



Birrong Sports Netball Club

GRADING FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Can my child play in the same team as last year?

Grading juniors is a very complex task performed by volunteers.

We try to minimise the number of changes in each team each year. However, every year we have a different number of players register for each age group therefore the team makeup may change. We won't know which teams any of the players will be in until after grading, as we may need to merge teams.

Can my team remain the same as last year?

Due to the number of players who register for each age group varies to the previous year, it is unlikely teams will remain the same.

If your team's players playing ability and/or ages are similar, then it could be possible to keep a majority together the following year. If the team has players who are playing above their age group or their playing ability is outside that of the majority of the team, then we would need to consider which team would be best placed for them the following year.

If your team has a high playing ability, we won't be able to place them in a lower age group or grade just to be with friends as they will most likely win all their games by large margins, which is not competitive for anyone.

Why does BSNC grade its junior players into teams?

We grade our junior players into teams because grading:

- is encouraged by the Bankstown City Netball Association (BCNA)
- adds to your enjoyment of the game if you are playing with and against players of similar or equal ability
- past experience has shown it is frustrating for any individual to play in a team over the season, in any sport, which is clearly above or below their level of ability.



When does BSNC grade 'NetSetGo' teams?

BSNC will grade all teams to assist the BCNA in making all grades an even competition eliminating lopsided games and blowout scores. Typically, the grading is age based but some exceptions may apply.

As the children become older and abilities become more disparate, we begin to identify players to form competitive teams and progressively grade players with similar ability and development through the older age groups ... resulting in the formation of different teams each season!

Why does grading happen weeks before the season begins?

The BCNA requires all Clubs to submit teams by a certain date shortly after registration ends – usually only a few days after grading is completed by BSNC.

BSNC have a timeline that they need to follow to ensure, and support, the setup of the year's competition eg allowing time for appeal processes.

Why can the player numbers differ for each team?

The number of players registered for a particular age group determines how many teams are formed and how many players should be in each team. BSNC always try to:

- ensure each team has sufficient numbers for the season
- players are distributed as evenly as possible within teams in any given grade
- maximise time spent on the court for all players throughout the Club; and
- provide an opportunity for all those who registered to be placed in an appropriate team.

How does grading happen for junior teams?

Players attend scheduled grading sessions and are observed by members of the grading panel over two sessions (weather dependent). The grading panel may consider your coach's assessment from the previous season as part of the process. We feel this is important because coaches have the advantage of seeing you develop throughout the whole season and are able to assess across many weeks rather than a couple sessions.

BSNC's grading panel makes the final decision about which team each player will play in for the season. The panel's decision needs to be ratified by the executive of the BSNC.

What happens if you cannot make grading?

If you are unable to make at least one of the grading sessions then you must contact BSNC. Your email must be received prior to the scheduled grading session for you to be considered for a higher graded team. Please set out the reason(s) in your email why you are unable to attend grading.



New players to BSNC, who do not attend grading or contact the Club, will be graded into a team. If possible and necessary, you may be provided with an opportunity to be re-graded.

The grading panel reserves the right to allocate any player who does not attend grading to any team, even if they fail to contact the Club.

How are teams allocated to divisions?

BSNC nominates each team for a particular grade in their age group. The suggested grade is then submitted to the BCNA. However, it is BCNA who decides the grade a team is put into based on the:

- previous year's performance
- grade suggested by BSNC
- number of teams in the age group; and
- introduction of new players to the team.

If the grade allocated to a team by the BCNA is not what BSNC nominated, the Club executive will decide if an appeal will be lodged.

What if I disagree with the team I am placed in by the grading panel?

Any player may appeal a decision of the grading panel. If you wish to appeal, you or your parent must notify BSNC's Secretary in writing of the appeal.

The Secretary, in consultation with the appropriate grading panel members, will review the decision and will let you know the panel's final review decision.

The review decision of the grading panel is final and any further issues should be referred to BSNC's Head Selector.