

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IN JUNIOR NETBALL

This info-net has been developed for associations to ensure all programs and competitions for juniors are consistent and lawful.

In accepting that girls and boys should have equal access to the same quality netball programs it is unacceptable to exclude either boys or girls under the age of 13 from any competitive or non-competitive netball activity.

The following practical recommendations are provided for associations to consider when developing programs and competitions for boys and girls.

AGE CLASSIFICATION

Associations may choose from the following examples to include in their bylaws in relation to determining a participant's age for competitions:

- a) All players taking part in the 11&U age division must be under 12 years of **age as of 31st December of the relevant year**, or
- b) All players taking part in the 11&U age division must be under 12 years of **age during the entire season**, or
- c) All players who commence competition in the 11&U age division, and who are under 12 years of **age at the date of commencement**, will be permitted to continue in the competition until its conclusion.

Please note: Netball Victoria recommend option (a) as the most preferred option as it is most consistent with the Netball Victoria membership categories.

11 & UNDER

- a) Boys may play unrestricted.
- b) No finals will be played - all teams will participate in a round robin on the grand final day for other grades or another suitable occasion.

Netball Victoria actively encourages associations to cater for boys, including age groups over 11&U.

13 & UNDER

In this age group there are certain minimum requirements that must be included in association bylaws.

Boys eligible for 13&U competitions must be allowed to play.

You must include a bylaw which states boys eligible for 13&U may participate in any section of 13&U competitions.

The bylaw must also state which modified rules apply. If you have boys in this age group you can cater for them in a number of ways. For further examples on various mixed rules please refer to the "Info-net – Mixed Guidelines".

For advice on updating the junior sections of your bylaws or for further information, please contact Netball Victoria.