

# **DOUBLE BAY DIAMONDS NETBALL CLUB GRADING POLICY**



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## Introduction

At Double Bay Diamonds, the executive and grading committee are committed to acting in the best interests of all players. Netball is a graded sport, and grading occurs with the aim of acting in the best interests of all players and our club.

## General Grading Information

Netball is a team sport and requires a balance of skills and positions.

When placing players in teams, the selectors take into consideration many factors including each player’s individual happiness, their previous years Coaches’ evaluation, player assessments, play observed at grading and, on occasion, special requests

**Coaches’ Evaluation** - At the end of each season, coaches provide a report of each player's positions played, ability, attendance at training and games etc.

**Individual Player Assessments** - During the season, selectors may observe player's skill levels during games or receive reports from other sources e.g. Representative coaches.

**Grading** - Players will be assessed on their fundamentals, agility, ball handling, footwork and displayed netball IQ.

Due to the large numbers of players attending grading it is not always possible for players to play extended time in their preferred positions.

**Special Requests** – If a request is made for players to be placed together in a team, then the team will be graded in the division appropriate for the lowest graded player in the group.

For grading purposes each player is treated as an individual, regardless of their previous team or division.

## Grading Purpose and Scope

Double Bay Diamonds is committed to player enjoyment and development and it is at the forefront of all decisions made within the grading process.

The purpose of grading is to:

- Ensure a fair opportunity for all players and to create balanced teams of players of similar ability.
- Create teams which will be competitive in their assigned grades.
- Offer opportunities to all players to grow and develop within their individual capabilities.

Double Bay Diamonds grade players aged 10 – 18 years, however reserve the right to, on occasion, grade younger players.

The number of players in each age group can influence the process from year to year.

## Double Bay's Grading Committee Principles and Commitment

The Grading Committee will comprise of a minimum panel of 3, inclusive of the Coaching Coordinator or delegate from the Executive Committee and will be experienced grading members of the netball community.

The Grading Committee will be fair, open and transparent, and maintain confidentiality. They will endeavour to select the best team based on ability and balance of players and positions.

Players will be graded in accordance with Netball NSW grading criteria.

## Stand Alone Teams

Stand Alone or “Block” teams are welcome to play under the Double Bay Diamonds banner.

Block teams must:

- Submit a block team application form
- Attend team grading to determine the grade consideration for RNA
- Have their own manager
- Must have a minimum of eight (8) players

## Grading

All players must be registered. Late registrations will only be considered if teams require additional players and will be placed at the discretion of the Grading Convenor.

All players must attend grading. If the player is unavailable for their age group, please notify the Coaching Coordinator as soon as possible so an alternative session can be arranged.

Players will nominate their two preferred positions. They will be played in their two nominated positions over the course of grading. They may be asked to play in other positions at the graders’ discretion.

Some players may get additional court time based on their positions to ensure all players are seen in their preferred positions.

If a player does not attend grading, then they may not query where they are placed.

## Team Selection and Notification

At the completion of grading sessions, graders will discuss the grading, and players will be placed in teams. The teams list will then be presented to the Club Executive for ratification.

Players will be notified of the team they have been placed in.

Once all teams are finalised after due process, they will only be altered at the discretion of the grading committee. Players will not be eligible for a refund. Refunds of registration will only take place in extenuating circumstances and not due to team placement.

Players and parents are asked to be reasonable in their expectations and encourage their children to enjoy their chosen sport regardless of the team they are placed in.

Players and parents should be aware that regardless of a team's prior successes, changes may be made to that team.

## Grading Appeals

Double Bay Diamonds strive to ensure an open and transparent appeal process. Confidentiality will always be maintained.

Upon team notification, a closing date of appeal will be indicated.

Appeals must be lodged using the Grading Appeal form only, which is located on the Double Bay Diamonds website. Emails, telephone calls or SMS direct to Committee members (inclusive of Grading Committee members) will NOT be accepted.

The appeal can only be based on the player requesting reconsideration, not based on comparisons of other players within the club.

Appeals will be reviewed by an Appeal Committee, made up of members of the Club Executive and Grading Committee.

At completion of the appeal review, the outcome will be emailed to the appellant.

All decisions regarding the appeal will be final.

A lot of time and many different considerations go into the placement of players. We encourage parents and players alike to enjoy their netball experience, focus on their development and enjoy the special bonds and friendships team sport offers.

## Randwick Netball Association Team Placement

On completion of the Double Bay Diamonds grading process, teams and our requested divisions are submitted to Randwick Netball Association (RNA). RNA has a Competition Grading Committee who finalises age groups and divisions for the whole competition.

Note: as a club we request certain divisions for teams however the final decision of team placement within divisions is made by RNA.