

Welcome back to our Macedon Ranges Junior Winter Competition 2024.

Divisions – The divisions we are running this season are U9s, U11s, U13s and U16s.

Gender guidelines - Under the gender equality rules that were brought in a number of years ago by Netball Victoria there is no limit on the number of males participating in the U9s, U11s and U13s. The MRNA Executive have decided this year to run the U16s as a female only competition.

Uniforms - All players are to wear their club's uniform and bibs while playing. Tracksuit pants, leggings, long sleeve shirts and jumpers can be worn underneath playing uniforms (provided they are in the same colours as playing uniforms and must have no pockets, zippers, buckles or hoods) if the weather is inclement. Finger nails are to be kept short (these will be checked by the umpires before each game), no jewellery is to be worn and any piercings that can't be removed must be taped.

Registration - All players must have a current VNA membership, be registered into the Macedon Ranges Junior Winter Competition 2024 via their club which is affiliated with Macedon Ranges Netball Association.

You can have a fill in player that is not registered with MRNA or an affiliated club but they must hold a current VNA or purchase a single game voucher via Netball Connect for \$10. If they are filling in then you must write "fill in" on the score sheet against their name as well as their VNA number. If they have purchased a single game voucher then write "s/g" beside their name. If a player doesn't hold a current VNA membership or single game voucher, then they CAN NOT take the court. A player is only permitted to purchase 3 single game vouchers in any one season.

Scoring - Every team must provide a scorer for each game. The two scorers on each game MUST stand together between the two coach's boxes and score together. They must both sign off on the scoresheet at the end of the game as this confirms that they both agree with the final scores. Attached is an example of a scoresheet showing how it should be completed. Positions for each quarter must be completed as the number of quarters a player plays is either recorded to work out who is or isn't eligible to play in finals or it is to record the rotation of players throughout the positions. Score attempts are not recorded in the games throughout the season.

U11s – This year the MRNA Executive have made the decision to grade the U11 division and they will compete in finals and will have best and fairest votes awarded. Each player will however still have to rotate throughout all the positions throughout the season. Therefore it is imperative that all positions are completed on the scoresheet for each quarter so that they can be recorded for eligibility to play finals but also to record the rotation of positions. Clubs will be notified throughout the season if rotations are not be complied with. As the U11s are still learning the game, this is valuable in learning how to play all positions and ultimately working out what position they are most suited to in the upper grades.

U9s - play under the NetSetGo program and have modified rules. As a precursor to scoring in the higher grades, you may score as per the example score sheet that is attached to the score board and that has been provided to all clubs. This way by the time you are scoring in U11s you are experienced in the correct way of scoring. However final scores are not entered into Netball Connect and therefore there is no ladder. It is imperative that you complete the positions that each player plays for all 4 quarters as it is a by-law of MRNA that players playing in U9s rotate throughout all positions over the course of the season. Rotation

of all players will be recorded and reviewed throughout the season. We suggest that in each game if a player is playing in the attacking end then they rotate between C, WA, GA and GS. If they are playing in the defence end then they rotate between C, WD, GD or GK. A player can only play a maximum of one half in the same position per game.

One U9 coach per team is permitted to walk the side of the court. That coach must be aware to give the umpires plenty of room to do their job.

U13s and Up - Do not have any modifications and the two scorers must stand together and score the game as per the attached example scoresheet.

All scores will be entered into Netball Connect and ladder positions adjusted by the end of the weekend. It is imperative that all positions are filled in correctly on the scoresheet.

Player qualifying for finals - A player must have played at least 12 quarters (for the team that has made the finals) to be eligible to play in finals. The number of quarters each player plays will be recorded. For a player to be eligible to play in finals they must also be correctly registered into the Macedon Ranges Junior Winter Competition 2024 and with their respective club. Clubs will be notified of who is eligible to play in finals 3 weeks out from finals starting.

The number of quarters played by each player will be recorded and this will determine whether a player is eligible to play finals if in fact their team makes the finals.

Playing up - A player can play up i.e U9s → U11s, U11s → U13s, U13B → U13A, U13 → U16s, U16B → U16A. A player cannot play down or side to side (i.e if a club has two U13A teams). If a player is playing up, it must be clearly indicated on the scoresheet ie. P/up from U13s against their name. A player is only permitted to play up in the same team for 2 games, if they takes the court for a 3rd game in that higher team, then that player must remain up in the higher grade. The number of times that a player plays up will be recorded.

First Aid - All teams should have their own first aid kit and disposable ice packs.

New Umpiring Rules – World Netball have brought in a number of new rules. The new rules that MRNA will be implementing this year are:

Gaol After Whistle In the past, the ball had to pass completely through the ring before the whistle to be counted as a goal.

Now, if the whistle to end play (or to hold time) is blown after the ball has left the hands of the shooter and the shot is successful, the goal will be scored.

Short Pass It is a fundamental principle of netball that every pass should be capable of being legally contested.

The updated rule states that when a player passes the ball there must be sufficient space on the court for an opposing player to be able to deflect or intercept the ball as it moves from the hands of the passer to those of the receiver.

The difference between the old rule “intercept by a hand” and the updated rule “deflect or intercept” is that the umpire must consider whether the defending player can make a genuine attempt.

Throw-In With the new update, players no longer have to wait for all players to be on court before taking the throw-in.

Spectators – A reminder that all spectators are to watch games from outside the fenced area. Only the coach, team manager, scorer and first aider are permitted to be court side.

**** If anyone needs assistance with scoring correctly, please have them ask at the control room

RESPECT OUR UMPIRES



Remember umpires like players are honing their skills each week. Just like every player on court – some weeks are better than others!

All our umpires deserve support, encouragement and praise – just like the players.

**NO PLAYERS NO GAME – NO
UMPIRES NO GAME**

Let's all work together and be kind!