

POLICY

Uniforms For Players And Umpires

2026



This Policy was adopted by the IDNA Board on 25 February 2026

ILLAWARRA DISTRICT NETBALL ASSOCIATION

UNIFORMS FOR PLAYERS AND UMPIRES FOR WINTER COMPETITIONS

1 INTRODUCTION

The netball uniform has been a long-standing traditional component of the playing apparel that has been required to play the game. The current custodians of the game in Australia have agreed that the playing environment for netball has changed and that there is a need to evolve and keep up with the changes with regards to the playing uniform.

This revision of the requirements for uniforms worn while competing in a competition also recognises the diversity of the needs of competitors as well as the diversity of the religious beliefs of players and the impact that this has on the requirements of uniforms.

This policy is applicable to uniforms for both players and umpires.

While this Policy is Titled “Uniforms” it also covers other aspects of how players present themselves before and during a game to minimise potential safety issues etc during a game.

2 PLAYER UNIFORMS

2.1 General

- (a) All clubs presently affiliated with Netball Illawarra have established uniform colours and an established dress uniform. This policy allows clubs to be more inclusive through an expansion of the uniform variations for use by players.
- (b) This policy provides expanded options for playing uniforms in line with those recognised by Netball Australia and Netball NSW for both players and umpires, as well as other aspects of player safety that are under the control of the players.
- (c) Under this policy the proposed variations of a club’s uniform shall utilise the current colours and design and submit the variations to the Board for acceptance.
- (d) Any uniform proposal shall ensure that no part of the uniform or ancillary part will cover the positional bib.
- (e) Uniforms must not present a genuine safety risk to the wearer or other players (ie. Open pockets, buttons, or zippers)
- (f) Pins are not to be used in any part of the uniform.
- (g) It is a player’s responsibility to ensure that their uniform maintains what is commonly accepted “standards of decency”. Where a player’s uniform does not conform to such standards, the player may be requested by an umpire or a member of the Board to leave the court to rectify the problem.

2.2 Uniform Variations

- (a) The uniform variations available to clubs include:
 - A dress
 - A singlet top
 - A bodysuit
 - A t-shirt, long or short sleeved
 - A skirt
 - Shorts
 - Long pants, either Lycra or track suit style
 - any other approved item
- (b) For dress type uniforms, full sports briefs or short bike pants in a dark block colour, or the club's colours and design shall be worn.
- (c) All players in a team must play in the uniform of the club that has been approved by the Board.
- (d) Individual players in a team may choose any combination of uniform items that have been approved by the Board for use by the club's players, subject to the limitations specified in this policy.
- (e) Players may choose to wear head and/or face coverings, for religious or medical reasons. Where such coverings are used by a player, they should be included in the proposed uniform submission as an option. Such head and/or face coverings must be:
 - made of soft material
 - tight and non-flowing, edges must be held securely or tucked into the shirt.
 - Not cover positional bibs
 - Tied on or fastened by clips and non-sharp pins
 - Be all black, all white or team colours.

2.3 Additional Clothing

- (a) Players are permitted to wear additional items such as Track Suit pants and/or top or leggings and/or a T-Shirt, which are either black or club colours, under their uniform.
- (b) Where a player chooses to wear additional items of clothing that covers additional body parts including the legs, arms and/or head, such items shall only be worn under their playing uniform.
- (c) Players may choose to wear head and/or face coverings, for religious, cultural or medical reasons. Where such coverings are used by a player, they should be included in the proposed uniform submission as an option.
- (d) For head and/or face coverings they are required to be:
 - made of soft material
 - tight and non-flowing, edges must be held securely or tucked into the shirt.
 - Not cover positional bibs
 - Tied on or fastened by clips and non-sharp pins
 - Be a designated block colour to match the uniform or team colours.

2.4 Footwear

- (a) Footwear worn by players must comply with the following:
- Only Sports Shoe footwear is to be worn
 - Such footwear shall be a closed toe sports shoe with a non-marking sole.
 - Such shoes shall not be spiked or have studs (either moulded or removable).

2.5 Uniform Approval Process

- (a) While this inclusive uniform policy allows individual players in each team to choose any combination of uniform items, clubs must ensure that the design of all components of the club uniform are of similar designs to create continuity of uniforms throughout the team and assist umpires to officiate the game, for example:
- t-shirts, singlets, or long sleeve t-shirts must be the same design.
 - the choice of bottoms must either include the same design as the dress/top or be a designated block colour to match the uniform (i.e., black, royal blue, navy blue etc.).
 - head and/or face coverings should be a designated block colour to match the uniform (i.e., black, royal blue, navy blue etc.) or team colours.
 - allow the wearing of skins/leggings if they are completely black, white or in a block colour to match the uniform. This means no big ticks or brand names on the leggings/skins.

2.6 Jewellery

- (a) Players shall not wear anything that could endanger themselves or other players.
- (i) Body piercings, including earrings, shall not be worn.
 - (ii) No adornment that may endanger player safety may be worn.
 - (iii) No communication devices shall be worn.
 - (iv) Any other adornment worn must be securely covered with tape and/or padding.
 - (v) Medical devices may be worn provided they are securely covered with tape and/or padding.
 - (vi) Medical exemptions may also be approved such as daith piercings for migraine treatment or continuous glucose monitors.
 - (vii) Fingernails must be short and smooth.
 - (viii) Hair must be suitably tied back (for example in a ponytail, plait or braided) and free from any adornment.
- (b) Jewellery or devices that are not able to be physically removed, or removed for religious/medical reasons, may be allowed, provided they are adequately covered with tape/and/or padding.
- (c) If a player chooses to wear any form of jewellery that an umpire has not told the player to remove, or a medical device, they do so at their own risk and they accept the risks involved with such actions.

2.7 Gloves

- (a) The World Netball Rules of Netball does not preclude players from wearing gloves.
- (b) Players may wear gloves designed specifically for netball, but they do so at their own risk.

- (c) Irrespective of whether a player wears gloves, or not, fingernails must be short and smooth.

3 UMPIRES UNIFORMS

3.1 General

- (a) The Rules of Netball do not prescribe specific uniform requirements for umpires to wear, nor do they prescribe the type of uniform that umpires must wear.
- (b) The only requirement specified for an umpire's uniform is that they must be able to be easily distinguished from the player's uniforms.

3.2 Uniform Requirements for Umpires

3.2.1 Junior Umpires

- (a) Junior Umpires may wear their club playing uniform or their club's umpiring uniform.
- (b) Junior umpires in their first year of umpiring will be required to wear an "In Training" vest to indicate that they are new umpires, just learning their craft. This should be collected when signing on and returned when they have finished their game.
- (c) For Junior Umpires in the "JUMP PROGRAM", if they are provided with a "Jump Umpire T-Shirt" they must wear that T-Shirt when umpiring and at any presentations. Where such a T-Shirt is not provided, Jump Umpires must wear a plain, all-white uniform

3.2.2 Club Umpires

- (a) For umpires allocated by a club to Intermediate or Cadet games, they may wear their club's umpiring uniform, or the uniform specified for nationally badged umpires by the Umpires Committee. Umpires cannot wear their club's playing uniform.

3.2.3 Duty Umpires

- (a) Duty Umpires may wear their club playing uniform, their club umpire uniform, or a uniform complying with the requirements specified by the Umpires Committee.

3.2.4 Nationally Badged Umpires

- (a) For a nationally badged umpire, designated as an Illawarra umpire, and allocated to games under their own name, their uniform must comply with the requirements specified by the Umpires Committee.
- (b) Where a nationally badged umpire, is being utilised as a Duty Umpire, they may wear their club playing uniform, their club umpiring uniform or Illawarra Umpires Uniform.

3.3 Umpiring Uniform Specifics

3.3.1 General Information

- (a) The requirements of a club umpiring uniform and the requirements of an Illawarra Umpires Uniform, shall comply with the following:
 - A dress
 - A bodysuit
 - A tee shirt, long or short sleeved
 - A skirt
 - Shorts
 - Long pants, either Lycra or track suit style
 - any other approved item
- (b) For dress type uniforms, full sports briefs or bike pants in a block colour shall be worn.
- (c) Umpires shall be permitted to wear Track Suit pants and/or tops or leggings and/or a Tee Shirt, which must be a block colour, under their uniform.
- (d) Umpires will be allowed to choose any combination of uniform items to wear in the manner they find most comfortable.

3.3.2 Above The Waist

- (a) The uniform for the upper body of an umpire should be white, a solid colour or a specifically designed top for the umpires which can be short-sleeved, long-sleeved but, at the same time, it must be able to be easily distinguished from the playing uniforms of the teams they are umpiring.
- (b) The wearing of singlets when umpiring is not permitted.

3.3.3 Below The Waist

- (a) The uniform for the lower body of an umpire should be white, a solid colour or specific designed pants, skirt, or shorts. Leggings, and skins may be worn should an umpire wish to cover additional body surfaces. Such additional garments should be in a block colour and worn under the umpire's uniform.

3.3.4 Head and/or Face Coverings

- (a) Umpires may wear head and/or face coverings for religious or cultural reasons. Such head and/or face coverings must be:
 - made of soft material
 - tight or non-flowing
 - be a designated block colour to match the uniform or match the officiating uniform colours.
- (b) Any face covering does not impede the immediate blowing of a whistle while umpiring.

3.3.5 Footwear

- (a) Footwear worn by umpires must comply with the following:

- Sports shoe footwear must be worn
- Such footwear shall be a closed toe sports shoe with a non-marking sole.
- Such shoes shall not be spiked or have studs (either moulded or removable).