



Wakehurst Netball Club Inc Grading Policy 2025/2026

The purpose of this grading policy is to ensure that the grading of players and teams is conducted fairly, based on:

- each player's ability, skill level and attitude
- the number of players registered with Wakehurst Netball Club in each age -group
- the best interests of all players and the Club.

Wakehurst grades all players from ages 10yrs to 15yrs (physical grading) and Cadets (16 – 18 years paper grading), including all new and re -registering players. The aim of grading is to set teams, which have a balanced group of players, both in ability and playing positions.

The Manly Warringah Netball Association is responsible for the placement of teams submitted by the Club into the divisions within each age group. This is done based on the past results of the team and the players within the team.

Players aged 7, 8 and 9 years playing in the modified, non -competitive competition (NetSetGo) are not graded. Requests to play with friends will be accommodated where possible, depending on overall registration numbers in that age group. Requests relating to team placement of NetSetGo players need to be in writing at time of registration stating reasons and will be considered by the NetSetGo Convenor. Wakehurst encourages players to remain in their age group, not school year. Manly Warringah Netball Association rules limit the amount of mixed teams clubs can submit.

Roles and responsibilities-

Players:

Attendance by Players at the Club's pre -season Grading Sessions is compulsory. Any Player who does not attend the Grading Sessions cannot appeal their grading. Players in the 10 years age group must attend a compulsory MWNA Grading Round Robin.

Coaches:

At the end of the season each Coach is to provide a written report on each player in their team that includes:

- positions played
- ability and skills
- sportsmanship and attitude
- understanding of the game
- attendance

These reports are provided by the Coach to the Coaching Convenor for use by the Grading Committee and are strictly confidential .



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Graders:

Club Graders shall be appointed by the Coaching Convener in consultation with the Committee and shall be drawn from coaches, experienced players, Committee Members, Life Members and other appropriately experienced persons.

A person shall not be appointed as a Club Grader to grade age -groups:

- in which they have family members participating
- they have coached in the immediately preceding season
- are likely to coach in the current season

All graders, coaches and volunteers involved in grading must hold a valid Working With Children Check before participating.

Grading Committee:

The Grading Committee shall comprise of the Coaching Convener, a member of Executive and one Grader representing each age -group.

The Grading Committee shall be responsible for grading each player into an appropriate team having regard to the principles and guidance set out in this policy.

Players should be graded into teams:

- appropriate to their skill and development
- that are appropriately balanced in terms of playing positions

having regard to

- the observations of the Graders from the Grading Sessions
- the Coaches Report

Players who do not attend their Grading Session are to be graded based on their Coach's Report. If a Coach's Report has not been received then the Grading Committee is to use best endeavours to determine the appropriate team placement for the player.

The final grading will be published on www.wakehurstnetball.com.au at a time agreed by the committee each year.

Any player who wishes to appeal a decision of the Grading Committee may do so only as set out under "Appeals" below.

Grading Sessions:

Attendance by Players at the Club's pre -season Grading Sessions is compulsory . During the Grading Sessions, Graders will observe each player's specific skills including:

- ball skills
- footwork
- court play
- team play
- general athletic ability



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Players will take the court at least twice during the Grading Session and will have an opportunity to trial in at least one of their positions nominated on their registration form and/or coaches report.

A player may be asked to play in a position that is not their preference to aid the grading of other players.

Appeals:

Any player who is dissatisfied with their grading may appeal their grading, but only as set out in this Policy.

- Appeals must be in writing, addressed to the Club Secretary and sent to secretary@wakehurstnetball.com.au within 72 hours of the publication/announcement of the team gradings by the Coaching Convener. All appeals will be acknowledged.
- Appeals must only deal with the player for whom the appeal is being lodged, and must not refer to other players in the team/club .
- Appeals will not be accepted in any other form, nor will they be discussed in person or via the phone .

Appeals Committee:

The Appeals Committee will consist of three members of the Club Executive . The Coaching Convener shall attend all meetings of the Appeals Committee in a non -voting capacity. A person must not hear an appeal where a conflict exists.

The Appeals Committee will determine any appeals and decisions of the Appeals Committee will be advised in writing in a timely manner. The Appeals Committee decision will be final.

Code of Conduct:

Players, parents/ guardians and officials must comply with the Netball Australia's Code of Conduct and Member Protection Policy. Breaches may result in removal from grading/ and or club.

Concussion:

If concussion is suspected, the player is removed and must not return that day. Community competitions adopt a minimum 21-day return to play with medical clearance. "If in doubt, sit them out".