

## GRADING

Laburnum Netball Club is committed to ensuring grading is conducted fairly and effectively.

The aim of grading is to form teams that have a balanced group of players of similar ability and age levels. This process will occur annually and can be affected by the number and ages of registered players. Every effort will be made to place players in a team which provides them with competition, success, opportunity to develop and a high level of enjoyment. The success of a team in one year does not always ensure they will remain together the following year. We urge all parents and players to be objective and reasonable in their expectations, and try to encourage embracing new opportunities in their chosen sport.

Players who will be playing in the WNA modified section are generally not graded. This section is aimed at junior teams just entering the competition for their first years. They will be provided with guidance from the umpires and their coaches during the game to develop their understanding and basic skills.

All grading is undertaken on behalf of the club by a grading panel appointed by the LNC Executive Committee. The Coaches Co-ordinator will be on the panel as well as other chosen members.

In assessing overall skills of a player, the coaching panel will take into account:

Footwork, Speed & Agility, Ball Handling Skills, Attacking Skills, Defending Skills, Perception & Cognition Skills, Sportsmanship, Attitude and Developmental Needs

### The Grading Process

- **Coaches Evaluation**  
Towards the middle of the season, each coach is asked to evaluate each player in their team. This includes skills, attendance at training and games, teamwork and attitude. This is to remain strictly confidential.
- **Grading Panel Assessments**  
During the season, members of the grading panel are to attend games and perform their own assessments of teams.
- **Independent Player Assessments**  
During the season LNC will appoint an independent grading assessor to provide a report on each team and recommendations for formation of teams for the following year.
- The grading panel will take into consideration the Coaches Evaluation, the Independent Player Assessments and their own Assessments, along with the number of players registered and the balance of positions in a team, to determine the final placement of each player.
- If there is a conflict of interest (ie the placement of a child of a coaching panel member), that member shall not be part of that decision.
- Please note in some sections, trials may be held in order to finalise teams, ie section 1.
- All decisions of the grading panel are final.

Following the formation of the teams, the grading panel will appoint each team a suitable coach. LNC expects all coaches to have completed a coaching course, paid for by LNC and receive ongoing support from the club. Coaches are to be 15 years or older. There will be a meeting of those coaches prior to posting the teams in order to ensure all decisions are cohesive and supported.

