



Competition Rules 2020



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Why you need to read this document

This document sets out the rules which will apply to the 2020 MLeague Competition.

It is important that you carefully read this document as it sets out the obligations and requirements for teams, players, officials, umpires and spectators in connection with the MLeague Competition.

What divisions will be available this year?

Teams and players will be able to compete in the following divisions based on eligibility:

- Mens
- Mixed
- Junior

Key things you need understand

- The International Netball Federation Rules of Netball (**INF Rules**) apply to the MLeague Competition as amended by this document.
- Teams in Division 1 are only permitted to have 4 NSW Open Men's players from the last 3 years, registered in their team in a season. Only 3 may be on court at any time during a game.
- Players need to be registered with Netball NSW in order to compete in the MLeague Competition.
- Teams are required to have a uniform and are to provide a scorer/timekeeper for games.
- There are rules relating to fill-in players and substitutions.

Part 1 – Changes to the INF Rules of Netball

1 INF Rules of Netball

The INF Rules will apply to the MLeague Competition as amended by the changes set out in the table below. These changes are made by Men's Netball New South Wales (MNNSW).

Rule	Changes
Rule 4 – Match duration	
Rule 4.1 – Match length	<p>A game will consist of four quarters. Each quarter will have a duration of 12 minutes, with an interval of 2 minutes after 1st and 3rd quarter and 3 minutes interval after 2nd quarter. Teams will change ends at the completion of each quarter.</p> <p>Only during Semi Finals and Grand Finals will the game be played with four quarters of 15 minutes, with intervals of 3 minutes between the first and second quarters and third and fourth quarters and an interval of 5 minutes between the second and third quarters.</p>
	<p><i>NB For Men's Division 1, all games will be played to the same timings and conditions of the Netball NSW Summer Series competition which are currently 4 x 15-minute quarters.</i></p>
Rule 4.2 – Extra time	<p>In the event that scores are tied at full time of a game, extra time will not be played to determine a clear winner (except for Semi Finals and Grand Final games where the Extra Time Rules from the INF Rules will apply).</p>
Rule 8 – Starting play	
Rule 8.1.1 – Failure to take the court	<p>Teams must have at least 4 registered players of their own team on court at the start of a first quarter. If a team does not have the minimum number of team players on court at the start of the first quarter, the umpire shall wait up to 3 minutes to allow for additional team players to arrive so that there is at least four registered team players on court. If at the end of three minutes the minimum number of team players are not on court, the umpire is to declare a forfeit and award the game to the opposing team.</p>
Rule 9 – During the match	
Rule 9.3 - Stoppages	<p>The current INF Rules regarding injury and illness stoppages will apply to the MLeague competition. The timekeeper is required to time any 30 second stoppage. However; the game clock will not stop during any injury or illness times (except during Semi Final and Grand Final games where the game clock will be stopped).</p>

Part 2 – Additional rules

The additional rules set out in this part will also apply to the MLeague Competition.

There may be circumstances where a specific additional rule in this part is inconsistent with the INF Rules (as modified by Part 1). If that is the case, the specific additional rule is that one that applies to the extent it is consistent with the INF Rules.

2 Players and teams

Player and team eligibility

- 2.1 Players and teams must be financial in respect of all MNNSW fees or with any body associated with MNNSW, including but not limited to AMMNA, in order to be eligible to compete in the MLeague Competition. Failure to be financial by round 2 of the MLeague Competition will lead to suspension and ultimately removal of the player or team (as applicable) from the competition. To be financial a player or team must have paid all amounts owed by them to MNNSW and any associated bodies.
- 2.2 All players in a team must be registered with Netball NSW via the MyNetball.com.au registration website. Subject to the “fill-in” rules in additional rule 2.6 below, players that do not have a current Netball NSW registration will not be allowed to participate in a game until they are registered.
- 2.3 A team competing in the Mens division may register as many players as they wish. However only 12 players will be allowed to participate in any one game. These players (including any fill-ins) must be recorded on the score sheet for the game.

- 2.4 A team competing in the Mixed division can register as many players as they wish. However, only 13 players will be allowed to participate in any one game. These players (including any fill-ins) must be recorded on the score sheet game. Mixed teams are only allowed to have up to 3 males on court at any one time and can only have 1 male playing in the following groupings of positions at any time:

- (a) GS and GA;
- (b) WA, C and WD; and
- (c) GD and GK.

- 2.5 A player may only be registered in one team per division in any one season of the MLeague Competition. A player cannot change clubs/teams until the next season. A Men’s Division 1 player cannot play in any Men’s Division 2 team. The same applies for the Mixed Division.

A player can register in both the men’s and mixed divisions of the MLeague Competition.

Fill-in players

- 2.6 Teams may use “fill-in” players. However, the following rules will apply to fill-ins:
- (a) current NSW Open Mens players are not permitted to be used as fill-ins;
 - (b) a fill-in player must not exceed a value of three (3) player points;
 - (c) a team cannot use the same fill-in player more than 3 times in one season;
 - (d) fill-in players can fill-in for multiple teams over the season;
 - (e) a fill-in player who is not registered with Netball NSW can only fill in once per season, after which time they must be registered Netball NSW before they can participate in another game (including filling in for any another team). Players play at their own risk.

Eligibility for semi and grand finals

2.7 A player will not be eligible to participate in a Semi Finals or a Grand Final game unless they have played at least 4 games for their registered team in the current MLeague Competition season.

2.8 Deregistration

Deregistration of individual players will be in line with Netball NSW Affiliation & Membership Policy.

<https://nsw.netball.com.au/inside-netball-nsw/library/policies-forms/>

3 Games and scoring

Points

3.1 The competition points will be awarded as following:

Win:	4 points
Draw:	2 point
Loss:	No points
Forfeit:	-2 points

3.1 The MLeague Competition will also use a skins system. Each team will be awarded a bonus competition point each quarter they win in a game. If a quarter is tied:

- (a) the team that wins the next quarter will be awarded the point for previous tied quarter; unless
- (b) the tied quarter is the final quarter, in which case the point will be awarded to the winner of that game.

3.2 It is each team captain's responsibility to sign the scoresheet at the end of the game. If the scoresheet is not signed, MNNSW will deem the score as correct and the result will stand as recorded on the scoresheet.

3.3 All player's positions must be recorded on the scoresheet for each quarter. Failure to do so will result in players not being recorded as playing the game and may affect their eligibility for semis and grand finals. It may also affect any insurance claims that may be required.

3.4 Any team that is identified as falsely recording a player on a scoresheet will result in an immediate forfeit of the game and lose competition 2 points.

Forfeits

3.5 If a team needs to forfeit a game, the team must notify the MLeague Competition coordinator at least 72 hours before the game. Failure to do so will result in the team incurring a \$100 fee. This fee is to cover the costs of court hire and umpires.

4 Semi and grand finals

- 4.1 Semi-final games will be played on a 1 v 4 and 2 v 3 basis with the winner of each semi-final advancing to the grand final game.
- 4.2 The top 4 teams will be decided by:
- (a) the highest 4 competition points total in descending order;
 - (b) if 2 or more teams are tied on points, the team with the higher for and against percentage will be placed higher; and
 - (c) if a tie is still not broken, the team with the better head to head result will be placed higher.

5 Uniforms

- 5.1 Men's Division 1 teams must be in full uniform by week 1. All other divisions are to be in team uniform by round 3 of the MLeague Competition. If a team or player does not comply, a penalty of 1 competition point will be deducted from the team for each game the team or a player is not in team colours after round 3. Umpires will note uniform penalties on the score sheet.
- 5.2 Any clothing or footwear deemed inappropriate will result in a player being denied taking the court.
- 5.3 If teams playing against each other have similar colours, those teams must use distinct coloured patches or bibs to ensure teams are clearly distinguished.

6 Equipment

- 6.1 All teams are to supply their own bibs or patches.
- 6.2 Warm up balls will be the responsibility of the individual team. Match balls will be supplied by MNNSW.

7 Discipline

- 7.1 Players that are suspended or ordered off the court during a game must be noted on the score sheet for that game.
- 7.2 Any player that is ordered off the court in a game for any disciplinary reasons will automatically receive a 1 game suspension and will be referred to the MNNSW committee for disciplinary action.
- 7.3 Any player who is suspended 3 or more times in a MLeague Competition season will receive a 1 game suspension and will be referred to the MNNSW committee for disciplinary action.
- 7.4 The following will apply to a player who receives a game suspension:
- the game suspension will apply to each division the player play in;
 - the game suspension will apply to the next game the player is to play in;
 - the player must actually attend that game (but not play, coach or take the court).
- If the player's team has a bye or the player does not attend the game to which the suspension is to apply, the game suspension will apply to the next round or the next game the player attends (as applicable).
- 7.5 The MNNSW committee may determine that further disciplinary action is required including (without limitation) suspension for additional games and termination of membership (with no financial reimbursement).
- 7.6 If a player is found to have made any comments to another player, team official or umpire that is racist, abusive or intolerant, such action will result in a player being automatically banned from any further MNNSW events and their membership will be terminated with no financial reimbursement.

being played. No player, team official or umpire is to consume prior to or during a game. If an umpire, the MLeague League Umpire Coordinator or the MLeague Competition Coordinator believes a player, team official or umpire is intoxicated or under the influence of drugs, they will be asked to leave the court and removed from the premises where the game is being played.

- 7.8 Any complaints about a player, team or team official should be made in writing to the MNNSW Committee.

8 Scorers and time keepers

Each team is required to appoint a Scorer / Time Keeper for each of their games. Failure to do so will result in a penalty of 1 competition point being deducted from the team who does not provide this person.

9 Player point system

General matters relating to teams and points

- 9.1 A player points system will be implemented for teams and games played in the MLeague Competition.
- 9.2 Teams in Division 1 are only permitted to have 4 NSW Open Men's players from the last 3 years, registered in their team in a season. Only 3 may be on court at any time during a game.
- 9.3 No registered Men's Division 1 player is permitted to play in Men's Division 2.
- 9.4 Teams in Division 2 can have no more than 2 NSW Opens players from the last 3 years.

Maximum team points

The maximum player points a team is allowed on court at any one time is:

Men's Division 1:	0 points
Men's Division 2:	15 points
Mixed Division 1:	21 points
Mixed Division 2:	15 points

Player points




A player will carry the points set out in the table below:

- 7.7 Drugs and alcohol are not permitted on any premises where games are

Player points system

Player's representative level	Number of points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Open Mens (from the last 3 years) ▪ Suncorp Super Netball 	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Open Mixed (male and female players)/ ANL 	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mens Reserve or Mixed Reserve ▪ Under 23s ▪ Premier League Females - Opens ▪ Australian Indoor Netball representatives 	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Under 23s Premier League Females 	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Players who turn 21 years old by 31 December in the year of the MLeague Competition ▪ Non-representative player (being a player who does not have another representative level that applies to them) 	0
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Players who are 19 to 20 years old 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New recruits (being a player 21 years old or older who has not represented an Australian State or Territory or another country in netball at a representative level – this level only applies for the first year the player plays in the MLeague Competition) 	-1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Players who are 16 to 18 years old 	-2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Players who are 15 years old or younger 	-3

To determine a player's representative level, the following applies in descending order:

If the player was selected to represent NSW (or another State or Territory) at the 2018 AMMNA National Championships	 The representative level the player participated in at the 2018 AMMNA National Championships
If the player was not selected to represent NSW (or another State or Territory) at the 2018 AMMNA National Championship, but represented a State or Territory at an AMMNA National Championships in the past 3 years	 The highest representative level the player participated in over the past 3 years
All other players	 The representative level relevant to the player*

*If a player was selected to represent a country (other than Australia) in a national team for netball in 2018 or 2019, the player will carry the relevant representative level as if they competed in the AMMNA National Championship

10 Umpires

- 10.1 MNNSW will appoint umpires for all games. Umpires will be under the guidance and management of the MLeague Umpire Coordinator.
- 10.2 Any complaints in relation to an umpire must be made in writing to the MLeague League Umpire Coordinator.

11 Fees

Competition fees

- 11.1 Each player once registered in a team must pay a fee to play in the MLeague Competition. The 2020 fees are now set as individual payments as per below:
 - (a) Men's or Mixed Registration – one team only = \$160
 - (b) Additional teams = \$70

As an example, if a Male player is registered to play in both a Men's and Mixed team, they will need to pay a total of \$230. Any players with outstanding fees at the commencement of the season will be deemed unfinancial and unable to take the court until fees have been paid.

Registration with Netball NSW (Jan-Dec)

- 11.2 All players must be registered with Netball NSW via the MyNetball.com.au registration site. Players that are not registered on the site will not be allowed to participate in any games until they are registered due to their lack of injury insurance. To become a registered member of MNNSW the following fees will be charged:
 - (a) New Senior Members \$100;
 - (b) New Junior Members \$75;
 - (c) Non playing members \$40;
 - (d) Secondary umpires \$25;
 - (e) Players or participants that are existing registered members of another Association and transferring to Men's Netball NSW for the MLeague Competition season \$25.

12 General

- 12.1 Any rules that are not covered in the INF Rules or by this document will be determined by MNNSW Committee and the decision will be final.
- 12.2 MNNSW reserves the right to amend these Competition Rules at any time.