

ENGADINE EAGLES NETBALL CLUB (EENC)

GRADING POLICY

Aim

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

Grading Committee Responsibilities

After registration, the list of players who have registered to play with the club is given to the Grading Committee. The Committee then conducts a paper grading, where they discuss the recommendations of the previous year's coaches and independent player assessments to work out team numbers and player allocation.

Situations commonly arise whereby a young person's school age cohort does not correspond with their netball age group. The Grading Committee will in situations where players wish to play up an age group attempt to accommodate requests. The Grading and Executive committees, reserve the right to consider such requests on an annual and individual basis and will be required to put the interests of selecting all teams in all age groups ahead of individual requests. For this reason individuals may be required to be graded into their netball age group in any given season.

Player Responsibilities

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

Grading Criteria

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

- Numbers of players to be graded in an age group
- The positional balance of teams to be graded into an age group
- Footwork/Movement Skills
- Ball handling
- Attacking Skills
- Defending Skills

- Perception/Cognition Skills
- Sportsmanship and Attitude

Grading Process

- **Coaches Evaluation**

At the end of the season, each coach is to provide a written evaluation of each player's skill, attendance at training and games, teamwork and attitude.

- **Independent Player Assessments**

During the season, Committee appointed assessors will attend various games and report their observations of player's skill levels back to the Grading Coordinator.

- **Paper Grading**

Prior to practical grading, all graders will assess the above reports and place players into teams for the practical grading session.

- **Practical Grading**

In forming teams, the Grading Committee members (without a child in this grade and having not coached a team in this grade in the previous season) will take into consideration the Coaches' reports, independent assessment reports, paper grading and play observed at practical grading, while keeping in mind that a netball team required a balance of height, agility and ball skills, as well as defences, centre court and shooters.

Junior Teams

Players aged 8 and 9 years will not be graded. Requests to play with friends will be accommodated where possible, depending on overall registrations in that age group. Requests relating to team placement of 8 and 9 year olds need to be notified in writing at registration stating reasons and will be considered by the committee.

A practical grading of 9 year old players will be completed towards the end of the season.

Players in the 10 years – 16 years age groups will be practically graded prior to the commencement of each season. Block team registrations are not taken in 10 years – 16 years age groups.

18 Years Age Group

The following paragraphs are to be read concurrently in regards to the grading of 18 year age group players and teams.

- Block teams for the 18 age group may be considered. EENC recognises that the 18's established team groups can exist as well as friendships formed through netball. EENC however reserves the right to place any individually registered 18 age group players into any team regardless of whether the registrar has initially accepted a block team into the 18's age group.
- Requests for 15-16 years age group players to play in the 18 years age group will be considered. However EENC Grading and Executive Committees reserve the right to insist on a case by case basis that any 15-16 years age group player must play in the 15-16 years age group.
- EENC Grading and Executive Committees reserve the right to paper or practically grade 18 years age group teams on a year by year basis as is deemed necessary.
- EENC Grading and Executive Committees will consider requests for 18 years age group players to be registered in a senior team. However EENC Grading and Executive Committees reserve the right on a case by case basis to insist that any 18 years age group player must play in the 18years age group.

Senior Teams

Senior players are predominantly block registrations, however EENC reserves the right to practically grade if necessary. The club reserves the right to play any individually registered senior player into any block team.

Team Announcements

Teams will be announced via the club website at a time advised by the Grading Committee on practical grading day.

Engadine Eagles Netball Club aims to ensure team grading is conducted fairly and effectively. Players and parents are urged to be objective and reasonable in their expectations, and to encourage their children to be happy in their sport.

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