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2021 ORIGIN ENERGY
METRO LEAGUE

Rules and Regulations Competitions Manual

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1. ADMINISTRATION

1.1 General Information

The Origin Energy Metro League is conducted under the authority of Netball Western Australia Ltd. (Netball WA).

Netball WA vests responsibility for the day-to-day operation and management of the competition under the Netball WA Competitions Coordinator.

Subject to these competition rules, the Netball WA Constitution and any other document, the Competition Coordinator shall have the authority to enquire and adjudicate all questions and disputes arising out of the competition. If a matter is not provided for in the Competition Rules, the Netball WA Constitution or any other document, the Competition Coordinator may make any determination after consultation with the Netball WA Netball Operations Manager, where appropriate, and the decision shall be final.

Any participating team refusing or neglecting to abide by a decision of the Competition Coordinator may be excluded from the competition for such a time as the Competition Coordinator, in consultation with the Netball WA Netball Operations Manager and/or with the Netball WA Board, shall determine.

All relevant correspondence shall be addressed to and received at the Netball WA office by either post, hand delivery, email or facsimile marked attention to the Competition Coordinator.

All outward correspondence shall be dispatched from the Netball WA office and directed to the Association Administrator/Primary /contact by either mail or such other means unless the association nominates another person to also receive the correspondence.

1.2 Summary

The Origin Energy Metro League Competition is an Association representative Competition, underpinning to the WA Netball League. It exists to provide a metropolitan-based competition within Perth to bridge the gap between Association Club netball and the WA Netball League. The competition caters for netballers turning 14 or older in the year of the competition and includes Open, 18U, 16U and 14U age groups. Origin Energy Metro League provides opportunities for players, coaches, umpires and officials to participate and prepare for the following season of the WA Netball League and Netball WA Underage State Teams.

Netball WA shall operate Origin Energy Metro League comprising of the following age groups

Women's Opens

18U

16U

14U

Each age group will consist of a maximum of two (2) divisions, with eight (8) teams allocated to each division. All Metropolitan Associations are invited to participate in Origin Energy Metro League.

1.3 Vision

The Origin Energy Metro League aims to:

- Create a high level of competition for players, coaches, umpires and officials to further develop their skills.
- Provide opportunities for players, coaches, umpires and officials to prepare for, be identified and/or given further opportunities for the WA Netball League and Netball WA State Teams.
- Assist in the growing of the game of netball within the Perth metropolitan area and drive retention.

1.4 Objective

The objective of Origin Energy Metro League is to:

- To maximise the number of teams, association-based, that participate;
- To provide opportunities for netballers in the metropolitan area to compete against athletes from other associations;
- To develop and produce WA Netball League players, coaches and umpires;
- To ensure the continued development of all participants by providing the highest standard of playing, coaching, umpiring and officiating;
- Profile netball in Western Australia;

1.5 COVID-19

Netball WA reserves the right to make alterations of this Manual at any point to best suit the Competition and the COVID-19 protocols as directed by the State Government.

2. COMPETITION INFORMATION

2.1 Competition Venue

All matches will be played at the following venues:

- Gold Netball Centre, 200 Selby St, Jolimont WA 6014 (when available) and
- Perth Netball Association

2.2 Match Dates and Times

- a) Matches will be fixtured on Wednesday and Thursday nights for a total of eight (8) weeks.
- b) The competition will consist of seven (7) Minor Round matches played from:
 - Wednesday 4 August and Thursday 5 August until Wednesday 15 September and Thursday 16 September.
- c) This will then be followed by a Finals Series fixture for each division played on:
 - Wednesday 22 September and Thursday 23 September.
- d) Matches will be played across the following timeslots:
 - 4:45pm
 - 6:05pm
 - 7:25pm
 - 8:45pm
- e) However, matches played during Round 1 – Round 4 will be played at the following timeslots only on PNA courts.
 - 6:00pm
 - 7:30pm

2.3 Travel, Accommodation & Ground Transport

- a) Travel to and from competition venues is the responsibility of the competing association teams.

2.4 Sports Medicine Personnel

- a) First aid services will be provided at all Origin Energy Metro League rounds, supplied by Netball WA.
- b) The responsibility of the first aid sports personnel is to assist with on court injuries or injuries after the player has been removed from the court.

- c) Only First Aid sports personnel as employed by NWA, NWA and/or venue officials are to call for an ambulance and to advise safe entry to the venue. This is important to ensure multiple ambulances are not called for the same incident.
- d) If a player sustains an injury or illness and is required to miss games, then the team manager is required to provide NWA with written verification for the player to be granted an exemption to minimum number of games played by each player.
- e) It is the Association teams' responsibility to ensure athletes have gained clearance to play from the appropriate medical practitioner whose primary employment role is to diagnose the relevant injury/illness sustained by the athlete. Netball WA will from time to time request a copy of a player's clearance from major injury, but not limited to, for its records.

2.5 Insurance

- a) Only players who are registered as a member of their Association for the 2021 calendar year on the MyNetball system are covered under the Netball Australia's National Insurance Policy.
- b) The insurance program used by NWA is V-Insurance Group. For further information:
Website: <https://netball.vinsurance.com.au/>
Phone: 1300 945 547
Email: netball@vinsurancegroup.com

2.6 Uniforms

- a) Teams in all divisions shall wear the same association uniform with colours being that of the association or as determined otherwise.
- b) A team is not permitted to alter its colours or uniform design without first obtaining approval from Netball WA.
- c) Playing uniforms shall consist of a shirt and skirt or bodysuit/dress, socks, undergarments and bibs/positional patches along with appropriate sporting footwear for netball.
- d) If an Association plans to change/update its representative uniforms, these items must be approved by the Association and the proposed team colours and uniform design will need to be submitted to NWA for approval. A sample of the material or colour photograph should accompany the written application and be sent to the NWA Competitions Coordinator Jess Crear – jess.crear@netballwa.com.au.
- e) Players may only take the court if they are wearing the team's registered uniform unless they have been provided with a specific exemption by NWA.

- f) Playing uniforms for girls shall consist of shirt and skirt or shorts, dress or bodysuit, socks, and positional patches or bibs along with suitable sporting footwear. Uniform briefs must be worn if part of the official uniform.
- g) In the event of a clash of colours, the second-mentioned team shall change their positional patches or bibs to an alternative colour. Each team must have a secondary colour bib.

2.7 Sponsorship

- a) For all regulations concerning sponsorship, please contact Nathan Drudi, Partnerships Servicing Manager nathan.drudi@netballwa.com.au

2.8 Protests & Complaints

- a) Should a protest or complaint relate to the competition rules and regulations of fixtured match, it must be lodged to NWA by no later than one (1) hour after the conclusion of the match.
- b) Complaints regarding behaviour, and/or breaches of Code of Conduct at a NWA competition or event against any playing or non-playing individuals whether a current financial affiliated NWA member or non-member, must be lodged on the incident report form available from the Competition or Match Offices.
- c) An incident report form needs to be lodged to NWA within 24 hours of the incident. Incident report forms may also be lodged by NWA personnel or contracted staff that believe there has been a possible breach of NWA Codes of Conduct or Behaviour, or any other NWA or Netball Australia policy or competition rules and regulations. Lodgement of the form during the competition is to be made at the NWA Competition or Match Offices. If lodging the form outside of competition hours, please email to the NWA Competitions Coordinator Jess Crear – jess.crear@netballwa.com.au
- d) Upon receipt, the incident report will be reviewed by member/s of the NWA Competitions Panel which may result in any of the following actions:
 - warning
 - fine
 - exclusion (from game, event or competition)
 - expulsion
 - judicial tribunal hearing
 - disciplinary hearing (as per [NWA Disciplinary Policy](#))
 - management committee hearing (as per [NWA Grievance Policy](#))
 - any other penalty NWA deems appropriate.

- e) The Competition Panel consists of, but not limited to, the following NWA personnel:
- NWA General Manager – Community Netball
 - NWA Netball Operations Manager
 - NWA Competitions Coordinator
 - NWA Stakeholder Manager
- f) In the event, that any of the above members are unavailable NWA has the right to appoint another suitable representative to the panel.

2.9 Photography and Videography Policy

- a) Associations must ensure parents of the underage players in any team are aware that NWA will be taking photos and potentially filming during the competition. Please utilise the waiver found in *Appendix 4* in the registration/selection process of Association teams.
- b) If a member of the Association team does NOT agree to the photography consent or they cannot have their image taken an Association member is required to complete the **Photography Opt-Out** Form (*See Appendix 2*) by **COB Friday 30 July**.
- c) NWA refers all Associations, participants and persons attending the Origin Energy Metro League to NWA's Photography and Videography Policy with regards to the taking of images at the event. The Policy can be found on the NWA Website [NWA Photography & Videography Policy](#).

2.10 Weather Policy

In the event of inclement weather, the NWA Weather Policy will be implemented.

Associations are asked to familiarise themselves with the policy and read this in conjunction with the Competitions Rules and Regulations - Match Rescheduling. The Policy can be found on the NWA Website [NWA Weather Policy](#).

3. COMPETITION ELIGIBILITY & SELECTION

3.1 Competition Format

The Origin Energy Metro League will comprise of the following age groups and divisions.

- 14U Division 1
- 14U Division 2
- 16U Division 1
- 16U Division 2
- 18U Division 1
- 18U Division 2
- Opens Division 1
- Opens Division 2

3.2 Team Nomination and Application

- a) Only affiliated Member Metropolitan Associations are eligible to participate in Origin Energy Metro League. As a Tier 1 Association located on the edge of the metropolitan area, Mandurah Netball Association is also invited to participate.
- b) Two divisions of eight (8) teams will be permitted to participate in each age group. All Associations will be entitled to enter one (1) team in each age group. Associations will be invited to enter a second team in an age group if positions are available.
- c) All entries for the competition for the ensuing year must be lodged in accordance with procedures as determined by NWA and must be accompanied with supporting documentation where required and as requested by Netball WA from time to time. All team nomination entries must be received by Netball WA by the published time and date for close of entries (*See Appendix 1*).
- d) Where a team nomination entry is not received by Netball WA by the published closing time for entries, a late entry may be accepted. A late entry will only be considered if the prescribed fee has been paid and the late entry is received by Netball WA before final draw has been released.
- e) If a team withdraws from the competition prior to the draw being finalised at the commencement of the Minor Round matches, the draw will be reconstructed. If a team withdraws from the competition after the draw has been finalised and released to all participating associations, the withdrawing association team will be replaced with a bye in the draw.

3.3 Team Fees

- NWA will invoice each team with required Team Fees. To be paid by before COB Friday 23 July 2021.
- Any team who withdraws after this team fee due date are liable to pay the full balance of their remaining competition fees or if already done so they will not receive any refund for competition fees.

Please see below table for the 2021 Metro League Team Fees.

14U	\$940 GST inc.
16U	\$940 GST inc.
18U Division 2	\$940 GST inc.
18U Division 1	\$1200 GST inc. (includes umpire payments of \$30/game x 8 games = \$240)
OPEN	\$1200 GST inc. (includes umpire payments of \$30/game x 8 games = \$240)

Note 14U, 16U and 18U Division 2 Teams will be required to supply and pay their own umpires for Competitions. This explains the smaller cost in Team Teams.
18U Division 1 and OPEN teams will be allocated umpires by NWA. NWA will pay umpires accordingly. This cost is inclusive in the Season Team Fees.

3.4 Player Registration & Squad List

- All Players entering the competition must be a financial registered member of Netball WA for the 2021 calendar year. Players must be registered to their association prior to the commencement of the competition, or their participation within the competition.
- Associations shall register player squads through their MyNetball online team entry, as determined by Netball WA, in order to be deemed a listed player for this competition. This must be completed by the specified date (*See Appendix 1*).
- Squad lists must show a minimum of ten (10) players' names (unlimited maximum number of players registered on squad).
- Should the Association make any changes to the team after Squad Lists on MyNetball (edit squad) have closed, teams must complete the Replacement Player Application form (*Appendix 3*).

3.5 Player Eligibility

- a) Players may only participate for the Member Association that they are registered to for the 2021 Winter season. Single game vouchers do not qualify for Origin Energy Metro League. Should a player have not played with the Association in 2021 Winter Season, then the Association may apply for an exemption. Players cannot participate for the association until the exemption has been granted (*See Appendix 2*).

3.6 Age Eligibility

Players born in the years listed below must play in the following age groups.

AGE GROUPS	AGE (As of 31 December, in year of competition)	BIRTH YEAR
14 & Under - Girls	14, 13*	2007, 2008*
16 & Under - Girls	16, 15	2005, 2006
18 & Under - Girls	18, 17	2003, 2004
Open – Women	19 & over	2002 and before

*Only upon Approval by NWA via the Age Exemption Form

- a) Players turning 12 years of age (in year of competition) are not permitted to play within any age group.
- b) Requests for players turning 13 years of age (in year of competition) to play in the 14U age division must be submitted to NWA using the **Age Eligibility Exemption Request Form** (*See Appendix 2*) by **COB Monday 19 July**.
- c) Associations that have extenuating circumstances in relation to any of the age eligibility rules must submit exemption requests by completing the **Age Eligibility Exemption Request** (*See Appendix 2*). Closing date for requests is **COB Monday 19 July**. All submissions will be considered, with a decision confirmed by NWA **Tuesday 20 July**. NWA's decision will be final.

3.7 Player Movement

- a) If required, Associations may play a player from a younger age group to play up in a higher age group during the Origin Energy Metro League. These players may be added to the scoresheet prior to the match.
- b) Players are only permitted to play in:
- a higher division of the same age group, or
 - a team up to one (1) age group higher than their current age group (i.e., a 15-year-old player can play within the 18U division).

- c) Players are permitted to play up three (3) times, on the fourth occasion, they are deemed a member of the highest team they played for and can no longer play in the team they were initially nominated in.
- d) Associations are not permitted to play a player down during Origin Energy Metro League, this included playing a player down in a lower division.
- e) Associations who need to nominate a player in a higher team then a Replacement Player Form (*See Appendix 3*) will be required to be completed and approved by Netball WA outlining the reasons why this needs to occur. Associations cannot nominate a player until the exemption has been granted.
- f) If the team needs to source a player from outside their registered squads (MyNetball) then a Replacement Player Form (*See Appendix 3*) will be required to be completed and approved by Netball WA.
- g) Once approved the team may then add the player to their squad list via MyNetball and select that player on to their team list for further matches. Please note however Replacement Player Forms must be submitted to NWA no later than 48 hours prior to the start of the match.
- h) The replacement player must be a registered member of the same association and must meet the requirements of player eligibility in 3.4 and 3.5 and approval by Netball WA must be made before the replacement player is able to take the court.
- i) Teams with replacement players who take the court unregistered to their team list will incur the following penalty:

[Penalty: Teams will be deducted two (2) competition points].

3.8 Ineligible Players

A player will be deemed ineligible if:

- a) The player is not affiliated or registered with the Member Association prior to being listed on the team list.

[Penalty: Loss of two (2) competition points to the offending team – the goals for and against shall remain as scored for both teams]
- b) Not recorded on the team list prior to the commencement of the match.

[Penalty: Loss of two (2) competition points to the offending team – goals for and against shall remain as scored for both teams].
- c) A player may not participate in two (2) matches occurring at the same time. If a player is named on two (2) scoresheets for matches being played at the same time, both offending teams shall be penalised.

[Penalty: Loss of two (2) competition points to both offending teams – goals for and against shall remain as scored for both matches]

- d) The player has not been listed on the team list for any division and/or not participated in the minimum number of games during the minor matches to qualify for finals.

[Penalty: Forfeiture of game. The forfeiting team may also be subject to a financial penalty, at the discretion of Netball WA]

- e) A player may not play for another Association other than the Association they are listed for.

[Penalty: Loss of two competition points to both offending teams – goals for and against shall remain as scored for both matches]

3.9 Playing Restrictions

- a) For the 16U and 14U divisions, all players must take to the court for a minimum of a full quarter each game for minor round matches and Finals Series matches.
- b) For the purposes of determining if a player has played in a quarter, this occurs once a player has taken the court, irrespective of the amount of time the player remains on the court during that quarter. If the player comes off injured at any time during that quarter, it is still counted for both the player entering and the player exiting the court.

3.10 West Coast Fever, Western Sting & GIG WANL Players

- a) West Coast Fever players will not be eligible to participate in Origin Energy Metro League.
- b) Western Sting players will not be eligible to participate in Origin Energy Metro League.
- c) Players listed on a 2021 GIG WANL squad list are eligible to play within the 2021 Origin Energy Metro League season **only** if they have played less than ten (10) quarters within their Club's first ten (10) WANL Club matches for the 2021 Season. Any player who has played (10) quarters or more in the 2021 GIG WANL Season after their Club's first ten (10) matches will be ineligible to participate in the 2021 Origin Energy Metro League.

[Penalty: Loss of two competition points to the offending team – goals for and against shall remain as scored for both teams].

3. COMPETITION RULES & REGULATIONS

4.1 Competition Rules

- a) Netball WA reserves the right at any time to change or update the competition rules in order to manage specific unplanned situations not otherwise captured in the competition rules, or other documents as required.
- b) Rules for Origin Energy Metro League shall be dictated by the International Netball Federation Rules, unless otherwise stated in this document.
- c) International Rules of Netball 2020.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/14E9H2xr69LZA7W0pmYPq48sb5qzhTHqk/view>

4.2 Competition Grading

- a) Associations may select their preferred divisional allocations for the 2021 Origin Energy Metro League within their team nomination entry on MyNetball. This must be received by the Team Nomination due date to allow for grading and fixture preparation.
- b) The grading of teams into divisional age groups will be determined by the NWA Competitions Coordinator.
- c) Associations will be provided draft divisional allocations prior to fixturing and Associations may appeal. Draft divisions will be advised by **Monday 12 July**, with appeals closing **COB Friday 16 July** and final Grading Allocations to be assigned by NWA by Monday 19 July.
- d) Due to the nature of the competition, teams will not be guaranteed their preferred divisional allocation.
- e) Please note that the Division 1 of all age groups shall be maintained and filled to a maximum number of teams, where possible.
- f) **Netball WA makes the final decisions on divisional grading and no further correspondence will be entered.**

4.3 Competition Draw & Timeline

- a) Refer to *Appendix 1* for all competition key dates and commencement dates.
- b) The Competition Coordinator is responsible for developing the competition draws.
- c) The Competition Coordinator will make the final decision as to the day and times of matches and the scheduling of the fixtures. This shall be played as advised.

- d) The full season dates and times for all divisions in the competition shall be advised to associations by Netball WA via email and the Netball WA website, as specified in the key dates, where possible.
- e) Draws and ladders will be appropriately adjusted by the discretion of NWA for any team who is withdrawn from the competition by choice or by expulsion.
- f) Where changes in fixtures occur teams shall be notified as soon as possible.

4.4 Match Duration & Match Format

- a) A match shall be played for a period of sixty (60) minutes divided into four (4) quarters, each of fifteen (15) minutes duration. The fifteen (15) minute duration for each quarter will be actual playing time and will not include stoppages in play.
- b) An interval shall be taken between each quarter as follows:
 - A maximum period of three (3) minutes between the end of the first quarter and the beginning of the second quarter.
 - A maximum period of five (5) minutes between the end of the second quarter and the beginning of the third quarter; and
 - A maximum period of three (3) minutes between the end of the third quarter and the beginning of the fourth.

4.5 Competition Points

- a) The official score sheet is the only true record of a match.
- b) In the Minor Round matches for all divisions, points will be allocated accordingly:

Win	2
Loss	0
Draw	1
Won on Forfeit	2
Loss on Forfeit	0
Bye	0
Abandoned	1

- c) In the event that due to unforeseen and exceptional circumstances a match cannot be rescheduled for completion the following shall apply:
 - A drawn result will be declared if the game was stopped prior to or during half time and each team awarded one match point.

- If the game has entered the third quarter a win and two (2) points will be awarded to the team with the highest score at the time in which the match was stopped.
- If the score is tied, and the match has entered the third quarter, a drawn result will be declared, and each team awarded one (1) match point, with score at that time recorded.

4.6 Competitions Results & Ladder

- a) The Competition Coordinator will be responsible for ensuring the competition results and ladders are uploaded on to the Netball WA website and MyNetball.
- b) The competition premiership ladder can be accessed [here](#).

4.7 Finals Series

- a) At the conclusion of the Minor Round matches, association teams will be ranked according to:
 - i. Points awarded for a win, loss or draw etc. as outlined in 3.5.
 - ii. In the event of association teams having the same level of points at the end of the Minor Round matches, the respective placing shall be determined by ranking the Association teams according to the percentage achieved by each association team during the Minor Round matches.
 - iii. The percentage for each team shall be decided as follows:
 - Total number of goals scored by the team divided by the total number of goals scored against the Team, multiplied by 100.
- b) If, after applying 3.7 a) (i) and (ii), two or more teams remain tied, the team having scored the greatest total number of goals across all matches in the preliminary rounds shall be awarded the higher placing.
- c) The finals series will be played after the conclusion of the minor round fixtures.
- d) All teams within each division will compete in the finals series, where fixturing is made available.
- e) Finals Series matches will consist of the following competition format:
 - Grand Final – 1st ladder placing vs 2nd ladder placing.
 - Ranking Final 1 – 3rd ladder placing vs 4th ladder placing
 - Ranking Final 2 – 5th ladder placing vs 6th ladder placing
 - Ranking Final 3 – 7th ladder placing vs 8th ladder placing

- f) In instances where divisions have less than eight teams then Finals Series matches may include byes or less games played, as per the Competition Coordinator's discretion.
- g) To be eligible to take part in the finals, players must have played in at least four (4) Minor Round matches in the 2021 Season, for their Association. For divisions in which byes or other exceptional circumstances in which may impact the number of games each team plays in the season then player eligibility will be at least three (3) Minor Round matches in the 2021 Season. Supporting documentation i.e., medical certificates may be required to **prove dispensation by NWA**.
- h) Any team and/or player that does not meet the **player minimum game** requirements will not be eligible to play in the finals.
- i) This will be determined via the details entered on the scorecard during the fixture matches.
- j) For the purpose of determining if a player has played a half, this occurs once a player has taken the court, irrespective of the amount of time the player remains on the court during that half. If the player comes off injured at any time during that half, it is still counted for both that player and any player that replaces them.
- k) If there is a draw in any Finals Series match, a four-minute interval shall be taken.
 - I. During the interval, the score will be verified, and the teams change ends. During the interval, there may be substitutions and/or team changes.
 - II. The umpire will indicate which team has the next centre pass and play will commence.
 - III. Two seven-minute halves will be played to determine a winner. After the first seven minutes, there will be a one-minute interval and the teams will change ends. Substitutions and positional changes are allowed during the changeover.
 - IV. If still a draw at the end of the second seven minutes, a visual signal will indicate that play continues and the first team to score a two-goal advantage shall be declared the winner.
 - V. During extra time, normal injury or illness procedures shall apply, in accordance with INF rules.

4.8 Stoppages/Injury Time

- a) Injury time applies as per Official Rule Book (page 48):
 - The player concerned must leave the court within 30 seconds and receive any treatment off the court.

- b) The timer will **not** hold time and no extra time will be given for a stoppage during the Minor Round matches due to restrictions on fixture scheduling.
- c) Stoppages/injury time will be allowed during Final Series matches.
- d) In the event of a serious injury where an athlete cannot be moved (i.e., unconscious, suspected spinal etc) then the match office is to be notified immediately (Perth Netball Association match office for outdoor courts and GNC match office for indoor courts). Where possible the game will be moved.

4.9 Match rescheduling & Delayed Starts

- a) Should a match be unable to commence due to the unavailability of the court for reasons beyond the control of competing teams, NWA where possible will reschedule the match.
- b) If unforeseen and exceptional circumstances occur and a match cannot be rescheduled for completion the following shall apply:
 - a drawn result will be declared if the game was stopped prior to, or during half time and each team awarded one (1) match point, with scores at that time recorded.
 - if the game has entered the second half, a win will be awarded to the team with the highest score at the time in which the match was stopped, the winning team awarded two (2) points, with scores at that time recorded.
 - in the event the match has entered the second half and score is tied at the time of the match being stopped a drawn result will be declared and each team awarded one (1) match point, with scores at that time recorded.
- c) If the game has not commenced and cannot be rescheduled, a drawn result will apply, and each team will be awarded one point.
- d) In the event that a match is delayed, postponed or abandoned, that match must be resumed as soon as is conveniently possible as directed by the officiating umpires or if prolonged delaying occurs, the Competition Coordinator shall direct accordingly.

4.10 Match Forfeiture

- a) To take the court a minimum of five (5) players are required.
- b) At the time scheduled for the commencement of a match, if fewer than five (5) players are present for either, or both, of the competing teams, a maximum period of six (6) minutes shall be allowed for at least five (5) players of a team to arrive.
- c) If, at the end of this time, there are fewer than five (5) players present for one (1) team, the offending team shall forfeit the match.

- d) In the event of a forfeited match, for any reason, that team must provide notice to the Competition Coordinator no later than 24 hours before the scheduled commencement time for the match concerned.
- e) A team shall forfeit a match in the following circumstances:
- If the team advises the Match Office of its intention to forfeit.
 - If fewer than five (5) players in either competing team are ready to commence play six (6) minutes after the scheduled match commencement time.
 - If a player participating in the finals series has not played minimum of requirement of games during the preliminary matches and this impacts the number of players available to play for that team.
- f) Any team forfeiting a match for any reason shall have the following penalty:
- [Penalty: the infringing team will be awarded zero (0) points; the non-infringing team will be awarded two (2) competition points and all players on the non-infringing team are awarded one game towards meeting minimum game qualification.]**

5. MATCH OFFICIALS

5.1 Competition Match Delegate

- a) The Match Delegate shall be responsible for the functioning of all Competition matches.
- b) The Match Delegate may be the Competition Coordinator, or other appointed NWA officials.
- c) The Match Delegate shall be empowered to cancel any matches deemed unsafe or not to standard, in consultation with umpires and the Competition Coordinator.
- d) The Match Delegate has the power to appoint or remove officials. (In the case of umpires, the Match Delegate will consult with the Umpire Coaches).
- e) The Match Delegate has the power to assign courts, start matches and excuse a team from playing for a definite period.
- f) The Match Delegate can default a team that has not been excused from playing and is not ready to play when called upon to do so.
- g) The Match Delegate may prevent a team playing a match where an ineligible player is listed on the scoresheet or have taken the court.
- h) The Match Delegate may, at any time, postpone play on account of the condition of the court or surrounds, or if a team, player, or other person does not abide by the rules outlined in this document.
- i) The Match Delegate may declare a forfeit by a team should it breach the rules outlined in this document and award competition points to the other team whatever the result of the match.
- j) The Match Delegate may hear protests by either of the participating teams in a match and award competition points to one of the teams, irrespective of the result of the match.
- k) The Match Delegate will not make decisions on the playing rules applied by the umpires.
- l) There is no appeal against any of the Match Delegate's decisions.

5.2 Umpires

Umpire Selection and Criteria

- a) Each association must nominate at least one (1) qualified umpire per team nominated.
- b) Umpire registration for all divisions is completed via the EmailMe registration Form. *See Appendix 1* for link to Form.

- c) Netball WA will be responsible for allocating umpires to the 18U and Open Divisions using the ASSIGNR program and providing payment directly to them.
- d) For the 18U Division 1 and Open Divisions, associations must register umpires for allocation. Netball WA will be responsible for allocating these umpires and providing payment directly to them.
- e) B Badged Umpires or invited National C badged umpires may be nominated to umpire Open or 18U divisions, subject to viewing and approval by NWA appointed umpire coaches.
- f) Associations are to register and provide umpires for the 14U, 16U and 18U Division 2 Age Group Divisions. These umpires will be required to umpire all their own association games.
- g) It is the responsibility of each association to ensure this umpire is provided and for providing payment to them.
- h) 14U and 16U umpires must hold a minimum National C Badge and be capable of umpiring and controlling a game of this standard.
- i) Should an association not be able to provide an umpire for submission, it will be that association's responsibility to organise a replacement umpire with another association or contact Netball WA to discuss further replacement options.
- j) 2021 NWA State Umpire Squad Umpires are not eligible to umpire at Metro League.
- k) 2021 NWA Emerging Talent Group umpires are eligible to umpire at Metro League.
- l) All umpires must have achieved current badge in 2021 or prior.
- m) All Umpires officiated at the 2021 Origin Energy Metro League must also be registered to their Member Association via the online MyNetball form by the specified date.

Umpire Rules

- a) It is the responsibility of each umpire to upskill in the Official Rules of Netball 2020.
- b) The decisions of umpires shall be final and shall be given without appeal.
- c) The allocated umpires for each match shall have the power to decide as to the standard of the court, in conjunction with the Competition Coordinator/Supervisor.
- d) Team Captains have the right to approach an umpire during an interval or after the game for clarification of any rule. Coaches may approach the Match Delegate at the end of the game to organise a meeting between the coach and the umpires at the best available time.
- e) Teams concerned with umpire allocations may approach Netball WA for clarification.
- f) Should one or both umpires allocated to a match not attend the commencement time for a match, a maximum period of five minutes shall be allowed for the umpire or umpires to arrive.

- g) If, at the end of this time, two allocated or alternative umpires are not present, the match shall be rescheduled.
- h) Should both umpires arrive within the allowance of five minutes; a ten-minute warm-up period shall be granted to both teams.
- i) The match shall then commence fifteen minutes later than the scheduled commencement time.
- j) Should notification of a delay be advised, the match may continue arrival of two allocated or alternative umpires, provided that a ten-minute warm-up can still be undertaken without delaying the commencement of the match more than thirty minutes beyond the originally scheduled commencement time.
- k) Should this not be possible; the match shall be rescheduled.
- l) Failure for an Association Umpire to attend their allocated game will result in the Association being penalised.

[Penalty: The Association will be required to pay a \$100 fine to Netball WA. Payment must be received before the association is eligible to take the court for their next scheduled game].

Umpire Testing

- a) Testing of National B badges (only) may be conducted at Metro League. Umpires will be screened by an NWA Umpire Coach prior to an NWA Testing Panel being coordinated.
- b) Please send via email any requests for Testing to umpiring@netballwa.com.au before the commencement of Metro League 2021.

5.3 Coaches

- a) Head coaches for all teams are required to have Intermediate Coaching Accreditation. Assistant coaches are required to have Development Coaching Accreditation.
- b) GIG WANL Head Coaches (only) are not permitted to coach at the Origin Energy Metro League; they can however be involved as coach mentors. Assistant Coaches and Apprentice Coaches of WANL are permitted to coach within the Origin Energy Metro League.
- c) Failure for an association to provide an appropriately accredited coach for each of the teams that they nominate will incur the following penalty:
[Penalty: Team expulsion from the competition]
- d) Failure for an association to have an appropriately accredited coach in attendance at matches within the 2021 Season for each of the teams that they nominate will incur the following penalty:

[Penalty: Loss of two competition points to the offending team – goals for and against shall remain as scored for both teams].

- e) If association team coaches wish to receive coach mentoring during the 2021 Origin Energy Metro League Season, they must complete the Coach Mentoring Application Form (See Appendix 4) and email to coaching@netballwa.com.au by COB Friday 23 July. However, restrictions on numbers are limited therefore coaches are not guaranteed mentoring.

5.4 Scoring & Timing

- a) Each team shall provide a scorer and timer.
- b) The first mentioned team shall collect the scorecard and provide a scorer for each game. Scorecards are to be collected from the Competitions Office located in the Gold Netball Centre no later than 15 minutes prior to the commencement of the match.
- c) The second-mentioned team shall provide the timekeeper and timer (suitable timers must be used).
- d) These two (2) officials must stand together (opposite the centre circle on the sideline) throughout the match and compare scores and time to avoid any discrepancies.
- e) Second mentioned team is required to provide a backup when the timekeeper must follow the umpire to avoid any discrepancies during this time frame. Should there be any issues, please advise the umpire immediately.
- f) The home association team is to return the completed scorecard **(and the Umpires 3-2-1 Fairest and Best form)** to the Competitions Office located in the Gold Netball Centre immediately after the game. Scores will be entered in to MyNetball.

6. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

6.1 Policies

All participants will be bound by all relevant NWA policies, including but not limited to:

Member Protection

- [Netball Australia Privacy Policy](#);
- [Netball Australia Member Protection Policy](#);
- [Netball Australia Junior Netball Policy](#)

Health and Pregnancy

- [Netball WA Health Guidelines](#)
- [Netball Australia Pregnancy Policy](#)

Netball Australia Integrity Framework

- [Netball Australia Anti-Doping Policy](#);
- [Netball Australia Integrity Framework Policies](#)

For a full list and copy of all policies and procedures please visit the NWA website [here](#).

Additionally, all participants are bound by NWA's COVID-19 Protocols found [here](#).

Participating Associations, and their volunteers and staff, are required to abide by the Working with Children (Criminal Record Checking) Act 2004 (WA), including:

- Associations keeping and up-to-date Working with Children register of their volunteers and staff, and
- Coaches, umpires, team officials and other participating volunteers and staff providing valid Working with Children cards, or demonstrating a valid exemption, to their Association.

6.2 Code of Behaviour

- a) All participants in Origin Energy Metro League will abide by the Netball Australia Codes of Behaviour, as accessed [here](#).
- b) Each club is responsible for the conduct and actions of its members including, but not limited to, players, coaches, managers and officials.

- c) The team coach shall be responsible for the actions of their players and other team personnel on the court and team bench, and the implementation of appropriate strategies to promote a professional approach.
- d) The actions and behaviour of participants on the court and team bench shall reflect an appropriate professional attitude toward umpires, score bench officials, opposition officials and players and Netball WA staff and representatives.

7. MATCH DAY PROCEDURES

7.1 Match Balls

Teams are to provide their own netballs for match use.

7.2 Warm Up Area

- a) Teams participating in first timeslot matches will have 15 minutes warm up time on the court to which their match is allocated.
- b) However due to limited fixturing times, second, third and fourth timeslot matches will only be able to conduct their 15minute warm up on a court available outside on PNA courts. These courts will be advised by NWA in advance.

7.3 Court Entry

- a) Teams will be permitted entry to the playing court area when the previous match has concluded or as otherwise advised by the match delegate.
- b) All courtesies will be afforded to any match still in progress when a team enters the playing area.

7.4 Players' Bench

- a) Team benches will be placed at either end of the sideline nearest to the score bench. Seating in GNC will be provided for ten (10) participating and three (3) officials, who are the coach, assistant coach and manager.
- b) Spectators are not permitted near the team benches or the field of play.
- c) The first-mentioned team in the fixtures shall be seated to the right of the centre circle (from score bench), the second-mentioned team to the left of the centre circle.
- d) All players and officials must be dressed in the Association uniform. Failure to do so may result in being asked to leave the bench. Players must be dressed ready to take to the court.

7.5 Change rooms

- a) Where possible, change rooms will be made available for the use of teams playing inside the Gold Netball Centre.

- b) When possible, access to change rooms will be available one (1) hour prior to each match, and thirty (30) minutes after each match. To the discretion of the NWA, venue capacity may limit this to only allow access one (1) hour prior to the match only. Team names will be affixed to the door of each change room and must not be changed.

7.6 Team Lists and Scoresheets

- a) The selection of Players from their Team Nomination Squad list to the participating team list for each fixture is at the sole discretion of the Clubs, subject to Player eligibility rules.
- b) Association's representatives are to select their team (maximum of 10 players) on MyNetball by no later than 12pm on the day before their match (Wednesday for 14U and 18U teams and Thursday 16U and Opens teams).
- g) After this time scoresheets will be printed out with the players' names as listed on the MyNetball Team List.
- h) For records and insurance purposes, the names of participating players must be recorded on each scorecard prior to the commencement of the corresponding game.
- c) If for unforeseen reasons a player change is required from the initial team selected on MyNetball (submitted by 12pm on the day of the match) then the scorer may correct this change on the Scoresheet **prior** to the game, only.
- d) Only those players named on the list prior to the match will be permitted to take the court.
- e) Player additions after the commencement of the match are not permitted. If a name is added after the commencement of the game the following penalty applies:
[Penalty: forfeiture of the game]
- f) Team Officials Lists will also be attached with the scoresheet and required to be completed, including the names of up to three (3) Team Officials.
- g) Team Managers may take a photocopy of score sheets for the match following completion of the match concerned.
- h) Scorecards must be filled out correctly and included the player's positions during each quarter of the match. Team Managers are to inform the scorer of any substitutions/positional changes made prior or during the match so the changes can be recorded on the scorecard.

8. AWARDS

8.1 Origin Energy Metro League Awards

- a) All awards will be presented at the Origin Energy Metro League Finals Series.
- b) A trophy shall be presented to the winning team in each division. Winning players and team officials shall be presented with medallions.
- c) A participant will be ineligible for any award if they are found guilty of breaching Code of Behaviour/Conduct or involved in a disciplinary matter during the competition season.
- d) The Competition Coordinator shall maintain all records relating to the above awards.

Grand Final Winning Teams – Awarded to each team member (including one for Association) for the team that wins in each division of the Origin Energy Metro League Grand Finals (determined as per the Origin Energy Metro League Division Grand Final Winners.)

Fairest & Best - Awarded to the Fairest & Best Player from each age group/division in Origin Energy Metro League. This player performs at a high standard, displays good sportsmanship qualities and respects team members, always opposing players and officials.

The umpires allocated to each Origin Energy Metro League match, shall register votes on a 3-2-1 basis. The scorers shall provide voting slips when collected with the scorecards. Completed voting slips are to be returned to the Competitions Office by the First mentioned home Association (Scorer) with the scoresheet. The player with the most votes at the conclusion of the rounds will be deemed the award recipient.

Grand Final Most Valuable Player - Awarded to the Most Valuable Player from each age group/division in the Origin Energy Metro League Competition Grand Finals. This player performs at a high standard, displays good sportsmanship qualities and respects team members, always opposing players and officials.

The umpires allocated to each Origin Energy Metro League grand final match, shall decide through a shared consensus on the Individual Most Valuable Player. The scorers shall provide voting slips when collected with the scorecards. Completed voting slips are to be returned to the Competitions Office. The player with the most votes at the conclusion of the grand final match will be deemed the award recipient.

9. APPENDICES

Appendix 1: 2021 Origin Energy Metro League Key Dates

Notice of Team Fees and Competition Structure (Memorandum)	Thursday 25 March 2021
Expression of Interest for entry of a 2 nd team in each Age group Opens	Wednesday 16 June 2021
Team Nominations on MyNetball Opens	Wednesday 16 June 2021
Expression of Interest Closes	COB Wednesday 23 June 2021
Team Nominations on MyNetball closes	COB Wednesday 23 June 2021
Notice of request for 2 nd team entry by NWA	Friday 25 June 2021
Distribution of 2021 Metro League Rules and Regulations Competition Manual	Tuesday 6 July 2021
Application for Player Exemptions (including Age Exemptions) Opens	Tuesday 6 July 2021
Player Squad Lists on MyNetball Opens	Tuesday 6 July 2021
Umpire Registration Opens via EmailMe online Form: Metro League 2021 Umpire Nomination	Tuesday 6 July 2021
Draft Division Allocations Assigned	Monday 12 July 2021
Draft divisional Allocations Appeals to NWA closes	Friday 16 July 2021
Application for Player Exemptions (including Age Exemptions) Closes	COB Monday 19 July 2021
Notice of Final Grading Allocations	Monday 19 July 2021
Notice of Exemption requests by NWA	Tuesday 20 July 2021
Team Fees Due	COB Friday 23 July 2021
Coach, Manager and Player Squad Lists on MyNetball Closes. All coaches, team managers and players to be 2021 financially registered Members of NWA at their nominated Association.	COB Friday 23 July 2021
Umpire Registration Closes. Umpires to be 2021 financially registered Members of NWA	COB Friday 23 July 2021
Umpire Coach Expression of Interest to join umpire Coach Workforce nominations due to NWA	COB Friday 23 July 2021
Coach Mentoring Form due to NWA	COB Friday 23 July 2021
Final Distribution of Fixtures	Friday 23 July 2021

Photography Opt-Out due to NWA	COB Friday 30 July 2021
Umpire Testing requests due to NWA	COB Friday 30 July 2021
Team Manager and Contact List Spreadsheet due to NWA	COB Friday 30 July 2021
Origin Energy Metro League Round 1 Fixture (14U, 18U)	Wednesday 4 August 2021
Origin Energy Metro League Round 1 Fixture (16U, Opens)	Thursday 5 August 2021
Origin Energy Metro League 14U and 18U Finals	Wednesday 22 September 2021
Origin Energy Metro League 16U and Opens Finals	Thursday 23 September 2021

Appendix 2: Player Exemption Application and Notification of Approval

This application must be received by Netball WA by before COB **Monday 19 July 2021**.

The _____ Team of _____ Association requests approval to:

Add: _____
(Player's name)

Players MyNetball ID _____

Players Date of Birth _____

Reason(s):

.....
.....

Association/Team Contact Details:

Contact Name: _____

Position at Association: _____

Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Netball WA to complete and return by email:

☐ Approved

☐ Not Approved

Reason for Non approval: _____

Signed:

Name: _____

Position: _____

Appendix 3: Replacement Player Application and Notification of Approval

This application must be received by NWA **48 hours** prior to the match.

The _____ Team of _____ Association requests approval to:

Add: _____ for Round _____
(Player's name)

Players MyNetball ID _____

Players Date of Birth _____

Reason(s):

.....
.....

Association/Team Contact Details:

Contact Name: _____

Position at Association: _____

Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Netball WA to complete and return by email:

☐ Approved

☐ Not Approved

Reason for Non approval: _____

Signed:

Name: _____

Position: _____

Appendix 4: Coach Mentoring Application

This application must be received by NWA coaching@netballwa.com.au by COB Friday 23 July 2021

Association: _____

Team: _____

Coach Name: _____

Coach MyNetball Number: _____

Reason(s) for Coach Mentor during Metro League Season:

.....

.....

.....

Association/Team Contact Details:

Contact Name: _____

Position at Association: _____

Mobile: _____

Email: _____

(Communication will be sent to this email address)

Netball WA will be in contact with the Association regarding successful application.

For further information please Contact Netball WA Sport Development – Coaching via email coaching@netballwa.com.au



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