



MENAI HAWKS NETBALL CLUB GRADING POLICY

Aim

The aim of this Policy is to ensure grading of teams is conducted fairly and effectively, and in the best interest of the club and players. Grading is the process of establishing the number and composition of Menai Hawks Netball Club (MHNC) teams to compete in the Sutherland Shire Netball Association (SSNA) competition. Grading is influenced by the number and ages of players registered with MHNC. Grading will aim to achieve teams that have a balanced group of players in playing ages, positions and ability levels.

Grading Process

The Grading Process includes paper grading, practical grading and the review of the coach's evaluation from the previous season, where applicable. At the end of each year coaches complete a report on each player which includes a review of their playing skills, experience, positions played, attendance at training and games, teamwork and attitude.

Players registered in the 8 and 9 years competition will be paper graded.

Players registered in the 10 to 17 years competition will be practically graded at a time and venue advised by MHNC, prior to season commencement. Grading is compulsory.

Players registered in the seniors competition are predominantly registered as a block team and individual grading is not required. MHNC reserves the right to practically grade, if necessary. The club may be required to place an individually registered player into a block team only after consulting with the incoming team manager, incoming team coach and players of the respective block team.

In forming teams, players registered into the junior competition, MHNC considers a full team to consist of 9 players with similar skills while ensuring a balanced team of defenders, mid court and shooters.

MHNC Grading Committee reserves the right to consider a 10th player to be registered into any team due to age group numbers and/or extenuating circumstances and will only be supported after consultation with the incoming coach and/or incoming manager.

Grading Criteria

In assessing the overall skills of a player within an age group, the Grading Committee will take into account:

1. Footwork/Movement skills
2. Ball handling skills
3. Attacking skills
4. Defending skills
5. Perception/Cognition skills
6. Shooting skills (where applicable)
7. Sportsmanship and attitude
8. Attendance at training and games



Grading Committee Responsibilities

The Grading Committee will consist of a Grading Coordinator and Graders who will be appointed each year at the MHNC Annual General Meeting. These positions are voluntary.

The Grading Coordinator will make the final decision on all grading issues and team selection.

The Grading Committee will remain unbiased and maintain confidentiality at all times.

The Grading Committee will coordinate the grading process.

Player Responsibilities

All players are expected to attend practical grading for their respective age group.

If a player is unable to attend practical grading, the player or parent/guardian must notify the Grading Coordinator via email to the MHNC Secretary. Placement into a team for this player will be based upon paper grading.

All players and parents/guardians are required to accept the decisions of the graders and the grading process.

Team Announcements

All Junior Teams will be announced and posted on the MHNC website.

Once announced, teams for the upcoming season are final. The Grading Committee reserves the right under extenuating circumstances to make changes on the approval by the MHNC Executive.

Late Registrations

Any potential registrations taken after team announcements will be considered if numbers within the players age group support it and player movement into a higher grade or age group is accepted by all previously registered parties involved.

If a late registration is accepted, the player will be allocated to a team by the Grading Committee.

Important Grading Information

1. Any requests to play outside the child's birth age will only be considered on the condition that the application is received in writing to the Grading Coordinator and Grading Committee via the MHNC Secretary **prior to practical grading**, citing valid reasons for the request. An application to play up does not guarantee approval. The sanctioning of such a request will be dependent upon numbers, available positions and the reasons provided, and application must occur each year.



2. Individual requests that a player or parent/guardian may want the Grading Committee to consider throughout the grading process and selection of teams will only be considered on the condition that the application is received in writing to the Grading Coordinator and Grading Committee via the MHNC Secretary **prior to practical grading**, citing valid reasons for the request. An application does not guarantee approval. The sanctioning of such a request will be dependent upon numbers, available positions and the reasons provided, and application must occur each year.

If this request involves multiple players, requests will only be considered in writing from all parties named, individually.

3. Once practical grading has occurred no requests will be considered unless under extenuating circumstances as determined by the MHNC Grading Coordinator and MHNC Executive.
4. Players will not be eligible for a registration refund unless in extenuating circumstances as determined by the MHNC Executive and Grading Coordinator.
5. MHNC aims to ensure team grading is conducted in a fair and effective manner. Players and parents are required to be objective and reasonable in their expectations and to encourage their children to be happy in their sport. We encourage our players to accept their team and make new friends, and once the season starts children usually settle in and enjoy playing netball. The support of parents is greatly encouraged for this to occur smoothly.

Reviewed: October 2024

Approved: MHNC Executive

Next Review Date: October 2025

