



**INCLUSIVE UNIFORM GUIDELINES
for
ASSOCIATIONS & CLUBS**

Adopted or Amended	By Whom	Date
Adopted	Board of Directors	15 November 2021

Acknowledgement

Netball NT acknowledges the work of Netball NSW in the area of Inclusive Uniform Guidelines with the basis of this document emanating from the work of Netball NSW.

Table of Contents

Purpose..... 3

Position Statement..... 3

Application 4

Players 4

Match Officials (Umpires)..... 6

Purpose

This document has been created to outline Netball NT's position on inclusive uniforms, providing clarity on acceptable team and umpiring uniforms in line with the [Rules of Netball \(2020 Edition\)](#). This document will provide guidance to Affiliated Associations and their Clubs in aligning their uniform policies with Netball NT's position in order to contribute to creating more welcoming and inclusive netball environments across the NT.

Position Statement

Netball NT believes that all participants should, as far as possible, be supported in wearing a uniform that allows them to participate in netball in the manner in which they feel most comfortable. Netball NT encourages all Member Associations their and Clubs to embrace adaptability and flexibility around uniforms in order to encourage continued participation and enjoyment in oursport.

Application – Players

WHAT THE RULES OF NETBALL SAY

5. MATCH PERSONNEL

5.1 TEAM

5.1.1 Players

- i. During a match players must wear:
 - a) Registered playing uniform and suitable sports footwear (spiked soles are not allowed).
 - b) Playing position initials 150 mm (6 in) high which must be clearly visible and worn above the waist, front and back.

- iv. Players may not wear anything that could endanger themselves or other players, specifically:
 - a) No adornment or jewellery may be worn other than a wedding ring which must be covered with tape
 - b) A medical alert bracelet may be worn provided it is covered with tape
 - c) Fingernails must be short and smooth
 - d) Hair must be suitably tied back

Note: The Rules of Netball do not indicate that the registered playing uniform must be a dress. The rules indicate that it must be the registered playing uniform. **A registered playing uniform is defined by the Club and approved by the competition organiser (the Association).** This means Clubs and Associations have the chance at the grassroots level to ensure uniforms are inclusive for everyone.

APPROACHING THE RULES IN AN INCLUSIVE WAY

- Allow individual players in each team to choose any combination of uniform items. However, Clubs and Associations should ensure that these items are of similar designs to create continuity of uniforms throughout the team and assist umpires to officiate the game, for example:
 - t-shirts, singlets or long sleeve t-shirts must be the same design as the top of the traditional playing dress;
 - t-shirts, singlets or long sleeve t-shirts must still be able to clearly display a playing positional bib;
 - the choice of bottoms must either include the same design as the dress/top or could be a designated block colour to match the uniform (i.e. black, royal blue, navy blue etc.);
 - head or face coverings should be a designated block colour to match the uniform (i.e. black, royal blue, navy blue etc.);
 - allow the wearing of skins/leggings as long as they are completely black, white or in a block colour to match the uniform;

- Uniforms must not present a genuine safety risk to the wearer or other players (i.e. open pockets, buttons or zippers).
- Players are not required to justify their choice of uniform, however, players may be required to provide information pertaining to items they wish to wear in order to allow the Club or Association to facilitate that uniform choice.
- Players may choose a uniform style that covers additional body surface including the legs, arms and/or head.
- It is perfectly acceptable for players to wear head coverings for religious reasons. Such head coverings must be:
 - made of soft material;
 - tight and non-flowing, edges must be held securely or tucked into the shirt;
 - not cover positional bib;
 - tied on or fastened by clips and non-sharp pins;
 - be all black, all white or team colours.
- Head coverings should be included as an item in a club's playing uniform for a competition.
- If jewellery is not able to be removed for religious / medical reasons, it is the player's choice to play with them, and this player accepts the risks involved.
- Jewellery which cannot be removed for religious / medical reasons should be covered with padding / tape as necessary to prevent injury to others. Jewellery or other items which cannot be securely covered or taped must be removed per the Rules of Netball.

Application - Match Officials (Umpires)

WHAT THE RULES OF NETBALL SAY

5. MATCH PERSONNEL

5.2 MATCH OFFICIALS

The match officials are two umpires and a reserve umpire.

- i. The match officials:
 - a) Wear clothing that is distinct from the teams' playing uniforms and suitable sports footwear.

Note: The Rules of Netball do not indicate that the uniform must be white. The rules indicate that the clothing must be distinct from the playing uniforms. In the same way that players should feel comfortable in their playing uniform, match officials should have the opportunity to choose a uniform they feel comfortable in.

APPROACHING THE RULES IN AN INCLUSIVE WAY

- Maintaining the white shirt or choosing another bright/florescent coloured top but allowing darker coloured skirts, skorts or shorts to be worn.
- Allowing all match officials regardless of gender identity, the choice of wearing shorts or long sport pants rather than a skirt.
- Allowing match officials who wish to cover additional body surfaces including the legs, arms and/or head for religious and / or cultural reasons, to do so by wearing garments (such as leggings, long sleeved shirts/ skins etc). Such additional garments should be in a block colour.
- It is perfectly acceptable for match officials to wear head coverings for religious reasons. Such head coverings must be:
 - made of soft material;
 - tight and non-flowing, edges must be held securely or tucked into the shirt
 - tied on or fastened by clips and non-sharp pins;
 - be all black, all white or match the officiating uniform colours;

