

# JUNIOR COMPETITION BEHAVIOURAL POLICY

## THE POLICY

### 1. Overview

- 1.1 Policy Type: Competitions;
- 1.2 Person Responsible for the Policy: Noranda Netball Association Umpire Development Officer;
- 1.3 Policy Created: January 2025;
- 1.4 Policy Last Updated: not applicable;
- 1.5 Policy Approved By: Noranda Netball Association Committee;
- 1.6 Policy Scheduled Review: Noranda Netball Association Committee Policy Meeting 2026.

### 2. Objectives

- 2.1 The Behavioural Points (B-Points) system, is a vital initiative aimed at fostering a positive and respectful game day environment within our community for all Junior Netball Competitions.
- 2.2 The introduction of the B-Points system does not replace any other disciplinary action that may be taken, including but not limited to placing any persons on probation or suspending their access to the Noranda Netball Sporting Complex or terminating their membership.

### 3. Policy

#### 3.1 Overview

- 3.1.1 **Objective:** The B-Points system emphasises that game day behaviour is as important as match outcomes. It encourages teams to exhibit positive conduct, ultimately contributing to a more enjoyable netball experience;
- 3.1.2 **Integration:** B-Points are integrated into the premiership table, alongside win/loss outcomes, showcasing their significance in the overall standings. See below example:

Ladder Position	Team	Games Played	Win	Loss	Draw	Win/Loss Points	B-Points	Points Balance
1	Apples	15	10	4	1	21	-1	20
2	Pears	15	7	7	1	15	0	15
3	Bananas	15	7	7	1	15	-3	12
4	Melons	15	5	9	1	11	0	11
5	Oranges	15	9	6	0	18	-8	10
6	Berries	15	5	10	0	10	-1	9

#### 3.2 Process

- 3.2.1 **Umpiring Reporting:** Umpires play a crucial role in assessing the game day environment. They must record any Game Management actions taken to the dedicated area on the back of the games scorecard including the name and club of offender, action taken (ie 'Warning', 'Suspension' or 'Order Off') and the names and clubs of both umpires. Umpires can also provide a written report on any poor behaviour observed during a match (including pre game and post game) that is deemed to be unsportsmanlike and does not adhere to the Associations Code of Conduct by any of the games Coaching Staff, Officials, and/or any Spectator;
- 3.2.2 **Association Committee Reporting:** Any Association Committee member, including the Associations Umpiring Committee will play a crucial role in assessing the game day environment. They will provide a written report on any behaviour observed during a match (including pre game and post game) that is deemed to be unsportsmanlike and does not adhere to the Associations Code of Conduct;



3.1.1 **Panel Decision:** The final decision on B-Point allocation rests with the Associations B-Points Panel (including the Association President, Umpire Development Officer and one other Committee Member) who will review the umpire actions, scorecards, any reporting sheets and consider all relevant factors before making a determination.

### 3.3 Point Scale

<b>-1 Point</b>	Player Issued with a 'Warning' by an umpire during the game <i>Game Management as detailed in the Rules of Netball 2024 Edition (see attached Foul Play &amp; Game Management information sheets)</i>
<b>-1 Point</b>	Player Issued with a 'Suspension' by an umpire during the game <i>Game Management as detailed in the Rules of Netball 2024 Edition (see attached Foul Play &amp; Game Management information sheets)</i>
<b>-2 Points</b>	Player 'Ordered Off' by an umpire during the game <i>Game Management as detailed in the Rules of Netball 2024 Edition (see below Foul Play &amp; Game Management information sheets)</i>
<b>-1 Point</b>	Unsportsmanlike Behaviour from any Official, Coach, Player, Umpire or Spectator Including but not limited to criticising the umpires or their decisions, using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures or encouraging foul play from any on court players
<b>-2 Points</b>	Extreme Unsportsmanlike Behaviour from any Official, Coach, Player, Umpire or Spectator Including but not limited to physical abuse, discrimination against any other persons or <b>continually</b> criticising the umpires or their decisions, using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures or encouraging foul play from any on court players
<b>-2 Points</b>	Any other breach of NNA's Code of Conduct Related to inappropriate game day behaviour

3.4 Any B-Points allocated to a team will remain in place for the duration of the season.

3.5 Once the Associations appointed B-Point Panel has determined the report meets the threshold for B-Points to be deducted, their decision is final and there will be no appeals process.

3.6 Clubs who have B-Points allocated to one of their teams will be advised by the Association Administrator as soon as practicable and it will be reflected on the ladder on PlayHQ.

3.7 The NNA Committee reserves the right to change the B-Points Scale at any time.

## 4 Conclusion, Why B-Points Matter

B-Points emphasise the importance of fostering a positive game day environment alongside winning games.

Teams that foster a game day environment with poor sportsmanship and/or a negative atmosphere will have their ability to make finals impacted with the loss of premiership points, thus showcasing the impact of game day conduct.

**By incorporating the B-Points system, we aim to create a sporting community at Noranda Netball Association that values sportsmanship and respect as much as victory.**



# 2024 RULES UPDATE

## FOUL PLAY

Foul play - not cool in our books!

Foul play has been spilt into three categories which attract increasingly serious game management action.

# 1

### UNFAIR PLAY

Delaying play.  
Intentional infringing.  
Repeated infringing.  
Intimidation.  
Disputed ruling by a player.



### PENALTY PASS WHICH IS ADVANCED

A penalty pass is awarded, which is advanced up to half a third (5m).



# 2

### UNSPORTING BEHAVIOUR

Retaliation.  
Abusive behaviour.  
Any actions contrary to good sporting behaviour.



### PENALTY PASS + WARNING OR SUSPENSION

A penalty pass is awarded where the infringement occurred and the player is either given a warning or suspended. In a serious case the player will be ordered off.



# 3

### DANGEROUS PLAY

Players must not take action that could affect the safety of another player.



### PENALTY PASS + SUSPENSION OR ORDERING OFF

A penalty pass is awarded where the infringement occurred & the player is either suspended or ordered off. Players must always be ordered off for intentional or highly reckless dangerous play.



## PLAYER RESPONSIBILITY

There is a strong emphasis on the seriousness of dangerous play, which is why it goes straight to a suspension or ordering off. This puts increased responsibility on players to use good judgment in making decisions on court and understanding that they will be held accountable for actions that might result in the injury of an opponent.

By the time the umpire takes the action, the incident has already happened, and it is too late – but having a more serious consequence hopefully has a deterrent effect and makes that player, and others, reconsider their behaviour for next time.

CHECK OUT THE RESOURCE HUB



EXPLAINER VIDEO



RULES OF NETBALL APP



NETFIT NZ APP

# 2024 RULES UPDATE

## GAME MANAGEMENT

Game management is crucial to keeping our game safe and fair.

Cautions have been removed and umpires can now advance or escalate a sanction. Normally an umpire will work through these game management actions in order unless an offence is serious enough to require a higher level of game management to be applied immediately.

CHECK OUT THE RESOURCE HUB



EXPLAINER VIDEO



RULES OF NETBALL APP



NETFIT NZ APP

## GAME MANAGEMENT ACTIONS



### PROACTIVE ADVICE

For low-level incidents that do not compromise player safety, an umpire can provide specific feedback to a player to change their behaviour.



### ADVANCE / ESCALATE

A sanction may be advanced up to 5m. If an infringement is in the goal third, it can be advanced into the circle. A free pass may be escalated to a penalty pass, as a stand-alone action or in combination with the sanction being advanced.



### WARNING

This lets a player know that if they continue to infringe the foul play rules they will be suspended.



### SUSPENSION

The player will be sent from the court for 2 minutes of playing time. After 2 minutes, the suspended player may return to the court or they may be replaced with a different bench player.

\*This is an important change as it means coaches have more choice, especially if they think the suspended player isn't going to be able to adjust and may end up being ordered off.



### ORDERING OFF

The player must leave the court and takes no further part in the match. The suspended player may be replaced by another player after 4 minutes of playing time.

## REMEMBER

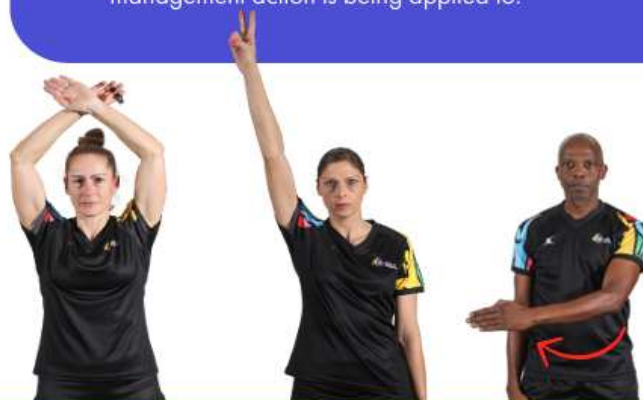
It's important to remember that umpires work as a team to control the game. Warnings, suspensions and ordering off are all immediately binding on the co-umpire.



As an example: if one umpire gives a player a warning and that player continues to infringe the foul play rules at the other umpire's end of the court, they would then suspend that player.

## THE PROCESS

1. Hold time using hand signal.
2. Use the specific term & hand signal for the game management action.
3. Advise the player of the behaviour the game management action is being applied to.



WARNING HAND SIGNAL

SUSPENSION HAND SIGNAL

ORDERING OFF HAND SIGNAL