

Campbelltown Comets Netball Club **Grading Policy & Grading Process**

Background:

Campbelltown Comets Netball Club has implemented a grading policy whereby players will be graded into teams fairly and effectively, based on their ability/skill level, attitude and commitment.

Campbelltown Comets Netball Club recognises that players have a variety of motives to play netball and possess a range of skills and ability. The primary focus of our club is the development of players in conjunction with their overall playing ability (which comprises skill level, fitness and attitude) giving all players the chance to play in a team which will allow them to develop their skills.

The intent of these guidelines is to outline the selection process of players into a team that is administered consistently and in a manner appropriate to all members of Campbelltown Comets Netball Club.

The policy will ensure that:

1. Players: Provide a clear process for all players to be placed in a team that will:
 1. Best represent their level of skill and ability
 2. Maximise opportunities to develop and improve their skills
 3. Maximise their enjoyment of the game
 4. Make great friendships
2. Club: For grading purposes, every child is treated as an individual club member, irrespective of previous team, grade or club.
5. Ensure that players are placed in teams in a fair and equitable manner
6. Properly assess and nominate team for divisions
7. Develop netball skills at all levels of play and ability
8. Accommodate players at all levels of competition
9. Ensure every child has an equal opportunity.

General:

The aim of grading is to select teams, which have a balanced group of players, both in ability levels and playing positions. Grading is influenced by the number and ages of players registered with Campbelltown Comets Netball Club.

Grading is carried out over two/three consecutive Sundays, nominated by Campbelltown Comets Netball Club and advertised through email, social media pages and our website. It is strongly recommended that players register prior to attending grading days to ensure a streamlined process during grading days.

Accounts payable on grading day include the fee for the season (\$145 EDNA Jnr, \$125 EDNA Snr, \$145 Golden Grove), \$50 of which is taken as a grading fee and will not be refunded should the player decide to not participate in the season.

Grading sessions are compulsory for all players in Netta, Primary, Sub-Junior, Junior and Golden Grove divisions. Individual players will be evaluated on their skills and abilities to ensure they are graded into the most suitable team available.

- We do understand that some people may not be able to attend due to circumstances out of their control. We wish to emphasise that grading is one of the most essential components in preparing for a successful season and players should be aware that it is to their advantage to be seen by the grading committee as much as possible.
- Players who do not attend either grading days will be placed in a team based on paper grading. If you are unable to attend grading session(s) you must notify Campbelltown Comets Netball Club as soon as possible prior to the day.

A player may be selected by the grading committee for an older aged team/division if considered necessary due to numbers of players registered. This will only occur after discussion with the player and player's parent/guardian.

Requests to be graded into a specific team/age group will be considered at the discretion of the grading committee.

On grading days, Campbelltown Comets Netball Club committee members will be in attendance. Their role is to settle accounts, assist with last minute registrations and to liaise with the Grading Committee when necessary. They will be your contact point on grading day, **parents and players should NOT approach the grading committee.**

If you have any concerns, please raise them as soon as possible so they may be addressed.

Grading Committee:

A Grading co-ordinator should be appointed with a minimum of four (4) appropriate graders selected from within Campbelltown Comets Netball Club to form a grading committee.

The graders may have prior grading/selection/coaching or senior playing experience. External graders can be included if necessary at the discretion of the Committee.

Grading Criteria:

When assessing the overall skill of a player, the Grading committee will take into account:

Previous Season Observations:

During the previous season the Grading Committee or their representative may have observed players during their games and/or trainings.

Previous Season Coaches' Reports/Comments:

Coaches at the end of each season may be asked to complete a report detailing player position preference; strengths and weakness; general ability and attitude. Alternatively, coaches may also be contacted during or after the season for information on any of their players.

Game Play Skills During Grading Days:

- Ball handling (passing/catching)
- Footwork and movement
- Positional skills (attacking/defending/shooting)
- Sportsmanship
- Attitude

During these sessions, graders may request to observe specific players in specific positions against other players to assist in their review of players.

Late Registrations:

Late registrations will only be accepted if there is a vacancy in an appropriate team and at the discretion of the Grading Committee.

Any players new to Campbelltown Comets Netball Club who are registering late must be seen by graders prior to inclusion in a team. Only then will they be considered for placement in a team.

If they have requested to play in a particular team, they will only be placed there if they are up to the standard of that team, and they are not taking the place of a returning Campbelltown Comets Netball Club player who may otherwise have been moved into that team.

Any players who have played previously with Campbelltown Comets Netball Club who are registering late may be placed in a team based on previous history or may require to be seen by graders prior to inclusion in a team.

Forming teams:

Ideally numbers of players placed in a team will allow maximum court time for all players in the grade. Campbelltown Comets Netball Club endeavours to have a minimum of 8 players and a maximum of 10 players in any one team.

A variety of factors can affect team formation:

- Number of players in each age group
- Balance of positions in a team (ie shooting, mid court, defence)

Teams that are successful one year will not necessarily remain together the following year. This is due to the nature of change and development of all players from season to season and new players joining the club.

Campbelltown Comets Netball Club understands that players (and their parents) often want to play sport with friends and in friendship groups. However, it is the Grading Committee's duty to place players in teams based on their ability and skill level, taking into account the positions that they have nominated to play. It is also essential that we form balanced teams which include players to cover each position on the court.

We strongly encourage players to embrace the opportunity of playing with the team that they have been placed in, and in making new friends. We greatly appreciate the support of parents in ensuring that the team settles into an enjoyable netball season.

Team Placement and Review:

Team placement will be notified by email &/or during player pack night at the club.

It is hoped that players and parents appreciate the difficulty of grading and accept the decision of the grading committee. However, if any player or parent is not satisfied with the decision of the grading committee they may make a submission in writing requesting a review of the decision.

This request must be made in writing within **7 days** of the team lists being received and be sent to:

campbelltowncomets@gmail.com

with subject line: Team Placement Review (child's name).

No team placement reviews will be discussed over the phone. All reviews will be discussed by the Grading Committee, appropriate graders and relevant Campbelltown Comets Netball Club Committee members, and will be responded to in writing. The decision of the Grading Committee and Campbelltown Comets Netball Club Committee will be final.

The Selectors and Grading Committee must not be contacted directly in relation to grading.

De-registration:

Players are not eligible for refunds should they choose to de-register due to dissatisfaction with team placement.

Refunds for other reasons for de-registering are subject to registration refunding at the discretion of the Campbelltown Comets Netball Club.

All de-registration requests with reason, must be in writing and sent to:

campbelltowncomets@gmail.com

Confidentiality of grading information:

Campbelltown Comets Netball Club does not release to any parent, player or Campbelltown Comets Netball Club committee member not involved in grading any information that may be considered sensitive contained in any documents/communication that a Campbelltown Comets Netball Club volunteer has generated, including but not limited to grading and coaching reports/comments. The information generated by coaches and graders needs to be an open and honest assessment of players and making public this sensitive information would potentially limit their comments and undermine the effectiveness of the grading process.

Participation in Grading Day is acceptance of this policy.