



2026 WINTER COMPETITION

INFORMATION PACK

CENTRAL VICTORIAN NETBALL ASSOCIATION INC.
A0126711Z

Contents

Definitions	3
Acknowledgement of Country	3
Commitment to Child Safety	3
Competition Information pack	4
Policies, Procedures, Codes of Conduct	4
1. Competition	5
1.1 Team Entries	5
1.2 Key Dates.....	5
1.3 Registration.....	6
1.5 Divisions and Sections	8
1.6 Male Participation	9
1.7 Game days and times	10
1.8 Grading.....	10
1.9 Extreme Weather.....	10
1.10 Borrowing (Fill-in) Players.....	11
1.11 Conduct of Games	11
1.12 Dress Code	11
1.13 Game Officials	11
1.14 Finals.....	12
1.15 Player Finals Qualification.....	13
1.16 Single Game Vouchers.....	13
1.17 Exemptions	13
1.18 Grievance and Dispute Resolution	13
2. Contacts	13
3. Calendar	14

Definitions

“Club” means a non-profit incorporated or unincorporated body or school which has an interest in netball and is affiliated with the Association.

“Constitution” means the joint agreement of the Association as amended from time to time.

“CVNA” means the Central Victorian Netball Association

“Entity Team” is a team which is not affiliated with a governing club in the competition.

“Member” is a person who pays a membership fee to the Association.

“NV” means Netball Victoria

“Regulations” means the Competition Regulations of the Association as amended from time to time.

“Information Pack” means the Competition Information pack (this document).

Acknowledgement of Country

The Central Victorian Netball Association (CVNA) respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of all the lands and waters that make up Central Victoria. We are proud to acknowledge the Dja Dja Wurrung people of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we train and play. We pay respect to their Elders past, present and future.

Commitment to Child Safety

Every person in the netball community has a responsibility to understand their role in ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people in our care. Central Victoria Netball Association is committed to promoting and protecting the rights of children and preventing abuse from occurring by fostering a culture where children feel safe and empowered. We also seek to ensure the cultural safety of First Nations children, children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds and children with a disability.

Competition Information pack

This information pack details operating procedures or rules specific to this competition and should be read in conjunction with the CVNA Competition regulations.

The Association's competition regulations provide the operating procedures (rules) that determine the conduct of the Association and its members during all competitions administered under the Central Victoria Netball Association. The regulations were amended **24 November 2025**.

The CVNA competition regulations are available on the [CVNA website](#).

Where there is a conflict between the regulations and the Competition Information Pack, the Competition Information Pack will take precedence. Where the Competition Information Pack is silent on a matter, the regulations shall apply.

The Association reserves the right to amend or introduce specific rules or regulations from time to time to support the objectives of maximum participation, inclusion, fairness, and the overall integrity of the competition. Any such amendment(s) will be communicated via email to Club / Entity team delegates.

Policies, Procedures, Codes of Conduct

All CVNA members including affiliates, staff, board members, volunteers, spectators, parents, players, coaches and officials agree to abide by all CVNA and Netball Victoria policies, procedures and codes of conduct.

CVNA has developed a range of documents that are available on the [CVNA website](#).

As an affiliated member of Netball Victoria (NV), where local policies or procedures have not been formally approved, we will adhere to the relevant policies and procedures established by Netball Victoria.

1. Competition

Commencing Wednesday 18 March 2026, the winter season will run for 19 weeks consisting of 16 rounds and 3 weeks of finals.

The competition will be held at the Central Victoria Netball Association courts, 91 Inglis Street, West Bendigo on Wednesday and Friday evenings as well as Saturday morning.

1.1 Team Entries

Club / entity teams are required to complete the 2026 Winter Competition Season Planning Form (Microsoft Forms Link below) by 2 March 2026 to assist CVNA with planning for the 2026 season. This form is for CVNA **planning only** and **does not** enter a team into the competition.

Team entry is a **two-step process**: first, clubs submit the *2026 Winter Competition Season Planning Form* outlining the teams they expect to enter and the divisions or sections they intend to nominate into. Then, once the Netball Connect registration portal opens on **19 January 2026**, CVNA will provide delegates with a link and instructions to complete the official team entry process and generate their club-specific player registration link. **Teams are only formally entered into the winter competition once this Netball Connect process is completed.**

Microsoft forms link - [2026 CVNA Winter Competition - Season Planning – Fill out form](#)

The following information will be required to complete the entry form.

- Delegate's name, email address and contact number.
- Name of team and division / section to be entered into.
- Declaration by Club delegate confirming that they hold the WWCC or VIT numbers and expiry dates of all coaches, team managers if applicable and team carers.

1.2 Key Dates

Date	Details
Friday 5 December 2025	2026 Winter Competition Season Planning Form Open
Monday 2 March 2026	2026 Winter Competition Season Planning Form Close
Monday 19 January 2026	Official Netball Connect Team Entries Open
Monday 2 March 2026	Official Netball Connect Team Entries Close

1.3 Registration

All players, coaches and umpires must have current Netball Victoria registration prior to the first game.

Any breach of this regulation may result in the players team being subject to a penalty of the loss of four (4) premiership points.

Player registration closes 30 June of the current playing year. Exemptions may be considered in exceptional circumstances.

All Clubs must have at least ONE registered user of Netball Connect to ensure access to the online registration portal and registration template setup area. Please contact CVNA to update your Netball Connect Portal contacts, if needed.

Once Netball Connect registrations open, CVNA will send all delegates a link and instructions on how to complete their Netball Connect setup and generate their club-specific registration link.

Please ensure that all players and coaches register through their CLUB /ENTITY TEAM link.

If a player has already registered with Netball Victoria for 2026, this charge will automatically be deducted at checkout. Please ensure all online payments are completed by players and coaches prior to the season commencing. It is the CLUB/ENTITY TEAM'S responsibility to ensure their players have current registration.

1.4 Competition Fees

Player fees cover the provision of umpires for all games, venue costs and administration overheads.

\$130.00 per person inc. GST

Payment in full is required prior to taking the court.

Netball Victoria registration fees

NETBALL VICTORIA 2026 MEMBERSHIPS

(valid from 1 January 2026 – 31 December 2026)

All members of an Affiliated Association must be registered with Netball Victoria under one of the following registration types. Players, coaches, umpires, or those with an on-court role must be registered under a Senior, Junior, All Abilities or NetSetGo registration type

CATEGORY	DEFINITION	PRICE
Senior	Players, Umpires, Coaches & Bench Officials Born on or before 31/12/2008 (18 years and over)	\$94.00
Junior	Players, Umpires, Coaches & Bench Officials Born between 01/01/2009 - 31/12/2019 (7-17 years)	\$73.00
All Abilities (AA)	Persons who have an intellectual disability or physical impairment	\$70.00
NetSetGo (NSG)	Those born on or after 01/01/2016 (5-10 years) Refers to the ALL participants in the Net Tier (Skills and Activities) as well as the Set and Go Tiers (modified competition). <i>Please note: This price is inclusive of the participant pack.</i>	\$99.00
Walking Netball	Players born on or before 31/01/2015 (11 years and over) and participating in a Walking Netball program or competition.	\$21.00
Off the Court	Committee Members, Administrators, Volunteers, Parents & Spectators (noting players, coaches, umpires, and bench officials must be a current Senior, Junior or All Abilities member)	\$50.00

Prices are inclusive of GST. Please note players 7 years of age and younger must register as a NetSetGo participant.

*Nationally the Woolworths NetSetGo program has undergone a refresh throughout 2025 which includes new Participant Packs for 2026. As a result of the changes, registrations will open for the NetSetGo Membership on 1 December 2025, to align with Netball Australia and other Member Organisations.

1.5 Divisions and Sections

The following divisions and sections are proposed.

As per the regulations the Association reserves the right to add and/or remove divisions and/or sections to suit the season's competition.

For the winter competition mixed teams above the 13&U age group must only have a maximum of 1 male on court at any one time. For more information refer to the male participation section.

Premier

Division	Section(s)	Gender(s)	Age requirements
18/U Div 1 & 2	TBD	Mixed	Recommended to be 12 years of age on the first day of competition. Must not turn 19 during the year of competition.
21/U	TBD	Mixed	Recommended to be age 16 years of age on the first day of competition. Must not turn 22 during the year of competition.

Competitive - 18 and Over

Division	Section(s)	Gender(s)	Age Requirements
18 & over	A, B, etc	Mixed	Recommended to be 16 years of age on the first day of competition.

Competitive - 18 and Under

Division	Section(s)	Gender(s)	Age Requirements
Div 3 & 4	A, B, etc	Mixed	Recommended to be 12 years of age on the first day of competition. Must not turn 19 during the year of competition.

Competitive - 13 and Under

Division	Section(s)	Male participation	Age Requirements
13/U	A, B, etc	The Association observes the Netball Victoria Gender Regulation regarding male – see male participation section.	Recommended to be 11 years of age on the first day of competition. Must not turn 14 during the year of competition.

Competitive – Grade 5/6

Division	Section(s)	Male participation	Age Requirements
Grade 5/6	A, B, etc	The Association observes the Netball Victoria Gender Regulation regarding male – see male participation section.	Must be a minimum age of 7 years on the first day of competition. Must not be in Year 7.

Non-competitive - Primary

As a guide for primary teams – Teams that have players from a mix of grades should register the team in the division where majority of players come from. For e.g. If you have 4 Grade 3's and 5 Grade 4's, register in Grade 4/5 competition.

Division	Section(s)	Male participation	Age Requirements
Grade 4/5	A, B, etc	The Association observes the Netball Victoria Gender Regulation regarding male participation – see below.	Must be a minimum 7 years of age on the first day of competition.
Grade 3/4	A, B, etc		
Grade 2/3	A, B, etc		

Where mandatory age requirements are required, participants must provide their date of birth at the time of registering. Failure to do so will result in ineligibility to participate in the Association's activities

Any breach may result in the players team being subject to a penalty of the loss of four (4) premiership points.

1.6 Male Participation

The Association observes the Netball Victoria Gender Regulation regarding male participation:

Males who are 13 years of age (and older) are not permitted to participate in a female competition. To avoid any doubt:

- a) males must be less than 13 years of age (actual age) as at the first day of the Competition, season or program; and
- b) males that turn 13 during that competition season or program will be permitted to participate for the duration of that competition season or program.

Where competitions are offered up to and including the 13&U age group

- a) there can be no restrictions applied based on gender.

For **mixed** competitions above the 13&U age group:

- a) The minimum number of males in a mixed team is zero, and
- b) A mixed team must only have a maximum of 1 male on court at any one time; and
- c) A male player may play in any third and occupy any position.

1.7 Game days and times

The following information is provided as a guide only. While competition days are unlikely to change, start and finish times will depend on the number of teams entered in each division / section.

Division / Section	Day	Approx Start / Finish time
Premier 18/Under – Divisions 1 & 2	Wednesday	5:30pm – 8:30pm
Premier 21/Under	Wednesday	5:30pm – 8:30pm
Competitive 18/Over	Wednesday	5:30pm – 8:30pm
Competitive 18/Under - Divisions 3 & 4	Friday	5:30pm – 8:30pm
Competitive 13/Under	Saturday	9:00am – 11:00am
Competitive Grade 5/6	Saturday	9:00am – 11:00am
Non-Competitive - Primary Grades 2/3, 3/4, 4/5	Saturday	11:00 am – 2:00pm
All Abilities	Saturday	1:00pm – 3:00pm

1.8 Grading

The Association's grading policy will set out the process to be used to evaluate, grade and re-grade all teams.

Grading policy available on the website.

Please note that the Association grading period is **not** to be used for Club grading. All Club grading **must** be completed prior to the start of the Association grading period.

1.9 Extreme Weather

The CVNA has developed an Extreme Weather Policy – available on the [CVNA website](#).

Teams will be provided with as much notice as practicable if games are to be delayed, or cancelled due to extreme weather (heat, thunderstorms, fire danger or air quality). Notifications will be sent to Netball Connect comms, emails and if possible social media.

1.10 Borrowing (Fill-in) Players

A player may only **register** and **play** for **one** club team or entity team within the CVNA winter competition.

Players are not allowed to play in a lower section or age group.

Players shall only be permitted to play in a higher section or age group or where a club fields multiple teams within the same section or age group, a player is eligible to participate in any of those teams.

A player may only represent one team per section or age group per round.

- Refer to competition regulations for further information regarding borrowing players including the number of fill-in games allowed, when games are counted, etc.

1.11 Conduct of Games

Premier Competition

All divisions will play 4 x 15-minute quarters with 2 minutes between quarters 1 and 2 and 3 and 4 and 3 minutes between quarters 2 and 3.

Extra time will not be played in the event of a drawn game during the rounds

Competitive Competition

All divisions will play 4 x 12-minute quarters with 2 minutes between quarters 1 and 2 and 3 and 4 and 3 minutes between quarters 2 and 3.

Extra time will not be played in the event of a drawn game during the rounds.

Primary – Non-Competitive

4 x 10-minute quarters with 2 minutes between quarters 1 and 2 and 3 and 4 and 3 minutes between quarters 2 and 3.

Extra time will not be played in the event of a drawn game during the rounds.

1.12 Dress Code

Jewellery and body piercings, including taped jewellery, **must not** be worn during association activities. Players will not be permitted to participate until all jewellery is removed. Exceptions will be made for taped wedding bands in the open age division. Medical exemption may be available **and can be applied for by emailing the administrative officer**.

- Refer to the competition regulations for further information regarding dress code.

1.13 Game Officials

A team must have a minimum of a Coach, Captain, Primary Carer and Scorer.

The Primary Carer must be off court, that is not playing and can't be the scorer.

Coaches must hold a minimum of foundation level coaching accreditation.

Valid Working with Children's checks must be held by all game officials if the team has players aged under 18.

- Refer to the competition regulations for further information regarding game officials and mandatory requirements.
- Details on how to complete the coaching accreditation can be found here: [Netball Learning Centre](#)

1.14 Finals

All competitive divisions will play finals. Please note that the start times of game may be different during finals. Three weeks of finals will be held.

At the end of the rounds the top four teams will participate in finals.

1st week - **Final 1** - Team 1 v Team 2 – Winner to Week 3 - Loser to Week 2.

 - **Final 2** - Team 3 v Team 4 – Winner to Week 2 - Loser eliminated.

2nd week - **Final 3** - Loser Final 1 vs Winner Final 2. Winner to Week 3. Loser eliminated.

3rd week - **Grand Final** - Winner Final 1 vs Winner Final 3

Game time

Premier Competition

4 x 15-minute quarters with 2 minutes between quarters 1 and 2 and 3 and 4 and 3 minutes between quarters 2 and 3.

Competitive Competitions

4 x 12-minute quarters with 2 minutes between quarters 1 and 2 and 3 and 4 and 3 minutes between quarters 2 and 3.

Extra time (all divisions)

If scores are level at the end of the game:

- An interval of 5 minutes at the end of full-time will be provided.
- Extra time will consist of 2 x 5-minute halves with a 1-minute interval between halves.
- Teams will change ends at half-time.
- The first centre pass in each half is taken by the team entitled to the next centre pass.
- In the event the scores remain tied at the end of extra time there will be a 1-minute interval.
- Teams will change ends.
- The centre pass is taken by the team entitled to the next centre pass.
- The game will continue* until one team leads by two goals.

*If deemed necessary the Board may provide further breaks to ensure player/umpire safety.

1.15 Player Finals Qualification

Players shall be permitted to play in one final – unless exceptional circumstances occur.

Players must qualify for finals by playing seven (7) matches in 7 different rounds with the Association prior to the finals rounds.

Games played within the grading period will count as qualifying games.

Players must play a minimum of four (4) games in a team throughout the season to qualify to compete in that team's finals.

Teams found playing an ineligible player during finals will be deemed to have lost that game.

1.16 Single Game Vouchers

Single Game Vouchers are available. This registration link is the same as the player registration link.

For assistance contact admin@cvna.com.au.

Maximum of three (3) single game vouchers per player and are not valid towards qualifying for finals.

1.17 Exemptions

Exemptions may be applied for by emailing admin@cvna.com.au.

1.18 Grievance and Dispute Resolution

Refer to the [Grievance and Dispute Resolution Policy and Procedure](#).

Complaints must be completed using the [Netball Victoria Schedule 2 Complaint form](#) and sent to admin@cvna.com.au or if the complaint is in relation to the administrative officer send to chair@cvna.com.au.

Child safety complaints should be sent to childSafety@cvna.com.au or if the complaint is in relation to the child safety officer send to chair@cvna.com.au.

If a child is in immediate danger call **000**.

2. Contacts

General information, exemptions – email admin@cvna.com.au Phone: 0490 849 857.

Match Day Coordinator - Phone 0438 636 464

3. Calendar

Round	Dates	Notes
1	Wed 18 th , Fri 20 th & Sat 21 st March	Grading
2	Wed 25 th , 27 th & 28 th March	Grading
NO GAMES	Wed 1 st , Fri 3 rd & Sat 4 th April	Easter
NO GAMES	Wed 8 th , Fri 10 th & Sat 11 th April	School Holidays
NO GAMES	Wed 15 th , Fri 17 th & Sat 18 th April	School Holidays
3	Wed 22 nd , Thu 23 rd & Fri 24 th April	Anzac Week – Saturday games split between Thu & Fri
4	Wed 29 th April, Fri 1 st May & Sat 2 nd May	
5	Wed 6 th , Fri 8 th & Sat 9 th May	Mother's Day – Pink Round
6	Wed 13 th , Fri 15 th & Sat 16 th May	
7	Wed 20 th , Fri 22 nd & Sat 23 rd May	
8	Wed 27 th , Fri 29 th & Sat 30 th May	
NO GAMES	Wed 3 rd , Fri 5 th & Sat 6 th June	King's Birthday
9	Wed 10 th , Fri 12 th & Sat 13 th June	
10	Wed 17 th , Fri 19 th & Sat 20 th June	
11	Wed 24 th , Fri 26 th & Sat 27 th June	
NO GAMES	Wed 1 st , Fri 3 rd & Sat 4 th July	School Holidays – middle week
12	Wed 8 th , Fri 10 th & Sat 11 th July	
13	Wed 15 th , Fri 17 th & Sat 18 th July	
14	Wed 22 nd , Fri 24 th & Sat 25 th July	
15	Wed 29 th , Fri 31 st July & Sat 1 st August	
16	Wed 5 th , Fri 7 th & Sat 8 th August	Last game for Unladdered

FINALS	
Final	Dates
Semi Finals	Wed 12 th , Fri 14 th & Sat 15 th August
Preliminary Finals	Wed 19 th , Fri 21 st & Sat 22 nd August
Grand Finals	Wed 26 th , Fri 28 th & Sat 29 th August