

Disciplinary Handbook Of Netball Ontario

SECTION A

1. DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

1. COMPOSITION OF;

This committee shall consist of five (5) members, in good standing, including a chairperson.

If at any particular hearing, it appears that a conflict of interest may exist for the Chairperson, The Board shall appoint a replacement for that particular hearing.

2. JURISDICTION OF;

The Disciplinary Committee shall hear and adjudicate on matters pertaining to:

- (a) Breaches of discipline by all members whilst participating in events organised and run under the auspices of Netball Ontario.
- (b) Breaches of discipline by players or officials while participating on tour or at home as Netball Ontario representatives.
- (c) Contravention by members of Netball Ontario regulations as laid down in the Netball Ontario Disciplinary Handbook.
- (d) The Disciplinary Committee shall not adjudicate on disputes of an individual or personal nature.
- (e) The Disciplinary Committee shall recommend a fine, up to \$500.00, and/or suspend, and/or censure, if such measures are warranted.

3. HEARINGS:

- (a) Request for a hearing on a disciplinary matter must be made in writing.
- (b) Each request must be sent, to the Chairperson of the Disciplinary Committee within seven (7) days of the occurrence of the incident, which cause the grievance. (see (j) below).
- (c) Each request must be accompanied by a non-refundable fee made payable to Netball Ontario.
- (d) The Disciplinary Chairperson must advise in writing, all persons involved in a dispute, of the charges and allegations, and instruct them to appear at a hearing. The Chairperson will set the time and place of the hearing, to enable the full committee to attend. In the event that all five members cannot be present, The Chairperson and two members will make up the committee. The Chairperson must convene a meeting within three (3) weeks of receipt of a written complain,

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and must notify the complainant, the defendant and the Board of its decision within fourteen (14) days of the completion of the hearing.

- (e) Persons who are unable to attend the hearing at the time and date set, must advise the Chairperson five (5) days prior to the scheduled hearing, so that a new date and time may be set.
- (f) In the event of a “sudden emergency”, a representative must be sent to the hearing as a stand in for the person unable to attend.
- (g) If a defendant or their representative fails to appear at the scheduled hearing within thirty (30) minutes of the schedule time of the hearing, that defendant will be judged to be guilty of the charges incurred and penalized accordingly.
- (h) If a complainant or their representative fails to appear at the scheduled hearing, within thirty (30) minutes of the schedule time of the hearing, the charges brought by the complainant will be considered frivolous, and the charges dismissed.
- (i) Persons who are dissatisfied with the ruling of the Disciplinary Committee, may appeal to the Netball Ontario's Appeals Committee, provided that the appeal is filed with the Secretary within fourteen (14) days of the receipt of the decision of the Disciplinary Committee, and the appeal is accompanied by a fee as set by the Board.
- (j) All written communications in a disciplinary matter may be transmitted by email, fax, registered mail, express post, regular mail or hand delivered in the presence of a witness who is neither the defendant nor the complainant.
- (k) Telephone communications are permissible provided that they are followed up by a written communication, confirming such a conversation. Copies of all written communications shall be sent to the Secretary to be kept on file.

SECTION B

2. RESPONSIBILITIES OF NETBALL ONTARIO MEMBERS

1. RESPONSIBILITIES OF PLAYERS:

TEAM MEMBERS – A PLAYER SHALL:

- (i) Be suitably dressed in registered players' uniform, as determined by the manager, with the initials of the playing position clearly displayed.
- (ii) Conform to the regulations as outlined in the INF rulebook.

A PLAYER SHALL NOT:

- (i) Use unsportsmanlike tactics.

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- (ii) Disrespectfully address or contact an official, or gesture in a manner, which indicates resentment of a call or decision made by an official in the course of legitimately pursuing their duties.
- (iii) Use Profanity
- (iv) Hold, charge, push, trip or impede the progress of an opponent, or in any way act contrary to the rules and spirit of the game, as outlined in the INF rule book.
- (v) Wear hair combs, jewellery or other adornments, save a wedding band, except under the conditions stated in the rulebook.

TEAM CAPTAINS - Team Captains shall, in addition to INF rulebook:

- (vi) Exemplify all the best qualities of a player, and demonstrate to team members, those qualities listed under "Responsibilities of a Team Member".
- (vii) Be a leader.
- (viii) Be the liaison between the team and officials. They may bring to the attention of the officials responsible for that team, any problems that might arise within the team, and assist in the search for solutions.
- (ix) Encourage the members of their team to behave in the appropriate manner towards officials and opponents.

2. **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COACH:**

THE COACH SHALL:

- (i) Always demonstrate good sportsmanship, set the example to the players, and exercise patience, tolerance and diplomacy.
- (ii) Treat the game officials with courtesy. They shall respect the official's judgement and interpretation of the rules, and allow the officials to control the game without interference, either by direct intervention or by innuendo or snide remarks.
- (iii) Teach the team to play fairly. They shall discipline and if necessary, remove from the squad, players who are unsportsmanlike, uncooperative, or fail to attend practices/games as required.
- (iv) Remind players on the bench that yells catcalls and remarks aimed at officials or opponents, are unacceptable.
- (v) Influence the home-crowd to ensure a polite and hospitable reception for visiting teams and officials.

THE COACH SHALL NOT:

- (i) Protest the decisions of the game officials while the game is in progress. All protest and discussions must be made with the parties concerned, in the privacy of the Coaches or Officials quarters. Coaches may file legitimate protests with the Tournament or Disciplinary Committee if they feel grieved.
- (ii) Reprimand a player in view of spectators.
- (iii) Give verbal instructions to the players while the game is in progress and the players are on the court. No attempt should be made to coach from the sidelines.

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- (iv) Display to spectators or players any resentment that may be felt about the umpiring. Verbal displays, comments or gestures can adversely affect the spirit of the game, and the coach must be aware that they are looked upon as a leader of the team and in the community and should act accordingly.
- (v) Be un-cooperative in dealing with players, co-workers, game officials and spectators.

3. RESPONSIBILITIES OF UMPIRES:

UMPIRES SHALL:

- (i) Treat players, coaches, co-workers and other game officials with respect and understanding.
- (ii) Be fair and firm in all decisions on court, and not allow themselves to be intimidated by players, spectators or coaches.
- (iii) Exercise their authority as stipulated in the Bylaws, Playing Bylaws, and Umpiring Handbook and INF rulebook.
- (iv) Remain impartial arbiters of the game.
- (v) Be suitably dressed for all games, at which they officiate, in the specified colours of white or cream.
- (vi) The Umpires have the authority to deal with on-court discipline and breaches of conduct AT THE TIME THEY OCCUR as specified in the Netball Canada official rules, incorporating the rules of INF

4. OTHER OFFICIALS:

All officials should recognise their responsibilities to Netball Ontario as a whole. They should conduct themselves both on court, and off court, in a manner, which will bring credit to the association. At no time should they use their position as a member of the Board/Council, a certified coach or umpire etc, to influence an umpire's decision during the course of a game.

SECTION C

TOURNAMENTS

1. UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF NETBALL ONTARIO:

The Chairperson (or other selected members) of the Disciplinary Committee is expected to attend tournaments in Ontario, and be available to assist the Tournament Committee, if necessary. A Tournament committee governs tournaments organised by Netball Ontario. This body shall deal with the immediate problems of a disciplinary nature, except when the umpires are in control of the game. They should however co-opt the Chairperson of the Disciplinary Committee to assist in arriving at solutions to disciplinary problems, if necessary.

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Matters of a disciplinary nature, which are still outstanding at the end of a Tournament, shall be turned over to the Disciplinary Committee. The Tournament Committee and Umpires must be available to supply the Disciplinary Committee with information.

Participants in a tournament are reminded that the general code of ethics for players, captains, coaches, umpires and other officials are applicable.

2. **UNDER OTHER JURISDICTION:**

Participants, who are sent as representatives of Netball Ontario to a Tournament outside the immediate jurisdiction, must remember that they are acting as the official representatives of the Organization, and are expected to:

- (a) Exhibit the behavioural patterns accepted by Netball Ontario
- (b) Abide by the rules and regulations set out by the host body.
- (c) Conduct themselves in a manner both on and off the court, so as to reflect Netball Ontario.
- (d) Adhere to the curfews, wake up times, and other regulations set for the team by the manager, coach and other officials travelling with the team.

SECTION D

PENALTIES

1. **PLAYERS:**

Ontario Provincial Coach(es)/ Manager(s) may, penalize/suspend any player found guilty of misconduct, on or off the court, while that player is an official representative of Netball Ontario team.

Suspensions shall be made on the joint recommendations of the Manager and Coach, and will be for a period not less than one (1) year, from the date of the offence or unless the Board decides or deems otherwise. While under suspension that player may not be eligible to participate in selection to any other Netball Ontario provincial team, or to the national team or any organized events. Players may also be suspended from any Netball Ontario sponsored team.

2. **TEAM CAPTAINS:**

After a disciplinary hearing, team captains who are found guilty of misconduct on or off the court, and who are penalized for such, shall automatically lose their captaincy. Penalties outlined under "Players", shall also apply to team captains.

3. **COACHES:**

After a disciplinary hearing, coaches who are found guilty under the rules for coaches shall receive written warning. One copy of the warning letter is to be sent to the Director. Coaches, who are persistent in their misconduct, shall be barred from attending Netball Ontario sponsored activities in the capacity of Coach, and may be fined up to fifty dollars (\$50.00). Suspension may be for up to twelve (12) months

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from the date of the offence or unless the Board decides or deems otherwise there will be a review by the Coaching Committee after six (6) months and the suspended coach maybe re-instated.

4. **UMPIRES:**

After a disciplinary hearing, umpires who are found guilty under the rules for umpires shall receive written warning. One copy of the warning letter is to be sent to the Umpiring Director. Umpires who are persistent in their misconduct, shall be barred from attending Netball Ontario sponsored activities in the capacity of umpire, and may be fined up to fifty (\$50.00). Suspension may be for up to twelve (12) months from the date of the offence. There will be a review by the Umpiring Committee after six (6) months and the suspended umpire may be re-instated or unless the Board decides or deems otherwise

5. **TOURNAMENTS:**

Persons found guilty of misconduct during a tournament shall be dealt with according to the By-Laws of that Tournament.

NB When a contingent is sent out of the province on tour, the officials of that contingent shall have responsibility for discipline. They have the power to review the behaviour of any player on the squad and to impose penalties described under "Players". They also have the power to review the behaviour/performance of any member on tour. Once a player is sent home, that player is not eligible for selection for a period not less than twelve (12) months or unless the Board decides or deems otherwise.

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