



# Whistle Blower

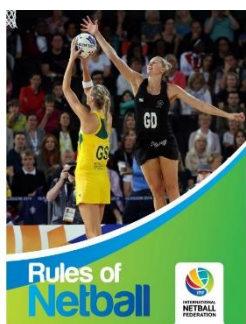
## News for Umpires

### SA United Church Netball Association Inc

*February 2017*

#### Welcome to 2017

Summer netball moves on with just three matches to go until finals. As we move into finals it is a good time to reflect on our umpiring and our players' understanding of the rules. Often it can be a big shock to players not to have a familiar umpire as they move into finals,



particularly for younger teams. Please take time to answer questions for your players and ask coaches to work with young players (and their parents) to be accepting of decisions. Remember

the captain and player involved can approach umpires at an interval or the end of the match to clarify a particular decision.

#### Newsletter Content

This newsletter will give regular information that is predominantly relevant to umpires however coaches, players and administrators should read through to make sure they are up to date with rule interpretations and happenings in the world of SAUCNA umpires.

If you have any questions about the content please email [Sandra.barker@unisa.edu.au](mailto:Sandra.barker@unisa.edu.au) for clarification.

#### Underage Umpires

SAUCNA requires all umpires for competition matches, winter or summer, to be at least 14 years of age. This means that they must have turned 14 prior to umpiring a competition match. Anyone who has turned 13 and wishes to umpire may be approved after going through a screening process. What does this entail?

1. Potential umpire submits an application for an underage screening to the Secretary of the Umpires Committee (form available on the Umpire Information section of the SAUNCA webpage).
2. A screening is arranged by the grading officer. In winter this is done at a training session and in summer on a relevant level competition match.
3. During the screening the potential umpire will obtain feedback and once completed a recommendation on the suitability and level for the umpire will be advised.
4. A written report will be provided to the club and the umpire detailing highest level for the umpire to officiate and areas for improvement.

If underage umpires officiate competition matches without approval the Board will be notified and the club may be sanctioned.

## Umpire Meetings

In 2017 the umpire meetings will be undergoing a major overhaul. The Association mandate that each club must send at least one representative to these meetings. As a committee we would prefer that all available umpires attended these meetings to ensure that information discussed and rule interpretations presented are disseminated to a much wider audience. To that end the 2017 "meetings" will take the following format:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> May – Rules Quiz Night
- 20<sup>th</sup> June – Match Demonstration
- August – "The Finals Debate"

More details of these events will be sent out closer to the date but put the dates in your diary NOW!! The main focus of these "meetings" will be to answer rules questions and improve the standard of our umpiring across the board.

## Clinic

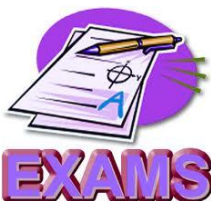
The 2017 umpire clinic will be held on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April. This is a great chance for new and inexperienced umpires to come and hear from senior umpires together with the CANA Umpire Director, Mr Glenn Woolley. This clinic covers how to get started as an umpire as well as an overview of the rules and how they are applied in our Association.

## Rules Exams

Three exams will be held throughout this year:

- 6<sup>th</sup> March, 6.30pm Morialta Uniting
- 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 6.30pm, St Johns Lutheran
- November – date and venue TBA

The exam is a great chance for umpires, coaches and players to test their knowledge of the rules and how they are applied.



The exam is generally in four sections:

1. Basic rules – short answers
2. True/False questions
3. More in depth rules with longer answers
4. Scenario where you are required to identify the infringement, sanction/action, who is sanctioned and what they need to do.

Complete the exam application form online and send through as soon as possible so we can make sure we have enough places set for you all.

## Sample Exam Questions

Section 1 - What sanction is awarded for the infringement of "offside"? (1 mark)

Section 2 – True or False - If a player breaks the rules between a goal being scored and the centre pass being taken, they cannot be penalised

Section 3 - Describe the term "inevitable contact" (3 marks)

Section 4 - The Red GA is in the goal circle and takes position to shoot for goal. The Blue GD in her effort to defend the ball stretches waving her hand back and forth. What is the infringement? What sanction/action would you award? Which player/s is the sanction awarded to? Where is the sanction taken? What does the infringing player have to do (or what can they do)?

## Look like an Umpire

Time to get your gear ready for the season:



- White shirt
- New Whistle
- White Wet weather jacket
- Rule Book

100% Netball have reduced prices on all umpire wear at the moment – check them out now:

[www.100netball.com.au](http://www.100netball.com.au)

## Orange Armbands

The SAUCNA Board has mandated that ALL inexperienced umpires wear the Orange Armbands when umpiring to signify to players, coaches and spectators that they are still learning. This does not mean that they need to enroll in the Orange Armband Program but is a way of protecting these umpires.

Inexperienced umpires must be allocated to umpire with a more experienced umpire and you are requested NOT to appoint two Orange Armband umpires on the same match. It is also recommended that inexperienced umpires NOT be programmed to umpire modified rules matches as these players need to be assisted in learning the rules by having more experienced umpires or umpires that are specifically training for modified rules.

Clubs will be requested to send through names and details of all inexperienced umpires who will be officiating in competition matches so that the armbands can be distributed. Thanks to Jan Richards for making these in bulk for us.

## Umpire Registration

A new umpire registration form will be made available in early March for all umpires. Please ensure that you complete and return this form as soon as possible as this assists us with identifying our active umpires and their experience levels. If you have previously registered you still need to complete the form – this is an annual requirement, same as players.



## Can a phone be used as a timer?

Categorically – NO!!! If a team does not have an appropriate electronic timer then the one time clock available for quarters should also be used to time the intervals. It is not appropriate to use a mobile phone because if it rings and is answered the time keeper is distracted and time may be missed which will impact on the match.



## Next Issue

The next issue of the Whistle Blower will be sent out on Book Night for the Winter 2017 season. This upcoming issue will include some rule clarifications, rule reminders and details of how to apply for a grading.

Don't forget to check out the Match Protocols uploaded on the Umpire Information page of the SAUNCA website which will help you with your understanding of the new rules and how they need to be applied.

Finally – we are NOT Suncorp SuperNetball. SAUCNA has not included tactical timeouts or rolling substitutions in our bylaws. Please do NOT allow these in our Association.

If you have any rules questions or items for the newsletter please contact Sandy Barker ([Sandra.barker@unisa.edu.au](mailto:Sandra.barker@unisa.edu.au))