



## WJNC CODE OF BEHAVIOURS

WJNC fully supports and operates under Netball Victoria's [Codes of Conduct](#) for [junior players](#), [players](#), [coaches](#), [umpires](#), [administrators](#), [parents/guardians](#) and [spectators](#), and WJNC administrators, coaches, team managers, umpires, players, parents/guardians, and spectators are expected to abide by these Codes.

These Codes have been developed by sports professionals and are in place for a reason - to protect, support & encourage ALL involved in junior sport to do the right thing. We are all responsible for acting appropriately, especially in front of our children, who are playing sport for fun, fitness and social interaction. We ask that you always act thoughtfully and carefully.

Netball Victoria's [Code of Conduct](#) ensures the standards of the [Fair Play Code](#) are applied by demonstrating the five core values that will lead to fair play for all:

- Integrity
- Respect
- Responsibility
- Fairness
- Safety

This document – WJNC Code of Behaviours – builds on the Netball Victoria Codes of Conduct (as mentioned above) by setting out some behaviours and processes which more specifically relate to WJNC and the expectations of our club.

In general terms, all that is required is fair, courteous, respectful, and cooperative behaviour to all of those around you to ensure we align with our vision of being a club that promotes participation, enjoyment, commitment, skills development, and team spirit.



More specifically, we strongly encourage, promote and are proud of the following specific aspects of WJNC's culture:

### **Attendance at Training**

Training provides knowledge, fitness, cohesive behaviour and fun for the team and coach and is an essential part of team sport. Attending training is a key part of WJNC's culture.

All coaches expect commitment to the team and that their players to regularly attend weekly 60-minute training sessions. We believe this is not an unrealistic expectation (most sports have some form of training program to develop skills, strengthen team work and work on tactical match play). However, it is acknowledged:

- (i) from time-to-time other commitments will occur and the player cannot attend training on a specific date(s) - in this situation the coach should be notified accordingly with as much notice as possible.
- (ii) in some instances, a player may have a valid reason, e.g., a clash of a regular school or other commitment, to not be able to train with their team on a regular basis - in this situation the coach must be formally notified at the beginning of the season. The participation level of that player in matches will be at the discretion of the coach and should be discussed and agreed with the player and/or the parent upfront.

It should be understood that, whilst participation is our club's priority, coaches reserve the right to determine player rotation based on attendance at training, and failure to regularly attend training may result in that player not being on court as often as those who do regularly attend training (players should be notified of this approach upfront by their coach). It is unacceptable for the player or their parent/guardian to be critical in this instance.



## **Match Days**

It is expected that players arrive punctually for a match; the coach will have prepared a player roster, and this can be jeopardised and cause confusion to the players if this has to be changed at the last minute because of no-show of a player. Similarly, if a player has to leave before the final quarter of a match, the coach should be advised of this well in advance so they can develop their player roster accordingly. Communication with your coach and team manager on match days is vital.

As a club, we encourage all of our families to sit together, where possible, during a match. Not only is this promoting strong club teamwork, but offers incredible support to the coach & team manager trying to do their job on game day. Cohesiveness binds a playing group more strongly and makes it easier for a coach when trying to offer tactical/strategic information and make positional changes during the quarter breaks.

Players who are not on court should always sit with the coach to receive instructions on the position they will be playing and insights about the game in play.

Players should join the coach to receive feedback and instruction at each quarter and half-time break. Parents, please help encourage your players to do so.

## **Raising Concerns**

If you have an issue, want to raise a point of difference, or have a concern, please think wisely, and choose to discuss this with your child's coach at an appropriate time. It may be difficult to talk to your child's coach during or straight after a match when he/she is debriefing the playing group. Whilst it may be tempting to say things in the heat of the moment, please restrain yourself in the interests of all involved. We encourage you to raise any concerns initially and calmly with the team manager.

The Club welcomes all suggestions, opinions and comments raised appropriately and in a professional manner, preferably in writing and emailed to [netball@williamstownjuniorsnetballclub.com.au](mailto:netball@williamstownjuniorsnetballclub.com.au)

The WJNC Committee will discuss the correspondence and respond appropriately. We normally have monthly Committee Meetings where we make provision to discuss such agenda items.



## **Breaches of Club Etiquette**

The Committee should immediately be notified in the event of repeated or serious breaches of our club etiquette. The Committee will investigate the breach as soon as possible and reserve the right to impose penalties including, but not limited to:

- (for players) a formal caution, suspension from the team for a given number of games
- (for parents and other spectators) a formal caution, suspension of their child from the team for a given number of games
- (for coaches and team managers) a formal caution, suspension from their team for a given number of training sessions and/or games, dismissal from the role

In extreme circumstances, and following an in-depth investigation, the Committee reserves the right to exclude a member from the club.

The Committee is always reluctant to have to act in such a way, however, given the values and vision of the Club and the importance of reinforcing these through the Committee's decisions and actions, it is appropriate that such penalties may have to be applied, not only to minimise the risk of unpleasant incidents re-occurring, but also to send a clear message to others that such behaviour will not be tolerated.