liaison Officer will submit the selections to the President for authorisation. Once selections are authorised by The President, a formal announcement will be made via Grafton Netball Association website and Facebook.

3.3 Coaches may choose to run representative squads. If these go ahead, they will be selected in the year prior to the competition on a date specified by the Representative committee. The selection panel will select up to fourteen athletes in each age group.

3.4 Regional League teams will be selected on a date specified by the Association.

4. Athlete Selection Criteria

Whenever selecting athletes for squads and teams, the Selection Panel shall assess the level of the following competencies, personal attributes, and other considerations:

4.1 Core playing competencies:

- Sound technical skill base;
- Achieved and maintained the fitness required for this level of competition;
- Shows the potential skills and capabilities to represent GNA at the highest level.

4.2 Core personal Attributes:

- Self-responsibility – driven to be the best and committed to own development;
- Self-awareness – emotional intelligence and can manage own behaviour;
- Leadership – leads by example, and role models the GNA performance culture on and off the court;
- Communication – ability to communicate positively, be open to receiving feedback, and able to give feedback in a calm and mature manner.

- 4.3 Consideration may also be given to the following factors:
- Coachability;
 - Demonstrates team qualities and is a fit within the team environment;
 - Positional versatility and balance within the team;
 - Current form;
 - Whether an athlete's performance and / or contribution has been affected by extenuating circumstances such as illness, injury, bereavement, parental leave, work / study commitments, or similar which have temporarily compromised form.

5. Athlete Replacement / Removal from Team

- 5.1 An athlete may be replaced or removed from a team for the following reasons:
- Breach of Discipline: An athlete may be considered for replacement due to a breach of discipline, including failure to observe any relevant Grafton Netball Association Policy, Netball NSW Code of Behaviour, or the Grafton Netball Representative Player Agreement.
 - Non-attendance: If an athlete fails to attend compulsory team events without adequate explanation, the coach may request the Executive Committee to review the athlete's continued inclusion in the team.
 - Injury: If an athlete sustains an injury that will not allow them to play / train within the two weeks prior to Junior State Titles / Senior State Titles / Regional League, GNA may remove the athlete from the team. A doctor's certificate stating that the athlete is permitted to play / train must also be provided no less than two weeks prior to the Junior State Titles / Senior State Titles / Regional League.
- 5.2 If a selected athlete is unable to continue or is to be removed from any squad or team, a replacement athlete may be selected if required, as follows:
- The Representative Co-ordinator will be advised, and the Selection panel consulted;
 - Consideration will first be given to identified athletes from the selection process;
 - Consideration will then be given to other identified athletes;
 - The Selection Panel will then fill the position with the athlete deemed most suitable.

6. Request for Appeal

- 6.1 An athlete may request a review of any given selection criteria as outlined in this policy, by submitting their request via email to grafton.netball@bigpond.com.au within two working days of the announcement of the relevant selection decision.
- 6.2 Appeals will be reviewed thoroughly by the selection panel. The athlete will be advised of the outcome of the appeal in writing.
- 6.3 An appeal will only be considered if the selection policy was not adhered to, or the athlete was not given fair and equal opportunity during the selection process.
- 6.4 An appeal will not be heard on the subjective basis, for example: an athlete's belief that they are better or more deserving than another athlete.

7. Fees

- 7.1 Payment plans are offered to all players. If any family is having difficulty, they are encouraged to speak to the Representative Liaison Officer to look at different options so that the money can be paid.
- 7.2 The first deposit is required in the first few weeks of rep training starting. Money can be either paid via cash to the Representative Liaison Officer or transferred into Grafton Netball Rep Bank Account. Alternately, EFTPOS facilities will be available at the courts.
- 7.3 Player's payments will be checked and entered onto the Player's Balance Sheet weekly to ensure everything is up to date.
- 7.4 Players balance sheets and amounts owing are available on request. The Representative Liaison Officer will keep this information with them at all training session and carnivals.
- 7.5 In the event that a team doesn't attend State Titles, some of the money that has been paid can be refunded to the parent's bank account less any costs that have occurred during the Representative season thus far.
- 7.6 Any money raised through fundraising cannot be refunded and will be held over to the following year.
- 7.7 Player fees cover the cost of transport and accommodation for team officials to attend State Titles, umpires at carnivals and State Titles, tents and chairs at State Titles, equipment, and team photos. In addition GNA covers the cost of State Titles entry, trophies, patches, and some equipment.

8. Fundraising

- 8.1 Grafton Netball Association will endeavour to assist with keeping the representative costs down for families by holding fundraisers. This can include, but is not limited to, selling Krispy Kreme donuts, running raffles, running 100 clubs, and running BBQs and/or cake stalls on a Saturday netball playing day and / or carnivals. Any profits raised from a fundraising activity will either be shared equally amongst the team running the event (eg BBQs), or by all players in that current Representative season.
- 8.2 The canteen profits on Representative carnival days will be shared equally amongst all players.
- 8.3 No team or individual player will be permitted to do their own external fundraising.

9. Umpiring

- 9.1 Players with appropriate umpiring experience may be called upon to umpire other Representative teams' games at local carnivals. If a player umpires, that player will be paid the amount predetermined by the Representative Liaison Officer and approved by the President. Players will be paid cash on the day.
- 9.2 No Player will be asked to umpire instead of playing at a Representative carnival. Umpires will not be asked to umpire more than two (2) games straight at any Local Representative carnival.
- 9.3 Umpires will be paid up to \$100 per day to attend State Titles. Any umpires travelling and staying with GNA will have their travel and accommodation expenses paid for.

10. Sponsorship

10.1 Each Representative Season Grafton Netball Association will actively source local businesses to become representative sponsors for the year. All sponsorship funds raised will be shared equally amongst all players attending State titles that same year. In the event we don't take any teams to State Titles and sponsorship money has been collected, the Representative Convenor will speak to businesses to see if they would like to have their funds returned or if they would like to hold their funds over for the next season.

10.2 Grafton Netball Association offers three (3) different Tiers of Sponsorship.

Gold - \$500

- Link from GNA website to business website.
- Facebook link to all members.
- Advertising sign displayed on GNA building (at sponsor's cost)
- A supplied banner will be displayed at carnivals and competitions.
- Company logo on a team's training shirt.

Silver - \$200

- Link from GNA website to business website.
- Facebook link to all members.
- Logo displayed on GNA building (at sponsor's cost)

Bronze - \$100

- Link from GNA website to business website.
- Facebook link to all members.

11. Selection Panel Obligations to Athletes

The selection process requires the Selection Panel to assess the perceived standard of an individual player against the criteria set by Grafton Netball Association. It is acknowledged that despite the experience and expertise of the Selection Panel there is an element of subjectivity. There may be extremely difficult choices to be made which will require the Selection Panel to exercise their discretion and judgement. Providing the Panel has properly followed this Policy and exercised their discretion and judgement in good faith, the Panel will have fulfilled its obligations under this Policy.