

*Marist Schools Australia  
Netball Carnival*



*Constitution & Bylaws*



## **IT'S MORE THAN A NETBALL CARNIVAL**

The Australian Marist Netball Carnival is the coming together of students, staff and other people associated with schools from different parts of Australia which have been touched in some way with the charism of St Marcellin Champagnat, the founder of the Marist Brothers, Jean-Marie Chavoin, the co-founder of the Marist Sisters or Jean-Claude Colin, the founder of the Marist fathers and co-founder of the Marist Sisters. We are the inheritors of the grand vision of the founders whose purpose was to renew the Church by sharing Mary's work of cooperating with the Holy Spirit to bring Jesus to life in people's hearts. We are the inheritors of this grand vision.

Over the years each one of our Marist Schools would have absorbed some part of the Marist charism in accordance with the people and circumstances of each situation. No one school would claim to possess anything but a small slice of it. But put all these pieces together, even for a short time over the course of a sporting carnival, and we can sense the spirit to a greater depth.

From the very beginning of the Marist Project it has been recognised that Marist laity are important members. The Marist movement is presently going through a wonderful renaissance. There is a renewed sense of association and identity among those who today see themselves as part of this Marist family: teachers, students and parents. The flourishing of staff programs in Marist staff spirituality, courses for Marist student leaders, conferences for Marist principals, networks among other teachers, as well as a range of sporting and cultural events for Marist schools are all examples of this revitalisation of the Marist movement in the Church.

It is good to see the Australian Marist Netball Carnival in this context. We gather as members of the Marist family, something which is at once a spiritual family and a human family. From different schools in various parts of the country, we share a common heritage and a single purpose. Let us be mindful of this through these days.



## MSA NETBALL CONSTITUTION

“**Constitution**” means the constitution of an Association or Club. It may otherwise be referred to as the Rules of Incorporation outlining their objectives, structure and responsibilities. It is an essential document, ensuring the smooth administration of an association or club and is a legal necessity to protect the interests of members.

### **1. PURPOSE OF ASSOCIATION**

As Christian Educators who are inspired by the life and work of the Marist founders, we seek to provide a National Netball Championship for students of our Marist Schools and Colleges who are seeking to:

- a. Share with other people around Australia our Marist traditions, values, vision and story.
- b. Celebrate the history, ethos and character of each competing School and College.
- c. Develop the skills of sportsmanship in Netball through friendly competition from Marist Schools.
- d. Enjoy the company of other Australians giving expression to their social, religious and sporting aspirations.

### **2. TOURNAMENT ENTRY, REGISTRATION & PLAYER ELIGIBILITY**

- a. All financial members of the Marist Schools of Australia are eligible to take part in the Carnival.
- b. All players must be enrolled in the participating College at the time of their participation in the carnival
- c. At this stage the MSA Netball Carnival is maintained as a girls’ carnival.
- d. It is the responsibility of each organising School or College to issue invitations in writing to all eligible schools. This invitation should be issued:
  - by the Principal of the organising school
  - in Term 3 prior to the year of the carnival (early September)
  - with the name and contact details of the Carnival Convenor from that school
- e. Schools are asked to commit to being part of the Carnival for five years with the expectation that they would need to host at some stage.
- f. Each participating school is required to pay registration fees of \$200 per player (to be reviewed annually), to financially assist the host school with various costs, including court hire, purchase of trophies/medals, etc

### **3. MSA NETBALL SUB-COMMITTEE**

- a. Nominations and appointment of positions on sub-committee will take place at the Annual General Meeting during the carnival.
- b. The formation of the MSA netball sub-committee should aim to include:
  - MSA representative
  - Chair person or executive/s
  - Current host school convenor/s to pass on materials
  - Previous host school convenor/s
  - 2 other independent members
- c. An annual sub-committee meeting is to take place at the host school of the upcoming carnival, where venues, staff and facilities can be presented to and approved by the group. This meeting should aim to take place in November of each school year.
- d. All transport and accommodation costs for the members of the subcommittee meeting will be funded by MSA annual levies.



#### 4. PRE CARNIVAL ORGANISATION

- a. Once the school assumes the hosting responsibilities for the Carnival, it is recommended that an organising Committee is established to oversee Carnival preparations. The following are general areas that need to be addressed. It is important to note that these concerns may vary, dependent on the location of the host school, the available facilities and indeed the number of teams attending in any one year:
- Carnival Convenor/s
  - Billeting
  - Draw/Score Secretary
  - Transport
  - Catering
  - Finances/Sponsorship
  - Events/Presentations, etc
  - Umpires

#### 5. ELEMENTS OF THE CARNIVAL

It is **expected** that the Carnival should have the following elements:

- a. The Carnival will begin with an introductory evening followed by a minimum three (3) days of Netball Competition.
- b. The introductory evening will be time for:
- Light refreshments provided to teams on arrival
  - Opening Mass reflecting on the spirit of the Marist founders (all players and officials to be in professional dress, NOT team tracksuits – option of full summer or winter uniform at the discretion of the visiting school)
  - Billeting families to meet and collect players
  - A meeting of officials to inform and outline of carnival structure
- c. The first day of Competition will have:
- An Opening Ceremony (with singing of National Anthem)
  - A series of preliminary games
  - Lunches provided to all players and officials
  - 'Happy Hour' including light refreshments for players & officials (choice of venue at discretion of host school)
  - Presentation of Player of the Day awards
- d. The second day of Competition will have
- Continuation of games
  - Lunches provided to all players and officials
  - 'Happy Hour' including light refreshments for players & officials (choice of venue at discretion of host school)
  - Presentation of Player of the Day awards
  - A dinner for officials
  - Annual General Meeting of officials to:
    - Explain the procedures for the remainder of the carnival
    - Evaluate the carnival so far
    - Update and amend current bylaws/constitution
    - Formation of sub-committee
    - Acclaim the organising school for the following year
- e. The third day of Competition will have:
- Continuation of games
  - Playoffs/finals in which all schools compete
  - Presentations and light refreshments provided for all players and officials



- f. It is recommended that for the Final Presentation the following will occur;
- An Opening Prayer
  - Principal's Address
  - MSA Representative's Address (optional)
  - Guest Speaker (optional)
  - Presentation of awards:
    - Participation Certificates (to all participants)
    - Winners of the Challenge Division (individual recognition of team members)
    - Runners up for the overall Carnival (individual recognition of team members)
    - Winners of the Carnival (individual recognition of team members)
    - Announcement of the Highly Recommended Marist Squad (individual recognition of members)
    - Announcement of the All Australian Marist Squad (individual recognition of members)
    - Announcement of the Most Wanted Player for both Challenge & Championship division
    - Announcement of the winner/s of the Spirit of MSA Award in memory of Sister Ann-Marie Webb
  - Welcome and address by representative of the host school for the following year

Attendance and full participation in all of the above aspects of the Carnival is **compulsory** by visiting schools.  
*NB The organisers will take into account the travel needs of particular schools wherever possible.*

## 6. ADDITIONAL HOST SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

### BILLETING:

- a. It is expected that wherever possible, visiting teams will be billeted to ensure the social interaction aims of the Carnival are met.
- b. It is essential to determine the target number of billets required as soon as possible and establish a sub-committee to begin organising placements as soon as numbers are known.
- c. It is essential that students are billeted **together in pairs** (or more) from the same school.
- d. An introductory letter should be sent to all parents asking for their support and clearly outlining the responsibilities associated with taking a billet.
- e. A copy of 'Billeting Conditions for Participants' letter should be sent to all school contacts for all players for their perusal and endorsement by signature. These signed letters are to be returned to the Host School upon arrival at the Carnival.
- f. Should billeting become a problem, other suitable families in the area may be able to assist eg Primary Schools, parish families, families of past students, families from other Catholic Schools

### CATERING:

- g. Light refreshments provided to teams on arrival on Sunday
- h. Lunches are to be provided to players and officials on **full days** of competition (Finals day refreshments are at the discretion of the host school)
- i. 'Happy Hour' should take place at the end of each full days play, which should include light refreshments for players and officials and the presentation of Player of the Day awards to each team
- j. Following the presentation ceremony, a light refreshments is to be provided for all players and officials before departure

### GIFTS:

- k. Official group photo of each participating team to be taken during the carnival and either sold or included as a gift to visiting schools
- l. Present the visiting players with a small gift as a souvenir of their attendance and participation at the carnival



**OTHER:**

- m. Production and distribution of the Carnival Program which must include:
  - A copy of 'It's more than a netball Carnival'
  - Principal's letter of welcome
  - A list of emergency/important telephone numbers
  - Program of events and times
  - School's information – school history, team lists, ages of players and playing positions
  - Program of matches
  - Acknowledgement of sponsors
- n. On site at the netball courts, each team should be allocated an undercover sheltered area to use as a meeting place and/or a space to store their belongings throughout the day
- o. Qualified First Aid staff must be supplied and made available by the host school at all times during competition. Ice should be provided, however additional items such as strapping tape, etc must be supplied personally by the players or visiting teams

**SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES**

A decision can be made that ensures the integrity of MSA is maintained at all times.

The committee may in using its reasonable discretion, in exceptional or extenuating circumstances, alter, vary or waive the requirements set out in this constitution and bylaws relating to the MSA Netball Carnival. This may include issues such as borrowing of players, extreme weather, additional awards, etc

**INDEMNITY**

Except where provided or required by law and such cannot be excluded, MSA and its respective directors, officers, members, servants or agents are absolved from all liability however arising from injury or damage whilst participating as a member.



## MSA NETBALL BYLAWS

“Bylaws” are additional rules, which apply to members, which generally deal with internal and administrative matters. The Bylaws are made under the Constitution. Accordingly, the Bylaws are subordinate and must not be inconsistent with the Constitution. An Association or Club should have a clause in the Constitution that provides the power to the Board or Committee to make Bylaws. Up to date bylaws can avoid many issues and grievances in relation to the day to day operations of a netball competition. That is, the bylaws should clearly outline the requirements of all clubs, teams and individuals, as members of the Association or Club, along with the penalties for any breaches of these bylaws.

### CONDUCT OF MATCHES/FORMAT/DRAW

#### Preliminary Rounds

Pools allocated in the following way based on previous year’s final placing:

Pool A	Pool B
1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>
4 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>
8 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>
9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>
12 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>
13 <sup>th</sup>	14 <sup>th</sup>
16 <sup>th</sup>	15 <sup>th</sup>
17 <sup>th</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup>
20 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup>

Any new school’s entering the carnival are to be placed at the end of the pool allocation list.

#### Championship and Challenge Rounds

- The 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> placed teams from Pools A and B automatically enter the Championship Division.
- There will be provisions for more teams to qualify for the Championship Division. For instance:
  - If there are **16-17** teams entered, **Eight** teams qualify for the Championship Division, while the remaining 8-9 teams play in the Challenge Division;
  - If there are **18-19** teams entered in the Carnival, **Nine** teams qualify for the Championship Division, while the remaining 9-10 teams play in the Challenge Division;
- The remaining placed teams from Pools A and B enter the Challenge Division.
- Championship and Challenge Divisions play at alternating times.

#### Games: Duration and Breaks

All games will be centrally timed and a siren will sound at the end of each round.

#### Preliminary Rounds:

Pools A and B play at alternating times:

2 x 10 minute halves  
2 minute break at half time

#### Division Rounds:

Championship & Challenge Divisions play at alternating times:

2 x 10 minute halves  
2 minute break at half time

#### Semi Finals:

Top four playoff in semi finals: 1<sup>st</sup> v 4<sup>th</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> v 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Winners move into final of Championship & Challenge Divisions

2 x 10 minute halves  
2 minute break at half time

#### Grand Finals:

All playoffs to be played at the same time with the exception of Challenge & Championship finals (feature matches)

2 x 10 minute halves  
2 minute break at half time

**EXTRA TIME**

In the event of a drawn match in finals/playoffs, 3 minutes each way (straight change over, no changes to be made) shall be played in all finals matches to determine a clear winner. If still a draw at the end of extra time, the game continues and the team to gain a 2 goal lead shall be declared the winner.

**POINTS**

The classification of teams shall be made on points according to their win/loss record, namely 4 points for a win, 2 point for a draw, no points for a loss or forfeit. The percentage for/against shall be used to place teams even on points. If two teams are equal on percentages, head to head results should be considered followed by the team with the higher goals for, to determine final placing.

Any team not ready to commence play when called upon, shall forfeit one (1) goal for every minute late, until 5 minutes have elapsed, at which time the game shall be declared a forfeit. No fewer than 5 players may take the court. If a team wins on forfeit it should be recorded as a 10 – 0 win (for the purpose of fairness when calculating percentage).

Points to be awarded as follows:	Win	4
	Loss	0
	Draw	2
	Forfeit	4 (team receiving) 0 (team forfeiting)

**Points scored for/against (expressed as percentage) and completion points** will be displayed throughout days one and two.

**SELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS/AWARDS***Most Wanted Player Award:*

- At the conclusion of each match each team must discuss and decide on one player from the opposing team that they would 'most want' in their squad based on the match just played (1 vote awarded to the player).
- The criteria used to select the most wanted player, is at the discretion of each individual team, however their criteria and selection process must be consistent throughout the entire tournament.
- The Most Wanted Player votes will be tallied and an award will be given to the player who polls the most votes for **both** the Championship and Challenge divisions (2 awards presented)

*All Australian Team/Highly Recommended Team Selection:*

- Minimum of 2 selectors must take part in the selection process
- Wherever possible, selectors should be invited and introduced on Sunday night at the official's dinner to the coaches/managers/committee members
- At official's meeting a team list to be given to coaches to indicate their best players (including their preferred positions) to assist the selectors with their decision (note: all players will be considered for selection, these lists will merely be used as a guide)
- A shortlist of these selected squads will be distributed for discussion at the AGM dinner
- Selectors must be present at carnival on all days of competition and need to be seen by both coaches and players throughout each of the days play

**INJURY RULE/BLOOD POLICY – PROCEDURES FOR UMPIRES:**

*The aim of this policy is to minimize the amount of lost playing time and to ensure the safety of all players. In the event of a suspected serious injury, the player should not be moved and medical attention should be sought. The team will move to another available court and play will continue.*

1. Umpire blows the whistle to stop play.
2. After a quick initial injury assessment, the umpire will instruct the player to either leave the court for treatment, or the player may choose to remain on court and play is to resume as soon as possible.
3. When the player is safely off the court, umpire blows whistle to immediately restart play.
4. A team may choose to treat the injured player courtside, while the game continues and leave that position vacant, or alternatively use a substitute player.
5. No player is allowed on the court with blood anywhere on her person or clothing. Different coloured clothing and bibs are allowed.
6. In the case of the "Centre" who is bleeding or injured, that position must be filled by returning the injured player or replaced by another team member before they are due to take the next centre pass.
7. The opposing team is permitted to make positional changes or substitute players if the injured player of the opposing is replaced.
8. When the player has not been replaced she may return to the vacant position only after a goal has been scored.
9. In the case of a serious injury where the injured player cannot be moved, the teams will move to the nearest available court and play continues.
10. No extra time or injury time will be added to matches.

**INTERCHANGE**

Interchange of players can only be made during a break or following an injury or illness.

**UNIFORM**

All players should be attired in the registered uniform of their school. Positional patches must be worn. Teams are not restricted by the number of players selected. Any player with incorrect uniform may not enter the game.

**SCORING**

- One score sheet will be provided, which will include centre passes.
- **Each team is expected to appoint a responsible adult scorer, preferably the Team Manager.** Both scorers are to be seated together throughout the duration of the game.
- Once a score sheet has been signed as correct by both Captains and Umpires it cannot be handed back for correction. Official score sheet stands.
- The Manager or Captain of the winning team should return the completed score sheet to the Control Desk immediately after the end of each game.



### **BORROWING OF PLAYERS**

In the case of teams suffering numerous injuries or major incident to their squad, a team may lodge a request to the executive committee to borrow a player/s from the either the host school or another team in order to avoid a forfeited match.

### **APPEALS/DISPUTES/PROTESTS/PENALTIES**

Any team wishing to register a protest may do so in writing, lodged with the Carnival Convenor by the end of the days play. The Tribunal Committee's decision should be made on the day that the protest is lodged and is final.

Disputes will be heard by the Carnival Tribunal consisting of:

- Carnival Convenor
- Representative of the Host School
- Umpires Convenor for the Carnival
- Representative of each school in dispute
- Additional member of the Subcommittee

### **UMPIRES**

Each team is expected to provide an umpire (or hire one). A Team's umpire is not permitted to officiate their own school's games. Alternatively visiting teams can pay a \$250 umpires fee to the host school to assist with the payment of a local umpire. Visiting umpires will **not** be paid by the host school.