

Hamilton City Netball Centre

2023 Competitions Structure & Regulations

Reviewed and Amended
February 2023

To be reviewed
November 2023

Contents

Competition Structure and Regulations	3
2023 Competition Dates.....	4
Competition Structures	6
Indoor Open Grade Premier Competition	6
Saturday Open Grade Competition	7
Thursday Open Grade Competition	7
Secondary Junior Saturday Competition	8
Secondary Senior Saturday Competition	8
Intermediate Saturday Competition	8
Competition Information	9
Location.....	9
Cancellations.....	9
Game Lengths and breaks.....	9
Timing of Matches	9
Team Bench Area	10
Scorecards.....	10
Provision of scorers.....	10
Game Requests	10
Grading & Promotion/Relegation Procedures.....	11
Competition Points & Results	12
Ties and Draws	12
Game Defaults	12
Championship Placings and Prizegivings	13
Competition Rules	14
Team Registrations	14
Team Rankings/Naming.....	14
Fees	14
Refunds and Withdrawals.....	14
Number of Players on a team	15
Player Registration and Eligibility	15
Team Uniforms	15
Franchise and International Players	16
School Players	16
Men, Boys and Transgender Players.....	16
Fill-in Players	17
Players and Finals.....	17

Regrading Players.....	17
Player Fines	17
Club Disbanding	18
Umpires.....	19
Provision of Team Umpires.....	19
Umpire Defaults	19
Allocated Umpire Request	19
Umpire Responsibilities	20
Duty Umpire.....	20
Disciplinary/ Incident Process and Consequences	21
Definitions.....	22
Grade Dispensation Request	23
Individual Player Dispensation Request	24

Competition Structure and Regulations

- 1) The structure, regulations and rules stated below, and rules outlined in the World Netball Rule Book, will be used for all competitions except where stated on registration.
- 2) If there are disputes on the structure, regulations and rules that are ambiguous, decisions will be made by HCNC Events staff and will be made in the best interest of the competition.
- 3) Any matter or concern not outlined in this document will go to HCNC staff and/or Board via the Complaints Policies and Procedures. HCNC staff/Board will use HCNC Structure and Regulations, Constitution, and Netball New Zealand Constitution to resolve matters or concerns.
- 4) The Competition Structure and Regulations document is written as though a full season will occur.
- 5) HCNC Reserve the right to change and adapt the Competition Structure and Regulations at any time for the benefit and safety of the netball community.
- 6) Changes may include but are not limited to:
 - i) Shortening of the competition weeks
 - ii) Changing of published playing days and times
 - iii) Cancellation of a competition
 - iv) Rescheduling of a competition
 - v) Shortening or lengthening of breaks in games
- 7) Regulations in **highlight** are considered major changes from the previous years regulations.

2023 Competition Dates

External dates that effect the HCNC Competition Dates:

April	May	June
7-23 April - School Holidays		5 June – Kings Birthday
July	August	September
02-04 July - Junior North Island Champs 01-16 July - School Holidays 10-13 July - NNZ U18 Champs 14 July - Matariki	25-26 Aug - Kurangaituku 28 Aug - 01 Sept - UNISS	01-02 Sept - Kurangaituku 02-08 Sept AIMs 05-09 Sept - NNZ Open Champs

Competitions		Age Groups	Play Dates	No Play Dates	Registration Close Date	Tournament/ Festival Dates
Open Grade Competition	Indoor Open Grade Premier	Open (Year 11+)	16 weeks, 16 games Thursdays April: 27 May: 4, 11, 18, 25 June: 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 July: 20, 27 August: 3, 10, 17, 24	6 July 13 July	6 April	Pre-season 15 April Summer Festival 26 November
	Saturday Open Grade	Open (Year 11+)	14 weeks, 15 games Saturdays April: *29 May: 6, 13, 20, 27 June: 10, 17, 24 July: 1, 22, 29 August: 5, 12, 19 (*29 April = 2 x grading games)	3 June 8 July 15 July 26 August 2 Sept	6 April	Pre-season 15 April Summer Festival 26 November
Thursday Open Grade Competition	Thursday Open Grade	Open (Year 11+)	15 weeks, 15 games Thursdays April: 27 May: 4, 11, 18, 25 June: 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 July: 20, 27 August: 3, 10, 1	6 July 13 July	6 April	Pre-season 15 April Summer Festival 26 November

Competitions		Age Groups	Play Dates	No Play Dates	Registration Close Date	Tournament/Festival Dates
Secondary Competition	Saturday Senior Secondary	Senior (Year 11-13)	14 weeks, 15 games Saturdays May: *6, 13, 20, 27 June: 10, 17, 24 July: 1, 22, 29 August: 5, 12, 19, 26 (*6 May = 2 x grading games)	3 June 8 July 15 July	6 April	Pre-season 15 April Mid-season 11 June Summer Festival 26 November
	Saturday Junior Secondary	Year 9 Year 10	14 weeks, 15 games Saturdays May: *6, 13, 20, 27 June: 10, 17, 24 July: 1, 22, 29 August: 5, 12, 19, 26 (*6 May = 2 x grading games)	3 June 8 July 15 July	6 April	Pre-season 15 April Mid-season 11 June Summer Festival 26 November
Secondary Development Competition	Secondary Senior	Senior (Year 11-13)	6 weeks, 6 games Mondays July: 17, 24, 31 August: 7, 14, 21		30 June	
	Secondary Junior	Year 10 Year 9	6 weeks, 6 Games Monday Nights July: 17, 24, 31 August: 7, 14, 21		30 June	
Intermediate Competition	Saturday Intermediate	Year 8 Year 7	13 weeks, 13 games Saturdays May: 13, 20, 27 June: 10, 17, 24 July: 1, 22, 29 August: 5, 12, 19, 26	3 June 8 July 15 July	6 April	Mid-season 11 June Festival 20 August Summer Festival 26 November
futureFERNS Programme	Year 5-6	Year 6 Year 5	13 weeks Wednesdays May: 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 June: 7, 14, 21, 28 July: 19, 26 August: 2, 9	July: 5,12	6 April	Festival 20 August Summer Festival 26 November
	Year 3-4	Year 4 Year 3	13 weeks Tuesdays May: 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 June: 6, 13, 20, 27 July: 18, 25 August: 1, 8	July: 4, 11	6 April	Festival 20 August Summer Festival 26 November
	Year 1-2	Year 2 Year 1	9 weeks Thursdays May: 4, 11, 18, 25 June: 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	N/A	6 April	Festival 20 August Summer Festival 26 November

Competition Structures

Indoor Open Grade Premier Competition

1. Registration: Promotion from Saturday Open Grade
 - a. Promotion is open to all Club teams and Secondary Senior teams
 - b. To be eligible to participate in the Premier competition, clubs are required to have a minimum of two teams affiliated to their club. If the second team is not registered at HCNC, verification of the second team is required in writing from the club at the time of registration.
 - c. Indoor Open Grade Premier is the higher grades of the Saturday Open Grade competition. Saturday Open Grade is the lower grades of the Indoor Open Grade Premier competition.
2. Location: The Peak, Rototuna
3. Game Day: Thursday
4. Game Times: 6:25pm & 8:00pm
5. Length of game: 60mins - 15min 1/4
6. Length of Competition: 16 weeks (16 games)
7. Grading:
 - a. None
8. Grades:
 - a. Premier A; Premier B – 8 teams per grade
9. Competition Structure:
 - a. 1st Round: 7 weeks (7 games) Round Robin Play
 - b. 2nd Round: 7 weeks (7 games) Round Robin Play
 - i. Promotion/relegation game at end of round - Premier A Bottom team v Premier B top team. Winner plays in round 3 in Premier A; Loser to play in Premier B
 - c. 3rd Round: 2 weeks Championship Play (Semis and Finals)
 - i. All teams must participate in Semi Finals and Finals
10. Promotion / Relegations games for the 2024 competition.
 - a. Promotion/ Relegation to be held at the start of the 2024 season
 - i. 1st Premier Reserve v 8th Premier B – winner to play in Premier B; Loser to play in Premier Reserve
 - ii. 2nd Premier Reserve v 7th Premier B – winner to play in Premier B; Loser to play in Premier Reserve
 - iii. 8th Premier A v 1st Premier B – winner to play in Premier A; Loser to play in Premier B

Saturday Open Grade Competition

1. Registration: Open to all Club teams and Secondary Senior teams
 - a. Saturday Open Grade is the lower grades of the Indoor Open Grade Premier competition. Indoor Open Grade Premier is the higher grades of the Saturday Open Grade competition.
2. Location: Minogue Park
3. Game Day: Saturday
4. Game Times: 12:30pm, 1:30pm, 2:30pm, 3:30pm, 4:30pm
5. Length of game: 40mins - 10min 1/4
6. Length of Competition: 15 weeks (15 games)
7. Grades:
 - a. Premier Reserve, A Grade, B Grade, C Grade, D Grade, Social Grade (further grades may be added dependent on team numbers)
8. Competition Structure:
 - a. 1st Round: 3 weeks (3 games) Grading
 - i. Based off grade level submitted on registration and then prior year's results
 - b. 2nd Round: 7 weeks (7 games) Round Robin Play (Pools of 8)
 - c. 3rd Round: 3 weeks (3 games) Round Robin Play (Pools of 4)
 - d. 4th Round: 2 weeks Championship Play (Semis and Finals)
 - i. Finals: All teams will play on Semis and Finals days

Thursday Open Grade Competition

1. Registration: Open to Club teams and Secondary Senior teams
2. Location: Minogue Park
3. Game Day: Thursday
4. Game Times: 6.30pm & 7.30pm
5. Length of game: 40mins - 10min 1/4
6. Length of Competition: 15 weeks (15 games)
7. Grades:
 - a. A Grade, B Grade, C Grade, Social Grade (further grades may be added dependent to team numbers)
8. Competition Structure:
 - a. 1st Round: 3 weeks (3 games) Grading
 - ii. Based off grade level submitted on registration and then prior year's results
 - b. 2nd Round: 7 weeks (7 games) Round Robin Play (Pools of 8)
 - c. 3rd Round: 3 weeks (3 games) Round Robin Play (Pools of 4)
 - d. 4th Round: 2 weeks Championship Play (Semis and Finals)
 - i. Finals: All teams will play on Semis and Finals days

Secondary Junior Saturday Competition

1. Registration: Open to all Junior Secondary teams (Year 9 & 10 only) or Junior Secondary players enrolled in a secondary school wanting to create a team.
 - a. Grades: Year 9; Year 10
2. Location: Minogue Park
3. Game Day: Saturday
4. Game Times: 10:30am, 11:30am, 12:30pm, 1:30pm, 2.30pm, 3.30pm
5. Length of Competition: 15 weeks (15 games)
6. Competition Structure:
 - a. 1st Round: 3 weeks Grading
 - iii. Based off grade level submitted on registration and then prior year's results
 - b. 2nd Round: 7 weeks (7 games) Round Robin (Pools of 8)
 - c. 3rd round: 3 weeks (3 games) Round Robin (Pools of 4)
 - d. 4th round: 2 weeks Championship Play (Semis and Finals)
 - i. Finals: All teams will play on Semis and Finals days

Secondary Senior Saturday Competition

1. Registration: Open to all Senior Secondary teams (Year 11 to 13 only) or Secondary players enrolled in a secondary school wanting to create a team.
 - a. Grades: Senior (Year 11-13)
 - b. Mixed: (Year 9-13) – No minimum or maximum gender per team.
2. Location: Minogue Park
3. Game Day: Saturday
4. Game Times: 10:30am, 11:30am, 12:30pm, 1:30pm, 2.30pm, 3.30pm
5. Length of Competition: 15 weeks (15 games)
6. Competition Structure:
 - e. 1st Round: 3 weeks Grading
 - i. Based off grade level submitted on registration and then prior year's results
 - f. 2nd Round: 7 weeks (7 games) Round Robin (Pools of 8)
 - g. 3rd round: 3 weeks (3 games) Round Robin (Pools of 4)
 - h. 4th round: 2 weeks Championship Play (Semis and Finals)
 - i. Finals: All teams will play on Semis and Finals days

Intermediate Saturday Competition

1. Registration: Open to all Intermediate School teams or Intermediate players enrolled in an Intermediate School wanting to create a team.
 - a. Grades: Year 7; Year 8
2. Location: Minogue Park
3. Game Day: Saturday
4. Length of Competition: 13 weeks (13 games)
5. Game Times: 8:30am, 9:30am, 10:30am, 11.30am
6. Competition Structure:
 - a. 1st Round: 2 weeks (2 games) Grading
 - i. Based off grade level submitted on registration and then prior year's results
 - b. 2nd Round: 5 weeks (5 games) of Round Robin (Pools of 6)
 - c. 3rd Round: 5 weeks (5 games) of Round Robin (Pools of 6)
 - d. 4th Round: 1 week Championship Play (Finals Day)
 - i. Finals: All teams will play on Finals Day

Competition Information

Location

1. All official games of the Centre shall be organised under the jurisdiction of the Hamilton City Netball Centre (HCNC) Events Staff and unless otherwise stated, shall be played at Minogue Park.
2. Competitions held at other venues will follow all rules and regulations of the venue.

Cancellations

1. HCNC Events staff reserves the right to cancel games due to poor weather conditions or other safety concerns.
2. Cancellation information will be emailed to club managers, team managers, posted on social media and the HCNC website.

Game Lengths and breaks

Competition	Game Length	Quarter Length	Breaks
Indoor Open Grade Premier	60mins	15mins	3mins, 3mins, 3mins
All other Competitions	40mins	10mins	2mins, 3mins, 2mins

Timing of Matches

1. Timing of games is undertaken from HCNC Tower – Start and finish times signified by a central bell/hooter.
2. Timing for Premier indoor games is undertaken by an official timekeeper.
3. Where a game does not start on the starting bell due to the umpires being late to the game:
 - a. For Premier games, the game shall start as soon as the umpires are present on the court and every effort should be made to play the full 60 minutes.
 - b. For all other games, the game should start as soon as one umpire is present on the court, but no extra time shall be played past the end of the quarter indicated by the central bell.
4. Stoppages
 - a. Only Premier Indoor will follow World Netball Rules process for stoppages.
5. Substitutions and Team Changes
 - a. Both teams have the right to make substitutions and/or team changes when:
 - i. a player calls time
 - ii. play is stopped for injury/illness or blood
 - b. Time will be held at the discretion of the umpire.
 - i. Teams have up to 30 seconds to make a substitution
 - ii. Premier Indoor the clock will be stopped; All other competitions the clock will continue
 - c. The number of substitutions is not limited provided the players used are those named for the game.

Team Bench Area

1. Indoor Competition
 - a. Team benches will be located on either side of the Bench Official's table.
 - b. Only registered players and team officials are permitted to sit at the team bench.
 - c. Spectators will be allowed to sit behind or at the side of team benches in designated areas. Teams have the right to request the removal of spectators near their bench at any time during their game.
2. Outdoor Competition
 - a. All court areas and sidelines (Blue Area of court) are to be clear of spectators, team gear/equipment and items, including but not limited to the following:
 - i. Bags, drink bottles, balls, prams/pushchairs, wheel chairs and/or other items needed for mobility, and umbrellas
 - b. Players and coaches must take up a bench position on the Northern Side of the court closest to the centre of the court. For Minogue Park, the Northern Side is deemed to be the left-hand side, looking at the courts from the Registration Office.

Scorecards

1. Registered team player names will be printed on back of score cards for the following competitions – Secondary Junior, Secondary Senior, Thursday Open Grade, Saturday Open Grade.
2. Coach or Manager to tick players in attendance. Cross off those not there.
3. Coach or Manager to write on bottom of list players NOT registered for team
 - a. It is the Clubs responsibility to ensure eligibility of additional players
 - b. If you are unsure of the eligibility of a players, see registration office.

Provision of scorers

1. All teams must provide a scorer for each game. The scorers will decide who will be the main scorer for the game. The other team's scorer will remain beside the main scorer for the duration of the game to prevent disputes regarding the score.
2. The scorer is to be situated in line with the centre circle so position is clear to umpires.
3. Unless there is evidence to the contrary that is satisfactory to HCNC, the official score will be the score on the scorecard.
4. The only exception to the above is Premier Indoor games where the score will be kept by bench officials.

Game Requests

1. Game Requests
 - a. Game requests must be submitted with team registration. Even though game requests are submitted, they may not be accommodated. For example, if request disrupts the schedule of other teams.
 - b. All game requests submitted after registration deadline will not be accommodated unless it falls under Exceptions.
 - c. Deferred games requests will not be accommodated.
2. Exceptions
 - a. Game requests for School Balls must be submitted with registration. Game requests for School Balls submitted after the registration deadline will not be accommodated.

- b. Game requests for Annual Calendar/School Event must be submitted with registration. Game requests for Annual Calendar/School Events after the registration deadline will not be accommodated.
 - c. HCNC Events staff will do their best to accommodate these requests. However, it may not be accommodated if moving games disrupt overall competition. Please note if request is accommodated, teams will be given the earliest published time possible for that competition.
3. Representative Players
- a. If teams have three or more players who are unavailable due to HCNC netball representative duty, the team may submit a game request. All requests must be submitted in writing 15 business days prior to the game in question.

Grading & Promotion/Relegation Procedures

1. Grading
- a. At the end of each grading round, the following will be used to create pools for the next round of competition:
 - i. Team's placing in pool
 - ii. Number of wins and losses
 - iii. Number of points scored
 - iv. Number of points scored against
 - v. Level of play noted by HCNC Events Staff
2. Promotion/Relegation Process
- a. If not stated in the competition structure the following promotion/relegation applies
 - b. At the end of a round there is opportunity for teams to be moved into a higher or lower pool.
 - i. Move into Higher Pool: Only applies to top two teams in pool
 - ii. Moved into lower pool: Only applies to bottom two teams in a pool
 - iii. Below are examples of team movement that may be made if HCNC Events Staff believe it is in the best interest of teams and it will not disrupt competition
 - a. Move into Higher Pool:
 - i. A team is beating all teams by large margins.
 - ii. Goals scored against is significantly less than any other team in their pool.
 - iii. If the Convenors consider that there is no team to move down from the pool above, the team may stay in current pool
 - b. Moved into lower pool:
 - i. Team is losing every game by large margins.
 - ii. Goals scored against significantly more than any other team in their pool.
 - iii. If the Convenors consider that there is no team to move up from the pool below, the team may stay in current pool.
 - c. If next round of competition has started, no movement will be made.

Competition Points & Results

1. Points for each competition will be awarded as listed below

Game Result	Points
Win	3 points
Draw	2 points
Loss by 3 points or less in 40 minute games	1 point to losing team
Loss by 5 points or less in 60 minute games	1 point to losing team
Loss by more than 3 goals in 40 minute games	0 points to losing team
Loss by more than 5 goals in 60 minute games	0 points to losing team

2. Results
 - a. All results and points are updated weekly on the Hamilton City Netball Centre website at (www.netballhamilton.org.nz).
 - b. Clubs and teams are responsible for notifying HCNC if there are errors. Any team wishing to question the results of games must do so in writing to HCNC Events Staff within **5 business days of the game**.
 - c. Errors identified after finalists or promoted/relegated teams have been notified will not be amended.

Ties and Draws

1. Pool Play Ties:
 - a. If two or more teams have the same number of points at the end of pool play, the winner will be determined by goal ratio. (Calculation: "goals for" divided by "goals against")
 - b. If two or more teams are tied on goal ratio, the winner of the pool play game between the teams concerned will be the pool winner.
 - c. If teams drew their pool play game, the team to have scored the most goals in pool play will be declared the winner.
2. Championship Play Draws:
 - a. In any play-off to determine an overall Championship winner, no draw is permitted. If the score is level at full time, play will continue until one team has a two- goal advantage. This applies to all grades of competition.

Game Defaults

1. Game defaults in all competitions will lose competition points and incur a fine as listed below.

Type	Fine	Other Penalties
Defaults before 1pm the day prior to game day	\$50	Loss of two competition points
Defaults after 1pm the day prior to game day	\$75	Loss of two competition points
Indoor Open Grade Premier Game Default	\$200	Loss of five competition points
Failure to take court within 3 minutes	\$50	Loss of two competition points
Championship Game Default	\$250	

Championship Placings and Prizgivings

1. Winners
 - a. The top finishing team in each grade will be considered the championship winner.
 - b. Details of prizegiving formats will be published at the start of the championship round.
2. Disruption
 - a. Should more than 2 playing days (after grading rounds) in a competition not be completed then there will not be championship placings.
 - b. Where possible Premier Indoor will have promotion and relegation between seasons, even if the championship rounds are not completed.

Competition Rules

Team Registrations

1. Teams must register via online registration system.
2. Teams who do not register using this system may not be included in the competition.
3. All players, coaches, managers and umpires for each team must be registered as well as a Club Manager for the Club or School.
 - i. Players, Coaches and Managers names will be printed on the back of scorecards and could be used by HCNC Events staff to check eligibility, except Premier Indoor where team sheets must be submitted.

Team Rankings/Naming

1. Team Names
 - a. Club or School Name is required in the team name
 - i. Eg. Rydell High or RHS
 - b. Secondary and Intermediate teams are required to have their year level in the team name
 - i. Eg. Rydell High Year 9 or RHS Yr 9
2. Team Rankings
 - a. Schools and clubs with multiple teams in one competition/grade, must rank teams from highest skilled to lowest skilled. Please use letters from A-Z. Teams with the letters at the start of the alphabet will be considered the highest skilled teams.
 - i. Eg. if a school has 5 year 9 teams, please use the following system:
 - a. RHS 9a, RHS 9b, RHS 9c, RHS 9d, RHS 9e
 - ii. In the example above, 9a is the most skilled team and will be placed in a higher pool than other teams.
 - b. Teams can amend name but will be required to use the letter system above.
 - i. Eg Rydell High 9a Magic

Fees

1. Registration Fees
 - a. All Competition fees must be paid by the due date published on the invoice unless a payment plan has been made and agreed upon by HCNC and team/club/school.
2. Fines
 - a. All fines must be paid within by the due date published on the invoice.

Refunds and Withdrawals

1. Teams withdrawing from a competition with written notification at least **10 business days** prior to when the **competition is due to start**, will receive 100% refund.
2. Teams withdrawing from a competition with written notification at least **7 business days** prior to the **last day of grading**, will receive a 50% refund.
 - a. If there is no grading round, the first round of competition will be treated as the grading round.
3. Teams withdrawing from a competition **after the completion of the grading** round will not receive a refund.

Number of Players on a team

Grade	Maximum number of players registered on a team
Indoor Premier	16 <i>Note: Only twelve players can be named for each game as per World Netball rule book.</i>
All other Grades	12

Player Registration and Eligibility

1. Player Registration
 - a. **The onus is on the Club to ensure their players meet eligibility requirements.**
 - b. Only HCNC registered players can play in HCNC competitions.
 - c. Teams may add unregistered players to teams until Championship play has commenced or maximum number of players per team reached.
 - i. Exception for players on lower club team *See Player and Finals*
 - ii. Championship play eligibility applies to all players *See Player and Finals*
 - d. HCNC Events Staff will conduct random checks of players registered to teams.
2. Club and Team Registrations
 - a. Players can be registered for one Club per competition.
 - i. e.g. A player may register for one Club in Saturday Open Grade and a second Club in Thursday Open Grade.
 - a. Note - Saturday Open Grade and Indoor Open Grade Premier are considered the same competition.
 - ii. Secondary School players cannot play in more than one Club team – *See Secondary School Player Exceptions*
 - b. Players can be registered for more than one team in a club, provided the teams play in different competitions within the centre or come under the secondary school exceptions. *See Secondary School Player Exceptions*
 - a. Note - Saturday Open Grade and Indoor Open Grade Premier are considered the same competition.
 - c. No game time requests will be accepted or considered for a player who is playing for two clubs or for two teams.

Team Uniforms

1. Uniforms
 - a. Please refer to the *Hamilton City Netball Centre Uniform Policy* for full uniform requirements.
 - b. In summary Hamilton City Netball Centre is committed to supporting Netball uniforms that adhere to the official World Netball Rules of Netball as well as those that promote safety, inclusivity, practicality, and affordability:
 - i. All teams must be recognisable as a team based on their uniform.
 - ii. Players may not wear anything that could endanger themselves or other players.
 - iii. All players in a team must wear matching bibs.
 - iv. A new club, school, or team must submit colour image of their proposed uniform and bib for approval and registration. Once registered, no other team can wear the same uniform.

- v. Teams wishing to purchase new uniforms must receive approval from HCNC Event team prior to purchasing uniforms.

Franchise and International Players

1. Franchise & International Players
 - a. Franchise and International players may only play in the Indoor Premier Open Grade competition.
 - b. Each Indoor Premier team is permitted to register up to four Franchise and International players per season as a part of the 16 registered players for the team.
 - c. Teams may downgrade no more than two players from a Premier grade team to make room for returning franchise and International players. Teams must apply to the HCNC Events team 5 business days prior to the next round of competition for this to be done.
 - d. No more than two franchise and International players may take the court at any one time.

School Players

1. School Year groups:
 - a. Players must play in their current school year level.
 - i. e.g. Year 7 plays in Year 7 Grade.
 - b. Teams with more than two players of a different Year group in a competition, must play in the Year group of oldest player/s with Grade Dispensations.
 - i. e.g. two year 10 players playing with Year 9 Players; Team will play in Year 10 Grade.
 - c. Any teams who have players of different year levels must apply for a Grade Dispensation
 - d. Any individual players in teams playing above their year level, must apply for an Individual Player Dispensation.
 - i. e.g. Year 10 playing in Senior (Y11-13) Secondary Team.
 - ii. Dispensation will not be given for a Year 10 player to play in a team in the Indoor Premier Open Grade Competition
2. Secondary School Player Exceptions
 - a. A Secondary School player may be registered in one school team and one club team but not two school teams or two club teams.
 - i. The school and club team can be in the same competition.
 - b. No game time requests will be accepted or considered for a player who is playing for two teams.

Men, Boys and Transgender Players

1. Boys
 - a. Boys up to Year 8 may play in the appropriate age/school year group competition.
2. Men's and Mixed Netball
 - a. Men's or Mixed netball competitions may be offered at HCNC. The regulations for these competitions will be published with registration information.
3. Transgender

- a. HCNC follows the June 2022 Netball NZ Regulation 3.3 in regard to Transgender Players.

Fill-in Players

1. Emergency/ Fill-in Players
 - a. Players within the same club and school can play **up**.
 - i. Players may play twice in a higher designated team within their own club and remain in their regular team.
 - ii. The third time the player plays up for one team, the player will be considered a member of that team and will be graded up. The player will not be able to return to their original team.
 - iii. Players can play up during Championship play if they meet the requirements of a player in the finals see *Players and Finals*.
 - b. Players within the same school or club cannot play **down**.
 - i. Players within the same school or club cannot play in a lower team than they are registered and graded in.

Players and Finals

1. Players and Finals
 - a. Teams in all competitions involved in Championship play must consist of registered players who have played a minimum of three games for that team during the season. The players must have taken the court for at least one full quarter of each of the three games.
 - b. Exception – see *Fill-in Players* - Player plays for the same club but in a lower HCNC registered team so by being added to a team in Championship play will be playing up in grades. And, Player being added to the team has played for the lower club team a minimum of 3 games for their regular team.

Regrading Players

1. Re -grading of Players
 - a. A team may apply to HCNC Events Staff for regrading of player, due to unforeseen and exceptional circumstances. The application for this must be submitted 5 business day prior to the next round of games. The HCNC Events Staffs has the discretion to approve or deny request.

Player Fines

Player Fines	Fine	Other Penalty
Playing Unregistered Player or Ineligible Player	\$50	Loss of two competition points Forfeit of game
Playing in a lower team	\$50	Loss two competition points Forfeit of game
Playing a player under another player's name	\$50	Loss of two competition points Forfeit of game
Playing more than two franchise players on the court at same time	\$50	Loss of five competition points Forfeit of game

Club Disbanding

1. Club Disbanding
 - a. In the exceptional circumstance that a club that fully disbands, in accordance with its constitution, one or more of the teams associated with the disbanded club may join a new club on the following basis:
 - i. The disbanded club does not continue in part or full.
 - ii. The disbanded club name does not remain with any team from the original entity.
 - iii. In this situation a Team that moves clubs may retain their previous season's status, provided that 75% of the playing and coaching staff remain with the team for duration of the following season.

Umpires

Provision of Team Umpires

1. Premier Indoor
 - a. Teams in Premier Indoor are required to pay for an allocated umpire. Payment for the allocated umpire will be an invoiced to the team for the season. HCNC will make payments to the allocated Umpires.
 - b. Umpire fees will be set annually by HCNC.
 - i. 2023 Fee is \$20 per game
2. Saturday Open Grade
 - a. Premier Reserve
 - i. Teams in Premier Reserve are required to pay for an allocated umpire. Payment for the allocated umpire will be an invoiced to the team for the season. HCNC will make payments to the allocated Umpires.
 - ii. Umpire fees will be set annually by HCNC.
 1. 2023 Fee is \$20 per game
 - b. A grade to Social Grade
 - i. Each team playing in A grade to Social grade are required to supply one umpire per game played.
 - ii. Minimum qualification for umpire is ITU or Centre Theory
 - iii. Umpires will umpire own teams game.
3. Thursday Open Grade
 - a. Each team playing in Secondary Saturday competition are required to supply one umpire per game played.
 - b. Minimum qualification for umpire is ITU or Centre Theory
 - c. Umpires will umpire own teams game.
4. Secondary Saturday
 - a. Each team playing in Secondary Saturday competition are required to supply one umpire per game played.
 - b. Minimum qualification for umpire is ITU or Centre Theory
 - c. Umpires will umpire own teams game
5. Intermediate
 - a. Each team playing in Intermediate competition are required to supply one umpire per game played.
 - b. Minimum qualification for umpire is ITU or Centre Theory
 - c. Umpires will umpire own teams game

Umpire Defaults

1. In a competition or grade where an umpire must be provided, and the umpire fails to turn up, the team must use a player from their own team, even if this means that the team plays short of players.

Allocated Umpire Request

1. Centre appointed Umpire Request
 - a. Teams in the Secondary and Open Grade Competitions may submit a written request to the HCNC event staff for an allocated umpire/s at least 5 business days prior to the game in question.

- b. Allocated umpire requests even though submitted, may not be accommodated. The HCNC event staff will either accept or deny based on the ability to provide an allocated umpire without disrupting any competition.
- c. If an umpire is allocated at the request of a team, the team who requested will be required to pay. Fees range from \$20-\$60/game and teams will be invoiced for these fees.

Umpire Responsibilities

1. Umpire Dress Code

- a. Pathway and Premier Umpires are encouraged to wear either HCNC white shirt or red shirt or NNZ white shirt depending on qualification.
- b. All other umpires must wear appropriate safe sports clothing.
- c. Please refer to the *Hamilton City Netball Centre Uniform Policy*

2. Game Responsibilities

- a. Umpires are required to provide their own whistle. HCNC will have whistles available to purchase.
- b. Umpires are responsible for ensuring game score has been accurately recorded by the scorer.

3. Game Management:

- a. Umpires are responsible for performing pre-game checks as outlined in World Netball Rule Book under Match Officials.
- b. Umpires are responsible for game management as outlined in the World Netball Rule Book.
 - i. If any player is warned, suspended, or ordered off, the Umpires must report player's name and team on the back of the score card, turn in score card to registration office, and alert registration staff. Additionally, the Umpire will be asked to complete an incident report and submit to HCNC Event staff.
 - ii. If Umpire has consistent problems with misconduct or poor sportsmanship with team officials, team spectators, or players, umpire should alert registration office immediately. Additionally, the Umpire will be asked to complete an incident report and submit to HCNC Event staff.

Duty Umpire

1. Duty Umpire Request

- a. A Centre appointed Duty Umpire may be available if requested during competitions.
- b. If an incident occurs someone must inform the Registration Office and ask for a Duty Umpire in first instance and provide information including court number and what has occurred and person who reported it.
- c. If Duty Umpire is unable to attend before the game is finished an Incident Report is to be filled out at Registration Office
- d. Duty Umpires will attend court to observe. They can approach parties involved at their discretion.
- e. If Duty Umpire is asked for after game has commenced, an Incident Report is to be filled out.

Disciplinary/ Incident Process and Consequences

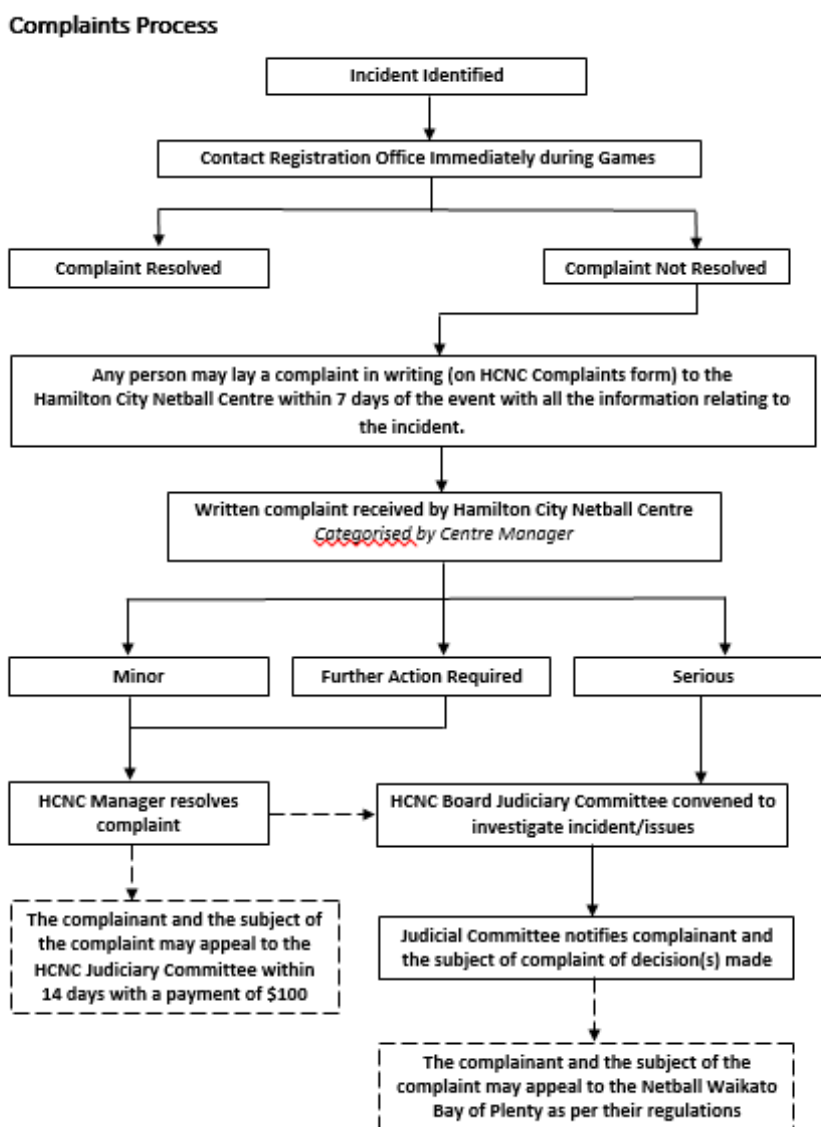
Please refer to the HCNC Complaints Policy and Procedures document

All games organised by HCNC Event Staff will be conducted in a manner which complies with the Netball New Zealand General Code of Conduct and Ethics as set out in the Regulations of Netball New Zealand and World Netball Rules unless otherwise stated.

Players, coaches, managers, umpires, other team officials, and spectators or associates with a team playing in a HCNC organised event are expected to follow the HCNC Code of Conduct and Regulations.

All players, team officials, and spectators shall comply with the rulings on the court. Suspensions and ordering off from the court will have further consequences. These are outlined in the Complaints Policy and Procedures document.

A diagram of the Complaints Process is listed below.



Definitions

Club: Includes all clubs and schools with teams playing in HCNC competitions. Every player playing in any HCNC competition is deemed to belong to a club.

Championship Play: Starts the beginning of the first day of play in the round. For example, for a Saturday competition, the round starts at 00.00.01am on the Saturday of the first round of game. Championship Play may include Quarters, Semis and Finals.

Franchise Player: A player who is contracted to the ANZ Championship or an equivalent competition in another country as determined by the HCNC Events Staff OR has played a minimum of four full quarters in such competition during the current season. This does not include NNL Players.

HCNC Events Staff: Includes but is not limited to the HCNC employed staff, Competition Convenors, and other key volunteers.

International Player: Any player who is contracted to an International Netball Team.

Play, Plays, or Played: Take to mean that a player has physically taken the court and played for the team. Note: For finals eligibility, “play, plays, or played” means for a minimum of one quarter of the game.

Representative Duty: Applies when a player cannot play because they are representing HCNC at a representative tournament. This does not include a mandatory stand down period because of a disciplinary infraction that occurred at a representative tournament where they represented HCNC.

Secondary Player: Any player who is enrolled in a secondary school during the competition season.

Intermediate Player: Any player who is enrolled in an Intermediate school during the competition season.

Grade Dispensation Request

All dispensation requests will be presented to HCNC staff and grade conveners. Requests are on a case by case basis for appropriate consideration. Team contact will be notified via email by HCNC co-ordinator.

Email to admin@netballhamilton.org.nz

Club Name	
Team applying for dispensation	
Grade requesting to enter	
Reason for seeking dispensation (Please include Year level of requests out of grade and reason)	
Contact Person	
Contact Number & Email	
Signed	
Date	

Individual Player Dispensation Request

All dispensation requests will be presented to HCNC staff and conveners. Requests are on a case by case basis for appropriate consideration. Team contact will be notified via email by HCNC co-ordinator.

Email to admin@netballhamilton.org.nz

Club Name	
Team applying for dispensation	
Competition & Grade requesting to enter	
Individual's name	
D.O.B & Age	
Year Level	
Reason for seeking dispensation (Please include Year level of requests out of grade and reason)	
Contact Person	
Contact Number & Email	
Signed	
Date	