

Why involve youth in your committee?

A Youth Officer for your committee

A Youth Officer is the next step in facilitating better representation and decision making on your netball committee. A Youth Officer can provide a young person's insight at committee meetings, help advise on relevant issues and guide policy decisions through advice and feedback. This is a vital step in elevating your club and helping to meet Netball Victoria's Child Safety Standards.

If you already have a Youth Officer, fantastic! Time to set up a Youth Committee. This will capture a larger youth audience and help you better understand their perspectives. A Youth Committee could also be used to run projects and help implement new strategies (like this document!).

Benefits of involving youth

- Increased player representation: find out exactly what your younger players want and need from you
- Shaping netball for the future
- Long term stability: setting up your organisation for the future (creating tomorrow's leaders)
- Community engagement: reaching a whole new network of players
- Promoting an inclusive environment
- Empowering young people and creating a sense of belonging
- Increase your club/committee's accessibility
- Strengthening community
- Policy and advocacy reform: making policy better for youth members
- Bi-directional learning opportunity

A step-by-step guide to getting your own Youth Officer or Committee:

CREATE AN OPPORTUNITY

Make space in your organisation for a Youth Officer and create a position description. This includes key responsibilities, criteria, and expectations for the role. The same will apply to set up a Youth Committee. A sample position description is provided.



ENGAGE PLAYERS

Engage with your player group, advertise the role, and promote the opportunity throughout your organisation. This could be face-to-face chats, posters, through a newsletter, on your Facebook page, emails or directly through clubs. We have provided our top tips on how to engage young people in 2024.



ESTABLISH YOUR TEAM

Conduct interviews and select a candidate/s. There may not be a need for interviews; this can be at the discretion of the committee. Suggested conversation starters/ topics and interview questions have been provided.



COLLABORATE & SUPPORT

Provide training and support to your chosen officer/s. Inform them of the expectations of the role and commitment required to the position. If you've got a committee, further provide an opportunity for the team to meet and set values and goals for the year, ensuring members are respected, included and excited. We have attached our very own goals and values as an example.

