



# 2026 Vicki Wilson Championship

## Competition Manual

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## **1. ELIGIBILITY OF TEAMS**

**1.1** This is a school-based Netball competition for students in years 7 - 12, all competitors must be an enrolled student in the school they are representing.

**1.2** A school may enter a maximum of two (2) teams in the Vicki Wilson Cup and Vicki Wilson Shield each. These two teams can be spread across both Championship and Development as the school best sees fit. A school may also enter two (2) teams in the Vicki Wilson Boys Open Championship and may also enter two (2) teams in Vicki Wilson Boys Open Development.

**1.3** Schools may enter teams into whichever division they see fit, however if required, Netball Queensland may move teams at its discretion such as team registrations and/or previous year results.

**1.4** A player may only be registered and compete for ONE team during the preliminary rounds.

**1.5** Any player can be named in a school's Final Series team provided they meet the year (grade) criteria for each division. A player may only be listed on one squad list for the Final Series.

**1.6** 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 and one umpire cannot umpire more than one team. In the event of a team participating in a game without providing an umpire, the team will be forced to forfeit the game with the score being recorded as "10-0" against the forfeiting team. However, the game may still take place.

**1.7** 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.

**1.8** For Cup, Shield and Boys Open, the preliminary rounds will consist of two (2) divisions: Championship (Division 1) and Development (Division 2) will take place when registration numbers allow.

**1.9** Teams that enter the Development division WILL NOT be eligible to progress to the Finals Series at Nissan Arena.

**1.10** ONLY TEAMS in the CHAMPIONSHIP DIVISION will be eligible to progress to Finals.

**1.11** If required, players in grades 7 - 9 can play in the Vicki Wilson Cup. No players in grades 10-12 are permitted to play in the Vicki Wilson Shield. Vicki Wilson Boys Open is open to all secondary school enrolled boys and will be combined grades into two (2) divisions.

**1.12** Teams must submit their team lists prior to their first round commencing to the Regional Coordinator either via email or printed out. This ensures that players are covered under Netball Queensland's insurance.

**1.13** Netball Queensland has the power to waive compliance with the rules and regulations when satisfied that special circumstances exist.

## **2. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS**

**2.1** Teams of up to 12 players only will be permitted for the Finals Series.

**2.2** A player may only be registered and compete for ONE team during the preliminary round.

**2.3** Any player can be named in a schools Final Series team provided they meet the year (grade) criteria for each division. A player may only be listed on one squad list for the Finals Series.

**2.4** Players need to be enrolled and financial with the school they are representing.

**2.5** All participants must abide by the Netball Queensland Code of Conduct & Integrity policy.

## **3. COMPETITION FORMAT**

The Vicki Wilson Cup, Shield and Boys Open consists of the preliminary rounds and the final series.

### **3.1 PRELIMINARY ROUNDS**

**3.1.1** The competition will be played in line with World Netball - Rules of Netball (2024 edition) rules

**3.1.2** All nominated schools must compete within their regions in the preliminary rounds unless approval is granted by Netball Queensland to compete in another region prior to registrations closing.

**3.1.3** The structure and format of these rounds is determined by Netball Queensland, Regional Coordinators and the Host Association. The nomination fee includes the cost of both preliminary rounds and Final Series (excluding umpires which will be at the cost of the school in the preliminary round). Rules for each specific preliminary round will be sent out prior to the competition.

**3.1.4** In some regions, Netball Queensland in conjunction with Regional Coordinators and Host Associations may choose to split the preliminary round into two (2) days. However, divisions will only be played on one of the days.

**3.1.5** 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. Only teams who nominate in the Championship division will be eligible to progress to the Final Series.

**3.1.6** Guidelines for each Division:

**Championship Division:**

- Division 1 - aimed at higher level teams.
- This division is for teams that wish to play for the opportunity to progress to the Finals Series.
- Teams that have participants who compete in Representative or Division 1 Netball outside of school.

**Development Division:**

- Division 2 - aimed at teams still developing, not at a higher level of competition or a considerably younger team.
- This division is for teams that wish to participate, however are not eligible for progression to the Finals Series.
- Teams that have players who compete in low division netball outside school or have never played netball.

### **3. COMPETITION FORMAT**

#### **3.2 FINALS SERIES**

**3.2.1** The top one or two teams (dependant on region) will qualify for the Finals Series at Nissan Arena in Brisbane.

The 56 Finals Series places for the Vicki Wilson Championship Finals Series are allocated as follows:

Vicki Wilson Cup - 24 Teams	Vicki Wilson Shield - 20 Teams	Vicki Wilson Boys Open - 12 Teams
<p>1 x Capricornia (North) 1 x Capricornia (South) 2 x Darling Downs and South West 2 x MET East 2 x MET North 2 x MET West 1 x Northern 1 x Peninsula 2 x South Coast (North) 2 x South Coast (South) 2 x Sunshine Coast 1 x Wide Bay 5 x Wildcards</p>	<p>1 x Capricornia (North) 1 x Capricornia (South) 2 x Darling Downs and South West 2 x MET East 2 x MET North 2 x MET West 1 x Northern 2 x South Coast (North) 2 x South Coast (South) 2 x Sunshine Coast 1 x Wide Bay 1 x Wildcard</p>	<p>1 x Capricornia (North) 1 x Capricornia (South) 1 x Darling Downs and South West 1 x MET East 1 x MET North 1 x MET West 1 x Northern 1 x Peninsula 1 x South Coast (North) 1 x South Coast (South) 1 x Sunshine Coast 1 x Wide Bay</p>

### **3.3 ROLLING SUBSTITUTIONS**

**3.3.1** Vicki Wilson Championship will utilise rolling substitutions in the preliminary rounds, as well as in the Finals Series.

**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 for rolling 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.

### **4. FINAL SERIES SEEDING**

**4.1** Teams in Vicki Wilson Cup and Vicki Wilson Shield will be seeded and placed into four (4) pools by Netball Queensland for the Finals Series. Seeding will be determined by the position the region finished in the Final Series in the previous years, regional results and local team knowledge. Netball Queensland may move teams if two teams from the same region fall within the same pool.

**4.2** Teams in Vicki Wilson Boys Open will be seeded and placed into two (2) pools determined by Netball Queensland for the Finals Series. Seeding will be determined by the position the region finished in the Finals Series in the previous year, regional results and local team knowledge.

**4.3** Consideration will also be given to placing teams into pools that reflect a wide geographical spread.

**4.4** Where possible, wildcard teams will be seeded with the same criteria.

### **5. NOMINATIONS**

**5.1** Vicki Wilson Championship nominations will close at varying dates based on the date of the various preliminary rounds. All nominations will be online via Microsoft Forms.

**5.2** Schools will receive an invoice for their team registration(s) after completing the Microsoft Form.

**5.3** The nomination cost per team is \$495 (incl. GST).

**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** All communications will be sent to the email address linked to the team registration. It is the schools responsibility to ensure that this is the correct email for all communication. If an update is required, contact [competitions@netballq.org.au](mailto:competitions@netballq.org.au) with the correct email address.

**6.2** Team Managers must submit their team lists to Netball Queensland at least one (1) day prior to the competition. Team lists are to be provided via email using the spreadsheet supplied by Netball Queensland.

**6.3** Netball Queensland and the Regional Coordinator ONLY have access to all team lists to strictly use for competition purposes and ensure all players are covered under insurance.

**6.4** If teams have qualified for the Finals Series, Netball Queensland will require an updated team list. This team list can include no more than 12 players for the Finals Series.

### **7. WITHDRAWALS**

**7.1** If a team chooses to withdraw from the preliminary rounds, they must notify Netball Queensland and the Regional Coordinator.

**7.2** If the qualifying team chooses to withdraw from the Finals Series, their spot will be given to the next highest placed team from the preliminary rounds in that region.

**7.3** If the next highest placed team declines the invite as well, it will be up to the discretion of Netball Queensland as to how the spot is filled.

**7.4** Refunds are at the discretion of Netball Queensland based on the timing of the withdrawal in relation to the competition. Any withdrawal that occurs after the draw has been released will be ineligible for a refund.

## 8. SCORING

**8.1** In all preliminary rounds, Netball Connect LiveScoring will be used. The team who is listed as the 'Home' team on Netball Connect will be responsible for allocating a scorer and scoring on the Netball Connect app.

**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-infringing team)

**8.5** If teams are on equal points at the end of the preliminary rounds, then goal average will determine teams for playoffs. Numbers of goals scored/number of goals against  $\times 100 = \%$  (to two decimal places).

**8.6** If after ranking teams according to goal average to two (2) decimal places, teams remained tied, the results of the match between the two (2) teams concerned during the preliminary rounds will decide the winner.

**8.7** If the two (2) teams drew their match or one (1) match each, 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).

**8.8** In the event of a further tie, the team scoring the most goals during the preliminary round will secure the higher-ranking position.

**8.9** 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.

**8.10** In the event of a further tie, a coin toss will decide the winner.

**8.11** If scores are level at the end of a preliminary round finals match in which the winner would qualify for the Finals Series, extra time will be played.

**8.11.1** The format for extra time during the preliminary rounds will be a 1-minute break followed by two halves of 4 minutes each with a 1-minute break for half time.

**8.11.2** If at the conclusion of the 2nd half scores are still tied, the game will continue to be played until one team takes a two-goal lead.

**8.11.3** All bench officials, including scorers, will be provided by Netball Queensland in the Finals Series.

**8.11.4** If a game is late starting due to one team not being present or ready to play, the non-infringing team will be awarded one goal for every minute the game is delayed. This will be calculated on the following basis:

- One minute - 1 goal
- Two minutes - 2 goals
- Three minutes - 3 goals
- Four minutes - 4 goals
- Five minutes - 5 goals
- Six minutes - 6 goals
- After 6 minutes, the game is officially forfeited (where the score will be recorded as 10-0).

## **9. COMPETITION DRAW & GAME LENGTH**

### **9.1 PRELIMINARY ROUNDS**

(Managed by Netball Queensland and the Regional Coordinators)

**9.1.1** The duration of the preliminary round matches is at the discretion of Netball Queensland and the Regional Coordinator based on the number of team nominations in the region and court availability. All matches will consist of a minimum of 2 x 10-minute halves.

**9.1.2** Netball Queensland and the Regional Coordinator 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 preliminary rounds in each region will be updated on the Netball Queensland website and communicated via email.

### **9.2 FINALS SERIES**

(Managed by Netball Queensland)

**9.2.1** The format for the Finals Series will be made available after the completion of the preliminary rounds. Along with this, a dedicated Finals Series information pack will be made available for competing teams.

## **10. FORFEITS**

### **10.1 PRELIMINARY ROUNDS**

**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 zero (0) competition points for the game, and the opposing team will receive two (2) competition points.

### **10.2 FINALS SERIES**

**10.2.1** If a team needs to forfeit during the Finals Series, then the school must contact Netball Queensland, NOT the Regional Coordinator.

## **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 Edition). Umpires must hold a current Netball Australia minimum 'C' Badge Umpire's Accreditation.

### **12.1 PRELIMINARY ROUNDS**

**12.1.1** In the preliminary rounds, each school is responsible for the appointment of one 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, Netball Queensland may penalise the school in a manner they deem appropriate.

**12.1.3** Umpires will be required for the pool and final placing matches in the Preliminary Round.

**12.1.4** Schools are responsible for umpire payments direct to umpire. Please have this arranged before the competition.

**12.1.5** If a school is unable to supply an umpire, they must contact the umpire convenor for the region at a minimum one (1) month out to allow the umpire convenor adequate time to assist in finding an umpire. The onus will be on the school to confirm details with the umpire to ensure they are in attendance for every game.

**12.1.6** Should a team not supply a umpire for a game the game will be ruled a forfeit, however the game is still able to take place to allow playing opportunities for students.

### **12.2 FINALS SERIES**

**12.2.1** Netball Queensland will supply and appoint national accredited umpires for the Finals Series.

## **13. FIRST AID OFFICIALS**

**13.1** Netball Queensland is responsible for providing a qualified First Aid Officer for the preliminary rounds and the finals series.

## 14. INSURANCE

### Personal Accident Insurance Claims (Netball Australia Insurance Program)

- Only Netball Queensland playing members and non-playing members, who are registered as a member of their Association in Netball Connect or whose teams are registered in Netball Connect (the platform used by Netball Queensland and offered by Netball Queensland to organisations in its Community to assist with the administration of Netball) are eligible to claim against Netball Australia's Personal Accident Insurance Policy. Parents/Legal Guardians of individuals under the age of eighteen should satisfy themselves that their child/ren is/are appropriately registered as a playing (or non-playing, if appropriate) member of Netball Queensland, prior to them participating in any Netball Activities.
- A Personal Accident Insurance Claim Form (claim form) is to be completed, and submitted, by registered playing members (and registered non-playing members) who incur an injury that leads to a claim, while participating in Netball Activities, sanctioned by Netball Queensland. If the individual involved in a potential claim is under the age of eighteen, a claim can be initiated by their Parent/Legal Guardian, on their behalf.
- Exclusions, restrictions, limitations, prohibited activities and scope applies to Netball Australia's Personal Accident Insurance Coverage. For more information regarding these aspects of the Personal Accident Insurance Coverage within the Netball Australia Insurance Program, please contact Howden (contact details at the bottom of this section).

#### How to lodge a personal accident insurance claim:

- Please visit <https://www.howdengroup.com/au-en/netball-australia/playing-members>
- Select the following claim form to complete, as there is more than one (1) claim form on the above webpage (they differ depending on when the injury is stated to have occurred):  
<https://www.howdengroup.com/sites/g/files/mwfley836/files/2024-04/BHSI%20Netball%20Australia%20Personal%20Injury%20and%20Sickness%20claim%20form%2004-2024.pdf>
- Complete each section of the claim form as completely, and honestly, as possible. The declaration by your Association/Club must be completed by an authorised representative of the Association/Club. Incomplete sections within a submitted claim form (including, but not limited to, the Association/Club section) will likely cause a delay in assessment, and processing, of the claim.
- Please submit the claim form (as well as any supporting documentation) to the entity stated within the claim form. This entity will also double as the same entity who can provide you with updates concerning the claim, not Netball Queensland or Howden.

If you require any assistance with completing a claim form, prior to submitting it to the appropriate entity, please contact Howden:-

T: 1300 420 370

E: [netball.aus@howdengroup.com](mailto:netball.aus@howdengroup.com)

## 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 Edition), '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 the preliminary rounds, 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 protest and/or complaint pertains to a single match, it must be raised within 30 minutes of the completion of the match. If possible, the matter should be raised as soon as possible.

## **16. INTEGRITY**

**16.1** 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.

**16.2** 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 in this webpage - <https://qld.netball.com.au/policies>

**16.3** All participants, coaches, officials and administrators involved in Vicki Wilson Championship **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

All participants, coaches, officials and administrators should be **well aware** of the NQ policies **prior** to the start of the Vicki Wilson Championship.

## **17. FINALS SERIES**

**17.1** Once teams qualify for the Finals Series, a separate document outlining the Finals Series rules and additional important information will be made available to each team.

**17.2** In 2026, Netball Queensland will no longer be offering travel subsidies to teams that qualify for the Finals Series. The Finals Series will be eligible for funding under the [Emerging Athlete Program](#). Netball Queensland will advise teams if further funding avenues become available.

## **18. CONTACTS**

**18.1** For additional information about the Vicki Wilson Championship, please contact Netball Queensland on [competitions@netballq.org.au](mailto:competitions@netballq.org.au)