

MLEAGUE COMPETITION RULES 2021



CONTENTS

PART 1 - Modifications to the INF Rules of Netball

1	INF Rules of Netball	3
----------	-----------------------------	----------

PART 2 - Additional Rules

2	Club Affiliation, Teams and Players	4
3	Player Point System	6
4	Games and Scoring	8
5	Semi and Grand Finals	8
6	Uniforms	9
7	Equipment	9
8	Discipline	9
9	Umpires	10
10	Fees	11
11	General matters	12

How this document works

Why you need to read this document

This document sets out the rules which will apply to the 2021 MLeague Competition.

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

What divisions will be available this year?

Clubs, teams and players will be able to compete in the following divisions based on eligibility:

- Mens
- Mixed
- Junior

Key things you need to understand

- The International 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 past 3 years registered in their team in a season. Only 3 of those players may be on court at any one time during a game.
- Players and officials need to be registered with Men's Netball NSW via the [MyNetball](#) website or app in order to compete in the MLeague Competition.
- Teams are required to have a full uniform.
- A scorer/timekeeper is required from each team for all games.
- There are rules relating to fill-in players and substitutions.

PART 1 - Modifications 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 (4) quarters.</p> <p>For Men's Division 1 and Division 2, all games will be played to the same timing and conditions of the <i>Netball NSW Summer Series</i> competition. Each quarter will have a duration of 15 minutes, with an interval of 3 minutes after the 1st and 3rd quarters and an interval of 5 minutes after the 2nd quarter.</p> <p>For all Mixed Divisions, each quarter will have a duration of 12 minutes, with an interval of 2 minutes after the 1st and 3rd quarters and an interval of 3 minutes after the 2nd quarter.</p> <p>Semi Finals and Grand Finals for all divisions will have a duration of 15 minutes, with an interval of 3 minutes after the 1st and 3rd quarters and an interval of 5 minutes after the 2nd quarter.</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 present at the start of the 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 are at least 4 registered team players on court. If at the end of 3 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 of the match	
Rule 9.3 - Stoppages	<p>The current INF Rules regarding injury and illness stoppages will apply to the MLeague Competition. The time keeper is required to time any 30 second stoppage. However, the game clock will not stop during any injury or illness time (except during Semi and Grand Final games where the 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 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 of one that applies to the extent it is consistent with the INF Rules.

2 CLUB AFFILIATION, TEAMS AND PLAYERS

Club Affiliation, Teams and Player Eligibility

- 2.1 To be eligible to enter a team(s) into the MLeague Competition, a team must be part of an affiliated Club with MNNSW. Information on Club affiliation can be found [here](#) and the application form [here](#).
- 2.2 Once affiliated, clubs will be required to complete a team entry form detailing their nominated players to secure a place in the competition. The division nominated on the team entry form is not guaranteed and the MNNSW Committee reserves the right to paper grade every team to determine suitability of those teams for a division.
- 2.3 Clubs, teams and players 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.
- 2.4 All players in a team must be registered with Men's Netball NSW via the [MyNetball](#) registration website or app. Subject to where rule 2.10 'Fill-in Players' applies, players that do not have a current Men's Netball NSW registration will not be allowed to participate in a game until they are registered.
- 2.5 A team competing in a Men's division may only register a maximum of 12 players in any one team. These players (including any fill-ins) must be recorded on the score sheet for the game.
- 2.6 A team competing in a Mixed division may only register a maximum of 13 players in any one team. These players (including any fill-ins) must be recorded on the score sheet for the 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 one time:

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

- 2.7 A player may only be registered in one team per division in any one season but is permitted to play in both Men's and Mixed divisions. A player cannot change clubs until the next season. No current NSW Men's Open player is permitted to play in any Division 2 teams.
- 2.8 Players in Division 1 are permitted to be a 'fill-in' player for another club or team in Division 1 and will be subject to rule 2.10 and rule 6.1.
- 2.9 Clubs or teams may register new players to their teams after the commencement of the season up until and but not passing the halfway point in the season. Any addition should be made by written notification to the MLeague Coordinator. The exception to this is when rule 2.10 (d) applies. All additional players will also be subject to rule 2.11 to qualify for finals.

Fill-in Players

- 2.10 Teams may use 'fill-in' players. However, the following rules will apply to fill-ins:
- (a) current NSW Open Men's 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) clubs are permitted to use players from their lower graded teams provided that player is playing up divisions. However, subject to rule 2.10 (c), after the same player has been used as a fill-in for a team in a higher grade more than 3 times, that player must become a registered member of the higher grade team and will be disqualified from playing any further games in the lower grade team for the remainder of the season;
 - (e) a fill-in player who is not registered with MNNSW can only fill in once per season, after which time they must be registered with Men's Netball NSW before they can participate in another game (including filling in for any other team). Single game fill-ins play at their one risk.

Eligibility for semi and grand finals

- 2.11 A player will only be eligible to participate in a Semi Final or Grand Final game if they have played at least four (4) games for their registered team in the current MLeague Competition season.

Deregistration

- 2.12 Deregistration of individual players will be in line with [Netball NSW Affiliation and Membership policy](#).

3 PLAYER POINT SYSTEM

General matters relating to teams and points

- 3.1 A player point system will be implemented for teams and games played in the MLeague Competition.
- 3.2 Teams in Division 1 are only permitted to have four (4) NSW Open Men's players from the past three (3) years registered in their team in a season. Only 3 of those players may be on court at any one time during a game.
- 3.3 No registered Division 1 player is permitted to play in any Division 2 teams.
- 3.4 Teams in Division 2 can have no more than two (2) NSW Open Men's players from the past three (3) years in their team so long as those players are not registered in a Men's Division 1 team for the same MLeague Competition season.

Maximum team points

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

Men's Division 1:	No points system applies
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:

Player point system

Player's representative level	Points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open Men's (from the past 3 years) Suncorp Super Netball 	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open Mixed (male and female player) / ANL 	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Men's Reserves or Mixed Reserves 23/Under Premier League females - Open Australian Indoor Netball Representatives 	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Premier League females - 23/Under 	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Player who turn 21 years old by 31 December in the year of the MLeague Competition Non-representative player (being a player that 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 New recruits (being a player that is 21 years old or older that 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"> Player who are 16 to 18 years old 	-2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Player 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 and accepted to represent NSW (or another State or Territory) at the 2021 AMMNA Championships	The representative level the player participated in at the 2021 AMMNA Championships
If the player was not selected and accepted to represent NSW (or another State or Territory) at the 2021 AMMNA Championships, but represented a State or Territory at an AMMNA Championships in the past three (3) years	The highest representative level the player participated in over the past three (3) years applies
All other players	The representative level relevant to the player*

* If a player was selected and accepted to represent a country (other than Australia) in a national team for netball in 2018 - 2021, the player will carry the relevant representative levels as if they competed in the AMMNA National Championships.

4 GAMES AND SCORING

Points

4.1 The competition points will be awarded as following:

Win:	4 points
Draw:	2 points
Loss:	0 points
Forfeit:	-2 points

The MLeague Competition will no longer use a bonus points skins system.

4.2 Each team is required to appoint a scorer/timekeeper for each of their games. Failure to do so will result in a penalty of one (1) competition point being deducted from the team who does not provide this person.

4.3 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 semi and grand final matches. It may also affect any insurance claims that may be required.

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

4.5 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.

Forfeits

4.6 If a team needs to forfeit a game, the team must notify the MLeague Competitions 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.

5 SEMI AND GRAND FINALS

5.1 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.

5.2 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 highest 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.

6 UNIFORMS

- 6.1 All players must play in full matching uniform for every match of the MLeague Competition. Full uniform refers to the playing top, playing shorts or dress as nominated on their club affiliation form. If a team does not comply, a penalty of one (1) competition point may be deducted from the team for each game the team or player is not in team colours subject to rule 6.2. The MLeague Competition Coordinator will note uniform penalties on the scoresheet.
- 6.2 Men's Division 1 and Men's Division 2 teams must be in full uniform by round 1 of the MLeague Competition. All other divisions are to be in team uniform by round 3.
- 6.3 If clubs or teams playing against each other have similar colours, those teams must use distinct coloured patches or bibs to ensure teams are clearly distinguished.
- 6.4 Any clothing or footwear deemed inappropriate will result in a player being denied taking the court.

7 EQUIPMENT

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

8 DISCIPLINE

- 8.1 Players that are suspended or ordered off the court during a game must be noted on the scoresheet for that game.
- 8.2 Any player that is ordered off the court in a game for any disciplinary reasons will automatically receive a one (1) game suspension and will be referred to the MNNSW Committee for disciplinary action.

- 8.3 The following will apply to a player who receives a game suspension:
- (a) the game suspension will apply to each division the player plays in;
 - (b) the game suspension will apply to the next game the player is to play in;
 - (c) the suspended player must actually attend that game (but not play, coach or take to the court in any way)

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).

- 8.4 Any player who is suspended three (3) or more times in a MLeague Competition season will be referred to the MNNSW Committee and may receive further disciplinary action as required including, but not limited to, suspension from additional games and/or termination of membership with no financial reimbursement.
- 8.5 If a player is found to have made comments to another player, team official or umpire that is racist, abusive or intolerant in nature, such action will result in a player being automatically banned from any further MNNSW events or competitions and their membership will be terminated with no financial reimbursement.
- 8.6 Drugs and alcohol are not permitted on any premises where games are being played. No player, team official or umpire is to consume prior to or during a game. If an umpire, the MLeague 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 held.
- 8.7 Any complaints about a player or team official should be made in writing to the MNNSW Secretary. The MLeague Code of Conduct can be found [here](#).

9 UMPIRES

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

10 FEES

Competition Fees

10.1 All players must be registered with Men's Netball NSW via the [MyNetball](#) website or app registration system. Players that are not registered on the platform 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 for the playing season:

- | | | |
|-----|--|--------|
| (a) | New or renewing Senior member | \$100; |
| (b) | New or renewing Junior member | \$75; |
| (c) | Non playing member (Team Official) | \$55; |
| (d) | Non player to Player conversion | \$50; |
| (e) | Players or participants that have an existing registration with another Association or Club and register with Men's Netball NSW as a Secondary Membership will pay \$25 to play in the MLeague Competition for the season. | |

Membership is inclusive of a single calendar year (for example - 1 January to 31 December).

10.2 Each player, once registered in a team, must pay a fee to play in the MLeague Competition. This fee is set an individual payment as listed below:

- | | | |
|-----|---------------------------------------|--------|
| (a) | Men's or Mixed team (one team only) | \$170; |
| (b) | Additional team (subject to rule 2.7) | \$70; |

As an example, if a male player is registered to play in both a men's and mixed division team, they will be required to pay a total of \$240. This amount does not include the individual's [MyNetball](#) registration fee as outlined in rule 10.1.

Any players with outstanding fees at the commencement of the MLeague Competition season will be deemed unfinancial and unable to take the court until all fees have been paid and is subject to rule 2.3.

11 GENERAL MATTERS

11.1 Any rules that are not covered in the INF Rules of Netball or by this document will be determined by the MNNSW Committee and the decision will be final.

MNNSW reserves the right to amend these MLeague Competition Rules at any time.

(END)