

2024 Primary Schools Gala Competition Manual

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1. ELIGIBILITY OF TEAMS

- 1.1 This is a school-based Netball competition for students in years 4-6, all competitors must be an enrolled student in the school they are representing.
- 1.2 Schools can register for any round. No limitations will be placed on schools to play within their school sporting region.
- 1.3 A school may enter a maximum of two (2) teams per division in Primary Schools Gala. However, a player may only be registered and compete for ONE team at any time during competition.
- 1.4 In order for a school's team to be eligible for the preliminary round, they MUST supply ONE UMPIRE PER TEAM. The umpire cannot be a student playing in a team.
- 1.5 In circumstances where schools cannot provide a team of their own, two (2) or more schools may combine to form a 'Composite Team' if their combined enrolments do not exceed 500 students. If nominating a composite team, please email Netball Queensland the school names. All players must be in the same uniform and be nominated under only one school name.
- 1.6 Primary Schools Gala will consist of two (2) divisions: Championship (Division 1) and Development (Division 2) with schools can nominate into when registering.
- 1.7 Players may only play in one (1) team. The Championship division is suggested for students in years 5-6, and the Development division is suggested for students in years 4-5.
- 1.8 Teams must submit their team lists on the day to the Regional Coordinator. This ensures that players are covered under Netball Queensland's insurance.

2. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

- 2.1 Teams of up to 12 players only will be permitted.
- 2.2 Players need to be enrolled and financial with the school they are representing.
- 2.3 All participants must abide by the Netball Queensland "Code of Conduct & Integrity" - refer to [here](#).
- 2.4 Teams can comprise of all boys, girls, or mixed teams as per Netball Queensland's policy advice on under-12 competitions in line with the Sex Discrimination Act 1984 (Cth) (the Act). The full policy can be found [here](#). No restrictions will be placed on the number of boys on court or the position that they play.
- 2.5 Female players must be 13 years and under as of 31 December 2024.
- 2.6 Male players must be 12 years and under as of 31 December 2024.

3. COMPETITION FORMAT

3.1 GALA DAYS

- 3.1.1 The competition will be played in line with "World Netball Rules of Netball 2024" rules with the exception of the following rules
 - Rule 1.1 Court and Related Areas (variations to the court surface and field of play will be approved by Netball QLD prior to the event)
 - Rule 2.1 Match Length (match length and intervals are listed in this manual)
 - Rule 3.13(f) Role of captain (captains are not required to wear identification)
 - Rule 4.13 Reserve Umpire (reserve umpires responsibilities are listed in this manual)
 - Rule 10.2 Substitutions and Team Changes (this rule is replaced by the Rolling Subs rule)

3.2.2 The structure and format of these rounds is determined by Netball Queensland, Regional Coordinators and Host Association. Rules for each specific preliminary round will be sent out prior to the competition.

3.1.3 The competition is divided into two divisions, the Championship and Development Division. When nominating you will be required to select the division you wish to enter.

3.1.4 Guidelines for each Division:

Championship Division

- Division 1 – aimed for years 5-6 (guideline)
- This Division is for players who have experience with Netball outside of school.

Development Division

- Division 2 – aimed for years 4-5
- This Division is for players who have little to no experience with Netball.

3.3 ROLLING SUBSTITUTIONS

3.3.1 Primary Schools Gala will utilise rolling substitutions. This includes all division.

3.3.2 Teams will be allowed to make substitutions during play, this includes during stoppages and intervals. There is no limit to the number of substitutions that can be made, and more than one substitution may be made at any time. Play will not be held up for substitutions.

3.3.3 The substitutions zone may or may not be marked out on the Court. Substitutions must occur in front of the team bench, on the sideline.

3.3.4 The incoming player must wait until the player being replaced exits the court before entering the field of play.

3.3.5 Players must observe the offside rules when entering the court. Failure to do so will result in a sanction in line with [Rules of Netball 2024](#), offside with the free pass awarded where the ball was at the time of the infringement or at the point of the infringement which ever favours the non-infringing team.

5. NOMINATIONS

5.1 Primary Schools Gala nominations are open and will close at varying dates based on the date of the various event dates. All nominations will be online via NetballConnect.

5.2 Schools will only have one option for payment: Full competition – upfront: online payment at time of nomination or direct transfer.

5.3 The nomination cost per team is \$200 (inc GST), and each school may enter a maximum of four (4) teams in Primary Schools Gala.

5.4 It is at the discretion of Netball Queensland to accept late nominations.

5.5 The nomination fee is non-refundable.

6. PLAYER AND OFFICIAL REGISTRATION

6.1 If the person registering the team is not the Team Manager, they must ensure that all correspondence is passed on to the relevant person

6.2 Team Managers are to ensure that their team lists are provided to the Regional Coordinator on the day of competition prior to the commencement of their first match via a spreadsheet that Netball Queensland will provide.

6.3 Netball Queensland, Host Associations and Regional Coordinators ONLY have access to team lists to strictly use for competition purposes and to ensure that all players are covered under insurance

7. WITHDRAWALS

7.1 If a team chooses to withdraw from the Primary Schools Gala, they must notify Netball Queensland and the Regional Coordinator.

7.2 The nomination fee is non-refundable.

8. SCORING

8.1 In all rounds, paper scoring will be used. The team who is listed as “Home” will be responsible for providing a scorer.

8.2 The opposing Team Manager/Scorer must stand with the Home team scorer to alleviate any disputes around the final score.

8.3 Points:

WIN	LOSS	DRAW	FORFEIT
2	0	1	2 (non-forfeit team)

8.4 In the event that two teams are tied on ladder the following steps will be used:

- If teams are on equal points at the end of rounds, then goal average will determine teams for playoffs. Numbers of goals scored/Number of goals against x 100 = % (to two decimal places)
- If after ranking teams according to goal average to two (2) decimal places, teams remain tied, the results of the match between the two (2) teams concerned during the preliminary rounds will decide the winner
- If the two (2) teams drew their match, or if more than two (2) teams have the same number of points and percentage at the end of the preliminary rounds, then goal difference will be applied (the difference between goals for and goals against)
- In the event of a further tie, the team scoring the most goals during the preliminary round will secure the higher-ranking position
- If the teams are still at a further tie, the team with the biggest margin of victory in a single match throughout the preliminary round against any of their opponents will decide the winner
- In the event of a further tie, a coin toss will decide the winner.

8.5 If scores are level at the end of a match, no extra time will be played.

9. COMPETITION DRAW & GAME LENGTH

(Managed by Netball Queensland and Regional Coordinator)

9.1.1 The duration of the matches is at the discretion of Netball Queensland and Regional Coordinator based on the number of team nominations in the region and court availability.

9.1.2 Netball Queensland and Regional Coordinators will make the draw available to competing teams at least one (1) week prior to competition start date.

9.1.3 The details regarding the rounds in each region; venue, dates, time, and format will be updated on the website and communicated via email.

10. FORFEITS

10.1.1 Forfeits at any stage of the competition are strongly discouraged. If a team must forfeit, they must notify Netball Queensland and the Regional Coordinator. The forfeiting team will receive 0 competition points for the game, and the opposing team will receive 2 competition points.

11. TEAM UNIFORMS

- 11.1 All players from one team must wear the same netball uniform.
- 11.2 Schools should ensure that they have two sets of different coloured bibs at all matches to overcome the problem of schools having uniforms that too closely resemble each other.

12. UMPIRES

All umpires must officiate matches as per the World Netball [Rules of Netball 2024](#). Netball Queensland recommends all matches are controlled by nationally badged umpires where possible. All umpires must have some experience.

- 12.1.1 In the preliminary rounds, each school is responsible for the appointment of one experienced umpire per team who is **not** nominated as a player in that school team squad list.
- 12.1.2 If a school fails to supply an umpire at the preliminary rounds, the Regional Coordinator may penalise the school in a manner they deem appropriate.
- 12.1.3 Umpires will be required for the pool and final.
- 12.1.4 Schools are responsible for umpire payments direct to umpire. Please have this arranged before the competition.
- 12.1.5 The team nomination fee does **not** cover the cost of umpires.

13. FIRST AID OFFICIALS

13.1 Netball Queensland is responsible for providing a qualified First Aid officer for the preliminary rounds and the Final's Series.

14. INSURANCE

14.1 Primary Schools Gala is a competition run under the auspices of Netball Queensland Limited. Netball Queensland manages the overall organisation of the competition and appoints Regional Coordinators to manage and deliver the preliminary rounds. As such, Netball Queensland accepts no responsibility or liability for any accident or injury that may occur while participating in or travelling to/from a game in the preliminary rounds. Netball Queensland has appropriate public liability cover which applies at the Primary Schools Gala.

Personal Accident Claim Form

The Personal Accident Claim Form is to be used by any player (or team official) injured at training or during competition.

This form can be accessed via <https://www.howdengroup.com/au-en/netball-australia>

Only players who are registered through NetballConnect as a financial member of their Association are covered under the Netball Queensland insurance policy. Parents should check to ensure their child is registered.

15. APPEALS – PROTESTS, DISPUTES & COMPLAINTS

- 15.1 All matters pertaining to an umpires' ruling are not subject to appeal. As per World Netball Rules of Netball 2024– *The umpires control a match according to the Rules and decide any matter not covered by them. Their decisions are final and are given without appeal.*
- 15.2 For matters pertaining to Primary Schools Gala, all protests and complaints are to be forwarded to Netball Queensland and the Regional Coordinator within 24 hours. Any submissions after this may not be heard.

- 15.3 If the Regional Coordinator cannot resolve the dispute, they will then contact Netball Queensland.
- 15.4 *As the state governing body, Netball Queensland bears the responsibility of uniting the community to safeguard the integrity and reputation of netball and its participants and stakeholders*
- 15.5 *Netball Australia and Netball Queensland provide a range of policies and codes of conduct to protect the integrity of the game, which can be found [HERE](#)*
- 15.6 *All Participants, coaches, officials and administrators involved in Primary Schools Gala **must at all times comply with and abide** by these policies as a Netball Queensland-run competition, especially:*
- *Netball Queensland's Code of Conduct and Integrity*
 - *Netball Queensland's Disciplinary Procedures Regulations*
 - *Netball Australia's Member Protection Policy*
- 16 *All participants, coaches, officials and administrators should be **well aware** of the NQ policies **prior to** the start of the Primary Schools Gala*

17. CONTACTS

17.1 For additional information about the Primary Schools Gala, please contact Netball Queensland's contacts below:

If you have any questions, please reach out to:

- Bronte Grancourt, Competitions and Event coordinator – Competitions@netballq.org.au