

2023 EXEMPTION POLICY

The policy provides the process by which a Club, on the behalf of a playing Member, may apply for a variation to a current policy of the Rockingham and Districts Netball Association Inc.(RDNA). It outlines the process involved in the application and the minimum requirements for any variation to current policy to be considered

*Rockingham and
Districts Netball
Association Inc.*



Exemption Policy – July 2022

Date	July 2022
Policy Type	Exemption Policy - Operational
Date Approved	
Approved by	

Who Does This Policy Apply To?

This Policy applies to the following people/organisations whether they are operating in a paid or unpaid/voluntary capacity in the Rockingham and Districts Netball Association [RDNA]:

- (a) Individual Members, including service award holders and life members.
- (b) Individuals sitting on boards, committees and sub-committees.
- (c) All employees, volunteers, independent contractors and other workplace participants, including:
 - (i) Support personnel (e.g. managers);
 - (ii) Coaches and assistant coaches;
 - (iii) Athletes and players; and
 - (iv) Umpires, bench officials and other officials.
- (d) Any other person or organisation that is a member of or affiliated to RDNA.
- (e) Parents, guardians, spectators and sponsors and any other person or organisation to the full extent that is possible.
- (f) Any other Person who has agreed to be bound by this Policy.

Definitions

In this Policy, unless otherwise stated:

- 'Association' means Rockingham and Districts Netball Association (RDNA);
- 'Club' means a club affiliated with Rockingham and Districts Netball Association;
- 'Committee' means the management Committee of the Association as elected under the Constitution;
- 'Constitution' means the constitution of Rockingham and Districts Netball Association Inc.;
- 'Decision-maker' means the individual or committee that has the power to make a decision under this Policy, as determined by clause 6 of the Policy;
- 'Member' means all affiliated members of the Association, including players, coaching and umpiring officials, volunteers, Clubs, and Club members;



Changes to the Policy

This Policy may be cancelled, amended, or supplemented by the Association as and when it sees fit. Any variation will be given to Members in writing by the Association. The Association will review this Policy on a regular basis to ensure that it remains effective in supporting the objectives and strategic direction of the Association, and to ensure ongoing best practice governance.

Purpose

The policy provides the process by which a Club, on the behalf of a playing Member, may apply for a variation to a current policy of the Rockingham and Districts Netball Association Inc.(RDNA). It outlines the process involved in the application and the minimum requirements for any variation to current policy to be considered. This may apply to any RDNA policy including, but not limited to, those relating to:

- Age eligibility (playing up or down)
- Playing uniform
- Jewellery (medical or religious)
- Splints and other wearable medical items
- Finals eligibility

The Policy

- a. Any Club who wishes to apply for an exemption to current policy must do so in writing to the [Association. admin@rdna.org.au](mailto:admin@rdna.org.au)
- b. The request should come from a Club official and be sent through the prescribed form (where applicable), and must include:
 - i. The exemption being requested, and;
 - ii. The reasons for the exemption.
- c. All applications must be accompanied by supporting documentation where relevant, such as:
 - i. A letter from a medical professional (where applicable);
 - ii. Images of the uniform, splint or wearable medical item, or jewellery item to be considered for exemption, and;
 - iii. Actions that will be taken to minimise related risk.
- d. Where an exemption is being requested relating to Netball Australia's NetSetGO participant categories, additional information may be required to support the application, as determined by the Association.
- e. All applications must come from the participant's Club, and not from an individual Member.
- f. All applications for an exemption must be submitted to the Association prior to the cut-off for team nominations prior to the commencement of the season.
- g. A short notice exemption may be considered by the Association in the following circumstances:
 - i. Where the application relates to a change of circumstances that has occurred to the relevant participant who previously did not require an exemption, or;
 - ii. Where the application relates to a new player to a nominated team, or;
 - iii. Where the application does not relate to age eligibility, or;
 - iv. At the discretion of the Association.
- h. All short notice exemption applications must be made as soon as possible after the Club becomes aware of the circumstances, or the Association may decline to consider the application.
- i. The Association cannot guarantee the provision of a decision on a short notice exemption application prior to the next match day or to the next match in which the participant wishes to play.
- j. Verbal short notice exemption applications may only be made on a match day.



Procedure

- a. The decision-maker for exemption requests will be as follows:
 - i. For age eligibility, the RDNA Management Committee;
 - ii. For playing uniform, the RDNA Management Committee;
 - iii. For jewellery (medical or religious), the Association Umpire Development Officer ('AUDO');
 - iv. For splints and other wearable medical items, the AUDO;
 - v. For finals eligibility, the RDNA Registrar and/or RDNA Management Committee;
- b. For anything else, a decision-maker will be determined by the Committee.
- c. Where a decision-maker requires assistance with their decision, they may seek guidance from the Committee.
- d. A decision-maker may delegate their power to another member of the Committee.
- e. On receipt of an application:
 - i. The Association will forward a copy of the letter and the accompanying documents to the decision-maker.
 - ii. The decision-maker will consider the application in a reasonable timeframe.
 - iii. The decision-maker will inform the Association of the decision and any relevant information to be communicated to the applying Club.
 - iv. The Association will inform the applying Club of the decision in writing.
 - v. If the application is approved, the applicant will receive an exemption card number which is to be written on the scorecard each week for the term of the exemption.
- f. On receipt of a short notice application:
 - i. A decision will be made on whether to consider the application, with consideration being given to:
 - 1) The level of urgency related to the application;
 - 2) How soon the Club was aware of the need for the exemption, and;
 - 3) The availability of the decision-maker to provide a decision within the time required.
 - ii. If it is decided that the application will be considered:
 - 1) Where the application is made in writing:
 - a) The Association will forward a copy of the letter and the accompanying documents to the decision-maker.
 - b) The decision-maker will consider the application.
 - c) The decision-maker will inform the Association of the decision and any relevant information to be communicated to the applying Club.
 - d) The Association will inform the applying Club of the decision in writing.
 - e) If the application is approved, the applicant will receive an exemption card number which is to be written on the scorecard each week for the term of the exemption.
 - 2) Where the application is made verbally:
 - a) A reasonable effort will be made to convene the decision-maker to consider the application.
 - b) The decision-maker will consider the application.
 - c) The decision-maker will inform the Association of the decision and any relevant information to be communicated to the applying Club.
 - d) The Association will inform the applying Club of the decision verbally at the time of the request, and subsequently in writing.
 - e) If the application is approved, the applicant will receive an exemption card number which is to be written on the scorecard each week for the term of the exemption.



Privacy

Since the information in any supporting documentation may be of a sensitive nature, all efforts will be made to limit access to this information.

Breaches of the Policy

If a Club fails to acquire an exemption for a player and that player takes the court in breach of this Policy, the matter will be dealt with by the Committee by:

- a. Contacting a Club official to determine whether an exemption can be applied, and;
- b. Where player safety is of concern, having the relevant player leave the court and not return to play until the breach has been resolved, and;
- c. Where the breach is considered significant by the Association, using the rules managing playing an ineligible player in the Competition Handbook.

Related Documents

- Netball Australia Member Protection Policy
- Netball Australia One Netball Inclusion Policy
- Netball Australia Inclusion of Transgender and Gender Diverse Policy
- Netball WA Uniform Position Statement
- Netball WA Multi Cultural Female Uniform Guidelines



EXEMPTION FORM - Refer RDNA Exemptions Policy

Club Contact Details

Contact Name: _____

Position: _____

Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Details of person seeking exemption

Name _____

DOB _____

Exemption type _____

Reason for exemption request

Exemption approval must be received from the RDNA Management Committee before the player can be added to a team list.

RDNA -

Date _____

Approved Exemption Card number _____

Not approved

Reason for non approval
