

DIAMONDS NETBALL CLUB COURT TIME POLICY

REGULAR SEASON AND FINALS

Version 4

Reviewed on 22 June 2026

Approved by Committee on 03 July 2026

Diamonds Netball Club (DNC) aims to build teams that ensure all players receive development, competitive games and maximum court time. Premiership opportunities will always be strived for.

The enjoyment of the sport of netball is paramount at all playing levels.

REGULAR SEASON

DNC encourage fair court time over the season.

Where there are more than seven players in a squad/team, players will be rotated. Rotations depend on player availability, player positions, player injury/illness, player behaviour/attitude and attendance at training. DNC acknowledges that often teams have 9 (or more) players, and the Club actively assists all Coaches to ensure fair game time and rotations.

- **Set/GO Players** must rotate through all positions and court time dispersed fairly. Unlimited substitutions are allowed.
- **11U to Senior Players** are selected based on positions so rotations will be dependent on positions and combinations needed. Teams are permitted to use unlimited rolling substitutions.

The decision on where a player is positioned in all regular competition and finals matches are at the Coaches discretion and supported by the Club.

Fill in Players/Single Game Vouchers – Regular Season

Fill in players may be used when a team has limited numbers and/or a particular position is needed, e.g., both shooters are unavailable and therefore a shooter is required. Coaches are expected to source a player from either a team below or the 'fill in contact list' and should also consult with the DNC Player Development Officer and the 'fill in' players Coach.

In-line with Success Netball Association (SNA)'s policy (4.9 Interchange of Players/Teams - Permanent Transfer), players may only play-up in a higher grade/division four times during the fixtured season.

Once they have completed their fifth play-up they will no longer be able to play in their original grade/division. A player is considered to have 'played-up' once they have taken the court for any amount of time for a team other than their own registered team. If a player is written onto a scorecard, but does not take the court, that game is NOT considered played.

To be eligible to participate in DNC finals, players need to have played at least 5 games on 5 separate dates with DNC. Matches played on a Single Game Voucher (SGV) do not count towards the 5 qualifying matches.

FINALS

Permit Players – Finals (aligned with SNA)

1. Permits will only be issued if a registered player(s) in a team cannot take the court on a finals day(s). If a registered player can take the court, even if they may only be able to play for one quarter, they are considered to be able to take the court and no permit will be issued.
2. The number of permits issued for a team will only be equal to the number of unavailable registered and qualified players in the team. For example, if there are 9 registered and qualified players in a team and 2 cannot take the court, then 2 permits may be issued.
3. If a team has only 7 registered players a permit may be applied for and will be considered by SNA.
4. Permit players are to be treated as a regular member of the team. All substitutions shall be in accordance with the current Official Rules for Netball as published by Netball Australia.

Court Time Philosophy - Finals

Players are encouraged to seek clarification on court time from their Coach.

Junior Policy 11U - Permit Players must not receive more court time than the available registered team players, regardless of position, given this is a transition year to full rules.

Junior Policy 11U – 16U - Teams are permitted unlimited rolling substitutions. Each team member will play the equivalent of **at least a half** (30 minutes) of a finals game. This is aimed to be achieved to the best of the Coach's ability. DNC encourages Coaches to organize rotations ahead of the match to manage time on court and team balance. Coach decisions are supported by DNC.

20U & Seniors Policy - Teams are permitted unlimited rolling substitutions. Player positioning and court time is at the Coach's discretion; however, the Club highly recommends each team member play the equivalent of **at least a quarter** (15 minutes) of a finals game. This is aimed to be achieved to the best of the Coach's ability. Coach decisions are supported by DNC.

Queries or Concerns?

Any persons with concerns or queries on court time are welcome to state any issue in writing to the DNC Executive Committee at admin@diamondsnetballclub.com in a timely manner.

Clarification and resolution of issues can only be addressed if emails are received **well before game day and NOT at the actual time of the final to avoid distraction to game preparation or mindset of players and officials.**