



Beginner and Cadet's Netball

The Surf Coast Netball Association's Beginner and Cadet competitions are designed to introduce young players to netball in a fun, supportive environment. The focus is on development, where boys and girls learn key skills like motor coordination, ball control, technique, basic rules, and sportsmanship, guided by skilled umpires.

Age Groups – Summer 2026/2027 Season

- **Beginners (9 & Under):** Players born in 2018 and 2019
- **Cadets (11 & Under):** Players born in 2016 and 2017

Teams should register according to these age groups, but may be adjusted after grading rounds.

Please note: younger players are permitted to “play up” an age group if it means staying with friends or teammates.

Inclusivity

In line with Netball Victoria policies, this competition is mixed-gender. All players, including non-binary individuals, are welcome to register without restrictions.

Netball Ring Height

9 & Under matches will use 2.4m (modified) rings instead of the standard 3.05m rings. For teams who feel ready, capable 9 & U players can choose to play with full-size rings in our 11 & Under Bells competition. Please contact us if you'd like to discuss this option.

Game Duration

Games consist of 4 quarters and times vary per age group;

9 & U is 8 minute quarters, with breaks at $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, and $\frac{3}{4}$ time

11 & U is 10 minute quarters with breaks at $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, and $\frac{3}{4}$ time.

Equipment

- **Ball:** Size 4 balls to support skill development and goal scoring.
- **Uniforms:** Teams must wear matching outfits in the same colours. Players can choose skirts, shorts, or leggings without pockets. Teams must provide their own bibs.

Game Schedule & Location

- Games are played indoors at Wurdi Baierr Stadium between 4–6 pm on Tuesdays.
- All fixtures, including teams, times, and courts, will be available on NetballConnect.

Scoring

All games will be scored with an on-site scoreboard and live updates on NetballConnect. Teams must provide a scorer (18+ years) for each game.

Children and Young People on the Score Bench

In line with Netball Victoria's Child Safety Policy and the Victorian Child Safe Standards, SCNA is committed to providing a safe and supportive environment for all children and young people.

As a risk management and safeguarding measure, SCNA's expectation is that children and young people will not be seated on the score bench during Association matches.

Where exceptional circumstances require a child or young person to be on the score bench, they must remain under the direct supervision of their parent or legal guardian at all times. Children and young people must not be left unsupervised on the score bench.

This guideline is intended to:

- promote the safety and wellbeing of children and young people;
- minimise situations where a child or young person may be exposed to conflict, complaints or disputes relating to match administration;
- ensure responsibility for official match administration remains with appropriately supervised adults
- support SCNA's commitment to the Netball Victoria Child Safety Policy and the Victorian Child Safe Standards.

Registration

Every player must have current VNA insurance (Netball Victoria membership), either by registering as an SCNA player through NetballConnect and paying the annual Netball Victoria membership fee for VNA, or by purchasing a Single Game Vouchers each week for \$3. All player names must appear on the team list on NetballConnect prior to the game. Any player whose name does not appear must show proof of Single Game Voucher and/or VNA or they are ineligible to take the court.

Fill-in Players

If a team requires a fill-in player, they can borrow an existing SCNA player from the same or lower age group or find a player from outside SCNA who must provide evidence of a current VNA or purchase a Single Game Voucher.

Umpires & Coaches

- Umpires: One experienced umpire per court will guide players and enforce the rules. Coaches should stay on the bench unless needed for guidance.
- Coaches: A coach must be present for every team and wear a purple vest provided by SCNA. Coaches must hold a current Working with Children Check and sign the Netball Victoria Child Safety Declaration.

Team Managers

Every SCNA team is required to have a nominated Team Manager, who will be the official point of contact between the Association and the Team. As per Netball Victoria requirements, all Team Managers must provide evidence of a current Working With Children Check and must read Netball Victoria Child Safety in Netball Policy and Child Safety Code of Conduct and return a signed declaration form.

Supervision

While parents aren't required to be at every game, each team must have at least one adult present, typically the coach. The recommended supervision ratio is 1 adult for every 10 children. If the coach is under 18, additional adult supervision is required for safeguarding.

Court Supervising Officer (CSO)

The Surf Coast Netball Association (SCNA) has appointed two Court Supervising Officers (CSOs) for all competitions at Wurdi Baierr Stadium to ensure adequate SCNA representation. CSOs are responsible for assisting and supporting all SCNA members, including players, team managers, coaches, umpires, parents, and spectators, and for liaising with stadium staff as required.

Forfeits

Please refer to the **Forfeit Procedure** poster for the correct steps to follow when forfeiting. You should also read the **By Laws** document for further details on recent changes to scoring in the event of a forfeit. If your opposition forfeits, you are welcome to use your scheduled court time for a team training session. Just let the **Court Supervising Officer** know when you arrive.



Code of Conduct

All parents and spectators must adhere to the Netball Victoria Code of Conduct to ensure a positive, respectful environment for all participants.

Finals

There are no finals for Beginners and Cadets. All teams will continue a round-robin format during the last two weeks of the season.

Season Dates

- Summer Season: Starts in early Term 4, ending in Term 1 of the following year.
- Winter Season: Starts in early Term 2, ending in Term 3.

Team Fees

Team registration fees, set by the SCNA Committee, cover court hire, umpire, administration and CSO fees, plus equipment costs. Last season the team registration fee was \$1,525, plus applicable transaction fees. Players must also have current Netball Victoria membership for insurance. Pending a decision of the committee, team registration costs may change slightly to help cover competition operating costs.

Putting a Team Forward

Keep an eye on SCNA social media accounts for when the new season registration opens.