

# SPORTING COMPETITIONS

## Participant By-Laws

VENUES WEST



## WELCOME TO VENUESWEST SPORTING COMPETITIONS

The purpose of this information is to ensure that all teams and individuals involved in VenuesWest Sporting Competitions have full knowledge of our rules, regulations and by-laws, so that you can enjoy our competitions at VenuesWest. Should you require further information, please ask our Sporting Competitions staff.

*Note: The information contained herein is current and may be subject to change. Management reserves the right to alter and change its by-laws and rules without notice.*

## GENERAL INFORMATION

VenuesWest offers a range of sporting competitions for your enjoyment. These are as follows:

SPORTING COMPETITION	SEASONS	DIVISIONS	TIMES
Mixed Netball	All year round (2 seasons)	Wednesday 1, 2 & 3	6:15pm – 10:15pm
Ladies Daytime Netball	All year round (2 seasons)	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday	9:15am – 1:00pm
Ladies Evening Netball	All year round (2 seasons)	Tuesday	6:15pm – 10:00pm
Mens Futsal	All year round (2 seasons)	Tuesday 1, 2 & 3 Thursday 1, 2 & 3	6:15pm – 10:00pm 6:15pm – 10:00pm
Mens Arena Cup (Soccer)	October – March	Wednesday Mens 1 & 2	6:15pm – 10:00pm
Womens Arena Cup (Soccer)	October – December	Tuesday Womens 1 & 2	6:15pm – 10:00pm
Mixed Netball Arena Cup	October – February	All Divisions	6:15pm – 10:00pm

## TEAM NOMINATION

VenuesWest uses the online competition management system Fixi for team registration. All teams wishing to enter a VenuesWest Sporting Competition must complete an online nomination through the SportsFix team portal:

**<https://sportfix.net/arenajoondalup>**

An account must be created with SportsFix to log in and then select Arena Joondalup and the desired sport, night and grade. All sections and boxes must be filled in when completing the registration process online for the nomination to be accepted. A Primary Team Contact (Team Captain) must be identified to serve as the main point of contact who will be advised of game times, news and other important information. The Team Members section must include full names, contact numbers and email addresses of all players who will be participating.

The Terms and Conditions box must also be ticked by the Team Captain on the final page. Ticking the Terms and Conditions box is a team's formal commitment to abide by all of the VenuesWest terms and conditions and Sporting Competition By-Laws.

It is the team's responsibility to notify the Sports Development Officer if the Team Captain changes or will be unavailable.

Teams must not have any inappropriate language or slang submitted as team names. For any team names deemed inappropriate, the Sports Development Officer will contact the Team Captain to request a change.

Signing up for the season commits the team to playing all fixtured games, including finals and grading. A maximum of 10 players can be registered for a Futsal Team (5 playing and 5 substitutes) and a maximum of 12 players per Netball team (seven playing and five substitutes).

## TEAM RE-NOMINATION

Teams currently participating in a competition also renominate their team using Fixi. This must be submitted online at the end of each season to confirm their nomination for the next season. This is to ensure that player contact details stay up to date and Team Captains are acknowledging, on behalf of the team, each season, that they agree to abide by the VenuesWest terms and conditions.

Teams will not be included in the new season's fixtures unless a fully completed team nomination has been received through Fixi. Team Captains will receive a confirmation email once their nomination has been processed and they have been allocated to a grade.

Teams must ensure any outstanding fees from previous seasons are paid in full prior to VenuesWest accepting the renomination.

## JOINING FEES (Non-Refundable)

Each team is required to pay a Joining Fee per season prior to the team's first game to secure the team's place in the competition. A Joining Fee cannot be processed prior to receiving a nomination form.

Joining Fees are non-refundable.

Joining Fees will be held by VenuesWest for the season. If teams do not play their scheduled games on semi-final and grand final rounds the Joining Fees will be used to cover Forfeit Fees.

## WITHDRAWAL FROM THE COMPETITION

Any team who withdraws, or is removed, from the competition once the Joining Fee payment has been made forfeits the payment.

Teams who wish to forfeit during the season must give 14 days' notice to:

**[sporting.competitions@venueswest.wa.gov.au](mailto:sporting.competitions@venueswest.wa.gov.au)**

## MATCH FEES (No Pay No Play)

Match Fees must be paid, in full, at reception or online via your customer portal prior to the commencement of your game. The reception staff will only accept full payment.

Please refer to the Arena Joondalup website for current Match Fees:

**[arenajoondalup.com.au/sport/social-sport](https://arenajoondalup.com.au/sport/social-sport)**

# FORFEIT FEES

FORFEIT NOTICE	FEE
No show / forfeit with less than 24 hours' notice	2 x Match Fee
Forfeit with more than 24 hours' notice	1 x Match Fee
Forfeit with more than 14 days' notice	No fee

Once the fixtures have been published it will be deemed a forfeit should you not be able to play that game time.

Forfeits must be emailed to:

**sporting.competitions@venueswest.wa.gov.au**

or via a phone call to the Arena Joondalup Programs office on **9300 7111**.

Forfeit Fees are in place to cover the costs of umpires and lost income for VenuesWest. Forfeits are also an inconvenience for the opposing team.

Any Forfeit Fees incurred must be paid prior to the team's next game. Teams still owing Forfeit Fees by the season finals will not be eligible to participate in the finals until all debts have been paid. Teams who forfeit 4 times during a season will be removed from the competition.

## FIXTURES

VenuesWest runs a number of seasons per year, depending on the sport, which include finals and grading. There is a 2 week break over the Christmas and New Year period.

Fixtures will be scheduled weekly for the first 3 weeks of each season for grading, and the fixtures will be emailed out to Team Captains on a Friday prior to the next week's fixtures. Week 4-5 of the season fixtures will then be completed for the remainder of the season, and it is the responsibility of teams to check their game times each week.

Teams will be able to view all their fixtures for the season. Fixtures are final from week 4-5 of the season and further changes cannot be accommodated.

Fixtures are subject to change in the case of team withdrawals and teams will be notified via email of any changes.

It is the responsibility of the Team Captain to pass on all information regarding any changes to game time and it is assumed by VenuesWest that the Team Captain passes on this information to the team.

If the Team Captain is away, then it is their responsibility to inform the organisers of an additional contact for that period.

## GRADING

We will always try to place teams in the grade they have requested. Insufficient team numbers may result in grades being combined. Results will be monitored over the first 3 weeks of the season. In the interest of keeping the competition even, teams may be moved up or down a grade based on results. The decision to move teams is final and cannot be disputed.

Teams may request to change grade within the first 3 weeks of the season. Requests to change grade must be made in writing to:

**sporting.competitions@venueswest.wa.gov.au**

Re-grading is at the discretion of VenuesWest and grade change requests are not guaranteed.

## PREMIERSHIP POINTS

Premiership points are allocated as follows:

- 3 points for a win
- 2 points for a draw
- 1 point for a bye
- 5 goals to nil (Futsal / Soccer), 15 goals to nil (Netball) for a forfeit win

All games played will incur premiership points, with the exception of grading, friendlies, semi-finals and finals games.

New teams will not be given any averaged points and will start on 0 or a bye of 1 point.

## ORDER OF PLACING

The allocation for finals is determined by:

1. Premiership points
2. Goal difference / percentage
3. Number of wins
4. Last 5 games

## SEMI-FINALS

- 1st position on the ladder plays 4th
- 2nd position on the ladder plays 3rd

# GRAND FINALS

The winners of both semi-finals play off in the Grand Final. Teams that fail to make the finals will still be scheduled, and forfeiting fees will apply if a forfeit occurs.

Teams are encouraged to watch the finals games and join all teams for presentations in the function rooms.

## EXTRA TIME – FINALS GAMES

If a game is drawn at the end of normal time, the following will occur for each sport:

### NETBALL & MIXED NETBALL

1. 2 x 2.5 minute periods will be played, with the winner being determined after both periods have been played.
2. If the game is still drawn, it will then be the first team to go 2 goals ahead in sudden death.

### FUTSAL / SOCCER

1. A toss will occur to determine the direction of play and who will kick off, then;
2. 1 x 5 minute period will be played, with the winner being determined after this period has been played.
3. In the event those teams are still tied then kicks from the penalty spot will occur as per the FIFA Futsal Laws of the Game 2012.

## FINALS QUALIFICATION

- To be eligible for finals, a player must have played a minimum of three (3) matches during the season for that team.
- A player is only eligible to qualify when the fixtured game is actually played.
- If a team is awarded a forfeit, qualification of players from this match will not count.
- A player will only be allowed to play for one team per competition for semi-finals and grand finals.
- Any breach of these rules constitutes the loss of all goals / scores for the period in which the unqualified player participated.

## FILL-IN PLAYERS

All teams are reminded of the following rules associated with fill-in players:

- A player can only be registered for one division per competition.

- All fill-in players must record their first and last name on the match scoresheet.
- A fill-in player who is not registered with a designated team may be used on the night, only if that player is not being used as a substitute e.g. the 6th member of a Futsal team or 8th member of a Netball team. If the team submits the details of a fill-in player on their team nomination sheet to the Sports Development Officer prior to the start of the match, then that player will be eligible to play in that team regardless of the number of players.

## PLAYER PARTICIPATION & FILL-IN POLICY (Netball Competitions)

### TEAM REGISTRATION & PRIMARY TEAM

- A player may be registered and play for one primary team only within a competition.
- A player may only be registered in one division per competition.

### FILL-IN PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

#### Registered Fill-In Players

A fill-in player must:

- Be registered within the same competition.
- Only play for a team that is in the same grade or higher grade.
- Play a maximum of three (3) games per team as a fill-in; after the third game as a fill-in the player officially becomes part of that team and cannot be a substitute player for another team in that same competition.

All fill in appearances:

- Are classified as temporary assistance only, not team changes.
- Require the player to play in midcourt positions only (WD, WA, C), unless approval is given by the opposition team for the fill-in player to play anywhere on court.

After three (3) games for a team the player becomes ineligible to fill in further, unless formally transferred.

#### Unregistered Fill-In Players

An unregistered fill-in player may participate if:

- They are not counted as a substitute player (e.g., not an extra bench player).
- They are used strictly to bring the team up to minimum playing numbers.

## FINALS ELIGIBILITY

A player is eligible to play finals only if they play a minimum of three (3) games in the competition for the team they are registered for.

## MIXED NETBALL RULES (MALE PARTICIPATION)

Each team must have:

- **Minimum:** 2 male players on court
- **Maximum:** 3 male players on court

At the start of play (centre pass):

- No more than one male player per transverse line
- Only one male player per third

### Playing Thirds

- Shooting: GS, GA
- Midcourt: WA, C, WD
- Defence: GD, GK

If three male players are on court they must be **evenly distributed** (one in each third of the court).

## UNDERAGE PLAYERS

Age restrictions apply to all competitions and are as follows:

- Players under the age of 16 years are not permitted to play in VenuesWest Sporting Competitions.
- Players 16–17 years of age are required to have a parent or guardian present while they compete in our competitions. This guardian is also required to sign the match sheet before the commencement of the match. Underage players are not permitted to play if these requirements are not fulfilled.

## MATCH EQUIPMENT

We provide balls and ask that you do not abuse the privilege of the use of this equipment. All teams are required to bring their own bibs. It is the Team Captain's responsibility to ensure all equipment is returned neatly to the Night Supervisor at the end of your game.

## SCORE SHEETS

Score sheets are to be left at the score-bench and completed in full before your game commences. The following information is required:

- Full names
- Shirt number if applicable

This information is important for finals qualifications and safety.

The electronic scoreboard is not a compulsory part of the scoring or game fee and should be used as a guide only. Therefore it will only be updated during the break by the official. The score sheet will be used for the official result.

After every game, for Netball, Futsal, and Soccer, Team Captains are to check and sign the score sheet at the end of the game. Once Team Captains have signed the score sheet it is final. If the Team Captain is not available to sign the score sheet another player from that team may sign instead. No further changes can be made and no disputes will be accepted regarding the score or any suspensions / cards recorded.

## NETBALL & MIXED NETBALL

- During Netball matches we strongly advise that a spare player or spectator from each team sit together during the game and aid with scoring.
- If a team has no spectator to score, then the substitute will be given the scorecard to score for the quarter (if both teams have a substitute the scoring will be shared between the teams – 1 half each or 2 quarters each).
- If a team doesn't have a spectator or substitute available to score, the scorecard will be placed behind the post for the GS and GD at one end to mark the score. The match will not start under any circumstance until either the GS or GD, whoever is scoring, is back on the court.

## FUTSAL / SOCCER

The score will be written in the referee's notepad and if the referee has the opportunity the score will be displayed on the electronic scoreboard. The electronic scoreboard will be updated at half and fulltime.

## UNIFORMS

A team uniform or kit is compulsory. It assists the officials in identifying teams on and off court and ensures the professionalism of the competition.

- New teams will be given 3 weeks to organise a uniform. Players must wear the same jersey, and numbered tops for Futsal / Soccer are preferred.
- In mixed competitions players must wear a bib with their position and matching tops/shirts under their bibs. Shorts/skirts/track-pants/skins/tights are allowed.
- Sports trainers or indoor court shoes are the preferred footwear but any non-marking shoes will be permitted.

- Outdoor / moulded football boots with spikes and studs are NOT allowed in our outdoor competition. Only astro turf, indoor and sport shoes allowed.
- Players are not permitted to wear jewellery, watches, peaked caps, denim shorts / jeans, belted pants, skate shoes, work boots, thongs / sandals, or marking soles. Flat rings with no stone or sharp edges will be permitted but these must be taped over. Gloves can be worn over jewellery in all Netball games and by goalkeepers in Futsal / Soccer games.

## UNIFORM PENALTIES

Uniform penalties will apply to all players / teams that are not in correct uniform by week 4 of the season. Penalties will be left to the discretion of the umpire / referee and their decision is final.

**Futsal / Soccer** – one goal per player out of uniform up to a maximum of 4 goals.

**Netball** – one goal per player out of uniform up to a maximum of 10 goals.

Penalties will be added to the score sheet before the commencement of the second half.

## LATE ARRIVALS

Teams are required to be in position, in the correct uniform with the minimum number of players required, ready to commence at the fixtured start time.

Netballers must have their bibs on, correct uniform on underneath, nails inspected and taped (if necessary), and jewellery removed or taped, before the umpire blows the whistle for the start of the game.

Futsal / Soccer players must have the correct uniform on, and jewellery removed or taped, before the referee blows the whistle for the start of the game.

## LATE PENALTIES

The clock will start at the fixtured time regardless of whether the team is ready or not.

**Netball:** Minimum number of 5 players required to start the match.

**Mixed Netball:** Minimum number of 5 players required to start the match, with a minimum of 2 male players and a maximum of 3 male players on the court at any one time.

**Futsal / Soccer:** Minimum number of 3 players required to start the match.

If teams are not ready for the fixture start times the following penalties will apply:

## NETBALL & MIXED NETBALL

- 2 points for every minute of game time teams are not ready on court (to a maximum of 10 points).

## FUTSAL / SOCCER

- 1 goal for every minute of game time teams are not ready on court (to a maximum of 5 goals).

After 10 minutes of the game time elapsing, the official will declare the game a forfeit if a team cannot field the minimum amount of players to start the game. The non-offending team will be awarded a forfeit win. The team that cannot field the minimum amount of players will be deemed to have forfeited with less than 24 hours' notice and the applicable Forfeit Fee will be applied.

## INJURY

Playing social sport comes with its own risk; players are usually not training, warming up or stretching before their games, so injuries are, unfortunately, common. Players play at their own risk.

The officials will try their best to prevent forceful contact between players, but this still may happen due to the competitive nature of the game.

If a serious injury does occur VenuesWest staff will do their best to assess and treat the injured player. If, in the opinion of the Night Supervisor or official, a player is not fit to continue playing (e.g. concussion), they have the right to ask the player not to continue or the game will not re-start.

Always seek expert medical advice if an injury is sustained. Play to your limits and do not push your body. Please warm up before your game to help prevent any injuries occurring.

There is no time between games for quick warm-ups but sometimes there may be space available on grassed areas / between courts so please take advantage of this.

## INJURY TIME

Time will not be held for minor injuries or incidences. Time will only be held at the official or Night Supervisor's discretion, e.g. for serious injury or an injury that prevents the player leaving the court. Once a game has been stopped for more than 10 minutes due to injury or incident the game will cease. All scores, points and match payments will be taken into consideration by the Sports Development Officer and an outcome will be advised prior to the following week's fixtures. The safety of a player is more important than the outcome of a game.

# INJURY REPORTS

Please assist our staff in filling out injury reports so we can best treat the injured player, follow up and help provide better treatment for others in the future.

# RULES OF SPORTSMANSHIP AND CONDUCT

This is a friendly and timely reminder about sportsmanship, player / team conduct and fair play:

- All Team Captains are responsible for the conduct of their members and supporters when in the venue.
- Teams who do not control their members and spectators will face sanctions and possible expulsion from the competition if not adhered to.
- Players are to be neat, tidy and well presented.
- Be courteous and respectful to all players and officials.
- At all times play within the spirit of the game.
- If a player is suspected of being intoxicated, through alcohol or illegal drug use, they will not be allowed to play at that time.
- If a player gives a false name to an official or supervisor, or plays under a different name than what is written on the team sheet, sanctions may apply to the relevant player and team.
- There is zero tolerance towards abusive, verbal and physical violence. Players may be evicted and in extreme cases, the police called. All players and spectators are responsible for their behaviour and could risk being banned from all VenuesWest competitions or venues in serious cases of abusive behaviour.
- All players and spectators must follow VenuesWest's Conditions of Entry.
- Goal keepers are only permitted to throw the ball. Goal kicks or drop kicks are not permitted by the goal keeper.

# CAUTIONS, DISMISSALS AND SUSPENSIONS

MISCONDUCT	ON COURT PENALTY	RESULTING PENALTY
Foul language non-directed	Warning and explanation	None needed if stopped
“Accidental” physical contact to another player	Warning and explanation	None needed if stopped
Arguing with umpire	Yellow Card – 5 mins send off	Verbal warning
Foul language directed at player / umpire	Red Card – off for game	2+ week suspension
Mild unsportsmanlike behaviour	Yellow Card – 5 to 10 mins	Verbal warning
Repeated on-court arguing with umpire	2nd Yellow Card – send off	1 – 2+ week suspension
Attempting to strike or threatening another player	Red Card – off for game	3+ week suspension
Aggressive behaviour (either verbal or physical) towards player or spectator	Red Card – off for game	3+ week suspension
Physical abuse towards a player or spectator	Red Card – off for game. May be asked to leave courts or removed.	3+ week suspension. This will be determined by type and level of physical abuse / assault. Team or player may be issued warning of removal from competition.
Physically touching an umpire in a threatening manner or extreme verbal abuse	Red Card – off for game. Asked to leave courts or removed from venue.	Player is banned for rest of the season or possible life ban from all competitions.

# MISCONDUCT

- All players sent from the field of play will be asked to leave the venue with their belongings and will not be allowed to return to the court for the duration of the night.
- Misconduct can include, but is not limited to; abusive language (directly or indirectly), unsporting conduct (spitting, rude gestures etc.), undue rough play (e.g. playing the player without the ball), and resisting, striking and attempting striking. Continuous or repeated offences of misconduct will result in either the player(s) or team(s) concerned removed from the competition for the safety of the other teams and integrity of the competition. If a team reaches more than 10 Yellow Cards accumulated in any one season, the team may immediately be removed from the competition without further correspondence entered into.
- In the event of misconduct by anyone associated with that particular game, the official has the ultimate authority to abandon the game.

# INCIDENT REPORTS

Team Captains must assist officials in recording any incidents that occur during the game. If an official asks you for incident details, you must provide a written account via email of the incident (to the best of your knowledge) or risk player / team penalties and / or suspensions from the competition.

# RED CARD SUSPENSIONS

Any Red Card will result in a send off for the remainder of the match and a minimum of 2 weeks' suspension. Should a player receive more than 3 Red Cards in any one season, a suspension for the rest of the season will be given to the offending player, effective for all VenuesWest Sporting Competitions.

# YELLOW CARDS

- A Yellow Card, or its equivalent, signifies a five minute suspension from play with no substitute allowed to take the place of that player.

- A second Yellow Card in the same match, or its equivalent, will equal a Red Card and no further play by the offending player for the duration of that match. This will automatically suspend that player for the following week or longer depending on the offence.
- Should you be suspended from a game and continue to verbally abuse officials and / or players you will be asked to leave the premises.
- This policy runs across all VenuesWest competitions so that players who play on multiple days in VenuesWest competitions can accumulate cards on multiple days.

# DISCIPLINING BY AN OFFICIAL

## WARNING

An official giving a warning to a player indicates that they are dissatisfied with that player's conduct on court, be it:

- Verbal or physical abuse of a player, umpire / referee, or spectator
- Unduly rough play

## NETBALL WARNING PROCEDURE

- Players will receive a verbal warning to the individual player or the whole team by the umpire.
- The second step is to advance the penalty / play into a more attacking position for the opposing team.
- If infringements keep persisting the third step is to remove the player from the court for a 3 minute send off.
- In this instance the player's position may not be substituted by another position.
- The only time we allow for a position swap is if the centre is the one removed from the court.
- If a player is given a second 3 minute send off in the same match then this is deemed as a suspension and penalties will apply.
- If a player is given three 3 minute send offs in the same season, a mandatory 1 week suspension will apply.

## DISPUTES WITH OFFICIALS

Officials are happy to assist with any interpretation of a decision, if asked in a calm and respectful manner. There is a right and wrong way to approach an official if you are unhappy with a decision.

The right way is to approach the Night Supervisor first on all occasions either during the match, half time or the end of the game and ask in a calm manner to speak with the official regarding a decision. If the official does not wish to discuss the decision, please raise your issue in a calm manner with the Supervisor and this will be followed up by the Sport Development Officer within 48 hours.

If you are still unsatisfied with the decision and the outcome of your discussion please contact the Sport Development Officer; this should be done by your Team Captain. We welcome any feedback on our officials and our competitions, provided it is done in the correct manner.

Please do not stop play and argue with the official, swear or become verbally aggressive or physically abusive to an official or player during a game. If you do this you will be warned, cautioned or sent immediately from the pitch / court depending on the severity of the offence.

VenuesWest goes through a great deal of effort with trials and interviews to ensure that our officials are of a high standard. However, they are human and will make decisions based on their own personal interpretation of the circumstance.

Officials are not permitted to oversee games where family members are participating or if a conflict of interest is deemed by either the Night Supervisor or Sports Development Officer that could affect the outcome of the match.

## THANK YOU

VenuesWest thanks you for your support of these by-laws and trusts that all of your team and supporters are aware of the rules and conditions relating to our sporting competitions.

## CONTACT US

Arena Joondalup  
Kennedy Drive, Joondalup WA 6067  
PO Box 581 Floreat WA 6014

 **PROGRAMS 9300 7111 / VENUE 9300 3355**  
 **sporting.competitions@venueswest.wa.gov.au**  
 **arenajoondalup.com.au**