



# South Australian United Church Netball Association Inc.

## NEWS AND VIEWS – Winter 2024

### Welcome to the 2024 Winter Netball Season

This season we have 427 teams playing across 57 grades which is an increase of 24 teams and 5 grades from 2023. We farewell Mercedes OS this Winter and welcome Adelaide Uni, Walkerville and Old Ignatians.

### Grading

Thanks to everyone who assisted with grading this year and those who offered but were not used this time.

Every year many teams are concerned about the grade/division they have been placed in. The grading process is undertaken meticulously using information given by the clubs as well as information from the online database. A panel of three or four graders, all from different clubs, carefully consider the information and then the final grading is reviewed by the grading officer who will liaise with ONE member of the original panel if required.

We asked Clubs to ensure they know the experience of their Under 8s and Under 9s teams to assist with grading. We asked Clubs to consider grading teams higher as there is always only a small number of Clubs who do this. Unfortunately, again this Season there were not many requests for Div 1 or 2. Please understand we strive to provide every team with a competitive Season. That is always the goal.

Grades this year are A1-A5, B1-B5, C1-C4, 17U/1-7, 15U/1-10, 13U/1-10, 11U/1-9, 9U/1-4 and 8U/1-3.

Six Team grades are A4, B5, C4, 17U/6, 17U/7, 15U/3, 15U/9, 13U/5, 13U/6, 13U/7, 9U/1 and 9U/2. These teams will play at the Association courts on 23 March. All teams playing on this day that would normally be playing on suburban courts must note that the HOME team is responsible for providing 2 umpires for the match as they would have if they were playing at their home courts. Open and 17U matches will be allocated umpires from the pool as per any normal winter match.

Matches for all teams will commence on Saturday 6 April. The schedule is being released Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March for the first 5 weeks (23 March – 4 May). Clubs are requested to check their home venue for clashes and advise the SAUCNA Registrar of any changes for these first five weeks no later than **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March**. No court or time changes for these first five weeks will be permitted after this date.

### Member Protection

SAUCNA expects every Club to have current Working with Children checks for all Coaches and Team Managers. If possible, when registering for these roles on Play HQ, please upload them. Each Club should also have a Child Safety Officer appointed.

### Awards Night

The Joy Smith (Fairest & Most Brilliant player in A1), Kevin Beare (Fairest & Most Brilliant player in A2), Barb Morgan (Fairest & Most Brilliant player in 17/1), Eileen Saxby and Nell Kinsman Awards will be presented at our end of Season Celebration. This has been booked for Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August at Adelaide Pavilion and has been growing in numbers year by year. It's a great way to recognise all the hard work put in by many and celebrate the successes of Clubs and individuals. Please ensure that all players and officials related to the teams in A1, A2 and 17U/1 have this night booked in their calendars NOW.



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In 2022 we revamped The Anna DiCicco and Association Service Awards to recognise the work our volunteers put in. Information was sent to all Clubs.

### **Integrity Framework**

Work continues on the Integrity Framework implementation and SAUCNA continues to be vigilant on bad behaviour from anyone involved in the Competition.

Each player, manager, coach and umpire have been asked behavioural questions upon Play HQ registration. This ensures they comply with the SAUCNA code of conduct, but it is also the Club's responsibility to enforce the rules and they are responsible for their own members behaviour. Each Club should have policies in place to deal with unacceptable behaviour.

Also covered in this framework will be teams found to be "tanking" to avoid regrading (up or down). There have been examples of players bragging about not playing in their correct positions to avoid a win. This is unacceptable and unfair on the entire competition. Sanctions will be implemented if proven correct.

Data will again be collected this Winter to determine unreasonable grading requests for all Clubs, except those who request high grades.

### **Score cards**

ALL score cards for Open and 17/u matches are to be left in the club rooms at Association Courts after the matches. Fines will apply for clubs that do not comply. Score cards for suburban court matches can be dropped at Association Courts prior to 5.30pm, sent or delivered to 2 Mark Street, Campbelltown 5074 or delivered to Association Courts the following Saturday. Please note that fines apply if cards **for suburban matches** are NOT received by the Saturday following the match played (important to note this when there is a general BYE following matches played).

### **Scorecard Collection**

To be collected from the office at the Association Courts on Saturday 23 March.

### **Website Photos**

If you have any club photos you would like to contribute to the SAUCNA website, please send through to Kathryn Barker (Association Executive Administrator) – [saucnanetball20@gmail.com](mailto:saucnanetball20@gmail.com)

### **Match Times**

Match times will remain at 12:00pm, 1:30pm and 3:00pm and Opens and Under 17s will have an extra timeslot of 4.30pm. Matches will have 15-minute quarters (except for 8/u and 9/u - 12 minute quarters) and intervals of 3 mins ( $\frac{1}{4}$  and  $\frac{3}{4}$  time) and 5 mins ( $\frac{1}{2}$  time). All matches are to be timed individually with the home team responsible for timing the quarters and the away team responsible for timing the breaks. The grace period returned in Season 2023 at all venues along with injury time. Rules can be found in the playing conditions. As there has been an insufficient number of teams nominate for the 4:30pm timeslot at Association courts it has become necessary to move some teams to this time on a rotational basis. We must have 2 spare courts at each timeslot in case a match needs to be moved for injury and therefore we need 12 matches each week at 4:30pm. If you are happy to play more than one game at this timeslot across the season please let the SAUCNA Registrar know ASAP.



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### Registration

All players must be registered online **before matches begin**. Anyone who fills in during the season will need to register online themselves through PlayHQ. ALL Fill in players MUST be registered prior to the match by themselves or a parent and if they have an existing profile in Play HQ they MUST use this profile. Players found to have registered and played for more than one club during the season will cause their team to be disqualified for the match in which they play, and a normal forfeit score will be applied.

Please never play anyone under a false name as this will result in a tribunal and sanctions along with a disqualification.

We recommend upon registering for the first time, Clubs seek proof of date of births. This will eliminate the uncomfortable questions sometimes asked.

### Scores Recorders

All clubs are required to have at least one person responsible for ensuring that scores are entered in the online database and that players who played are entered for each match. This must be completed no later than **48 hours** following the start time of each match. **Scores for matches played on Saturday 4 May and Saturday 27 July MUST be entered no later than 8pm ON THAT DAY** in preparation for regrading and finals. Fines will apply for late entry in ALL cases.

The **HOME TEAM** is responsible for entering scores and fines will apply if this is not completed on time. All teams must enter their own players each week.

Clubs are asked to send details of their current chief scores recorder to [saucnaregistrar@gmail.com](mailto:saucnaregistrar@gmail.com) ASAP to ensure that they have administrator access to PlayHQ. Coaches and team managers can be given management access if they are registered in PlayHQ and they are then able to enter scores and players for their team.

### Teams and Spectators at Association Courts

All clubs are responsible to inform their spectators and team where they are to be located around the courts at Association Courts.

Remind them if they are asked to move to PLEASE do so without argument.

### Club Rules

Please abide by other Clubs rules when visiting their venues and show respect to the Court Supervisors.

### Incident Report/Complaints

The incident report/complaints process will continue as per previous Seasons. We encourage Clubs to email each other and copy in the complaints officer.



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## Registration of Umpires

All club umpire coordinators will be sent a request to have ALL umpires (association AND suburban courts) register with Refbook and asked to return a summary form for all registered umpires so that ALL allocations (association and suburban courts) can be completed using the software. This will allow umpires to ensure they are not “double booked” but also allow clubs to better share their resources. This will be managed through the Association Registrar. All umpires for Association Courts must be advised to the allocations team no later than 16<sup>th</sup> March as allocation for the first 2 rounds will be completed on 17<sup>th</sup> March. **Clubs will be fined \$10 per match that umpires are not pre-allocated in Refbook each week to a maximum weekly fine of \$120.**

**All Graded** umpires (Association courts & suburbs) are paid a small bonus by the Association at the end of the Winter season. To make this possible all umpires must be registered and are asked to print their name on the scorecard. This information will be used for payments. All payments will be electronic.

No registration – No signature – No payment.

All Association court umpires will be paid by the association and must be in Refbook and have their bank details submitted to their Refbook record. Payments will be made weekly and clubs will be invoiced at the end of week's 5, 10 and 15 based on the number of umpires that they are required to supply to Association courts each Saturday.

## First Aid

First Aid will be available every Saturday at Association Courts. Our first aid officer is a trained medical professional so please adhere to their advice. They are not there to provide strapping before games. Clubs should use their own first aid kits initially. Please ensure your first aid kits are fully stocked and remain stocked throughout the Season.

## Forfeits

Clubs are encouraged to NOT forfeit unless all avenues have been exhausted. You are able to utilise players from other (lower) teams and age groups (cannot play below age) and players are able to play more than one game on the same day. **Check the rules carefully as there are eligibility conditions.** You cannot use players from other Clubs if they have played that Season. Forfeits will be monitored closely this Season and there is a possibility of introducing a fee for all forfeits no matter when notified in the future.

Teams that need to forfeit MUST advise the opposition secretary, SAUCNA Winter secretary (wintersaucna@gmail.com) **and** the Association Registrar (saucnaregistrar@gmail.com) by **Friday 5pm** before the game. A fine of \$80 will be incurred if notification of forfeit is received after this time.

Teams who forfeit 3 or more times throughout the season will be fined \$100 for the third and each subsequent forfeit.

## Pole Covers

At Suburban courts it is the responsibility of the home team to have correct pole covers. At Association courts the home team for the first match is to put them on the court and the home team is to put them away after the last match on that court. Check the notice board by the clubrooms. A fine of \$50 will be charged if they are not returned.



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## **Special Rounds**

Encouragement Round – 27 April

Life Member Day– 11 May

Reconciliation Round – 25 May

Volunteer Round – 1 June

Charity Round – 6 July – The McGrath Foundation – all Clubs are expected to embrace the SAUCNA charity of choice but are welcome to hold their own events during the Season.

Umpire Appreciation Round – 27 July

## **Winter Sub-Committee Members**

*Chairperson* - Sandy Barker - saucnaregistrar@gmail.com

*Secretary* - Debbie Sanders - wintersaucna@gmail.com

### *General Members:*

Mark Baldwin	Kristy Greig	Ali Wilson	Mandy Raeburn
Kelly Broadbent	Mandy McGann	Jo Davis	

We have 1 vacancy - if you are interested in joining us, please contact Debbie.  
Good luck to all teams as we commence our Winter 2024 season.

*Sandy and Debbie*