

# SAUCNA Playing Conditions

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## Affiliation with SAUCNA

- Application for Affiliation will not be accepted without the accompanying fee and must be returned on or before the due date, to the Association Treasurer.
- Any Club which has affiliated with the Association for any season and finds it necessary to withdraw once programs have been completed, shall forfeit the affiliation fee.
- The Club Secretary's signature on the Association confirmation form signifies the club's acceptance of all SAUCNA Regulations, Playing Conditions and Procedures.

## Registration of Players

- Regular players in a team **MUST** be registered in the online system **PRIOR** to the first match.
- These players are not required to sign an Association registration form however it is the club's responsibility to ensure that each player signs an agreement to abide by the club policies and the constitution and policies of SAUCNA.
- The club secretary signs the Association Confirmation form acknowledging that this agreement has been made by all regular players for the club.

## Registration of Fill-in players

- Fill-in players are **NO LONGER** required to complete a small individual registration form.
- Ideally players should be registered in the online system **PRIOR** to them playing. This avoids playing a player who may be registered for another club.
- If the registration of any player is not lodged **ONLINE** by the due date, then the team could forfeit the points for the match in which such player took part and after that time all matches played by the player's Club could be forfeited until such registration has been received.
- The Association Registrar shall notify the Club Secretary should a club become liable to forfeit because of unregistered players.

## Player Eligibility (see also Finals)

- No player over the age stated shall be allowed to play in age grades.
- **Penalty: Match Forfeit.**

### One Club

- No player shall play for more than one affiliated Club **in any one competition** during the season, except with Association Board permission.
- In the **Summer season**, Open (Wednesday night) and Junior (Tues/Thurs/Friday nights) competitions are considered separate competitions and as such players may play in both competitions either for the same club or different clubs.
- Any player who plays five matches in higher grades **in one competition** cannot play in a lower grade **in that competition**, except with Association Board permission. **Penalty: Match Forfeit.**

### Two or More Teams in the same grade

- Two or more teams from the one club may play in the same grade.
- A club that has teams in the same grade shall nominate their teams highest to lowest. The higher ranked team will then be denoted with an (a), second with a (b) and so on, if more than two teams from one club are in the same grade.
- Players may interchange between teams but once a player has played five games in higher ranked teams, including higher grades (ie team with the higher letter (a), (b), etc) that player may not play again in the lower team except with Association Board permission. **Penalty: Match Forfeit**
- No interchanges between such teams are permitted after week 10 **OR** in major round matches without Association Board permission. **Penalty: Match Forfeit.**

## Disability

- Players with a disability may apply to the SAUNCA Secretary for permission to play out of their age group. The player may not take the court until permission is received in writing.

## Boys

- Boys are eligible to play.
- They must be eligible for 11/U but can play in 13/U.
- There is a maximum of two boys per team allowed on court at any one time and they must always be positioned in different thirds
  - This means they cannot play: GA & GS, GD & GK, C & WD/WA, or WA & WD.
  - However, **they can play** GA & WA, GD & WD, C & GA/GS/GD/GK

## Discipline

- All INF Rules relating to discipline are to be enforced for all competitions however umpires should be more lenient in matches involving players from 13/u and below.
- SAUCNA Regulations related to discipline are available in Appendix D of these playing conditions

## Suspension and Ordered Off

- A player who is suspended or ordered off during a match **must have** their name recorded on the score card.
- The suspended player must sit with the scorers and timers until the 2-minute suspension period is completed.
- If the player is subsequently ordered off for the remainder of the match this should ALSO be recorded on the card.
- The player who is ordered off must sit with the scorers and timers until the end of the match and may not return to the court.
- Any player who is suspended or ordered off in two **separate** matches shall be automatically suspended from playing for one match immediately following the second sending off regardless of whether the following match is a minor or major round match or in a subsequent season.
- **Players suspended or ordered off must be recorded on the score card.**

## Award Ineligibility

Any player who has been reported and found guilty or has been subject to a match suspension shall be ineligible for any Association based awards including the Joy Smith Award (A1 – Winter), Kevin Beare Award (A2 – Winter), Barb Morgan Award (17/1 – Winter) or Dean Lawrance Award (13 & under Summer).

## Team Re-grading

- In all grades, re-grading will be considered after Round 4 matches for 8 team grades and Round 5 matches for 6 team grades are completed.
- Updated programs will be available on the SAUCNA website.
- There will be no change to match times at Association courts.
- **To facilitate the re-grading process all scores must be entered and confirmed into the online scores recording system by the date and time advised each season. Fines will apply for late data entry.**

## Court Availability

- If re-grading for suburban teams creates a court availability problem, then alternative arrangements for home games can be made.
  - Changes should be made in consultation with opposition team(s).
  - Both teams need to agree to the change.
  - If there is a problem, contact the Association Secretary and a solution suitable to both clubs will be found.
- Clubs must notify the opposition Club Secretary, Association Registrar and Association Secretary when it is necessary to make a change so that all programs may be updated.

## Uniforms, Colours, etc.

- Players shall all wear their Club's registered uniform from round 1 of matches and comply with the relevant standards.
- No additional clothing (eg leggings, jumpers, long sleeve shirts, etc) may be worn unless registered as part of the uniform OR permission has been granted by the Association Board.
- **Players in 8/u and 9/u grades are permitted to wear a long sleeve top of similar colour to their uniform. It must be worn underneath the shirt/dress/ bodysuit. Leggings are not permitted unless permission is granted in writing by the Association Board and is normally only for religious or medical reasons.**
- Failure to comply with the rules regarding UNIFORM will result in the player not being permitted to play.

## Female Players

- Netball style dress, bodysuit with attached skirt, or skirt and shirt.
- No lacy briefs, bikini briefs, bike pants or extended bodysuits are permitted.
- Pants shall be same colour or darker than the colour of the skirt or dress.
- The skirt or dress must be longer than and cover any style of shorts/pants worn. If a uniform does NOT meet these criteria at the inspection prior to the match commencing, the player cannot take the court.
- **Any concerns over this rule should be brought to the attention of the Association Board Contact Association Secretary.**

## Boys

- Sports shorts and shirt.
- Bike pants or beach/surf shorts are not permitted.
- The colour/s of the boy's shorts shall be the same (or a darker shade) as the main colour of the club's skirt or dress for that age group.
- The shirt must be identical where the female players wear shirts or should be the same colour as the shorts or club sports shirt if the female players wear a dress or bodysuit.

## Clash of Colours

- If the colours of the uniform of two opposing teams are the same, the **Home** Team shall make a distinctive change.

## Jewellery & Nails

- Players shall not wear adornments (jewellery, bobbles, combs, metal headbands, hair beads, earrings, studs or other accessories), including those plaited into the hair.
- **Piercings cannot be taped; they must be removed.**
- Diarth piercings, in the ear/s, may be worn once a medical certificate has been presented to the Association Secretary and permission received in writing.
- A wedding ring may be worn, but only if it is taped.
- Umpires shall ensure that each player has short and smooth fingernails before each player is permitted to play.
- No player shall play with long or sharp nails under any circumstances.
- As per the rule book (5.1.1 (iv)(d)), hair must be suitably tied back.

## Gloves

- Gloves are permitted provided nails are inspected and are short and smooth.
- Gloves must be of a soft sports material.

## Hats

- Hats may be worn but must be of a soft texture.

## Glasses

- Glasses, including sunglasses, may be worn provided they are secured for the safety of all players.

## Medic Alert

- With the prior permission of the Association Medic Alert bracelets may be worn while playing.
- Bracelets shall be covered with a sweatband with the words “Medic Alert” printed clearly on it. It is not necessary to renew such permission each year.
- **Be aware there is a new type of bracelet specifically made for sport. This type needs only to be taped.**
- *Umpires please note: Any player wearing a Medic Alert bracelet/necklet or insulin pump shall not be asked to remove it. However, the item must be secured.*

## First Aid and ice

- A suitable First Aid Kit shall be supplied by each team at all matches, including matches played at Association Courts.
- First Aid Kits should include disposable gloves.
- All those persons who administer first aid to injured players are to take necessary precautions against the risk of contraction from Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and HIV.
- Players and umpires please note: No person with an uncovered bleeding wound may participate or officiate until such time as this situation has been rectified. Whilst time cannot be “held” during centrally timed matches in summer, the umpires has the power to use his/her discretion to **stop play if necessary** (see also section on Injury/Illness/Blood).
- **Teams must bring their own ice.**

## Matches

- Matches will commence as per the program published on the SAUCNA website each season.
- Eight team grades will play two rounds. Six team grades will play three rounds

## Match Commencement & Duration – Winter

- All matches are to start at their appointed time.
- If five (5) team players are present, play **MUST** commence.
- A grace time of up to 15 minutes is allowed for the minimum number of five team players to be present.
- Any team not prepared to start within 15 minutes of the scheduled time shall forfeit the match, unless the Association Board decides otherwise.
- **This grace period extends to umpires travelling to a match from suburban or Association courts.**
- A team cannot commence or continue play with less than five players. **Penalty: Match Forfeit**
- Teams and umpires are requested to consider those opposing teams and players which could experience difficulties in travelling (to/from/between suburban locations).
- Teams should also allow time for the movement of umpires, to and from suburban to Association courts.
- All grades except for 8/u or 9/u play 4 x 15-minute quarters. 8/u and 9/u grades play 12-minute quarters.
- Quarters may only be shortened in accordance with extreme weather guidelines as outlined in the Association Regulations.
- All grades will have a 3-minute break at quarter and three-quarter time and a 5-minute break at half time.

## Match Commencement & Duration – Summer

- All matches are to start at their appointed time.
- The Association Timer and Timing Device (siren) will be used during the Minor Round matches
- If five (5) team players are present, play **MUST** commence. **Penalty: Match Forfeit**
- There is **NO GRACE PERIOD** in the Summer Competition.
- A team cannot commence or continue play with less than five players. In such circumstances the umpires shall award a forfeit.
- All grades play 4 x 12-minute quarters.
- All grades will have a 1-minute break at quarter and three-quarter time and a 3-minute break at half time.

## Match Start

- The team winning the toss shall have the choice of the goal end or centre pass.
- The team losing the toss may select that which was not chosen by the winner of the toss.
- The team with the first centre pass shall choose which ball is used.
- If one ball is not passed by the umpire, then the one approved ball shall be used throughout the match.
- The ball passed by the umpires but not used in the first half will be stored at the Scorer's bench for umpires to be able to access.

## Failure to take the court

- Further to INF 2020 Rules of Netball Rule 8.1.1 (ii), it is expected that in matches involving 15/u or below this rule is not needed to be applied (particularly below 15/u). Teams are, however, encouraged to move quickly into position on the court when advised that there is 30 seconds remaining until the end of the interval.
- For matches involving Open and 17/u teams this rule will be applied and the sanction awarded. This means that the umpire will identify and caution the captain of the team who delayed returning to the court, a penalty pass will be awarded and the centre for the offending team will stand out of play.

## Forfeited Matches

- In the event a team is aware it will be unable to fulfil its engagement, the following procedure shall be taken:
  - For All grades – Notify the opposing team (via its Club Secretary), the Association Secretary, and the Association Registrar
  - Make sure the opposition acknowledges any message or email. Best to speak to someone as well as SMS and/or email.
  - A fine of \$80 will apply if a forfeit is received after **11am on the day of a Winter competition match or 5pm on the day of a Summer competition match**.
- Clubs should take ALL possible measures to ensure that at least Division 1, 2 and 3 are NOT forfeited where clubs have teams in lower grades that could provide fill ins.

## Score Card for forfeited match

- A scorecard, completed with the teams involved and the details of the forfeit, is to be forwarded to the Association Registrar in the normal manner.
- The team receiving the forfeit will be allocated two points and may choose to enter the players that would have played – this will count as a match played for those players.
- The following scores apply to forfeited matches
  - 30 to 0 for Open, 17/U, 15/U, & 13/U
  - 20 to 0 for 11/U
  - 10 to 0 for 9/U & 8/U



### Three Forfeits in one grade

- The Secretary of the Club of a team which has forfeited three matches in a competition shall notify the Association Secretary giving an explanation why the team should not be suspended.

### Match Abandonment

- If both teams are at the court and following consultation with the captains, the umpires and court supervisor agree that the weather makes play or continued play impossible or unsafe, the match shall be abandoned.
- If, despite the umpires' decision to play, one team refuses to play that team shall forfeit the match.
- If, despite the umpires' decision to play, both teams refuse to play both teams shall forfeit the match, and neither will receive points.
- In the case of extreme weather, please follow the Extreme Weather conditions outlined in Appendix A of this document.

### Hot Weather Conditions of Play

- The Hot Weather Conditions are outlined in detail in Appendix B of this document.
- Any questions relating to these conditions should be directed to a member of the Association Board or relevant subcommittee.

### Injury/Illness Time / Blood

- See INF 2020 Rules of Netball Rules 9.3 & 9.3.1.
- See also Rules specific to 9/u & 8/u grades – Appendix C of this document.

### Score Cards

- Score cards for the Winter season are distributed to the clubs prior to the beginning of the season whilst in summer scorecards are to be collected from the clubrooms prior to the match.
- The White score card is the Official Card and must be used the Home team.
- The Blue score card is the check card and must be used by the Visiting team.
- In the event of a discrepancy between cards, the White (Home) card will be accepted as recording the official result.
- Do NOT make alterations to a card after the match.
- Umpires sign that they officiated the match and do NOT comment on the score discrepancy.
- A team consists of up to 12 players.
- Player's names must be entered on the score card prior to the match commencing and player positions MUST be entered for each quarter.
- A player who becomes available to cover an unexpected delay or injury may have their name added to the scorecard after the match has commenced.
- If a player does not take the court, then the name must be crossed out.
- No changes are permitted to either card in the case of discrepancy.

### Points

- Two points shall be awarded for a win and one point for a draw.
- Two points for a win on forfeit.
- No points for a team that forfeits.
- Hot Weather Policy no points awarded.
- Match abandoned (incomplete)
  - no points or score to either team if abandoned before half time
  - after half time, score at time of abandonment stands and winning team receives 2 points.

## Scores and Score Cards after the Match

- After each match clubs are responsible for entering or confirming the match score as well as entering the players that played in that match.
- This should be managed by one person within the club and clubs may set their own procedures to ensure this is completed no later than midnight Tuesday after the match in Winter and by 9am Sunday after matches in Summer. **Fines apply for late data entry.**
- During the minor round scorecards must be received by the Association Registrar no later than SEVEN (7) days after the match has been played. Cards can be left at Association clubrooms or delivered/mailed to the Association Registrar's home address. **Fines apply for late arrival of scorecards**
- In the case of a forfeit, a scorecard MUST still be completed and returned to the Association Registrar. The team who wins on a forfeit may choose to submit the players who would have played in that match and this counts towards eligibility for finals. The team who forfeits is NOT permitted to record any players for this match.
- Re-Grading
  - For re-grading purposes in addition to the normal dispatch/delivery of score cards, all scores must be entered into the online scores recording system **before the date and time listed for that season. Fines apply for late entry.**
- End of Minor Round
  - After the final round of matches, in addition to the normal dispatch/delivery of score cards, all scores must be entered into the online scores recording system **before the date and time listed for that season. Fines apply for late entry.**
- Finals
  - After all major round matches, all score cards must be left with the Association Secretary in the clubrooms.
  - Where semi-final games are scheduled on suburban courts in Winter, scorecards are to be left with the supervisor at that site, as nominated by the Association.
  - Clubs are not required to undertake any data entry of scores or players for finals matches.

## Match Officials

### Court Supervisor

- A Court Supervisor is appointed at Association Courts (known as the Association Court Supervisor) and all decisions related to playing conditions are made by this person in consultation with Association Board members.
- Each Club that hosts matches at their respective home courts will be required to appoint a Court Supervisor who may contact the Association Court Supervisor for advice with respect to any playing conditions outlined in this regulation.
- The Court Supervisor is also responsible for supporting umpires in the application of discipline rules and removing anyone from the court area who refuses an umpire instruction to leave the venue.

## Timers and Scorers

- Both teams must supply a timekeeper, an electric timer, and a scorer.
- Please note that a mobile phone is not permitted as an electronic timer.
- The home team is responsible for timing the quarters and the visiting team is responsible for timing the breaks (interval breaks and illness/injury breaks).
- The home team timer must follow the umpire with 10 seconds of play left in each quarter and advise when time is concluded.
- The visiting team is also responsible for timing any 2-minute suspension period awarded to a player as per INF rule 5.3.2 (vi) using a separate timing device (this may be a mobile phone or watch – do not use the electronic timer dedicated to interval/injury time)
- Both scorers must sit together throughout the match.
- If the scorers identify that an incorrect centre pass has been signalled by BOTH umpires, the scorer must IMMEDIATELY notify the umpire using an audible sound – BEFORE the centre pass has been taken. If scorers realise this after the centre pass has been taken scorers must NOT interfere with ongoing play.
- All scorers must be aged 14 or over at the time of scoring.

## Umpires

### Winter Season – Minor round matches

- Teams playing in Open and 17/u competition at Association courts must provide one umpire per team per week into a pool for independent allocation to matches.
- If an umpire is unable to attend their allocation, clubs must locate a suitable replacement and advise the umpire allocation panel immediately.
- Teams playing in 15/u to 8/u at suburban courts will provide two umpires per match at their home courts.
- Failure to provide the required umpires will mean that the team must forfeit their match.

### Summer Season – Minor round matches

- Each team will provide one umpire to officiate at their match with one umpire from the opposition team.
- Failure to provide an umpire at the time the match is due to commence will mean that team must forfeit the match.

## Umpire Age

- Umpires are permitted to umpire after their 14<sup>th</sup> birthday. An umpire may apply for permission and will be screened once they are 13 years of age. See web site for forms.

## Balls and Goal Posts

### Ball

- The home team shall be responsible for providing a suitable ball. If the visiting team brings a ball and both balls are passed by the umpire/s, then each ball shall be used for half the match.
- The ball not being used will be given to the scorers for safe keeping once the balls are passed by the umpires.

### Goal Posts

- All goal rings must have good nets securely fastened. Padding must be used on all goal posts. Padding used shall not be less than 25mm (1 inch) thick and shall start at the base of the post and **extend the full length of the post.**
- At Association courts the first home team is responsible for putting up the pole covers and the home team playing last on that court is responsible for bringing in the pole covers. Failure to do so will incur a fine of \$55.

## Major Round (Finals)

### Unfinancial Clubs

- All fines and monies due must be paid within 14 days of the invoice date or they will be listed as unfinancial.
- Any team from a Club which is unfinancial may NOT participate in major round matches until the monies have been paid.

### Determination of Finals teams

- In each grade, at the end of the minor round the four teams which have the best match ratio shall compete in the major round.

- The match ratio with the calculated value of

$$\frac{\text{Premiership points}}{\text{Number of Games Played}}$$

- If two or more teams in a grade have the same match ratio then the team positions shall be determined by calculating their percentages in accordance with the following formula:

$$\frac{\text{Goals For} \times 100}{(\text{Goals For} + \text{Goals Against})}$$

- The major round shall be played on the dates stated in the programme and shall comprise the following matches (home team are listed first):
  - First semi-final: first team v second team (match A)
  - Second semi-final: third team v fourth team (match B)
  - Preliminary Final: winner of match B v loser of match A (match C)
  - Grand Final: winner of match A v winner of match C.

### Player Eligibility – Finals

- No player who has played **less than three Association matches** for the club during the minor round of a competition shall be eligible for major round matches except with Association Board permission. **Penalty: Match Forfeit**

### Playing More Than One Grade

- No player shall play in a finals match in more than one grade across all finals (SF, PF or GF) without receiving Association Board permission in writing.
- Permission will only be considered where the fill in player provides the team with a seventh or ONE bench player.
- If the team requesting a fill in, who has already played a finals match in another team, has eight players available then permission for the fill in player WILL NOT BE GRANTED.
- Unless the Association Board otherwise directs, a player given permission to play in more than one grade under the above rule shall be eligible to play in:
  - All finals in their regular grade (ie, the one in which the player first plays in the major round); and
  - The match or matches specified by the Association Board in another grade unless the player then plays more than FIVE competition matches, including minor and major round matches. In this case the player may NOT play in the lower grade in subsequent finals matches.

## Finals Umpires – Both seasons

- Each club will provide a list of umpires outlining their availability and accreditation level to the umpire allocation panel.
- The umpire allocation panel will determine independent allocation of umpires to all finals matches and advise clubs and umpires of their allocation.
- Umpires must check in at the clubrooms prior to officiating any finals match.
- If an umpire becomes unavailable for their allocation at any time, the umpire or club must immediately notify the umpire allocation panel who will locate a suitable replacement from the pool of umpires.
- Clubs are NOT to change allocations once they are published.

## Timing and Scoring (Finals Matches)

- For all major round matches teams must provide their own electronic timer (not a mobile phone).
- Score cards are supplied to the teams at the clubrooms and must be collected prior to the match.
- All names are to be printed in full and clearly.
- Completed score cards must be returned to the clubrooms immediately following all finals matches.

## Draw (Open to 11/u grades)

In the event of a draw in any major round match the following applies:

- There shall be a two (2) minute interval at the end of full time. Substitution and/or team changes are permitted.
- Extra time of two halves of seven (7) minutes shall be played.
- Teams change ends at half time with 1-minute interval.
- Substitutions and/or team changes are permitted.
- The ball may also be changed.
- The Centre Pass is taken by the team entitled to the next Centre Pass.
- In the event of a tie remaining at the end of extra time, a visual signal shall be used to indicate that play shall continue until one team has a **two (2) goal advantage**.
- When one team has a two (2) goal advantage **the white score card scorer** will advise the umpire accordingly.

## Draw (9/u and 8/u grades)

In the event of a draw in **Semi Final & Preliminary Final** match the following applies:

- There shall be a two (2) minute interval at the end of full time. Substitution and/or team changes are permitted.
- Extra time of two halves of six (6) minutes shall be played.
- Teams change ends at half time with an interval of one minute, substitutions are allowed.
- Teams can change ball at this break
- The Centre Pass is taken by the team entitled to the next Centre Pass.
- In the event of a tie remaining at the end of extra time, a visual signal shall be used to indicate that play shall continue until **one team scores a goal**.

In the event of a draw in **Grand Final** match the following applies:

- Conditions as for Semi and Preliminary Final except
  - If there is still a draw at the end of the extra time, then **both teams will be declared winners**

## Complaints

- All complaints shall be in writing via email and shall be lodged with the Association Secretary. A complaint relating to or arising out of any match in a competition conducted by the Association shall be lodged not more than forty-eight (48) hours after the match took place. Complaints may only be lodged by:-
  - a Club Secretary
  - an Umpire
  - Association Registrar
- Any person affected by an enquiry will be notified of the time and place at which the enquiry will be held. This will usually be 48 hours after receiving the complaint (Thursday evening).
- A complaint not match related has no lodgement time restrictions.

## Fines

### Meetings

- Penalty fines for non-attendance at all Association meetings: Association AGM, Association General meeting, Umpires AGM and Summer AGM. **Fines apply to all clubs.**
- Apologies will be accepted and recorded but a fine will still apply
  - 1<sup>st</sup> meeting missed \$50.00 fine (including GST)
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting missed \$100.00 fine (including GST)
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting missed \$150.00 fine (including GST) also two points per team per Club will be forfeited.
- Two delegates per club may attend meetings however only one delegate is eligible to vote.

### Unregistered Players

- A penalty of \$10.10 for each player not registered within the specified time will be imposed (and on each occasion such is played), unless reasonable excuse is given to the Association Secretary within three (3) days of the match. Points may be deducted if an unregistered player is played more than once.

### Late Score Cards

- Teams are liable for a \$10.10 fine for score cards arriving late to the Association Registrar. This also applies to late data entry of scores and players into the online system.
- Fines apply to each occurrence per team per match to a maximum of \$120 per round.

### Pole Covers

- On an Association court, the last home team must bring in the pole covers. There is a \$55 fine for failure to do so.

### Late notification of a forfeit

- Forfeits received after 11 am on Saturday (Winter) or 5pm on the day of the match (Summer) will incur an \$80 fine.

### Payment

- ALL FINES must be paid to the Association Treasurer within fourteen days notification of such fine.

## Appendix A – Extreme Weather Conditions

SAUCNA recognises that the game of netball is traditionally an outdoor, winter sport, and the preference is that all matches are played to schedule.

SAUCNA expects that correct clothing and suitable footwear is worn by all players and officials at all times, and that all players and officials are responsible for ensuring that they have access to appropriate protective clothing, sunscreens, supply of drinking water and access to dry clothing, if required before, during and after matches.

Although severe weather forecasts may result in a blanket cancellation of games in advance, this is unlikely, and decisions regarding cancellation, interruption or abandonment of matches would normally be made on a time slot basis, either immediately prior to, or during play.

Match conditions may be adjusted (see below for permitted adjustments), due to prevailing conditions at the time, or in order to have excess water drain from playing surfaces, however these may only be adjusted by the nominated Court Supervisor and must be advised to the Association Secretary and Registrar for noting.

Matches may be interrupted by the Court Supervisor to allow intense weather conditions to pass, before play is re-commenced. Umpires retain the right to hold time on individual courts if they feel weather conditions make this necessary.

The decision to cancel, interrupt or abandon matches will be made by the Court Supervisor, and will be based on reasons of player and umpire safety, and not on the comfort of players, officials or spectators. The Court Supervisor will monitor weather reports and radar information and consider weather warnings supplied by the Bureau of Meteorology. Court supervisors located at suburban courts in the Winter Season may contact the Association Court Supervisor for advice at any time.

The Association also is aware that very young players may be more susceptible to distress caused by intense conditions.

### Situations where cancellation of matches may apply:

- Forecasts of extreme heat, catastrophic fire danger, or prolonged extreme violent weather.

### Situations where interruption to play may apply:

- Short periods of intense rain, hail or strong winds
- Short periods of localised thunderstorm or lightning activity (lightning and thunder less than 15 seconds apart)
- Foreign objects being blown onto the court
- Court furniture or court fixtures being disturbed or damaged
- Player safety being affected by the force of the wind

### Situations where abandonment of play may apply:

- Prolonged localised thunderstorm or lightning activity
- Prolonged intense hail or sleet activity
- Prolonged extremely heavy rain or high wind speeds
- Excessive water remaining on court playing surfaces.

## Court Supervisor Procedures

- Where it is identified that matches should be abandoned the court supervisor will instruct all umpires to stop the match by holding time and arrange for the players to move to a safe area.
- Once the conditions have been reassessed the court supervisor will advise players and officials that matches will either:
  - Recommence shortly (giving a suitable time frame for players to warm up again if the delay has been significant) and all players and officials must return to the court and take their positions. Play will recommence from where the ball was when time stopped and the remainder of the time for that quarter, and any subsequent quarters will be played; OR
  - Advise that conditions are no longer safe for the match to continue and that the match is abandoned. Scores and points are allocated based on the time of abandonment (see Match Abandoned conditions on page 9)

## Adjustment of Playing Conditions

- If matches are not cancelled but the Court Supervisor deems the weather to be unsuitable for normal playing conditions, matches will go ahead however the following alterations may be applied at the beginning of the match.
  - Quarters may be shortened however they shall be no shorter than 10 minutes duration and all quarters will be of the same duration for that match.
  - An additional drinks break may be taken during each quarter for no more than 1 minute at the halfway point of the quarter.
  - Breaks may be lengthened by 2 minutes each break to allow players adequate recovery time.
  - **No other alterations to playing conditions are permitted.**
- Match conditions may only be altered by the nominated Court Supervisor, both teams and umpires are to be made aware of the alterations and the reasons for the changes.
- All alterations made, together with the reasoning behind the decision, must be advised to the Association Secretary and Registrar in writing within 2 days of the completion of the match.



## Appendix B – Hot Weather Conditions

- The onus is on each club and each team to be aware of this procedure and to watch for such an announcement.
- If the Hot Weather Conditions are invoked and matches are cancelled, no points will be awarded for that round of matches.

### Winter Competition

- Matches for the day will be cancelled if the predicted temperature during the day is deemed that it will be too hot to play by the SAUCNA Board.
- It will be announced on the SAUCNA Facebook page and the SAUCNA website no later than 9.00am on the day of the matches.

### Summer Competition

- Matches for the night will be cancelled if the temperature is deemed that it will be too hot to play by the SAUCNA Board.
- It will be announced on the SAUCNA Facebook page and the SAUCNA website no later than 4.30pm on the day of the matches.

### Major Round (Finals) – Winter and Summer Competitions

- If Major Round matches are cancelled due to hot weather the following will apply:
  - For Semi Final matches: the following week there will be two matches played
    - The team in first position will play the team in fourth position, and
    - The team in second position will play the team in third position.
    - The winner for each match will progress to the Grand Final.
  - For Preliminary Final matches: the higher ranked team will progress to the Grand Final.
  - For Grand Final matches: each participating team will be declared joint Premiers.

## Appendix C – Rules specific to 9/u and 8/u matches

### Ball

- 508mm to 609mm circumference) Size 4
- Leather or suitable synthetic material. Well inflated.

### Injury Time

- Further to Rule 9.3 & 9.3.1 in the 2020 INF Rules of Netball, the following will apply:
  - If the umpire deems that the match will be able to continue quickly, the injured player MAY be treated and remain on court however the match MUST recommence after a ONE-minute interval.
  - Common sense should apply and if it is obvious that the player needs to leave the court to be treated (and/or comforted) then this should be completed in the normal 30 second change over.
  - Umpires should be considerate of the young age of these players and treat all instances of injury and blood in consultation with the coach/primary care giver.

### Match Duration

- 4 x 12 mins quarters, standard breaks will apply.

### Umpires

- To use simple language and explain decisions.
- Adopt an encouraging and pleasant manner to ensure an open and free-flowing game, particularly in setting up penalties and throw-ins, etc.
- The umpire should use common sense to ensure that “spirit of the game” is not lost overcalling the game.

### Draw in Major Round matches (Winter and Summer Seasons)

In the event of a draw in **Semi Final & Preliminary Final** match the following applies:

- There shall be a two (2) minute interval at the end of full time. Substitution and/or team changes are permitted.
- Extra time of two halves of six (6) minutes shall be played.
- Teams change ends at half time with an interval of one minute, substitutions are allowed.
- Teams can change ball at this break
- The Centre Pass is taken by the team entitled to the next Centre Pass.
- In the event of a tie remaining at the end of extra time, a visual signal shall be used to indicate that play shall continue until **one team scores a goal**.

In the event of a draw in **Grand Final** match the following applies:

- Conditions as for Semi and Preliminary Final except
  - If there is still a draw at the end of the extra time, then **both teams will be declared winners**

## Appendix D – Discipline Procedures

The SAUCNA Board, in response to concerns from the Umpire’s subcommittee, have endorsed the following procedures to be put into practice IMMEDIATELY in an attempt to curb the levels of abuse being experienced by umpires over the past years. Netball Australia has advised Associations that they are able to implement such procedures in local competitions.

### Coaches/Team Officials/Team Bench players

- Any team official who is located on the team bench is subject to the INF Rule 13.3 and as such the umpire may Caution, Warn or order that the person be removed from the playing area.
- Should the official be subject to the last option, removal from the playing area, and that person refuses to leave then the umpire will ask the away team timer to set 30 seconds on the clock. After this time if the person remains then that team will forfeit the match and a forfeit score for the relevant match level will apply.
- The umpires will call time, inform both captains, ensure the scorers both identify on the cards that the match is a forfeit and then both umpires leave the court to the safety of the clubrooms (or other such safe location at suburban courts) to advise what they have done.
- The scorecards can be signed by the umpires later.

### Spectators

- Spectators are bound by the SAUCNA Code of Conduct Regulation.
- If the umpire can identify a spectator contravening this regulation, the umpire will hold time and then a warning shall be issued by the umpire to the spectator/s concerned.
- If the behaviour continues the umpire will hold time and request that the spectator/s remove themselves from the playing area (definition needed).
- If the spectator/s refuse to leave, then the umpire will ask the away team timer to set 30 seconds on the clock. After this time if the person remains then that team will forfeit the match and a forfeit score for the relevant match level will apply.
- The umpires will call time, inform both captains, ensure the scorers both identify on the cards that the match is a forfeit and then both umpires leave the court to the safety of Management to advise what they have done.
- The scorecards can be signed by the umpires later.

In the procedure above the term “playing area” can be defined as follows:

- Where the netball courts being used are located on private property (eg church or school grounds) the person being removed can be asked to leave the property or at least far enough away from the court that they cannot be seen or heard by any players, officials or spectators.
- Where the courts are located on public land, eg Association Courts, parklands or other parks, the person being removed must move at least the equivalent of one court away from the court the match is being played on so as they cannot be seen or heard by any players, officials or spectators.