

Winter Competition Handbook 2025

Information – Rules – Policy

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OBJECTIVE

The objective of this document is to provide competition information, rules and policies for the Winter Netball Competition conducted annually by Mandurah Netball Association Inc.

TERMS USED

In this document, unless the contrary intention appears:

Association means Mandurah Netball Association Inc.

Association Development Officer or ADO means the person appointed to the role by the Association.

Association Umpire Development Officer or AUDO means the person appointed to the role by the Association.

Board Member means the Management Committee of the Association as determined by the Constitution.

Clearance means the approval of a Member moving from one Club to another after registration has occurred for the Winter Competition by the Club where that Member was first registered.

Club means any netball club or Entity Team affiliated and financial with the Association, and as otherwise defined in the **Rules of the Constitution**.

Constitution means the constitution of Mandurah Netball Association Inc.

De-register means removing a Member from the membership list of a Club or Association.

Division means a Graded group of teams who play against each other in the Winter Competition.

Entity Team means a single team entering the Winter Competition at the Association that is no affiliated with a Club.

Finals Match means any Match played during a Finals Round.

Finals Round means a week of finals competition such as the Semi, Preliminary and Grand Finals.

Fixtures means the list of scheduled Matches between teams for a Division of the Winter Competition.

Grade means the team nomination categories within the competition that are subsequently split into Divisions.

Grading means the process used by the Competition Committee to allocate Club teams into Divisions.

Grounds means the Thomson Street Netball Pavilion netball courts and associated facilities.

Junior means any Player who is under the age of 18 at 31st December of the current year.

Match means a game of netball played between two teams on a scheduled fixture date of the Winter Competition.

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Match Day means the day on which official Matches of the Association are played.

Member means an affiliated, financial member of the Association or Club, including Players, coaching and umpiring officials, volunteers, Clubs and Club members.

NetSetGo means Netball Australia's junior entry netball program available to 5-10-year-old Players and endorsed by Netball WA.

Netball WA means the incorporated association Netball WA (incorporated), the governing body of netball in Western Australia.

Player means a person who is a registered and financial Club member and who is eligible to play in the Winter Competition.

PlayHQ means the national netball database used for recording registrations and facilitating competition management.

Points means the scoring system applied for winning or drawing Matches during the Winter competition, with the total points gained during a season determining a team's relative position on the ladder.

Premiership means the winning of the Grand Final Match in any division.

Regular Season means any Rounds that take place prior to the Finals Rounds.

Round means a fixtured series of Matches where teams in a Division are scheduled to play, usually on a single day.

Rule of Netball means the World Netball Rules of Netball (2020 Edition).

Senior means any Player who is, or will be,18 years or older at the 31st December of the current year.

Single Game Voucher or SGV means a voucher purchased by an unregistered Player to enable them to play a Match at the Association.

Subcommittee or Subsidiary Position means a Subcommittee or Subsidiary Position as created or appointed by the management Committee of the Association as per **Rule/s of the Constitution**.

Transfer means the transfer of a Member's membership and data from one Club to another within PlayHQ for the purpose of participating in the Winter Competition.

Winter Competition means the winter netball competition run by Mandurah Netball Association.

Withdraw means to remove a Member from the team list of a Club.

World Netball means the worldwide governing body for netball, previously known as the International Federation or INF.

1 AFFILIATION

1.1 CLUB AFFILIATION

- a) All Clubs who enter teams into the Winter Competition must affiliate with the Association.
- b) Each Club affiliating with the Association shall be required to complete any affiliation documentation required by the Association, including Club Affiliation Agreement.
- c) All individuals participating in the Winter Competition with the Association, whether as a playing or non-playing member, must be affiliated via a Club or the Association to Netball WA.
- d) Affiliation fees may vary from year to year and between Clubs.
- e) Affiliation fees may be levied at multiple levels of administration, including by Netball Australia, Netball WA, the Association and Clubs.
- f) Affiliation will not be accepted from individual members who are non-financial with Clubs, the Association and/or Netball WA.

1.2 INDIVIDUAL MEMBER AFFILIATION

a) Player Registration

- (i) The registration of all Players, whether pre-season or after the commencement of the Winter Competition, must be made via PlayHQ, and can only be completed by the individual member, or their parent or guardian.
- (ii) Players must be registered in PlayHQ before they can be allocated to a team entered in the Winter Competition.
- (iii) Unless an exemption has been agreed to by the Association prior to registration occurring, Players must register into a competition in which they are eligible to participate, based on clauses 2.1 (a)(iii) and 7.1.

b) Late Registrations

- (i) Clubs shall notify the Association of the details of any Player requesting to be added to a nominated team after the closure of the team nomination period via email within seven (7) days of the change occurring. The changes must be submitted on the Team Registration Changes Form and include all details requested in the form.
- (ii) Each club's <u>Team Registration Changes Form</u> should be a working document, with subsequent changes to be added to the existing list in chronological order.
- (iii) Players registering after Round 5 of the Winter Competition may be eligible for a reduction in the Association portion of the player fees. Strict criteria will apply. Clubs must apply via email.
- (iv) All Players must be registered in PlayHQ, or otherwise have a valid Single Game Voucher prior to taking the court.
- (v) The Club is responsible for organising the addition of the Player to the team list, however, must notify the Association prior to doing so.

- c) Movement, Withdrawal, And De-Registration of Players
 - (i) After the submission of team nominations to the Association, Clubs shall notify the Association of the details of any Player:
 - (a) being moved between nominated teams, or;
 - (b) being Withdrawn from the Club's team lists, or;
 - (c) being De-registered from their Club;

via email within seven (7) days of the change occurring. The changes must be submitted on the <u>Team</u> <u>Registration Changes Form</u> and include all details requested in the form, including whether a refund is being sought.

- (ii) The movement of players between teams must comply with the eligibility rules in clause 7.1.
- (iii) Clubs are permitted to Withdraw a Player providing that the Player will not be taking any further part in the current Winter Competition as a Player.
- (iv) Clubs are permitted to De-register a Player providing that the Player has been Withdrawn and has not taken the court in any Matches if the current Winter Competition.
- (v) A Player cannot be De-registered if they have taken the court for training or Matches in that season, or if Netball WA's De-registration lock-out date has passed.
- (vi) Withdrawing or De-registering a Player or cancelling their registration in PlayHQ at the Club level, does not automatically qualify them for a refund of the Association or Netball WA fees.
 - (a) If a refund is sought, then a specific written request must be made to the Association that meets the requirements of the INSERT REFUND POLICY.
 - (b) If a refund request is not made correctly to the Association prior to Netball WA's De-registration lock-out date, then the Player is not entitled to a refund of the Netball WA fees.
 - (c) It is strongly recommended that Clubs set their Player registration form n PlayHQ to close prior to the lock-out date to ensure that they don't receive additional registrations that will not be eligible for De-registration and refund.

2 COMPETITION MANAGEMENT

2.1 WINTER COMPETITION STRUCTURE

- a) Competition Overview
 - (i) The Association will conduct a Winter Competition, to generally be run from late April or early May to September, with competition dates to be determined by the MNA Board.

- (ii) The Winter Competition will consist of the following competition:
 - (a) Open (Senior) competition
 - (b) 20U (Senior) competition
 - (c) Walking (Senior) competition (pending on team numbers)
 - (d) 17U (Junior) competition
 - (e) 15U (Junior) competition
 - (f) 13U (Junior) competition
 - (g) 12U (Junior) competition
 - (h) 11U (Junior) competition
 - (i) 10U (GO) competition
 - (j) 9U (SET) competition
 - (k) 8U (SET) competition
 - (I) 7U (SET) competition (pending team numbers)
- (iii) The following table details the Grades within competitions, with ages to be calculated at 31st December of the year of competition:

COMPETITION	GRADE	PRIMARY ELIGIBLE AGE	MINIMUM ELIGIBLE AGE	GENDER
OPEN	Senior	21 years or older	16 years	Female
21U	Senior	16 – 20 years	16 years	Female
*WALKING	Senior	16 years or older	16 years	Mixed
17U	Junior	17 & 16 years	13 years	Female
15U	Junior	15 & 14 years	12 years	Female
13U	Junior	13 years	11 years	Female
12U	Junior	12 years	11 years	Mixed
11U	Junior	11 years	11 years	Mixed
10U	NSG – Go	10 years	9 years	Mixed
9U	NSG – Set	9 years	9 years	Mixed
8U	NSG – Set	8 years	8 – 6 years	Mixed
*7U	NSG – Set	7 years	7 – 6 years	Mixed

^{*}If enough interest is obtained for this competition, it will be included in the 2024 Winter Competition.

b) Common Byes

- (i) There will be 3 common byes during the 2025 season:
 - (a) Fri Mon 30th & 31st May and 1st June (Fuel to go and Play Association Championships)
 - (b) Fri & Sat 20th & 21st June 2025 (South West & Peel Regional Championships)
 - (c) July school holidays 7th July 21st July

c) Division Structure

- (i) There will be a minimum of 8 teams per division where practical.
- (ii) The first mentioned team is the scoring team and the second mentioned team in the timing team (first two time slots on a Saturday only, all other games are centrally times).
- (iii) Points will be allocated for all Matches (excluding NSG Set and Go grades) on the following basis:
 - (a) 2 points for a win
 - (b) 1 point for a draw
 - (c) O points for a loss
 - (d) Goals for and against will be recorded
- (iv) Ladders will be kept in PlayHQ for each Division based on weekly Match results.
- (v) During the Regular Season, teams are ranked within the Division on points gained and percentage achieved (total goals scored divided by total goals scored against).
- (vi) Finals based on ladder positions attained in the Regular Season for Senior and Junior Divisions will be played as follows:

FINALS ROUND	MATCH NAME	TEAM 1	V	TEAM 2
1	Semi Final 1	Ladder position 1	V	Ladder position 2
	Semi Final 2	Ladder position 3	V	Ladder position 4
2	Prelim Final	Loser SF 1	٧	Winner SF 2
3	Grand Final	Winner SF 1	V	Winner PF

d) Association and Club Officials

- (i) To ensure a smooth-running competition, the Association will have Officials available on Match Days to resolve any issues that may arise.
- (ii) Officials can be contacted via the Association office. The following roles (and their delegates) are considered Match Day Officials:
 - (a) Competition Coordinator/Junior Coordinator
 - (b) Association Umpire Development Officer
 - (c) Association Development Officer
 - (d) All other Members of the Association Board, Committee, Umpire Committee and Administrator.
- (iii) Clubs are required to have at least one Club official available on Match Days to discuss any matters pertaining to the Club during the Winter Competition.

2.2 TEAM NOMINATIONS

- a) Clubs will be required to nominate teams for the Winter Competition via PlayHQ and in the manner prescribed by the Association.
- b) Each team must have a minimum of seven (7) Players and a maximum of twelve (12) Players.
- c) Clubs should supply reasons for their nominated Grade for each team, which can include a general description of the skills/ability of the overall team and an indication of Players lost or gained to the team since the previous Winter Competition and the anticipated impact.
- d) If a Club chooses not to submit reasoning when nominating a team, Grading will the at the absolute discretion of the Competition Committee.

2.3 GRADING

- a) Grading guidelines
 - (i) The Association completes it Grading of Divisions manually. The following guidelines are used by the Competitions Committee when they convene to Grade a competition:
 - (a) For Finals-eligible competitions:
 - (i) Teams are Graded on ability.
 - (ii) A team with five or more Players from the previous year in considered to constitute a returning team.
 - (iii) A returning team that won a Premiership the previous year or finished first on the ladder is considered with the view to being promoted up a Division.
 - (iv) A returning team that finished last in a division the previous season is considered with the view to dropping down a division.
 - (v) A returning team that finished between second and fifth in a division the previous season will usually remain as Graded the previous year.
 - (vi) Where variation to their guidelines is required due to changes in circumstances in the competition, such as team withdrawals within the Grade, or a drop in total team nominations, best efforts will be made to create competitive Divisions.
 - (b) For the GO competition:
 - (i) Grading based on ability and level of development may occur.
 - (ii) Teams with five or more Players from the previous year are considered to constitute a returning team.
 - (iii) For returning teams, points scored and position finished in Grade from the previous season may be used to assist in the Grading process.
 - (c) For the Set competition:
 - (i) Grading based on ability and level of development will only occur where it is expected that it will significantly impact Player enjoyment.
 - (ii) Grades of similarly aged teams will be the preference.
 - (iii) Divisions in the Set competition will be listed neutrally and without number, e.g. using colours etc.
 - (d) Where there is a team with Players that have mix of years of birth in the Junior or Go competitions: In general, the team will be Graded towards the bottom Divisions of the Oldest aged child.
 - (e) Once the initial Grading process has taken place:
 - (i) A full draft of the Grading will be circulated to Clubs.
 - (ii) It is a requirement that the draft Grading document is kept confidential and only made available to essential Club officials and not circulated to the Club membership.
 - (iii) Clubs are invited to view the draft Grading and provide any essential comments and feedback.
 - (iv) The feedback from Clubs will be taken into consideration as the Competition Committee reviews the Grading.
 - (f) Once the final Grading process has taken place:
 - (i) The final Grading will be circulated to Clubs.
 - (ii) Clubs will be advised of the Division timeslots.
 - (iii) No further feedback or requests will be accepted from Clubs.

b) Procedure For Clubs

- (i) Grading will be completed by the Association according to the Club rankings provided, which should be done using the following:
 - (a) Clubs must Grade their Players into teams according to ability.
 - (b) Clubs must rank and number their teams from strongest to weakest in each competition, for example:
 - (i) Club Open 1, Club Open 2, etc.
 - (ii) Club 20U 1, Club 20U 2, etc.
 - (iii) Club 17U 1, Club 17U 2, etc.
 - (c) Clubs must nominate the Division into which they would like each team Graded, for example:
 - (i) Club Open 1 Open Div 1
 - (ii) Club 20U 1 20U Div 2
 - (iii) Club 17U 1 17U Div 3
 - (d) When Grading Set and Go teams:
 - (i) Clubs should be mindful of these competitions being introductory.
 - (ii) Teams may be loosely Graded based on the level of development.
 - (iii) Clubs should be aware of the different levels of development and growth in these age groups.
 - (iv) Clubs should consider placing Players into teams in these competitions to encourage enjoyment and continued participation.
- (ii) Clubs are required to nominate a Club Grading Contact who will be the immediate contact for any Grading or team queries during the Grading period for the Winter Competition. The Club Grading Contact needs to be available by phone during the Grading period and be able to give a quick response to any queries from the Competition Committee.

2.4 WITHDRAWL OF A TEAM

The withdrawal of a team from the Winter Competition is managed by the <u>Team Withdrawal Policy</u>.

2.5 INSURANCE

- a) Membership with Netball WA includes cover under the Netball Australia National Insurance Program. This is handled by Howden Group as the insurance broker.
- b) Registration via PlayHQ and full payment of fees is required for the insurance coverage to be engaged for individual members.
- c) Players who are not Members can obtain insurance for individual games, as managed by the <u>Single Game Voucher Policy</u>.
- d) Clubs are covered for public liability insurance through the Netball Australia National Insurance Program.
- e) If an injury or accident occurs to a Member or individual using a Single Game Voucher, they should report to the First Aid room so the injury can be assessed and recorded for insurance purposes. If an injury occurs that is not reported to First Aid, it may not be possible to verify the claim.
- f) More information on the products and coverage available under the Netball Australia National Insurance Program is available on the <u>Howden Group website</u>.

2.6 MATCH TIMES

- a) All Matches in the Winter Competition will be played on:
 - (i) Friday NetSetGo 8U & 9U
 - (ii) Saturday 17U 10U
 - (iii) Monday Open, 20U and Walking Netball
 - (iv) Unless otherwise specified by the Association, such as rescheduled Matches.
- b) Except in the case of rescheduled Matches, all Matches will be played across the following time slots at the Association during the Winter Competition:

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	MONDAY
4.:15pm	8:00am	6:15pm
5:05pm	9:25am	7:30pm
	10:50am	8:45pm
	12:15pm	
	1:25pm	
	2:35pm	
	3:45pm	

c) Times for all Finals Round Matches will be specified by the Association and sent out to Clubs.

2.7 CHANGES TO MATCHES

- a) Forfeits
 - (i) Matches may be forfeited by Clubs.
 - (ii) Matches may be forfeited where a breach of a rule or policy of the Association incurs a forfeit as the penalty.
 - (iii) Any team intending to forfeit a Match must have a Club Official contact the Association by email no later than:
 - a) Friday afternoon games no later than 12pm Friday before the fixtured match.
 - b) Saturday games no later than 24 hours before the fixtured match.
 - c) Monday night games no later than 12pm on Monday before the fixtured match.
 - (iv) Should a team forfeit a Match within above listed time frames of the fixtured Match this will be deemed a late forfeit, and the Club will be responsible for all Match costs.
 - (v) In the event of a team forfeiting two or more Matches in the same season, the Club shall show cause to the Association for each forfeiture.
 - (vi) In the event of a forfeit, the following rules shall apply to Junior and Senior Division Matches:
 - (a) To the non-forfeiting teams:
 - (i) Two points shall be awarded;
 - (ii) Twenty (30) goals shall be credited, and
 - (iii) All Players on the team list will be deemed as having played the Match.
 - (b) To the forfeiting team:
 - (i) No points shall be awarded;
 - (ii) No goals shall be credited, and;
 - (iii) No Players on the team will be listed as having played the Match.

(vii) For forfeits in a Set or Go Division:

- (a) To the non-forfeiting team:
 - (i) Two points shall be awarded;
 - (ii) No goals shall be credited, and;
 - (iii) All Players on the team list will be deemed as having played the Match.
- (a) To the forfeiting team:
 - (iv) No points shall be awarded;
 - (v) No goals shall be credited, and.
 - (vi) No Players on the team list will be deemed as having played the Match.

(viii) As it relates to umpiring:

- (a) Where Clubs provide their own umpires for their Matches, it is each Club's responsibility to inform their own umpire of the forfeit.
- (b) Where a different Club is scheduled to umpire the Match, the Association will inform the Club's scheduled to supply the umpire.
- (ix) In the event of a team in a Junior or Senior Division forfeiting after the commencement of a Match, including as the result of breach of a rule or policy, the result will be recorded as:
 - (a) The score on the scorecard, or;
 - (b) A thirty to nil score line.
 - (c) whichever is greater, in favor of the non-forfeiting team.

b) Cancellations

- (i) The Association may cancel Matches.
- (ii) The cancellation of Matches due to adverse weather is managed by the Adverse Weather Policy.
- (iii) The cancellation of Matches for any other reason is at the discretion of the Association.
- (iv) Where a Match has been cancelled, the Association will determine how the results of the Match will be recorded for the purpose of ladder positions, with the aim of ensuring equity across all Matches in a Grade.

c) Postponements & Rescheduling

- (i) The Association may postpone or reschedule Matches.
- (ii) Clubs may seek permission from the Association to postpone or reschedule Matches.
- (iii) Where a Club wishes to postpone or reschedule a Match during the Winter Season:
 - (a) The Club must approach the opposition Club to seek an agreement to change the date and time of the Match.
 - (b) The Match must be played at the Grounds unless otherwise permitted by the Association.
 - (c) Unless otherwise agreed by the Association, the rescheduled Match must take place in the week either directly before or after the originally scheduled playing date.

- (iv) If a rescheduled Match is agreed to by the opposition Club:
 - (a) The requesting Club must apply to the Association for approval for the Match to be played at the agreed date, time and location (if not the Grounds).
 - (b) Each team must provide an appropriate umpire, scorer and timer for the Match.
 - (c) The first team named shall score, and the second named team shall time.
 - (d) The scoring team is responsible for collecting the scorecard from the Association office, and which must be arranged with the Association.
 - (e) The winning team, or, in the event of a draw, the first named team, is responsible for communication the result to the office within 24 hours, including a clear and legible photograph of the scorecard and results, and returning the scorecard to the Association during the next Match Day.
- (v) The Association reserves the right to refuse a request to reschedule a Match if it is felt that doing so would be detrimental to the Winter Competition or is not being arranged in good faith.
- (vi) If the opposition team does not agree to reschedule the Match, then the requesting team must either play the Match at the originally scheduled time or forfeit the Match.

d) Replays

- (i) The Association may require a replay of a Match.
- (ii) In all cases where a replay of any Match is necessary, such replay shall be regarded as a new Match and any Players eligible to play in the teams concerned may be included, irrespective of whether the Player was included in the team on the day on which the original Match was played.

e) Mutual Abandonment

- (i) If teams agree during, or prior to the commencement of, a Match to a mutual abandonment, then the Match shall be recorded as a nil all draw.
- (ii) Unless both teams mutually agree to abandon the Match, it becomes the responsibility of one of the teams to forfeit the Match.
- (iii) Where teams agree to the mutual abandonment of a Match on the day of the Match, the captain (or equivalent representative) of each team, along with a representative from each Club, must jointly attend the Association office to inform the Association.
- (iv) Where teams agree to the mutual abandonment of a Match prior to the day of the Match, both Clubs involved must contact the Association in writing.

2.8 FIRST AID

- a) The Association aims to have First Aid services available during each Match Day in the First Aid room.
- b) Charges may apply for consumables.
- c) All Members and participants using a Single Game Voucher requiring First Aid should attend the First Aid room to ensure that the injury is recorded correctly for any later claim on insurance.
- d) Ice is available from the MNA Office on request.
- e) The wheelchair can be collected from the First Aid room for the purpose of transporting an injured participant to the First Aid room for treatment.

2.9 UMPIRES

a) Umpiring Procedures

- (i) For all Winter Competition Matches, Clubs shall be required to supply umpires based on the structure of the allocation provided by the Association.
- (ii) Umpires should be registered to their Club or Association via PlayHQ.
- (iii) During the Regular Season, all teams are required to provide one umpire for each Match Day in which they are scheduled to play.
- (iv) For all teams participating in the Junior and NetSetGo competitions:
 - (a) Each team is required to provide an umpire for their own Match unless otherwise notified by the Association.
 - (b) The coach of a team is not permitted to umpire that team unless authorised by the Association prior to the Match.
 - (c) A failure to supply an umpire for a Match will result in the relevant team being deducted two (2) Points and their Club issued with a \$60 fine (to cover Match costs).
 - (d) Umpires for the Set tiers should be suitably experienced adult umpires. If the umpire is under 18 years, written approval to umpire this grade must be obtained from the AUDO.
 - (e) Umpires for the Go tiers will preferably be an experienced umpire. Learning umpires may umpire these Grades, but they must be suitably supervised by an umpire coach.
- (v) For all teams participating in the Senior competition:
 - (a) Each team is required to supply one umpire for their own Match unless otherwise notified by the Association.
 - (b) A failure to supply an umpire for a Match will result in the relevant team being deducted two (2) Points and their Club issued with a \$60 fine (to cover Match costs).

b) Umpiring Responsibilities

- (i) Clubs are responsible for:
 - (a) The supervision of inexperienced umpires, and;
 - (b) Allocating Matches suitable to the umpires' level of experience.
- (ii) Clubs are required to accept the Association Umpire Squad, White Shirt, Green Shirt, and other Association-allocated umpires on Matches as and when advised by the AUDO or Association.
- (iii) Umpire uniform requirements as managed via the Uniform Policy.
- (iv) The AUDO or Association may request the Clubs communicate with one or more of their umpires in relation to suitable umpire attire if it becomes an area of concern.

c) Umpire Fee Structure

- (i) An umpiring payment guideline has been produced by the Association for use by Clubs.
- (ii) The Association requests the Clubs seriously consider applying the guidelines.

PROGRAM	ACCREDITATION LEVEL OF UMPIRE	RATE
Umpire Matches	Club no accreditation	\$15 - \$25
	Reserve	\$10.00
	C Badge	\$30.00
	B Badge	\$35.00
	A Badge	\$40.00

3 GROUNDS AND FACILITIES

3.1 GENERAL ADMISSION

a) Fundraising

Each club is permitted only one fundraising event on the MNA premises per season. Approval of the event is to be made through the Association Administrator at least two (2) weeks prior to the proposed date.

b) Dogs at The Grounds

- (i) Dogs at the Association have caused tripping hazards both on the side of the court and by entering the field of play during Matches and Club training.
- (ii) The Association requests that Clubs strongly urge their members to not bring their dogs to activities at the Grounds.
- (iii) The City of Mandurah requires that dogs are kept on a leash at all times at the Thomson Street Netball Pavilion. All dogs that are brought to the Grounds must be kept on a leash at all times during competition and other Association activities.
- (iv) No dogs are permitted between the sidelines of the courts.
- (v) No dogs are permitted within three meters of the goal line of the courts or between the goal lines of two adjacent courts.

c) Bikes, Scooters and Skateboards

The Association requests that Members do not use skateboards, scooters, rollerblades, and other micromobility devices (e-scooters etc) at the grounds.

d) Chairs

- (i) The Association does not permit chairs, stools, prams, or wheelchairs to be placed or used between the sidelines or within three metres of the goal lines of the courts.
- (ii) Members and spectators may be asked to move these items to a safer position by an umpire or Match Day Official.
- (iii) Any team official requiring wheelchair access to the team bench should contact the Association to discuss appropriate management.

e) Litter

- (i) The Association provides bins for general rubbish and recycling around the Grounds.
- (ii) All Members and other visitors to the Grounds are expected to dispose of all rubbish appropriately.

f) Sunscreen

The Association aims to make sunscreen available at the Match office window during Association competitions and events.

g) Ball Pump

(i) An electric ball pump is available for use on the table outside the Match office window.

(ii) It is not recommended for use by persons under the age of 13 years old, and the Association asks that children using the electric pump are supervised by an adult.

h) EFTPOS

- (i) EFTPOS is available in the canteen.
- (ii) Fees may apply for payments made via EFTPOS.
- (iii) No cash withdrawals are available.

3.2 MATCH DAY AND COURT SPECIFICATIONS

a) The Ball

- (i) Each team is to provide a ball for the Match.
- (ii) The Match ball should be checked by the umpire before play commences.
- (iii) Set and Go Matched should be played with a size 4 ball.
- (iv) All other Matches to be played with a size 5 ball.

b) The Court

- (i) Should there be any concerns over the surface of a court, please advise the Association immediately.
- (ii) Brooms and court sweepers may be made available from the main equipment shed, where suitable to sweep debris and water from the playing area:
 - (a) These items must be returned to the designated position following use.
 - (b) The items should not be used on a court where a Match is in progress.
 - (c) There items should not be used in a manner that risks damaging the court surface.
- (iii) Members and spectators are asked to refrain from weeping debris or water onto the court surrounds that are used by the umpires.

c) The Goal Post and Net

- (i) Should there be any concerns over the goal posts or nets, please advise the Association immediately.
- (ii) For the safety of all participants, goals posts padding is required on all courts during Matches.
- (iii) Goal post pads are located in the shed next to the change rooms.
- (iv) The first teams to use a court on a Match Day will be required to collect goal post pads and ensure they are fitted on both goal posts prior to the commencement of the Match.
- (v) The teams playing last on each court should each return one goal post pad to the shed at the end of the Match.

d) The Sidelines

- (i) Spectators on courts 1-6 are requested to view the Match from the ends of each court and keep clear of the blue area surrounding the court.
- (ii) Spectators on courts 7 10 are requested to view games from the sideline and the end of each court allowing sufficient room for umpires to move through.
- (iii) No spectator may view from a position along the sideline of two adjacent courts or the goal line of two adjacent courts.

(iv) Umpires, Association Officials, and Club officials may request that spectators move to another area to spectate if they believe that the spectator's current location is an impediment to the umpires or the Match play.

e) The Adjustable Goal Posts

- (i) Goal posts are to be adjusted to the lower height for Grades 9U and 8U.
- (ii) The poles can be adjusted by the teams playing on those courts.
- (iii) If assistance is required to adjust the post, see someone at the Match office for assistance.

4 CODES OF BEHAVIOUR AND COMPLAINTS HANDLING

4.1 CODES OF BEHAVIOUR

- a) The Association has <u>Codes of Conduct</u> that apply to all Members and spectators, including when playing, training, or taking part in any Association-sanctioned activities.
- b) Clubs are expected to ensure that their Members and spectators display appropriate behavior on Match Days throughout the Winter Competition.
- c) All Members are expected to display appropriate behavior on social media in relation to Mandurah Netball Association, its competitions, and its Members.
- d) The Association's Codes of Conduct can be found on the website.

4.2 COMPLAINT AND DISPUTE MANAGEMENT

- a) Complaint And Dispute Management
 - (i) Disputes between Members that are not competition-related shall be dealt with under **Constitution Part 5, Division 3**.
 - (ii) Complaints relating to competition-related offences and disputes shall be dealt with under the Competition Related Offences and Disputes Policy.
 - (iii) Complaints that come under any topic covered by Netball Australia's Member Protection Policy shall be dealt with under that policy.
 - (iv) Any other complaints or disputes will be dealt with under the most relevant policy.

b) Member Protection Information Officer

(i) The Association has a Member Protection Information Officer who may be available to assist Members with navigating the complaints handling process.

5 HEALTH AND SAFFTY

5.1 WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECKS

- a) The Association complies with its obligations under the Working with Childrens Act 2004 (WA).
- b) Clubs are required to comply with the relevant requirements under the Working with Childrens Act 2004 (WA).

5.2 ALCOHOL AND ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES

- a) No alcohol is permitted at the Grounds, unless under circumstances compliant with requirements under the Liquor Control Act 1988 (WA).
- b) No illegal substances are permitted during netball activities at the Grounds.
- c) No player may take the court whilst under the influence of alcohol or any illegal substance.
- d) No person may participate, or act in any official capacity, with any Club, or represent the Association, whilst under the influence of alcohol or any illegal substance.
- e) Players or officials suspected of acting under the influence of alcohol or any illegal substance will be asked to leave the Grounds immediately.

5.3 SMOKING AND VAPING

- a) In alignment with Netball WA, the Grounds are a smoke and vape free zone.
- b) Smoking and vaping are only permitted outside the perimeter fence at a distance of at least 5 meters.
- c) Members and spectators may be asked to move if they are smoking or vaping anywhere on the Grounds or within the restricted zone.

5.4 INTEGRITY FRAMEWORK POLICIES

- a) The Association and Clubs have obligations to protect and maintain the integrity of netball, as well as the health and wellbeing of athletes.
- b) All members are required to abide by all Netball Australia policies relating to integrity in netball, including, but not limited to:
 - (i) Integrity in Netball Framework;
 - (ii) National Policy on Match Fixing in Netball;
 - (iii) Australian National Anti-Doping Policy.

5.5 NETBALL AUSTRALIA'S MEMBER PROTECTION POLICY

- a) All Members are required to abide by the Netball Australia Member Protection Policy.
- b) Members can contact the Association if they need assistance from the Member Protection Information Officers.

6 AWARDS

6.1 SERVICE AWARDS

- a) Development Coach of the Year
 - (i) Development Coach of the Year may be presented annually to a coach involved with the MNA Development Program.
 - (ii) This award is presented at the Development Awards Dinner.
 - (iii) Criteria for this award is determined by the ADO and presented to the most outstanding coach in the development program for that year.

b) Squad Umpire of the Year

- (i) Squad Umpire of the Year may be presented annually to an umpire who is part of the MNA Umpire Squad.
- (ii) This award is presented at the Development Awards Dinner.
- (iii) Criteria for this award is determined by the AUDO and presented to the most outstanding umpire in the MNA Umpire Squad for that year

c) MNA Coaching Achievement Award

(i) MNA Coaching achievement awards may be presented annually to all grand-final-winning Association Development Team coaches.

d) Club Coach of the Year

- (i) The Club Coach of the Year award may be presented annually to a Club coach who is nominated by their Club and meets the criteria for nomination.
- (ii) Criteria for this award is determined by the ADO and set out on the nomination form.
- (iii) Clubs can nominate a coach by completing the Club Coach of the Year nomination form and submitting it to the ADO by the due date.

e) Olive Barker Volunteer of the Year

- (i) The Olive Barker Volunteer of the Year award may be presented annually to a volunteer involved with MNA or a Club.
- (ii) Criteria for this award is determined by MNA and set out on the nomination form.
- (iii) Clubs can nominate a volunteer by completing the Olive Barker Volunteer of the Year nomination form and submitting it to MNA Administration by the due date.

f) Robyn Whitfield Umpire of the Year

- (i) The Robyn Whitfield Umpire of the Year may be presented annually to an umpire involved with an MNA or one of its Clubs.
- (ii) Criteria for this award is determined by the AUDO and presented to the most outstanding umpire from MNA for that year.

g) Green Shirt Umpire of the Year

- (i) The Green Shirt Umpire of the Year may be presented annually to an umpire from the Green Shirt Program.
- (ii) Criteria for this award is determined by the AUDO and presented to the most outstanding umpire from the MNA Green Shirt Program for that year.

6.2 COMPETITION AWARDS

- a) Open Divisions Premierships
 - (i) The team that wins the Grand Final Match in each Open competition Division will receive medals inscribed with the Division and year for each Player on the team.

- (ii) The team that loses the Grand Finals Match in each Open Competition Division will receive medals inscribed with the Division and year for each Player on the team.
- (iii) One player from each Grand Final Match in each Open competition Division will receive a Most Valuable Player medal. This award is determined by the Umpires of that Grand Final Match.
- (iv) These are presented following the Grand Final of each division.

b) 21U Division Premierships

- (i) The team that wins the Grand Final Match in each 21U competition Division will receive medals inscribed with the Division and year for each Player on the team.
- (ii) The team that loses the Grand Finals Match in each 21U Competition Division will receive medals inscribed with the Division and year for each Player on the team.
- (iii) One player from each Grand Final Match in each 21U competition Division will receive a Most Valuable Player medal. This award is determined by the Umpires of that Grand Final Match.
- (iv) These are presented following the Grand Final of each division.

c) Junior Division Premierships 17U – 12U

- (i) The team that wins the Grand Final Match in each Junior 17U 12U competition Division will receive medals inscribed with the Division and year for each Player on the team.
- (ii) The team that loses the Grand Finals Match in each Junior 17U 12U Competition Division will receive medals inscribed with the Division and year for each Player on the team.
- (iii) One player from each Grand Final Match in each Junior 17U 12U competition Division will receive a Most Valuable Player medal. This award is determined by the Umpires of that Grand Final Match.
- (iv) These are presented following the Grand Final of each division.

d) Junior Division 11U & NetSetGo 10U – 8U

- (i) Players in Junior 11U and NetSetGo 10U 8U competitions will be present with a medal and small gift from the Association.
- (ii) Presentations will occur after each time slot on the last day of Matches for these Divisions.

e) Umpire Medals

- (i) Medals are presented to the umpires of each Grand Final Match inscribed with the division and year.
- (ii) These medals are presented following the Grand Final for each Division.

f) Coaches Medals

(i) Additional medals may be presented to coaches of the winning and losing teams of Grand Final Matches in Open, 21U and Junior Divisions 17U – 12U, provided that each coach is correctly registered as a coach in PlayHQ and allocated to that team prior to the cut-off date specified by the Association.

7 COMPETITION RULES - REGULAR SEASON

7.1 GENERAL PLAYER ELIGIBILITY RULES

- a) Player Eligibility
 - (i) All players must either be registered as a Player in PlayHQ with a Club or playing on a Single Game voucher, as well as being listed on the team list on the score card, to be eligible to take the court in Matches in the Winter Competition.
 - (ii) In addition to clause 7.1 (a) (i), the following Player eligibility rules apply to the Winter Competition:
 - (a) Open competition:
 - (i) Intended as the preeminent open-age competition at the Association.
 - (ii) The primary age of eligibility is turning 21 years or older in the year of the competition.
 - (iii) The minimum age of eligibility is turning (at least) 16 years of age during the year of competition.
 - (iv) Male players are not eligible for this competition.
 - (b) 20U competition:
 - (i) Intended as a continuance of the pathway from the 17U competition for Players who may not be ready for the Open competition.
 - (ii) The primary age of eligibility is turning (16) 20 years of age in the year of competition.
 - (iii) The minimum age of eligibility is turning (at least) 16 years of age during the year of competition.
 - (iv) Players must not turn 20 or older in the year of competition. They can be turning 20.
 - (v) Male Players are not eligible for this competition.
 - (c) Junior competition:
 - (i) This competition is split into Divisions based on year of birth, with the ages of eligibility being:
 - 17U: turning no older than 17 years
 - 15U: turning no older than 15 years
 - 13U: turning no older than 13 years
 - 12U: turning no older than 12 years
 - 11U: turning no older than 11 years
 - (ii) Players must be turning at least 10 to participate in a Junior competition Division.
 - (iii) Players who are turning 10 years of age during the year of competition are not eligible for any Junior competition other than 11U.
 - (iv) 11U and 12U Divisions are gender-neutral competitions.
 - (v) 17U, 15U and 13U are female-only competitions.
 - (vi) Registered Male players who are eligible to participate in the 12U and 11U Divisions may play up into the female-only Divisions of the Junior competition.
 - (vii) Registered Male Players who are turning 13 or older are not eligible to play in any female-only Divisions or competitions in the Winter Competition.
 - (d) 10U and 9U (GO) competition:
 - (i) Players must be turning 9 or 10 in the year of competition.
 - (ii) This is a gender-neutral competition.

(e) 8U (SET) competition:

- (i) Players must be turning (7) 8 in the year of competition.
- (ii) This is a gender-neutral competition

(iii) Exemptions:

Clubs may seek exemptions for Players to participate in Divisions in which they are not eligible according to clause 7.1 (a), in accordance with the Exemptions Policy.

b) Players Playing Up

- (i) Players may play for their Club teams in a higher Grade, Division or competition during the Winter Competition where they are eligible to participate.
- (ii) The fill-in Player must not enhance the performance of a team to such an extent that they influence the outcome of a Match.
- (iii) It is the Club's responsibility to select suitable fill-ins from its available eligible Players.
- (iv) Players may play for their Club teams in a higher Grade, Division or competition during the Winter Competition no more than **four** times in that season during non-Finals Matches, however noting **clause 8.3 (c)** in relation to Finals Eligibility.
- (v) Where a club has more than one team in the same division:
 - (a) A Player from the team ranked lower during Grading may play in the higher ranked team;
 - (b) A Player from the team ranked higher during Grading cannot play in the lower ranked team without an exemption from the Permit & Protest Committee, which will only be approved in the event of extreme circumstance.

c) Players Playing Down

- (i) Players are not permitted to play in a lower Grade, Division, or competition during the Winter Competition.
- (ii) Exemption requests for Players to play down into a lower Grade, Division, or competition, or for interchange of Players within a Grade, shall be lodged in writing with the Association at least 48 hours prior to the commencement of the Match concerned.
- (iii) Any Player granted permission to play down for the whole season of the Winter Competition may not subsequently play up into a higher Grade during that season, including during Finals Matches.

d) Single Game Voucher

The use of Single Game Vouchers is managed under the Playing Voucher Policy.

e) Playing And Ineligible Player – Penalties

- (i) In the event of a team playing a Player who is not eligible and has not received an exemption under the INSERT EXEMPTION POLICY HERE, the offending team shall forfeit the Match.
- (ii) For any further instances where a team who has been penalised under clause 7.1 (g) (i) in the current season, plays a Player who is not eligible, the offending team shall forfeit the Match and shall be penalised a further 2 premiership points.

f) Player Clearance

- (i) Prior to the commencement of the Winter Competition, Clubs may advise the Association of any Players that they have not cleared to play with another Club, and reasons for such refusal.
- (ii) No clearances are required from Clubs that disband at the conclusion of a season unless that Club is non-financial with the Association when the Association may require a Player to pay their portion of the debt of their previous Club.
- (iii) Any Club has the right to request an appeal meeting with the Association regarding a Player with Transfers to another Club and still has some obligation to their former Club.
- (iv) At any appeal meeting both Clubs concerned are entitles to have up to two representatives in attendance to present their case.
- (v) The Association may refuse or grant clearance depending on the merits of the cases presented, and their decision will be final.

g) Ethics And Members Transfers

- (i) Players may not Transfer between Clubs once they have taken the court for a Club during the Winter Competition.
- (ii) The Permit and Protest Committee may consider an exemption request where exceptional circumstances exist, which must accord with the <u>Exemption Policy</u>.
- (iii) Clubs are expected to conduct themselves ethically when dealing with the movement of Players between Clubs, and to avoid Player poaching.
- (iv) Clubs are expected to encourage their coaches and other volunteers to avoid approaching Players from other Clubs for the purpose of recruiting them.
- (v) Where a Player chooses to change Clubs of their own volition, this is not considered Player poaching.

7.2 MATCH DAY

a) Set and Go Matchplay Rules

The rules used for all Set and Go competition Matches during the Winter Competition are published on association website.

b) Coaching from the Sideline

- (i) In all Open, 20U and Junior Divisions, coaches are required to remain within the team bench area during play, as per the Rules of Netball. They may provide verbal coaching from the bench.
- (ii) Coaching on the sideline in Set and Go Divisions is managed by the Set and Go competition rules that are published on the <u>association website.</u>

c) Match Length and Timing

- (i) Matches must start on time and shall consist of four quarters.
 - (a) All Set grades will have 8-minute quarters.
 - (b) All Go (10U) and 11U grades will have 10-minute quarters.
 - (c) All 12U and 13U grades will have 12-miute quarters.
 - (d) All 15U and 17U grades will have 15-minute quarters.
 - (e) All 20U and Open grades will have 15-minute quarters.

- (ii) The quarter breaks will be as follows:
 - (a) Set grades:
 - (i) Three (3) minutes for all breaks.
 - (b) All other grades:
 - (i) Two (2) minutes at guarter and three-quarter time.
 - (ii) Three (3) minutes at half time.

d) Number of Players and Punctuality

- (i) A team must take the court if there are at least five (5) Players present, one of whom must play Centre.
- (ii) Any team failing to take the court with five or more Players or failing to field five (5) or more Players, within five (5) minutes of the start of the scheduled Match time must forfeit the Match.

e) Match Officials and Technical Officials

- (i) The Match Officials of the Match are the two umpires.
- (ii) Technical Officials are the Scorer and Timekeeper:
 - (a) The Timekeeper must use a time clock that is not a mobile phone and that has an audible alarm to signify the end of time.
 - (b) The Technical Official must be positioned together next to the sideline of the court, outside the playing and umpire area, and in line with the centre circle.
 - (c) The Technical Officials are both responsible for checking both the time and the score with each other.
 - (d) All Technical Officials should be adults.
 - (e) Both teams taking part in a Match should bring a time clock, to ensure that there is support for the umpires during held time for Injury/Illness/Blood and suspensions, or in case the primary time clock fails.

f) Scorecards

- (i) The scoring team shall collect the official scorecard from the Association office.
- (ii) The completed scorecard with the result of the Match, including the names of the Players, the grade of the teams, and the date of Match, must be returned to the Association office by the winning team, or, in the event of a draw, the first named team.
- (iii) All players participating in the Match should be listed in their respective team list on the scorecard.
- (iv) Should a player be left off a team list, it will be managed under clause 7.1 (g).

g) Conduct of Matches

- (i) The Rules of Netball will apply to all Winter Competition Matches, unless otherwise stated.
- (ii) The Association reserves the right to disallow a Player to participate in Matches when their presence may be detrimental to other Players, including where disciplinary action has occurred.
- (iii) During a Match, the umpires are the sole judges of fact and of the Rules.
- (iv) Players are not restricted to playing in one Match per day, however any additional Matches played must be within the Association rules and with consideration given to athlete loading.
- (v) Extra time is not played during any Matches during the Regular Season.

h) Player Safety Management

- (i) The Association recognizes the Clubs may not have one single primary care person for their team, and requests that any incidents occurring on court that would require the attendance of a primary care person is managed sensibly and with no more people attending the Player(s) involved than necessary.
- (ii) All instances of concussion, or suspected concussion, should be dealt with under the <u>Netball Australia</u> Concussion Policy and the related concussion protocols.
- (iii) Clubs are encouraged to have a spare set of bibs and spare uniforms available in the event a Player or team is impacted by blood.
- (iv) Where blood has affected the uniform of a Player, that Player:
 - (a) May continue the Match with only one position bib on.
 - (b) May finish the Match in an alternative uniform item or equivalent.

i) Uniforms

- (i) Clubs must comply with the <u>Uniform Policy</u>.
- (ii) All Players must wear the registered uniform of their Club or they will not be permitted to take the court, except where:
 - (a) Clause 7.2 (h) (iv) has been engaged, or;
 - (b) An exemption has been approved under the Exemption Policy.

j) Personal Adornments

- (i) The Association follows the Rules of Netball with regards to personal adornments on Players, including jewelry, splints, and other items that may impact on-court safety, as managed by the Uniform Policy.
- (ii) Players seeking to compete in Matches while wearing prohibited personal adornments must obtain an exemption through the Exemption Policy.

k) Matches Played and Match Point Calculation

- (i) Divisions of 8 teams will play each other two times (14 Matches) during the Regular Season.
- (ii) Divisions of 4 will play each other three times plus two Matches (14 Matches) during the regular Season, however:
 - (a) For finals eligible Divisions any points gained in Round 13 and 14 of the competition will not be used to calculate the final four ladder positions.
- (iii) Divisions of 5 will play each other three times and have two byes (12 Matches).
- (iv) Divisions of 6 will play each other two times plus four Matches (14 Matches) during the regular Season, however:
 - (a) For finals eligible Divisions all Match points will be counted unless an unfair advantage is identified.
- (v) Divisions of 7 will play each other two times and have two byes (12 Matches).

l) Fines And Penalties

All Fines are monetary and must be received by the Association before the next playing date.

REASON FOR FINE/PENALTY	FINE	PENALTY
1. Failure to supply an umpire	\$60	Fine
	(to cover Match costs)	
2. Forfeiting a Match without giving	\$60	Fine
the required notice	(to cover Match costs)	
3. Forfeiting a second subsequent	Late Forfeit:	Fine and written warning
Match regardless of the timing	\$60 (to cover Match costs)	Club to show due cause
4. Playing and ineligible Player (first instance and during Finals Matches).	No fine	Forfeit Match
5. Playing and ineligible player (further instances)	No fine	Forfeit Match and loss of two (2) Match points

8 COMPETITION RULES

8.1 FINALS STRUCTURE

- a) At the conclusion of Matches under clause 7.2 (k), Finals Rounds shall commence for all Divisions that are eligible for Finals.
- b) Where teams in a Division finish the season with an equal number of Points, the relative positions on the ladder shall be arrived at by using the goal percentage.

8.2 EXTRA TIME

- a) Finals Round Matches
 - (i) In the event of a draw in Finals Matches, extra time shall be played.
 - (ii) The following structure will apply to extra time:
 - (a) At the end of the Match when scores are tied, there is a two-minute break, during which:
 - (i) The teams may make substitutions and team changes, and;
 - (ii) The teams change ends, and;
 - (iii) The Match is restarted by the team entitled to the next centre pass.
 - (b) The extra time period shall be:
 - (i) Two 5-minute halves, and;
 - (ii) A one-minute interval between the two halves.
 - (c) The teams must change ends at the end of the first 5 minutes.
 - (d) The teams may make substitutions and teams changes during the one-minute interval.
 - (e) After the one-minute interval, the Match is restarted by the team entitled to the next centre pass.
 - (f) At the conclusion of the second 5 minutes, the Timekeeper will advise the umpire that it is time. (g) The umpire should blow their whistle and note where the ball is and who has it in their possession.
 - (h) The umpires should keep all players on the court whilst they check the scorecard with the Scorer.
 - (i) No coaching is permitted during this process, and no team changes or substitutions can be made.
 - (j) If the Match is still drawn at the end of the second 5 minutes, play will continue on the umpire's whistle from where the ball was when time was called until one team has a two-goal advantage.

- (k) The Scorer and Timekeeper must advise the umpire when a two-goal advantage has been achieved, at which point the umpire's whistle stops the game.
- (I) All other rules of the game remain the same.

8.3 FINALS ROUNDS RULE VARIATIONS

- a) Umpires
 - (i) The AUDO is responsible for allocating all umpires for Finals.
 - (ii) Umpires should adhere to the Uniform Policy.

b) Players

All players must comply with the Rules of Netball, the Winter Competition Handbook, and the policies and procedures of the Association.

c) Player Eligibility

- (i) In addition to clause 7.1 (a), the following eligibility rules apply to all Finals Matches:
 - (a) The Player must be fully financial with their Club, the Association, and Netball WA.
 - (b) The Player must have played three (3) times during the season with the Club with which they intend to play Finals, during three (3) separate Rounds.
 - (c) The Player must be registered via PlayHQ with the Club for whom they are playing Finals Matches.
 - (d) The Player will be considered to be registered in the team, Grade, and Division in which they have played the most amount of Matches during the season.
 - (e) For a Player to be classified as eligible they must be allocated to a Team in PlayHQ.
 - (f) A Club may apply for a Finals Permit to replace an existing Player for a Finals Match, provided that the Player has met all other eligibility requirements in **clause 7.1.**

d) Permits

Requests for Finals Permits for Players must comply with the Finals Permit Policy.

e) Finals Procedures

- (i) All Matches will be scored on the official scorecard which the umpires will bring to the court and return to the Association office at the end of the Match.
- (ii) Scorers and Timekeepers must be adults and comply with clause 7.2(e).
- (iii) All Clubs must be financial with the Association for their teams to be permitted to participate in the Finals Rounds.

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