



2025

Affiliation and Membership Policy

ASSOCIATIONS / LEAGUES

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1. PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY

The purpose of this policy is to outline the expectations and requirements of:

- Netball Victoria's (NV) Affiliated Associations, Community Members, and Leagues regarding affiliation with NV;
- the process for Registered Members renewing or applying for NV membership; and
- the process for Clubs/Teams to register for short-season competitions.

2. NETBALL VICTORIA

NV is the peak state sporting body for netball in Victoria and is affiliated with Netball Australia (NA). NV exists to create and inspire a lifelong love of netball, and the vision is for netball to be recognised as the greatest team sport in Victoria.

NV works to:

- identify and meet the needs of netball players, coaches, umpires, officials, volunteers, Affiliates and Clubs; and
- develop opportunities to attract more people to be involved in our game to grow the sport.

NV Strategic Plan 2023 -2026

| Strategic Pillars | Objectives |
|-------------------|--|
| Play | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Netball Victoria's pathway provides a well-considered structure and support mechanisms to ensure the netball community excels. • There are greater opportunities in regional Victoria for everyone to be involved in Netball. • Our grassroots competitions and programs provide a happy and safe place for everyone to be involved in our game. • Our Melbourne Vixens and Victorian State teams are successful teams in their competitions. |
| Grow | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase participation and involvement in netball. • Create more opportunities for males to participate in netball. • Increase our financial capacity to invest more in netball. • Increase capability and capacity of our affiliates. |
| Inspire | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Netball is a welcoming sport for everyone. • Celebrate and honour the rich history and heritage of netball in Victoria. • The people in our netball community are role models who inspire current and future generations. • Galvanise our grassroots community to connect with our elite competitions and programs. |
| Lead | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Netball Victoria is a leader in equality, ensuring fairer access, investment and opportunities for all. • Collaborate with our Australian netball network to ensure netball remains Australia's number one team sport for girls and women. • Netball Victoria and Melbourne Vixens staff, athletes and directors are capable of leading our sport into the future. |

3. BENEFITS OF AFFILIATING WITH NETBALL VICTORIA

NV Affiliates are entitled to a range of benefits and services. The following outlines some of the benefits and services provided through affiliation:

- Coach Development and Pathways – access to courses, resources, workshops, accreditation, talent identification (TID) and networking opportunities.
- Umpire Development and Pathways – access to courses, resources, workshops, accreditation, talent identification (TID) and networking opportunities.
- Player Development and Pathways such as NetSetGO, clinics, talent and academy programs, State Teams, TID, competitions and tournaments.
- Competitions conducted by NV including the State events calendar.
- Community Development – Diversity and inclusion programs, Sporting Schools Program, training and education, resources, support, and information.
- Affiliate Services – Management and administration resources and information, governance and policy resources and information, affiliate development information, education, training, and support.
- Technology Systems and Tools - Netball Connect support, resources, training, and education.
- Facility Development – technical information and support, planning, development and project management support, funding application and advocacy for facility development.
- Regional and Metropolitan Development – Staff located in the field to provide support, information, and resources to assist in building and strengthening relationships within the community to support participation growth and advocate for the advancement of netball facilities, programs, and activities.
- Opportunities to access new and innovative netball participation opportunities.
- Each Affiliated Association has full voting rights as defined in the NV Constitution. (Community Members and Interested Members do not have voting rights).

As the governing body in Victoria, NV endeavours to:

- Secure the ongoing development of netball in Victoria by continuing to develop and implement its strategic and operational plans.
- Identify and reduce the barriers that impact netball participation in Victoria.
- Actively promote and market the sport of netball and work to assist affiliates to profile and grow netball at a local level.
- Manage and maintain the affiliation system, inclusive of the technology platform, Netball Connect.
- Build on the capabilities of Affiliates and Clubs through providing information and support, relevant professional development and capacity building education opportunities for the NV volunteer and paid workforce.
- Develop and deliver progressive coach, umpire, bench official, player development and talent identification programs and opportunities.
- Support Affiliates across Victoria with information and guidance on matters pertaining to netball.
- Coordinate and manage NV events, Competitions and new product offerings.
- Provide leadership in the development of netball specific policies and procedures.
- Respond promptly and professionally to issues raised and requiring NV office and/or Board attention.
- Provide relevant resource materials and information on the NV website and the Engage NV platform.
- Provide support and information to Affiliates and Clubs.
- Convene opportunities where Affiliates can come together to network, collaborate, and partner to grow the sport of netball.

Affiliated Associations and their respective Clubs are covered under NA's National Insurance Program for Public Liability, Professional Indemnity, Personal Accident for Volunteers, Property Insurance and Association Liability, including Directors and Officers cover.

All Registered Members will be covered for Personal Accident Insurance in accordance with the NA Personal Accident Insurance Policy and membership terms and conditions stated within this policy.

Coaches and umpires will only be covered for professional indemnity insurance if they have a current Senior or Junior NV membership and registered in Netball Connect to all the competitions they participate in their respective roles.

4. CONDITIONS OF AFFILIATION

- 4.1. Each Affiliate must pay the annual Affiliation Fee by the due date.
- 4.2. Participation in NV Competitions by Affiliates and Clubs is subject to, and shall constitute, acceptance of the terms of this Policy.
- 4.3. Each Affiliate must, and must ensure that each Club participating in a Competition, training or netball activities that it administers:
 - Actively manages and supports its constituents, including its members and Registered Members, by adhering to sound governance and management practices.
 - Acts in accordance with its constitution, by-laws, rules, regulations and similar, ensuring that such are compliant with the Laws. For the avoidance of doubt, where Affiliates or Clubs deliver multiple sports, for example football/netball, their governance and management of the netball component must be compliant with the Laws.
 - Manages itself responsibly, consistent with any ASIC, Consumer Affairs Victoria or similar statutory rules, regulations and requirements.
 - Ensures that all Competitions that it administers do not include participants that are not Registered Members. This includes coaches, umpires and committee members. A Competition must consist of four or more Teams.
 - Complies with the Laws.
 - Complies with the reasonable direction of NV or NA from time to time.
 - Manages Registered Member's membership through Netball Connect (in addition to any other systems an Affiliate or Club chooses to utilise).
 - Ensure all participants of Competitions that it administers comply with all child safety legislation, including but not limited to the Victorian Child Safe Standards and to ensuring that required working with children checks are inspected and recorded in Netball Connect. For more information about the people who need working with children checks, please see here: <https://www.vic.gov.au/working-with-children-check>.
 - Undertake an annual child safety risk assessment and review and create an action plan to identify and mitigate any risks. A copy of the child safety action plan must be submitted to NV within 30 days of its completion.
 - Appoints a child safety officer independent of the Affiliate/Club committee who has completed the VicSport Online Education Program and who must complete the same at least every two years.
 - Proactively promotes the child safety officer, including online, and how they can be contacted. Child safety officers must have a registered login to the Engage NV Child Safety Officer Information and Collaboration group and are encouraged to attend NV education and support sessions.

- Notifies NV and keep NV updated as to its key personnel, including officer bearers, via and as further described in Netball Connect.
 - Within 1 month of each Annual General Meeting, a copy of the Annual Report, End of Year Financial Statements, Constitution and By-Laws (or a link to such via its website) is submitted to NV via the Netball Connect Platform.
 - Ensures that Netball Connect administrators obtain sufficient support when acquiring a login. They should receive training from a current administrator or by attending a NV New Administrator training session facilitated by NV in February and October. All other Netball Connect training will be done at the cost of the Affiliate or Club through Netball Assist.
 - Ensures that participants of Competitions, programs and activities that the Affiliate or Club administers, adhere to appropriate standards of behaviour, including but not limited to NA's Code of Conduct and NV's Codes of Conduct – General, Junior Player, Player, Coach, Umpire, Administrator, Guardians, Spectator.
 - Ensures that a Complaints Manager independent of the Affiliate/Club committee is appointed at all times and that the Complaints Manager has completed the NV online complaints management training. All complaints must be managed in accordance with NV policies. Complaints Managers are required to have a registered login to the Engage NV Complaints Managers Information and Collaboration group and must be encouraged to attend NV education and support sessions. It is a requirement under the Netball Australia Netball Integrity Policy Framework, Conduct & Disciplinary Policy – Section 16.2, that NV will be notified of all complaints dealt with under this policy. At the conclusion of a complaint managed under this policy the Complaints Manager must send a copy of the relevant documentation within fourteen (14) days to memberservices@netballvic.com.au
 - Complies with the principles of the Netball Respect program and supply green wrist bands for their umpires who are under the age of eighteen when officiating a match. This may be extended to coaches under the age of eighteen however is not compulsory under this policy.
 - Complies with NV's request for it, or its authorised representative, to conduct an audit of operations at any time to assess if the requirements under this policy are being met. Notice will be provided that an audit is being conducted and a date within fourteen (14) days of that notice shall be agreed between both parties.
 - Engages and actively participates in the NV Thrive Program as required.
- 4.4. Clubs will not be afforded the same rights as Affiliates under this Policy. Clubs may otherwise be supported to deliver Competitions or programs, only where it is deemed appropriate by NV. All Club delivered Competitions and programs must be approved by NV in advance.
- 4.5. NV, in the interest of netball, retains the right to exercise its discretion with regard to Affiliate conditions. This Policy may be amended from time to time by NV, acting reasonably.

5. BREACH OF POLICY

- 5.1. Where NV is of the opinion that an Affiliate has breached its obligations under this policy or any of the NV Policies, NV will provide notice of the breach to the Affiliate.
- 5.2. Where an Affiliate receives a notice from NV, the Affiliate shall be entitled to reply in writing (within the time stipulated in the notice) setting out any information or evidence to NV as it sees fit.

5.3. Upon receipt of a reply from the Affiliate or where the Affiliate chooses to not submit a reply within the time period stipulated in the notice, NV shall consider the alleged breach(es) and any reply and may, in its sole discretion, impose any or any combination of the following penalties as NV sees fit:

- A warning and/or reprimand.
- A fine.
- A suspension in any Competition conducted by NV.
- Termination of NV affiliation.

5.4. Where NV is of the opinion that a breach of Affiliate obligations under this policy has been caused or contributed to in part or in whole by a Club or Clubs, NV also may carry out a breach notification and sanction process commensurate with sections 5.1-5.3 with the Club/s.

5.5. Any decision under section 5 of this Policy shall be final and there shall be no appeal.

6. AFFILIATION FEES

Affiliation Fees are determined by NV membership size and based on the number of Registered Members in the previous calendar year. Affiliates with Clubs that run NSG programs will have those numbers included in the total:

| Netball Victoria Affiliation Fees (valid from 1 January 2025 – 31 December 2025) | | |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| SMALL ASSOCIATION (<500) | MEDIUM ASSOCIATION (501-1000) | LARGE ASSOCIATION (>1000) |
| \$320 | \$370 | \$420 |

7. MEMBERSHIP FEES & TYPES

All participants of Competitions, programs and activities that an Affiliate or Club administers must be registered with NV under one of the following registration types. Players, coaches, umpires, or those with an on-court role must be registered under a Senior, Junior, NetSetGO or All Abilities membership type.

Netball Victoria 2025 Memberships

(valid from 1 January 2025 – 31 December 2025)

All members of an Affiliated Association must be registered with NV under one of the following registration types. Players, coaches, umpires, or those with an on-court role must be registered under a Senior, Junior, All Abilities (AA), NetSetGO registration type.

| CATEGORY | DEFINITION | PRICE |
|--------------------|---|---------|
| Senior | Players, Umpires, Coaches & Bench Officials Born on or before 31/12/2007 (18 years & over) | \$90.00 |
| Junior | Players, Umpires, Coaches & Bench Officials Born between 01/01/2008 – 31/12/2018 (7-17 years) | \$70.00 |
| All Abilities (AA) | Persons who have an intellectual disability or a physical impairment | \$70.00 |
| NetSetGO (NSG) | Those born on or after 01/01/2015 (5-10 years) Refers to the ALL participants in the Net Tier (Skills and Activities) as well as the Set and GO Tiers (modified competition). <i>Please note: this price is inclusive of the new participant pack, with redemption integrated as part of the registration process.</i> | \$99.00 |
| Walking Netball | Players born on or before 31/12/2014 (11 years and over) and participating in a Walking Netball program or competition. | \$25.00 |
| Off the Court | Committee Members, Administrators, Volunteers, Parents & Spectators (noting players, coaches, umpires, and bench officials must be a current Senior, Junior or AA member) | \$56.00 |

Prices are inclusive of GST. **Please note players under 7 years of age must register as a NSG participant.**

*Nationally the Woolworths NetSetGO program will undergo a rebrand and refresh ahead of the 2025 season, with a refreshed NET Tier & new Participant Pack. As a result of these changes, Netball Victoria will open registrations for the NetSetGO Membership on 1 December 2024, to align with other Member Organisations & Netball Australia.

8. OTHER REGISTRATION FEES & TYPES

| Product Type | Definition | Cost (inc GST) |
|--------------------------|---|----------------|
| Short Season Team Fee | Players born on or before 31/12/2012 (11 years and over) and participating in a short season | \$140.00 |
| Single Game Fee (Senior) | Single Game insurance coverage only; Players and Umpires born on or before 31/12/2006 (18 years and over) | \$5.00 |
| Single Game Fee (Junior) | Single Game insurance coverage only; Players and Umpires born between 01/01/2007-31/12/2017 (7-17 years) | \$3.00 |

9. REGISTERED MEMBERS

- 9.1. By registering in Netball Connect, individuals consent to becoming a Registered Member of NV, and in doing so agree to comply with all Laws.
- 9.2. Each Registered Member must enter valid and accurate data during the online registration process and ensure they are registered in all the Competitions they participate in and the role i.e. player, coach, umpire.

- 9.3. All individuals must register via the Netball Connect online registration form. Once submitted online and financial, the person registering immediately becomes a Registered Member and insured through NA's National Insurance Program. Individuals that do not complete the online registration process, will not be covered by NA's National Insurance Program until Netball Connect shows the individual as a financial member.
- 9.4. Full membership is required to be covered by professional indemnity insurance and to be eligible to participate or officiate in an Affiliate or League Competition or program (including NetSetGO).
- 9.5. All Affiliate or Club committee members who do not hold a Senior, Junior or All Abilities membership must register as Off the Court members. This membership is offered to those Affiliate or Club members that have an administrative role, such as President, Secretary, or similar role, providing them coverage under the NA National Insurance Program
- 9.6. Individuals who participate in a walking netball program or Competition must have a Walking Netball membership or a full membership (Adult/Junior/AA). A Walking Netball membership does not entitle the holder to play, coach or officiate in any other Competition type. If an individual has a current Off the Court membership and wishes to participate in a Walking Netball program or Competition, they must purchase a Walking Netball membership.
- 9.7. The registration period will be determined by NV.
- 9.8. Individuals must register into each Competition they participate in. It is a requirement for all participants playing in a Competition which commences in the current year and concludes the subsequent year to purchase NV membership for that subsequent year.
- 9.9. Where an individual participates in more than one affiliated Competition, the primary registration will be the first entry registered into Netball Connect for that individual for the current year. Each subsequent entry will be known as the secondary registration.

10. SHORT SEASON COMPETITIONS

- 10.1. Affiliates may apply to NV to offer a Short Season competition in addition to traditional competitions. NV will consider requests from Clubs to conduct Short Season competitions where they have the support of the relevant Affiliate to do so, and where it is deemed appropriate by NV.
- 10.2. All Short Season competitions must be approved by NV and are subject to the terms and conditions of the Short Season Agreement.
- 10.3. Affiliates who operate a Short Season competition are exempt from the Short Season license fee.
- 10.4. A NV Short Season team registration fee, per Short Season competition will apply.
- 10.5. Individuals who participate in a Short Season competition must register via the Affiliate or Club registration form. Once submitted online, the person registering immediately becomes an Entrant for that Short Season competition only. Entrants do not have access to the range of benefits afforded to Registered Members, including access to pathway

competitions and development, member only events, discounts, and other benefits as offered from time to time.

10.6. No discounts will apply for Entrants who are current NV members. Short Season team registration fees will not apply as credits towards NV membership.

11. PAYMENT OF FEES

- 11.1. Affiliates and their Clubs must register their bank account details in Netball Connect to enable Stripe Payments to be used for the collection of NV fees, Affiliate and Club fees or the application of discounts.
- 11.2. Affiliates may be invoiced for Registered Members registered through Netball Connect, should an issue with the online payment gateway occur.
- 11.3. If payment is required by direct debit, an invoice detailing the amount will be sent to the Affiliate at least 14 days prior to the direct debit being processed.
- 11.4. Affiliates are required to make payment in full by the NV invoice due date. Failure to pay an invoiced amount to NV by the specified due date will render the Affiliate and the relevant Registered Member(s) un-financial until payment has been rectified and the Affiliate and its Clubs and the Registered Members of each will not be permitted to participate in any NV Competition or be covered under the National Insurance Program.
- 11.5. If an Affiliate does not pay the Affiliation Fee within thirty days of the due date, its membership shall lapse, and they will be required to reapply for membership in accordance with the NV Constitution.
- 11.6. If an Affiliate has not paid the Affiliation Fee and has not conducted a competition in accordance with this policy within the past 12 months, they will be required to reapply for affiliation.

12. REFUNDS

- 12.1. Individuals who register to an affiliated Competition become a Registered Member of NV and an assumption is made that they have taken the court either for training or Competition purposes.
- 12.2. Except (a) under extenuating circumstances upon request to the GM – Member Services, which shall be considered at NV's discretion, or (b) where a duplicate payment can be evidenced to NV's satisfaction, no refunds are permitted.
- 12.3. Non-selection in a Team or for a Club does not entitle an individual to a refund.
- 12.4. No refund will be given where a member has made a personal accident insurance claim.

13. TRIALLING MEMBERS

- 13.1. NV supports introductory netball programs which encourage new participants to participate. NV provides access to NA's National Insurance program for individuals participating in these events as trialling members.
- 13.2. NV defines a trialling member as a person who participates in any of the following:
 - NV Community Clinics

- Train Like a Vixen Clinics
- Come and Try Days
- Gala Days
- Any other event or program as determined by NV.

13.3. Participants must be notified that they are trialling members for the purpose of that event. Documents must stipulate those participants are trialling members and state a period of trial.

13.4. A trial period can be no more than four sessions of the specific event/program.

13.5. Trialling Members will be covered for Personal Accident Insurance under the National Insurance Policy, for the duration of the event they are participating in.

13.6. To enable an insurance claim, the following details must be recorded as evidence of participation:

- Date of event
- Event venue/location
- Club/Affiliate delivering the event
- participant's full name, date of birth, address, email, and phone number

13.7. It is not necessary to send these details to NV but in the unfortunate event of an injury occurring and a claim being made you will be contacted to provide this information.

14. SINGLE GAME FEES (SGF)

14.1. SGF are available to players who play one off matches who become an Entrant for that match. SGF must be purchased online through the Affiliate or Club online registration form prior to taking the court.

14.2. Individuals registering under SGF are not members of NV and are not entitled to NV member benefits other than personal accident insurance for the nominated game.

14.3. SGF are not valid for players or officials participating in Victorian Netball League or other NV pathway Competitions or development programs.

14.4. SGF are non-refundable and cannot be transferred.

14.5. There is no limit to how many SGF a participant can purchase unless stipulated in the Affiliate or Club by-laws.

14.6. SGF may be used in finals matches unless stipulated in the Affiliate or Club by-laws.

15. INTERSTATE MEMBERS

With the exception of Cross Border Members, individuals who are a member of an interstate Member Organisation are still required to pay their NV membership if they are participating in an affiliated NV Competition.

Border Associations/Leagues must seek proof of Netball NSW or Netball SA membership prior to an interstate member playing in their competitions. Where proof of membership cannot be confirmed the individual will be required to become a NV Registered Member.

Where proof of membership is confirmed that member may be entitled to a reciprocal NV membership.

16. AFFILIATE RESPONSIBILITIES

Affiliates must:

- Recognise and support the authority of NV in all matters pertaining to netball in the state of Victoria as determined by the NV Constitution.
- Provide a safe, fair, and inclusive environment for everyone involved in netball in accordance with the Fair Play principles.
- Support initiatives and strategies in the NV Strategic Plan, including NV Events, Programs and Guidelines and Policies and Procedures.
- Act as a positive advocate for netball and NV in the local community.
- Proactively communicate with NV on issues of concern.
- Promptly respond to requests from NV, including submission of requested information.
- Administer netball Competitions compliant with the Laws and promote and encourage adherence with the Laws to all Clubs, Teams, Registered Members and other participants within your Affiliate.
- Have a specific netball constitution as modelled on the NV Sample Constitution Template, and by-laws as modelled on the NV Sample by-laws template which are aligned to the purposes of NV and the NV Constitution. See above for dual code Affiliates/Clubs.
- Register all players, umpires, coaches and officials during the current calendar year; collect all required data pertaining to the Registered Members and pay relevant fees.
- Pay all fees levied by NV by the due date.
- Ensure information provided by NV to the Affiliate is appropriately shared with Clubs and Registered Members.
- Commit to use the full suite and modules of NV technology platforms.

17. PERSONAL INFORMATION

Netball Victoria collects, uses, discloses and retains personal information (PI) further to its Privacy Policy. For further information see here: <https://netball.com.au/privacy-policy>.

18. DEFINITIONS

Unless otherwise defined below, this Policy incorporates the definitions in NV's Constitution.

AFFILIATE means any of an Affiliated Association, Community Member or League.

AFFILIATED ASSOCIATION means a not-for-profit incorporated association or company limited by guarantee which has an interest in Netball and is recognised as such by NV.

BORDER ASSOCIATION/LEAGUE means an Affiliate that conducts Competitions in a cross-border community.

CLUB means a club affiliated with an Affiliate.

COMMUNITY MEMBER means a body incorporated under legislation and which has an interest in Netball and is recognised as such by NV.

COMPETITION is a competition operated by an Affiliate, of which all individuals are Registered Members.

ENTRANT means an individual who registers for a short season competition or pays a single game fee to participate in a competition. An entrant is not a member of NV as defined under the Constitution.

INTERESTED MEMBER means a for profit organisation (being a company, partnership, statutory body or otherwise) which has an interest in netball and is recognised as such by NV.

LAWS means all applicable laws, as well as NA and NV Constitutions, Regulations, Policies, Rules of Competition and Codes of Conduct as are applicable from time to time.

LEAGUE means a netball body other than an Affiliated Association, Community Member or Interested Member that administers a netball competition as approved by NV.

REGISTERED MEMBER means a person fully paid up and registered via Netball Connect with NV as a player, umpire, coach or official or in some other capacity.

SHORT SEASON means a competition with 10 rounds or less including finals, where individuals pay a team fee to participate.

TEAM means a group of players fielded by a Club to participate in a match.