

## **SUTHERLAND SHIRE NETBALL ASSOCIATION INC. GRADING POLICY**

### **1. GRADING SUB-COMMITTEE**

- i. The Grading Sub-Committee shall be responsible for Grading in accordance with Clause 4. **e)**. i. and Clause 5. **b)**. iv. of the Constitution;

### **2. COMPOSITION OF GRADING SUB-COMMITTEE**

- i. The Senior Grading Panel shall comprise fourteen (14) graders plus the Coordinator;
- ii. The Junior Grading Panels shall comprise of ten (10) Junior Graders plus the Coordinator;
- iii. Observers shall assist the graders and take part in practical grading as directed by the Junior Grading Coordinator;
- iv. Each club with a membership of thirty (30) teams or more shall submit two (2) nominations for the Grading Panels by 31<sup>st</sup> January of each year in accordance with Clause 1. **b)** v;
- v. The Grading Panel's Observers shall be selected by the Grading Committee and announced at the February council meeting.

### **3. DUTIES OF GRADING COMMITTEE**

- i. Grading Information sessions shall be held prior to Association registration day which all graders and observers shall attend;
  - a) Guidelines for both paper and practical grading will be explained in order that all grading procedures are standardised;
- ii. Attendance at all grading is mandatory. Graders and Observers shall attend:
  - a) One (1) grading information session;
  - b) Paper grading;
  - c) Grading appraisal;
  - d) Practical grading

### **4. PAPER GRADING**

- i. Teams will be paper graded in accordance with standardised guidelines to ensure that no team is disadvantaged. Clubs shall provide accurate information regarding positions and requested grades on the team sheet. This information should be provided by the club graders unless the Registrar is also a grader.
- ii. Clubs shall provide contact numbers for people who may be contacted on grading day and are familiar with each age group should further information be required;
- iii. Teams will be graded according to the following:
  - a) Junior – 10yrs, 11yrs and 12 yrs
  - b) Intermediate – 13yrs, 14yrs and 15yrs or Under 15yrs (combined 14/15yrs)

- c) Cadets – Under 17yrs
- d) Seniors
- iv. The decision regarding 14/15 year grades shall be announced at the AGM of each year in order that clubs can grade teams accordingly;
- v. In order to reduce the number of byes, Graders shall consider six (6) team grades playing fifteen (15) rounds where numbers do not accommodate eight (8) team grades. The fifteenth round for each team shall be played as a second game on a selected day during the competition;
- vi. The decision regarding which competition the 15 year representative team shall participate in shall be assessed each year according to distribution of players throughout the clubs. Recommendations from the Junior Representative Players Selection Committee, coach and Executive shall be taken into consideration when making the decision. Clubs will be notified of this decision prior to club registration;
- vii. Clubs with more than one (1) team in an age group shall grade their teams and number them in order of ability (excluding Netta teams);
- viii. Graders shall consider the possibility of combined grades where there are particularly talented teams in each age group;
- ix. Clubs shall be advised of provisional gradings as soon as practical after grading day.

#### **5. PRACTICAL GRADING**

- i. The 10yrs age group will be practically graded each year. Other grades may be practically graded as decided by the Grading Panels;
- ii. Scores shall be recorded in the 9yrs age group from round8 to round 14 in order to facilitate a more effective initial paper grading prior to the practical grading the following year. Coaches should be encouraged to position their players in the area of the court they are most suited for the second half of the season i.e. a player who is a good defence should rotate through the three defensive positions. This will have the added benefit of assisting clubs with their 10yrs grading;
- iii. Names of players in attendance at practical grading will be checked from the team sheets;
- iv. Graders may request players to change to positions on the court that they feel they may be more suited to;
- v. The Grading Panels decision shall be final following practical grading.

#### **6. APPRAISAL**

- i. Following publication of provisional gradings, if any club wishes to discuss the grading of any team/s, they may do so at the Appraisal. The date for the Appraisal will be set at the Annual General Meeting of each year;
- ii. Appraisal provides clubs the opportunity to meet with the Grading Panel to discuss the reasons for individual team gradings in comparison with other teams
- iii. Appraisal is a prerequisite for an appeal.

**7. GRADING APPEALS**

- i. An appeal against a team grading decision must be lodged in writing with the Secretary of the Association by 5:30pm on the Monday following the appraisal;
- ii. Appeals will not be considered unless the grading was discussed at appraisal unless further information is provided;
- iii. The Grading Appeals Committee shall comprise of the relevant Grading Co-ordinator, a member of the Executive and a member of the Grading panel not involved in the initial grading. The Convenor of the Appeals Committee shall be the Secretary of the Association;
- iv. The Convenor shall notify team/s of other clubs that would be effected by the appeal, in order for them to also be given the opportunity to provide additional information at the appeal committee hearing;
- v. The Grading Appeals Committee will examine all available information and make their decision within twenty four (24) hours of the hearing;
- vi. The decision of the Grading Appeals Committee shall be final.