



# **Managers & Coaches Guide 2025**

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For further information on registration, club policies and uniforms visit [www.standrewsnetball.com.au](http://www.standrewsnetball.com.au)



## Key Season Dates

**Sat 29th March**  
Round 1!

**Sun 30th March**  
ERNA Gala Day

**Sat 3rd May**  
Volunteer Duty for St Andrews

**Sat 16th August**  
Volunteer BBQ Duty for St Andrews

### 2025 ERNA Calendar



	Meadowbank Park	Brush Farm
29 March	Round 1	Round 1
5 April	Round 2	Round 2
12 April (School Holidays)	Round 3	Round 3
19 April	Easter (School Holidays)	Easter (School Holidays)
26 April	ANZAC Day (School Holidays)	ANZAC Day (School Holidays)
3 May	Round 4	Round 4
10 May	Round 5	Round 5
17 May	Round 6	Round 6
24 May	Round 7	Round 7
31 May	Mid-Season Grading	Mid-Season Grading
7 June	NNSW Senior State Titles	NNSW Senior State Titles
14 June	Round 8	Round 8
21 June	Round 9	Round 9
28 June	Round 10	Round 10
5 July	NNSW Junior State Titles	NNSW Junior State Titles
12 July	School Holidays	School Holidays
19 July	School Holidays	School Holidays
26 July	Round 11	Round 11
2 August	Round 12	Round 12
9 August	Round 13	Round 13
16 August	Round 14	Round 14
23 August	Finals Round 1	Wet Weather Back-Up
30 August	Semi-Finals	n/a
6 September	Grand Finals	n/a
13 September	Wet Weather Back-Up	n/a

#### NOTES:

- Mid-Season Grading needs more than 1 week
- Associations are not allowed to play during NNSW Senior and Junior State Titles
- Clubs voted to play just the first weekend of a School Holidays (can't happen for July)
- Eight Team Divisions = 7 weeks for all teams to play the others, with some 7s with Byes

# WWCC & ERNA Registration

Compliance with the NSW Working with Children Check (WWCC) is a legal requirement for all Clubs, Associations, and individuals who work or volunteer in netball with children aged under 18 years.

St Andrews is required to register as an Employer with the Office of the Children's Guardian NSW. We must then obtain and verify, the WWC Number, Name and DOB of all persons working or volunteering with children under the age of 18 (unless under 18 years themselves in which case it's not a requirement).

## All Managers and Coaches need to send through a Working with Children Check (WWCC).

1. Go to <https://wwccheck.ocg.nsw.gov.au/Apply> to apply. Select *Volunteer* under Purpose of Check, and *Clubs* under Child Related Sector.
2. Then take that receipt (either on your phone or printed out) and your identity documents to a Service NSW centre.
3. Once you've been to a Service NSW Centre, send an email to [juniors@standrewsnetball.com.au](mailto:juniors@standrewsnetball.com.au) confirming your WWCC Number, DOB and Full Name.

Everyone also needs to be registered with ERNA for this season. If you are already registered as a player, you do not need to register again. To register as a volunteer go to <https://www.playhq.com/netball-australia/register/b87955>

*Both the WWCC and ERNA registrations are FREE for volunteers. Please help us ensure that our club remains compliant with both Legal and Association requirements.*



NSW Office of the Children's  
Guardian

23h · 🌐

We audited a junior league district because a club had incorrectly verified the Working with Children Check details of a barred coach. We found that 17 out of 18 of the clubs in the district were not compliant under the WWCC scheme. Following our contact, the club removed the barred worker and all 18 clubs registered as employers, verifying the WWCC details of staff and volunteers via the online portal.

Know what your organisation must do to be compliant:

[https://ocg.nsw.gov.au/working-children-check/wwcc-information-organisations/role-employer-working-children-check?utm\\_source=facebook&utm\\_medium=organic&utm\\_campaign=wwcc](https://ocg.nsw.gov.au/working-children-check/wwcc-information-organisations/role-employer-working-children-check?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=organic&utm_campaign=wwcc)

**17 out of 18 clubs  
within a district not  
compliant with  
WWCC obligations**



# Communication

## Club Communication

- We have WhatsApp groups for Managers and Coaches for regular communication with emails used less frequently throughout the season.
- We recommend that you set up a WhatsApp group or similar (there are lots of different apps available) to communicate with your teams. We're aware many have done this already, please contact Sasha if you need contact details for your team members.
- You will be asked to pass on information from the committee to your team as needed throughout the season.
- Please encourage players to come to you if they have any concerns and you can pass these concerns on to the committee.
- Players should be contacting managers if they are unable to attend training or games, and managers can pass this information on to coaches.
- If you have any questions or concerns throughout the season, please do not hesitate to contact any of the committee for advice or assistance. We cannot help if we do not know there is a problem!



## ERNA Communication

ERNA will not be sharing Weather announcements on Whatsapp or Facebook. All players are advised to download the PlayHQ app. Login using the same email address you used to register this season and you will automatically be following the teams you are registered in.

***Allow PlayHQ app notifications*** - You want to be alerted if your game is called off!





# Code of Conduct

At St Andrews, we follow both the Netball NSW Sports Code of Behaviour, and also our own guidelines and values. Details are below:

- Players, parents, spectators, coaches and umpires are to observe the Netball NSW Sports Code of Behaviour. Failure to observe the Code of Behaviour may result in the offending person(s) being brought before the Executive Committee for an explanation and possible disciplinary action.
- At St Andrews Netball Club there are a few important points that we expect all players, parents, spectators, coaches and umpires to abide by:
  - o Never talk back or criticise the umpires. They give up their time so you all can play.
  - o Never verbally abuse the other team. Bad sportsmanship is never accepted.
  - o Always support the players. Players are here to enjoy themselves, even if the game is lost, positive support is the best support.
  - o And the main focus is to have fun!

If you see any behaviour that does not meet these standards, or a parent or team member raises an issue with behaviour to you, please do let us know.

## Your Club Contacts:

Junior Coordinators:	Sasha & Kellie, <a href="mailto:juniors@standrewsnetball.com.au">juniors@standrewsnetball.com.au</a> , or use the Managers Whatsapp
Senior Coordinator:	Sarah, <a href="mailto:seniors@standrewsnetball.com.au">seniors@standrewsnetball.com.au</a> , or use the Managers Whatsapp
Coaching Coordinator:	Vanessa, <a href="mailto:coaching@standrewsnetball.com.au">coaching@standrewsnetball.com.au</a> , or use the Coaches Whatsapp
Umpires Convenor:	Sheree, <a href="mailto:umpiring@standrewsnetball.com.au">umpiring@standrewsnetball.com.au</a>
President:	Laura, <a href="mailto:president@standrewsnetball.com.au">president@standrewsnetball.com.au</a>

## Photographs/Filming

- Family and friends can photograph or film their own child/ren participating in netball games for personal use (NOT including use of social media) by notifying the opposing team manager of their intent to take photographs, film or images at the court and seeking explicit consent prior to the match commencing.
- Consent MUST be obtained via the opposing team manager if the imagery will include other players.
- Explicit consent must be obtained of the umpires prior to the game commencing.
- Explicit consent must also be obtained for use of images on social media unless a de identification process of other individuals in the captured footage/photography takes place.
- Consent may be withdrawn at any time, requiring an immediate cessation of photography, filming, or image activities including the removal of photography or video content on social media.



*Unless you have asked for explicit consent from the opposition and umpires.*

# Umpiring

*It takes 3 teams to make a game. Your team, the opposition... and TEAM WHITE!*

## How do umpire allocations work?

- For every St Andrews team that takes the court, we must provide an umpire. For us, that means umpires for 20 games each Saturday. An umpire will sign on for your team but be allocated to a different court (**neutral umpiring**). Your teams **do not** have to organise their own umpires – this is the responsibility of St Andrews Umpire Convenor, Sheree Napper.
- Generally speaking, you won't have St Andrews umpires on St Andrews games, unless there are multiple St Andrews teams in the same division or if a St Andrews umpire is covering an allocation for another club.
- Each club has an **Umpire Convenor** who is responsible for ensuring umpires are organised for each game. Many clubs also have **Umpire Mentors** who provide sideline support for developing umpires. In addition, **ERNA also has an Umpiring Committee** which oversees sign-ons and can offer courtside support where needed.
- Convenors are required to consider the skills, experience and qualifications of an umpire to determine if they are appropriate for the grade they are allocated to.
- **Umpire Development Program** (trainee umpires) - Meadowbank 8am timeslot 12<sup>th</sup> April – 24<sup>th</sup> May inclusive.
- **Umpire payments have been included in your Registration fees.** No further umpire payments are needed during the season.



**Not sure about a rule? Ask!**

**Sheree Napper - Umpire Convenor**  
0405 838 790

[umpiring@standrewsnetball.com.au](mailto:umpiring@standrewsnetball.com.au)

FB message your question



# Umpiring continued

## What can I expect from our umpires?

- It is reasonable to expect an umpire to:
  - o Be on time (for pre-game checks)
  - o Be dressed appropriately (club uniform or umpire uniform [white shirt, black/white skirt/shorts])
  - o Have the knowledge, focus and 'presence' to be able to maintain control of the game with **player safety** as the top priority.
  - o Engage professionally and politely with players, spectators and other personnel.
- It is not reasonable to expect an umpire to:
  - o know every single rule of netball (pass mark for Umpire Rules exam is 70%)
  - o make the 'right call' every time
  - o see and hear everything that is happening on court
  - o change what they are doing because you have told them to

## What umpires should expect from you:

- To support fair and safe play.
- To be spoken to respectfully at appropriate times
- To allow enough room for an umpire to safely move on the sidelines and goal lines

## Your words and actions matter:

- Yelling at, or about, an umpire is NEVER OK.
- It is also NOT OK to engage in a running commentary of criticism, even if it is not audible to the umpire. When we do this, we are showing our players and spectators that we are entitled to belittle, undermine and disrespect match officials and other human beings.
- Frustration is an inevitable part of sport (and life!). It is so vital that we hold ourselves to the highest standard of behaviour, and follow the correct protocol (described below) and work through issues respectfully, because...
  - o It's the right thing to do!
  - o But also.... It is totally impractical to engage in umpire abuse.
    - No umpire improves their performance when they have been yelled at or if they can hear critical comments as they try to focus on the game
    - No umpire starts making more calls in favour of the team that is being disrespectful.

***Grassroots competitions like ours is where umpires learn and develop. Every umpire has to start somewhere and they only get better with practice in a safe environment.***

## Handling Issues that arise during Games

SPEAK TO:	Issue	Appropriate Action
The Umpire(s)	<i>Simple rule clarity in-game (use sparingly!)</i>	<p>If a player wants a quick clarification of a ruling, they are able to ask the umpire politely and succinctly immediately after the infringement has been called without impacting the flow of the game or the umpire's ability to move on.</p> <p>Eg. A player called for obstruction might quickly clarify 'it was my arms first?' (seeking to understand if the obstruction call was because they started their defensive action before getting the correct distance, or whether the umpire had determined that the correct distance was never achieved).</p>
	<i>Elaborated rule clarity</i>	<p>The Team Captain (a coach/manager can escort) can approach the umpires at a quarter break to <i>ask a question about a rule</i>.</p> <p>If you are wanting to understand how a rule is being applied, or if you want to raise concerns about player behaviour etc, this needs to be framed as a rule clarification. You cannot simply approach an umpire and tell them to watch for something (You need to be more subtle!).</p> <p>Eg. "I have a question about the contact rule. I understand that players' arms may touch each other while going for the ball without interference. When does this cross the line and become contact?"            "As a defender, do I need to re-set my 3 feet if the shooter steps in?"</p>
ERNA Umpire Officials (Umpire/Physio Room)	<i>Umpire No-show</i>	<p>If you do not have 2 umpires at your court with 3 mins to go before game start time, send someone to the Umpire Room.</p>
	<i>Concerns about umpire performance/capability</i>	<p>If the attempt to clarify a rule leaves you with concerns that the umpires' knowledge is lacking <i>in a way that is going to significantly impact the game</i>, or if you believe the umpires are not able to control the game appropriately, send an adult to the Umpire Room (Physio room) and ask if an Official can come to the court (know your court!) to support as needed. They can also consult with relevant club to ensure umpire is supported in future.</p> <p>If you can see that an Umpire Mentor is present, please give them a chance to address concerns with the umpires before looking to report to ERNA Officials.</p>

## Handling Issues that arise during Games continued

SPEAK TO:	Issue	Appropriate Action
<b>ERNA Officials (Control Room)</b>	<i>Suspected 'illegal' player</i>	If you hold concerns that a team has an 'illegal' player (eg. not registered, borrowed from a higher team), you can check the scoresheet first to see if the player's name is listed as a registered team member or has been written in as a borrowed player. If concern persists, send an adult to ERNA 'Control Room' (upstairs) to report as soon as possible.
	<i>Uniform/ Adornment approval concerns</i>	If there is an opponent that is out of uniform or there is a concern about whether adornments have been given special approval for wear, first consult with the opposition (special approval should be confirmed in writing by ERNA). If not resolved, send an adult to ERNA 'Control Room' (upstairs) to report. Umpires are to check for finger nail length and adornments, but they are not responsible for giving waivers for players to wear alternate uniforms or wear adornments which are otherwise not permitted.
	<i>Inappropriate /unsafe behaviour on sideline (spectator/ general public)</i>	If you have any concerns about unsafe or inappropriate behaviour (eg. Intoxication, photography/filming without consent), send an adult to the ERNA Control Room.

### What if an issue is unresolved after the game?

Report your concerns to the Club. Coach/ Manager  Club Committee Member (President, Junior/Senior Team Coordinator)

ERNA has a Grievance and Dispute Resolution Policy which allows for formal complaints to be submitted electronically. In most cases, it is appropriate for the Club to submit the complaint, representing its member's experience/concerns. Complaints need to be submitted within 7 days of the incident occurring and must be sufficiently detailed to allow ERNA to investigate.

# Getting the best out of your Players

## Set your Expectations early.

- on attendance
- on behaviour expected at training and games
- on team communication

## Use Consistent Language.

- Ensure your team understand the netball terminology that you're using.
- Use the same phrases/directions during games as you do in training sessions

## Use Positive Reinforcement.

- Be specific ie. instead of "Nice work" say "Great drive".
- Set team goals that you can work towards that are not win/lose related.
- Call out positive behaviours, not just the results
- Encourage positive team talk between players, especially on court
- ***Try to ensure that all players leave the games with a positive takeaway.***



## Address Poor Behaviour Straight Away.

- Don't wait til the next training or game to call out bad behaviour.
- ***Support is always available! Involve the your team manager and/or parent to support you, post questions in the coaches Whatsapp chat or reach out to Vanessa directly.***
- If your player is on the receiving end, acknowledge it at the time and check they are ok. If they are the aggressor, use a rolling sub option if necessary to bring them off court and address the behaviour immediately.

## Forfeits

To play a Saturday game you must have 5 players from your team on the court. If you cannot provide 5 of your own team players, you must forfeit. To forfeit you must advise the Junior/Senior Coordinator via your manager chat as soon as possible but no later than 2.5 hours before the game begins.

When posting about your need to forfeit, please include your team number and your grade, as well as the team you are playing against and their team number..

If your message is not acknowledged on the Saturday, please call Laura on 0411 202 791 - keep calling her until she responds!

Please keep track of how many times your team forfeits. Teams are only able to forfeit twice throughout the season. If teams forfeit 3 or more times, they can be fined up to \$200.



## Wet Weather

Never assume the game is off unless it is confirmed by ERNA through one of these methods. When in doubt post in your Manager WhatsApp group to ask. Please note rain does not necessarily equal cancellation.

All players and parents should download the Netball HQ App. Log in using the same credentials you used for rego, and you will automatically be following registered your teams! Allow alerts - this is how ERNA will notify everyone of cancellations.





## Borrowing Players

If your team does not have the full 7 to play on court you may borrow players from another St Andrews Netball team. You may only borrow a player from a team below your grade (ie a team number higher than yours and a grade lower than yours (you cannot borrow from teams in your own grade). We will provide our managers with information as to which teams they can borrow from. Please advise us if you would prefer your details are not shared to another manager.

A borrowed player may only play up 2 games for any one grade, but can play a total of 4 games in a higher grade ie if they play in 12/4's, they can play 2 games in 12/2's and 2 games in 13/4's but they CANNOT play 3 games in 12/2's. This is a change from previous years. Please keep a record of which players have played up from your team.

### **Borrowing players' checklist:**

- Contact the manager before borrowing a player
- The player is from a lower grade
- The player has not played more than 4 times in any team other than their own, and not more than 2 games with your team.
- The player must bring her team list photo sheet when playing in the other team
- You must record the borrowed player on the score sheet in the allocated area under your team. You need to record name (as it appears on the team list), team number and grade.

Senior teams; you may borrow a junior player as long as she is 14 years of age or older.

Only borrow from teams from in grades and age groups **below your own.**

You can only borrow the same player twice.

Always check with the Player's Manager first.

Message in the Managers Chat as soon as you know you will need players

# Club Contacts

President: Laura Bosci, [president@standrewsnetball.com.au](mailto:president@standrewsnetball.com.au)  
Senior Coordinator: Sarah Gaunson, [seniors@standrewsnetball.com.au](mailto:seniors@standrewsnetball.com.au), or use the Managers Whatsapp  
Junior Coordinators: Sasha de Melo & Kellie Clarke, [juniors@standrewsnetball.com.au](mailto:juniors@standrewsnetball.com.au), or use the Managers Whatsapp  
Coaching Coordinator: Vanessa Fierens, [coaching@standrewsnetball.com.au](mailto:coaching@standrewsnetball.com.au), or use the Coaches Whatsapp  
Umpires Convenor: Sheree Napper, [umpiring@standrewsnetball.com.au](mailto:umpiring@standrewsnetball.com.au)  
Uniforms Coordinators: Tammy Partalu & Sarah Southgate, [uniforms@standrewsnetball.com.au](mailto:uniforms@standrewsnetball.com.au)

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