

**SINGAPORE SCHOOLS SPORTS COUNCIL
RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR NETBALL
JANUARY 2017**

1. RULES AND REGULATIONS

The National Inter-School Netball Championships shall be conducted:

- 1.1 according to the laws/rules established by the respective international federations/boards/governing bodies
- 1.2 in the event that the rules and regulations are modified for safety /developmental reasons to suit the level of our students, it must be clearly stated in the respective sports/games rules and regulations and
- 1.3 as governed by the Rules and Regulations of the Singapore Schools Sports Council.
- 1.4 In the absence of a set of recognised rules to govern the occurrence of situations during the competitions, the rules of the prevailing International Federations will be applied.
- 1.5 adhering to the Baseline Safety Standards for National School Games.

2. CHAMPIONSHIP ORGANISING COMMITTEE

2.1 COMPOSITION

- 2.1.1 The Championship Organising Committee shall consist of the following :

The National Convenor
The Game Adviser
The Zone Convenors
Organising Secretaries and
Any other co-opted members deemed necessary

- 2.1.2 The Championship Organising Committee and the Zone Convenors are empowered to appoint sub-committees and individual members to assist in the organisation and running of the championship as and when required.

2.2 DUTIES

The Championship Organising Committee shall have the following powers and responsibilities:

- 2.2.1 to draw fixtures
- 2.2.2 to fix venues, dates and times
- 2.2.3 to arrange for equipment and facilities and perform any other task for conducting the competitions
- 2.2.4 to conduct RAMS for the Championships (for the identified 6 sports/games viz. basketball, judo, football, rugby, taekwondo and hockey, RAMS must be conducted twice a year);

- 2.2.5 to ensure that court/pitch/venue managers¹ conduct RAMS for the respective Championships venues;
- 2.2.6 to appoint umpires and to guide umpires' co-ordinator
- 2.2.7 to organise training/upgrading officiating courses for judges/referees/umpires/linesman/officials (where applicable);
- 2.2.8 to incur expenditure within the budgeted allotment approved by the SSSC
- 2.2.6 to ensure that venue managers conduct RAMS for the respective championships venues
- 2.2.9 to select players to represent SSSC in approved local and overseas competitions and to appoint coaches to take charge of the teams
- 2.2.10 to nominate players for SSSC Colours Award
- 2.2.11 to deal with matters pertaining to discipline, protest and other aspects of the competition.
- 2.2.12 to source for coaching and officiating courses to upgrade the technical knowledge and expertise of teachers;
- 2.2.13 to implement the Baseline Safety Standards in the organisation of the National School Games

3 DIVISION

3.1 All students shall compete in their respective divisions according to their year of birth as follow:

A Division*	2 Jan 1997 - 31 Dec 1997
	1 Jan 1998 - 31 Dec 1998
	1 Jan 1999 - 31 Dec 1999
	1 Jan 2000 - 31 Dec 2000
	1 Jan 2001
B Division*	2 Jan 2000 -- 31 Dec 2000
	1 Jan 2001 -- 31 Dec 2001
	1 Jan 2002 - 31 Dec 2002
	1 Jan 2003
C Division*	2 Jan 2003 - 31 Dec 2003
	1 Jan 2004 - 31 Dec 2004
	1 Jan 2005

Except for the following conditions:

3.1.1 All students in the Junior Colleges and Centralized Institute must compete in the 'A' Division.

¹ Court/Pitch Managers will be responsible for the safety for the field of play for the competition. Venue Manager will take care of the area beyond the field of play. Venue Manager may also take charge of the entire competition venue including the field of play depending where the competition is held.

- 3.1.2 Year 1 to Year 4 students in the Integrated Programme (i.e. Through-Train Programme) and International Baccalaureate Programme will compete in their respective age group. Those in Year 5 (equivalent to JC 1) and Year 6 (equivalent to JC 2) must compete in the 'A' Division.
- 3.1.3 All students in Secondary Schools must compete in the 'B' or 'C' Division according to their year of birth.
- 3.1.4 All students in Secondary Schools not born in the stipulated year for 'B' or 'C' Division must compete in the 'A' Division.
- 3.1.5 All students in the 'C' Division will not be able to opt to represent the school in the 'B' Division, in all individual and team sports/games.

4 ENTRIES

- 4.1 Each school is eligible to enter one girls' team for:
- i the A Division
 - ii the B Division
 - iii the C Division
- 4.2 Where preliminaries are held at zone level, the best 4 teams of each division from each zone will proceed to the national competition.
- 4.3 All entries must be submitted to the Convenor concerned on or before the stipulated closing date. All registration forms must be received by the Convenor concerned on or before the stipulated closing date which must be at least three (3) working days before commencement of the competition.**
- 4.4 The registration forms must include the following particulars:
- a) Full name as in NRIC / Student pass
 - b) Date of birth
 - c) NRIC no or Student Pass no
 - d) Race
 - e) Nationality
 - f) Baseline Acknowledgement Form

5 COMPETITION FORMAT

- 5.1 PRELIMINARY ROUND – LEAGUE
- 5.1.1 There must be a minimum of **three (3) registered teams from three (3) different schools** before a team competition can be organised.
- 5.1.2 The competitions at the preliminary rounds shall be run on an inter-school league. Where entries are grouped, each group shall have a minimum of four teams.
- 5.1.3 The league winner shall be the team with the greatest number of points after all games in each group have been played.
- 5.1.4 In the event of a tie in league points between 2 teams, the team that has beaten the other team shall be declared the winner.

- 5.1.5 In the event of a tie in league points between two teams, where the game between them has ended in a draw, the league winner shall be determined by goal differences, i.e. goals for minus goals against.
- 5.1.6 In the event of a draw between 2 teams tied in league points and where a walkover is involved, positional play will be determined by goal difference but disregarding all games played by that team which conceded the walkover.
- 5.1.7 In the event of a tie in league points among 3 teams, position placing will be determined by goal difference, computed based on the scores of the games played amongst the 3 teams only.
- 5.1.8 In the event of there being a tie in goal difference, then the team which has scored the greatest number of goals shall be declared the winner. If the tie persists, a replay shall be ordered. In the event of a draw at the end of the replay, the extra time rule shall apply. (Refer to 5.3)

5.2 SEMI-FINALS/ FINALS - KNOCKOUT

The winner and runner-up of each group shall enter into a criss-cross competition. The winner of group I will meet the runner-up of group II and vice-versa. The winners of the two groups shall then play a final match to decide the champion and runner-up. The losers will play for the 3rd and 4th positions.

5.3 EXTRA TIME PLAY

In games where a winner must be determined and in the event of a draw at full-time, there shall be an interval of **two (2)** minutes. Game will resume from the last centre pass and the game continues for **ten (10) minutes**, consisting of two (2) halves of **five (5)** minutes each with an interval of one (1) minute at half-time. Teams shall change ends at half-time and begin Centre pass that is to be taken by the team entitled to the next Centre pass. If there is still a draw after the extra time, a visual signal shall be used to indicate that play shall continue until one team has a two (2) goal advantage.

- 5.4 Any deviation from the competition format requires approval from the Council or Standing Committee.

6 **REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS**

- 6.1 Each team shall be allowed to register a maximum of 12 players.
- 6.2 The date of posting in the Joint Admission Exercise (JAE) of students announced by MOE shall be the day in which a student would be deemed as a bona fide member of a school/ JC/ CI. Students admitted to the polytechnics in the JAE would no longer be considered a student of a school/ JC/ CI on that said day and therefore cannot continue to represent that institution.
- 6.3 If a student has represented her school/college/institute in a tournament prior to the JAE, then she shall not be eligible to represent the new school/ JC/ CI for that particular tournament. Zonal tournaments are regarded as part of the National tournament.
- 6.4 Students requesting for a transfer after the JAE may not represent their new school until the transfer has been officially effected.

- 6.5 **Only** in the event that any of the player(s) registered is/are transferred or has/ have to leave school during preliminary rounds or as a result of the JAE, schools shall be allowed to replace the affected player(s).
- 6.5.1 Schools must write in to inform the convenors of the replacement **at least one (1) working day before the next match.**
- 6.5.2 However, no replacement of player is allowed once the competition reaches the semi-final stage.
- 6.6 Registration constitutes representation, that is, if a student is registered, she is deemed to have represented her school/ JC/ CI in the same year.
- 6.7 The best four (4) teams from each zone proceeding to the national competitions will be allowed to update their list of players at registration. Schools that wish to make changes should submit the changes to the respective zone convenors through the Principal within 7 days after the zone finals.
- 6.8 **If a school chooses not to register the maximum number of players allowed by the sports/game, at the time of submitting the registration form to the Convenor, the school shall not be permitted to register additional players subsequently.**
- 6.9 **International students can only be registered to play for their school after they have been issued with the student passes by the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority.**

7 MINIMUM NUMBER OF PLAYERS

- 7.1 **No games may start unless each team has at least five (5) players on the court.** After the grace period, a team must take the court if there are at least five (5) players present, one of whom must play Centre.

8 GRACE PERIOD

Fifteen minutes (15 min) grace is allowed. The Convenor or his representative may at his discretion extend this grace period if he/she thinks the extension of grace period is justifiable (eg. in special cases when delay may be caused by traffic jams, floods, etc). However, the team concerned must contact the Convenor or his/her representative at the venue concerned to inform him/her of the delay. Teams must abide by the decision of the Convenor or his/her representative.

9 STOPPAGE FOR INJURY TIME

- 9.1 Requests for injury time may be made at the discretion of the teacher-in-charge/ team captain/player.
- 9.2 **Coaching is permitted during any stoppage by any Team Official who may approach the players at the side line. Bench players may approach the side line if coaching occurs. During a stoppage any Team Official may approach the players at the side line for the purpose of providing rehydration.**

- 9.3 All stoppages for illness/injury or blood on a player are now 30secs and the player concerned must leave the court. For more serious injuries, umpires may extend time for the player to leave the court.

10 DURATION OF THE GAME

- 10.1 The game shall be of four equal quarters of ten (10) minutes for B and C Divisions. The interval time shall be three (3) minutes, five (5) minutes and three (3) minutes between the first and second quarters, second and third quarters and third and fourth quarters respectively.
- 10.2 For the A Division Championship, the game shall be of four equal quarters of fifteen (15) minutes. The interval time is the same as that for the B and C Division games.

11 PLAYING ATTIRE

All players must be dressed in similar attire. Footwear is compulsory. Watches and jewellery must be removed for the games.

12 PLAYING BIBS

All playing bibs must be clearly displayed. Each school is to supply its own bibs. A second set of a different colour may be necessary. Teams without playing bibs will be considered to have lost the game. If there is a clash in the colour, the first named team shall change the colour of their bibs.

13 UMPIRES

- 13.1 Each school/ college/ institute shall provide a qualified Netball Singapore umpire or a competent teacher umpire for each team entered in the tournament. Neutral umpires shall be provided as far as possible for the smooth running of the tournament.
- 13.2 Umpires shall report at least 10 minutes before the start of the game.
- 13.3 No student whose school is participating in the same competition may umpire in any of the games.
- 13.4 The teacher-in-charge must be present at the game his/ her school is scheduled to umpire. *Three (3) points shall be deducted from the school that fails to provide an umpire at the start of the game.*

14 POSTPONEMENT

- 14.1 The Convenor or his / her representative shall, at his / her discretion, decide to postpone a match if he / she thinks the venue is unfit for play, or for any other valid reasons for which he / she deems a postponement is in order. Teams must abide by the decision of the Convenor or his/her representative.
- 14.2 In the event the game is postponed due to inclement weather, it will be played at the next available day. For games that had started to play, the game shall commence from the last completed half. The scores from the last completed half shall be carried over.
- 14.3 In the postponed games, the two schools concerned shall provide an umpire each. They shall bear the cost of the umpires for the postponed game.

15 WITHDRAWAL AND WALKOVER

- 15.1 Any withdrawal or walkover by a team is considered contrary to the spirit of the game.
- 15.2 Schools participating in the competition should not withdraw or give a walkover.
- 15.3 For each withdrawal or walkover, a written explanation duly endorsed by the Principal shall be submitted to the Convenor **and the Game Adviser** within two (2) working days. A copy is to be sent to the Game Advisor.
- 15.4 *When a team fails to turn up or turn up later than the grace period, a walkover shall be awarded to the opposing team. A written explanation duly endorsed by the Principal shall be submitted to the Convenor within two working days. The organising committee will meet to deliberate and inform their decision to all parties concerned.*
- 15.5 In play-off for top 4 placing, any walk-over will disqualify the team from being placed.

16 ABANDONED GAME

- 16.1 The umpire is required to submit a written **report** on the abandoned game within one (1) working day.
- 16.2 For decision on abandoned game, refer to Para 26 on disqualification.
- 16.3 Any team or individual that causes a game to be abandoned will be liable for disciplinary action.

17 PROTEST

- 17.1 Any protest during a game on points of laws/ rules must be lodged immediately by the teacher in-charge **only** to the umpire. Any decision taken by the umpire will be final.
- 17.2 All protests and disputes not covered under (17.1) shall be referred to the Tournament Organising Committee. The protest must reach the Committee within two (2) working days following the match to which it relates. The protest must be in writing and duly endorsed by the Principal. **All protests must also be accompanied by a protest fee of one hundred and fifty dollars plus GST (\$150.00 plus GST).**
- 17.3 The Championship Organizing Committee will meet to deliberate on the protest within seven (7) working days. The decision will then be made known in writing to the school concerned.
- 17.4 If the protest is upheld, the protest fee will not be required. If it overruled, the protest fee of \$150 **plus GST** will be deducted from the protesting school's account, via IFAAS.
- 17.5 In the event that the National and Zonal Championship Organizing Committees are involved in a protest, the affected school concerned will inform the SSSC Secretary and shall not be involved in any further deliberations on the matter.

18 APPEAL

- 18.1 Upon the release/ disclosure of the decision of the Committee, schools may appeal to the Council.
- 18.2 Notice of appeal shall be lodged with the Honorary Secretary of the Council within two (2) working days on receiving the Committee's decision. The appeal must be in writing and duly signed by the principal and accompanied by an administrative appeal fee of three hundred dollars (\$300.00) **plus GST**.
- 18.3 Upon receiving the notice of appeal from the school, the appeal fee of \$300 **plus GST** shall be deducted from the school's account via IFAAS.
- 18.4 A Board of Appeal may be appointed by the Council to deal with any appeal; otherwise the Standing Committee shall deal with the appeal. The decision of the Board of Appeal or the Standing Committee shall be absolute and final.

19 SUSPENSION

A player suspended by any one of the following bodies is barred from SSSC competitions for that sport /game for the period of suspension:

- i the School
- ii the Zone Council
- iii the Schools Sport Council
- iv the National Association of the sport/game

20 AWARD OF LEAGUE POINTS

The following scoring system shall apply:

- i) 3 points for a win
- ii) 1 point for a draw
- iii) 0 points for a loss/ walkover

21 PRIZES

Prizes and plaques for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th placings shall be awarded at the National Championships.

22 TEACHER IN-CHARGE OF TEAM

- 22.1 Each participating team must be accompanied by a teacher who shall remain with the team throughout the duration of play.
- 22.2 Teachers in-charge are not allowed to interfere with the final decision taken by the umpire on points of rules after clarification has been sought. If such interference results in disruption of any match/game, a report shall be made by the Convenor and the matter will be brought to the attention of the Competition Organising Committee for appropriate action.
- 22.3 **The teacher-in-charge shall be an Education Officer or a Contract Adjunct Teacher only.**

23 EXTERNAL INSTRUCTORS

- 23.1 External instructors are expected to conduct themselves with decorum during competitions.
- 23.2 External instructors are not allowed to approach the game officials to query their decisions. **Only teachers-in-charge are allowed to approach game officials to seek clarifications.**
- 23.3 Schools must ensure that their external instructors adhere to the SSSC Rules and Regulations and the code of conduct.
- 23.4 An external instructor who has breached any of the rules and code of conduct and the school which engaged him/her, will be referred to the respective Competition Organizing Committee by the respective convenors for appropriate action to be taken.

24 SUPPORTERS

- 24.1 Schools sending supporters to any competition shall ensure that their students are in proper school uniform and there are sufficient teachers on duty to maintain discipline.
- 24.2 Supporters should be at least two (2) metres away from the playing area.
- 24.3 Supporters are not allowed to participate in any form of sideline coaching during the game. If supporters were found to provide sideline coaching or instructions to the player(s) during the game, it will result in a penalty awarded to the opposing team. In situations where the supporters are not co-operative upon the request of the netball convenor in-charge of the competition, the netball convenor will have the right to request the supporter(s) to leave the competition venue.

25 COACHING DURING THE GAME

Team Officials and bench players may coach while play is in progress provided that they remain seated or stand at their Team Bench. Coaching is also allowed during intervals and during stoppages but Team Officials and bench players may not indulge in inappropriate comments or behaviour.

26 DISQUALIFICATION

A school will be disqualified if it commits any of the following:

- a) fielding overaged student
- b) fielding unregistered player
- c) fielding an ineligible player
- d) fielding student without a valid student pass
- e) fielding a non-bona-fide student
- f) team/participant not accompanied by teacher
- g) team/participant which caused a game/match to be abandoned

All results involving the team which has been disqualified will be considered null and void.

27 MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

All matters not provided for in these rules and regulations shall be dealt with by the Tournament Organising Committee.

28 AMENDMENTS

The Singapore Schools Sports Council shall have the right to delete, add to or amend the rules and regulations laid down herein.

END