



BRUNSWICK NETBALL CLUB CODE OF CONDUCT

BNC operates according to the standards of the [Fair Play Code](#) by demonstrating five core values that lead to fair play for all:

- Integrity
- Respect
- Responsibility
- Fairness
- Safety.

BNC is committed to providing a safe, fun and inclusive environment for all people, including those with diverse sexuality and genders. BNC has a zero tolerance of bullying, harassment or vilification and celebrates diversity of sex, gender identity, gender expression and gender sexual orientation.

It is an expectation that everyone associated with Brunswick Netball Club understands and complies with the BNC Code of Conduct. This document includes a General Code of Conduct that applies to all players, parents, spectators and BNC officials (coaches, team managers, Committee members). Additional requirements are listed below for players, parents and BNC officials.

The BNC Code of Conduct has been informed by resources available through Netball Victoria, Netball Australia and the Victorian Government. The Code of Conduct will be displayed on the BNC website and promoted to all players and parents as part of the registration process.

GENERAL CODE OF CONDUCT – FOR EVERYONE

1. Fully comply with the [Child Safety in Netball Code of Conduct](#) and BNC child safety policies
2. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others – players, parents, umpires, spectators, and BNC officials (coaches, team managers).
3. Be a positive role model: be fair, respectful, considerate and honest.
4. Emphasise fair play in netball activities and games. Applaud good performance and efforts by all players on both teams.
5. Encourage players to play according to the rules and official decisions and develop your own knowledge of the rules.
6. Respect the umpires and coach's decisions. If there is a disagreement, follow the appropriate procedure to question the decision and teach children to do likewise.
7. Refrain from conduct which could be regarded as sexual harassment, discrimination, bullying or victimisation. Definitions and examples of bullying, harassment, discrimination and victimisation can be found in [Netball Australia's Member Protection Policy](#).
8. Demonstrate appropriate social behaviour by not using foul language, and not harassing administrators, coaches, players or umpires.

9. Never ridicule or yell at a player for making a mistake during a competition. Positive comments are motivational.
10. Condemn the use of violence in any form, be it by administrators, coaches, players, umpires or parents/guardians.
11. Abide by Netball Victoria's standards, rules, regulations and policies.
12. Understand the repercussions if you breach, or aware of any breaches of the Code of Conduct.

FOR PLAYERS

1. Participate because you enjoy it, not just to please parents and coaches.
2. Treat all players as you would like to be treated and ensure that your behaviour is always fair.
3. Participate safely. Be honest with your coach concerning illness and injury and your ability to train and play fully.
4. Abide by the rules and respect the decision of the umpires. Be courteous and follow the correct process when seeking a rule clarification.
5. Applaud all good play, by your own team and opponents.
6. Be a responsible team member by attending training sessions and cooperating with coaches. Ensure you always bring the appropriate uniform and equipment to training and/or games. Take care of and respect the uniform and equipment provided to you.
7. Do not engage in practises that affect sporting performance (alcohol, tobacco, drug use).
8. Respect and acknowledge the contribution of those who create the opportunity for you to play (volunteers, scorers, coaches, timekeepers, administrators and umpires).

FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

1. If your child is interested, encourage them to participate in the appropriate netball activity. However, if your child is not willing to participate, do not force them. Remember, children are involved in organised activity for their enjoyment, not yours.
2. Focus upon your child's effort and performance rather than the overall outcome of the event. This assists your child in setting realistic goals related to their ability by reducing the emphasis on winning.
3. Be a model of good sports behaviour for children to copy. Remember that children learn best from example. Applaud good play by all players on both teams.
4. Teach your child that an honest effort is as important as victory, so that the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment.
5. Encourage your child to always play according to the rules.
6. Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse.
7. Be courteous in communication with administrators, coaches, players and umpires. Teach children to do likewise. Recognise that they give up their time and resources to provide recreational activities for players and deserve your support.
8. Support the use of age-appropriate development activities and modified rules.

FOR BNC ADMINISTRATORS (COACHES, UMPIRES, TEAM MANAGERS, COMMITTEE MEMBERS)

1. Be fair, respectful, considerate, honest and open in all dealings with others.
2. Be professional and accept responsibility for your actions. Your language, presentation, manners and punctuality should reflect high standards.
3. Maintain strict impartiality. Avoid situations which may lead to a conflict of interest.
4. Resolve conflicts fairly and promptly through established procedures.
5. Be aware of your legal responsibilities.
6. Promote an environment of mutual support and respect among players, regardless of their level of play.
7. Develop a positive sport environment by allowing for the special needs of the players (especially children), by emphasising enjoyment and by providing appropriate development and competitive experiences.
8. Involve players in the planning, leadership, evaluation and decision making relating to the activity. Provide feedback to players in a caring, sensitive manner to their needs.
9. Place the safety and welfare of the players above all else. Ensure activities, equipment and facilities are safe and appropriate to the ability level of participating players. Activities, rules, equipment, lengths of games and training schedules should take into consideration the age, ability and maturity level of participating players.
10. Exercise reasonable care to prevent injury by ensuring players play within the rules. Reasonable care consists of advising the players of illegal body movements, showing due diligence in detecting and correctly penalising infringements.
11. Encourage players to take responsibility for their own behaviour, performance, decisions and actions.
12. Establish, in consultation with players, what information is confidential and respect that confidentiality.
13. Refrain from any form of personal abuse including verbal, physical and emotional abuse. Be alert to any form of abuse directed toward your players from other sources while they are in your care.
14. Refrain from any form of bullying or harassment towards others, treating all fairly regardless of gender, race, place of origin, athletic potential, colour, sexual orientation, religion, political beliefs, socio-economic status.
15. Avoid situations with players that could be constructed as compromising.
16. Provide opportunities that ensure everyone has a reasonable chance to succeed and improve/acquire skills and develop confidence. Set challenges for players which are both achievable and motivating. Aim for excellence based upon realistic goals and due consideration for the participant's growth and development.
17. Actively discourage the use of performance enhancing drugs, the use of alcohol and tobacco and illegal substances.
18. Where relevant (i.e. coaches), participate in ongoing training and development opportunities.

Breaches of the Code of Conduct

If any part of the Code of Conduct is breached, disciplinary action may follow. This can include:

- Suspension of Brunswick Netball Club membership.
- The party in question may be banned from attending Brunswick Netball Club games and functions for a period of time as determined by the BNC Committee or Netball Victoria.
- Expulsion from playing, coaching or being involved in the Club in any official or unofficial capacity. These penalties are at the sole discretion of the BNC Committee and if required, Netball Victoria.

References

Netball Victoria Child Safety in Netball Code of Conduct (2017)

<https://vic.netball.com.au/sites/vic/files/2020-01/Child-Safety-Code-of-Conduct.pdf>

Netball Australia Member Protection Policy (2023)

<https://netball.com.au/sites/default/files/2023-01/SD02%20-%20Member%20Protection%20Policy%20Version%202.0%201%20January%202023.pdf>

Document history table

Version	Reason for update	Date approved
2	Updated to reference Netball Victoria and Netball Australia policies	December 2023