

Club Code of Behaviour



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Drafted by	Trish Oliver	Approved Date	8 May 2016
Responsibility	Port Melbourne Netball Club	Review Date	8 May 2017

These policies have been designed to:

- help members understand what the processes and procedures are in various circumstances;
- ensure that our Club operates in an open and transparent fashion;
- create equal opportunity to all members;

These set of policies also help the volunteers on the committee to ensure the Club runs in a consistent and predictable manner over the years and as the committee members change.

Code of Behavior

In addition to Club policies, the Port Melbourne Netball Club has adopted Codes of Behaviour as prescribed in the Netball Victoria Member Protection Regulation and the Victorian Code of Conduct for Community Sport. Competition regulations are also in place. By being a member you agree to abide by:

- **Port Melbourne Netball Club policies:**
<http://www.portmelbournenetball.com/policies.html>
- **Netball Victoria Code of Conduct and other rules and regulations:**
<http://vic.netball.com.au/support/assoc/rules-regulations/>
- **Parkville Netball Bylaws:**
<http://parkvillenc.vic.netball.com.au/files/39543/files/By-Laws/Parkville%20ByLaws%2020151109.pdf>
- **Victorian Code of Conduct for Community Sport:**
<http://sport.vic.gov.au/make-sport-fair-and-drug-free/victorian-code-of-conduct-for-community-sport>

Where a Port Melbourne Netball Club member fails to comply with the above and, depending on the severity of the breach, the committee may take one or more the following actions:

1. Verbal warning
2. Written warning
3. Participation in an educative session relevant to the breach
4. Player suspension
5. Membership Termination

Official written warnings can be provided by Executive Committee, who will later inform General Committee Members. Two written warnings may be provided, following that, player suspension may be considered.

Player suspension and Membership Termination may only be determined by the Committee (Executive and General).

Any member of a team or parent that does not agree with a penalty or action of the Committee made under this policy may advise the Committee within 48 hours of the penalty or decision being made.

The Committee may then:

- Discuss the issue with the relevant team and make a decision regarding the matter.
- The Committee shall inform the party/is involved of their decision either verbally or in writing; or
- Have an informal meeting with the relevant party/is in order to discuss and resolve the dispute.

The Committee's decision is final.

All disciplinary matters will be dealt with by the committee in a confidential manner.

Parents Roles & Responsibilities

Before the game:

- You don't need to tell your child that winning doesn't matter because they know it has some meaning. Instead, help them to develop a healthy competitive attitude for trying hard and having fun.
- Tell your child to "go for it, give it your best shot and have fun".

During the game:

- Don't yell instructions at your child during the game. The coach has given them instructions and their teammates are also calling out to them; too much input is confusing.
- Cheer and acknowledge good play by both teams.
- Never criticise a mistake, only make motivational comments.
- Respect the decisions made by the officials. Your child will learn to respect authority by seeing you do the same.
- Accept the decision of where your child may play during that game. All participants will play in all positions during the season.

After the game:

- Thank the officials and the coach.
- Congratulate your child and their teammates on their efforts.
- Compliment individual players on good plays they made during the game.
- Focus on the way your child played rather than winning or losing.
- If your child is upset with losing, help them not to focus on the outcome.

During the car ride home:

- Point out a good play your child made during the game.
- Avoid criticising or correcting mistakes.
- Ask questions like:
 - Did you have fun?
 - Did you give it your best effort?
 - What did you learn from the game?

Dealing with coaches:

- Parents should avoid asking a coach to clarify a decision during the course of a game. Support the coach in public, in front of other parents and fans.
- If a parent wishes to seek clarification or have a discussion with a coach after the game, then the following guidelines should be applied:
 - Allow high emotions to subside before engaging in any discussion.
 - Listen.
 - Avoid interrupting.
 - Clarify the issue.
 - Obtain closure.
 - Leave the door open for future discussion.
- Parents should leave the coaching to the coaches. Players should be able to hear the coach's instructions, from coaches only, during play, half time and practice sessions.
- Parents should find opportunities to recognise the effort their child's coach puts into developing their children and the sport. Avoid speaking negatively about the coach, especially in front of your child.

Parent Code of Conduct:

- If your child is interested, encourage them to participate in the appropriate netball activity. However, if your child is not willing to participate, do not force him or her. Remember, children are involved in organised activity for their enjoyment, not yours.
- Focus upon your child's efforts and performance rather than the overall outcome of the event. This assists your child in setting realistic goals related to his/her ability by reducing the emphasis on winning.
- Teach your child that an honest effort is as important as victory, so that the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment.
- Encourage your child to always play according to the rules.

- Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a game.
- Remember that children learn best from example. Applaud good play by all players.
- If you disagree with an umpire or coach raise the issue through the appropriate channels rather than question their judgement and honesty in public.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse.
- Recognise and respect the value and importance of volunteer administrators, coaches and umpires. They give up their time and resources to provide recreational activities for players and deserve your support.
- Be a model of good sports behaviour for children to copy.
- Be courteous in communication with administrators, coaches, players and umpires. Teach children to do likewise.
- Support the use of age appropriate development activities and modified rules.