



FOREST NETBALL

Team spirit is our game.

GRADING GUIDELINES FOR PLAYERS AND PARENTS

Netball grading supports the Club to place each player into a team that best reflects their ability. Open grading allows all players an equal opportunity to display their skills and play to their full potential.

Forest Netball grading is a physical trial managed by experienced netball selectors. It allows the selectors the opportunity to assess skill development and potential compared to other players within the same age group. Selectors also use the previous years' coaches report when making their decision. Players are then ranked in order of ability and placed into relevant teams as the numbers dictate.

Grading is conducted each year and players are assessed as individuals. Grading each year is the fairest way to support the development of each individual and ensure each player is provided with an environment that best suits their ability.

On the day

- Bring a water bottle.
- Remove jewellery including earrings.
- Trim fingernails.
- Tie hair back.
- Wear runners and suitable sports clothing.
- Come with lots of energy and enthusiasm and show the selectors your potential.

Compulsory attendance

Attendance at Grading Day sessions is essential for the fairest assessment of the player's ability in comparison to all others in the same age group. Our junior players have two grading sessions, and both are compulsory. This is to ensure the grading sessions for the younger age groups such as 12 years and 13 years (this year and last) are also included in an opportunity for a second grading session. This may vary year on year.

Not attending grading results in the player being paper graded i.e. selectors past knowledge of the player and the player's history is used for the determination. Players will be notified of grading sessions and times in January, before grading in February.

Grading process

The players are watched by a minimum of two, usually three, highly experienced selectors who are from within the club or sourced externally if insufficient Forest selectors are available. Players trial in two nominated positions and possibly other positions as requested by the selectors. A balance of positions is taken into consideration when forming the teams. The number of teams graded is dependent on the number of registered players in each group.



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MWNA does not allow for any player to play in a younger age group. There are exceptions when players may be selected to play up age groups for the season. Playing up exceptions are based on year-on-year considerations including but not limited to registration balance of players, experience, and skill level. Any exceptions are independent of previous season's exceptions and must ensure the younger player is suitable for the older age playing standard. If a player is seeking an exception, this should be communicated to the Grading Convener at least two days prior to grading.

NetSetGo

NetSetGo players (8 and 9 years) are not graded. They are placed into teams with a friend. The club may decide to mix these teams in the second year of NetSetGo. Encouraging the girls to play with a mix of different players, outside the grading system, helps to develop and prepare them for 10 years when they are graded into teams on ability.

Teams can change

Parents and players need to be aware that players may not be in the same team from year to year. This is to allow for each player's differing skill progression. By registering with Forest Netball and participating in grading, players and parents accept that the process has been fair to all players and that the final decision of placement rests with the selectors. Players will only be moved from the graded team in the event of numbers in higher teams changing.

Team announcements

Teams are announced via email or for NetSetGo at a 'Meet the Coaches' session at Margaret Cliff Netball Courts, Melwood Ave, Forestville. Dates are announced on the website.

Appeals

Any disputes of grading placements must be submitted in writing to the Club Secretary at forestnetballsecretary@gmail.com within 24 hours of being advised of your team stating all reasons for the dispute. Appeals are heard by our Independent Grading Appeals Panel who review the reports prepared by both coaches and selectors in conjunction with the appeal. You will be notified whether the appeal is "upheld" or "dismissed" usually within 48 hours, before teams are submitted to MWNA. Appeal decisions are final.

Updated for 2024 Winter Competition