



Mercy Leschenault Collie Netball Club

Bylaws Current as of January 2026

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Mercy Leschenault Collie Netball (MLC) Club Bylaws

By-laws are additional rules which apply to members that generally deal with internal and administrative matters. MLC is a club and so must operate under the constitution, by-laws and fee structure of the association with which they play. MLC must also comply with Netball WA constitution, by-laws and fee structure.

1 Correspondence

All correspondence must be in writing to the club President, Secretary, Administrator or authorised person via email to mlcnetball2017@gmail.com or contact a committee member via phone as published on our website.

2 Information to Club Members

MLC shall provide the following information to its members either in writing, on its website, through social media, email or communication app:

- a) Club contact details
- b) Team training details
- c) Team list
- d) Contact list of Team officials
- e) Club calendar of events

3 Officer Bearers, Elections and Meetings

All meetings, elections and office bearer positions shall be managed as per the Constitution Model rules. As a minimum, officers will include:

- a) President
- b) Vice President
- c) Secretary
- d) Treasurer
- e) Administrator/other

4 Club Meetings

- a) Annual General Meeting is to be held on a date set by the committee each year.
- b) Executive and General meetings to be held when necessary.

5 Membership

- a) MLC can rescind or decline membership to any individual or team if they do not comply with MLC's code of conduct policy or these by-laws
- b) Should players decline an MLC team offered after team formation in favour of playing for a different netball club, the Team Formation Co-ordinator may refuse to place them in a team the following year. The player will be notified of this and may appeal the decision following MLC guidelines.
- c) Players who are offered a team at MLC netball have a limited time frame to accept the offer made. If they do not accept within that time frame stipulated their offer may be rescinded and a new player may be offered the position.
- d) Potential Coaches can be declined should they have started with MLC and changed to an alternative club and taken other members with them.
- e) Any member of the Club may make a written/email complaint against another member of the club within 24hrs of the incident occurring. Upon receiving a complaint, the Committee must serve notice on the member concerned to make submissions regarding the complaint within three (3)

days. All players/parents of junior players have the right of reply. The decision of the committee shall be conveyed to both parties within 3 days of the complaint being heard. The complaints committee should be made up of (as a minimum) the President, Vice President and Secretary or their delegates. Should the complaint be levelled at a committee member and there are significant conflicts of interest which mean members of the committee must excuse themselves, the President, Vice President or Secretary may invite suitably experienced persons from outside the club to serve on the committee until the matter is resolved.

- f) If after all submissions have been considered, the facts in the complaint are considered proven, and a breach of the MLC Code of Conduct has occurred, the committee may by resolution expel or suspend the member from the Club
- g) If the Committee expels or suspends a member, the Secretary via the official club email, must, within seven (7) days after the action is taken advise the member in writing, giving the ruling, reasons and advising the member of their right of appeal.
- h) The member has seven (7) days to appeal the decision. The expulsion or suspension does not take effect until the appeal has been heard.
- i) Upon receipt of such an appeal, the Secretary shall notify the Committee who will meet within 3 working days to consider the appeal. The committee should make every attempt to consider complaints prior to the next round of fixtures so that penalties can be served promptly, or the matter can be dismissed.
- j) Non payment of any fees not paid is an automatic cancellation of membership.

6 Coaches and Team Managers

- a) All Coaches must have a current Netball WA membership and be registered through MLC
- b) All coaches are strongly urged to undertake the Foundation Coaching Course that is accessed through the relevant Netball WA Portal. MLC will arrange to reimburse the course cost once a valid receipt is supplied by the coach.
- c) Coaches and Managers must keep a record of all players' time on court. Each coach must allocate all players equal amount of playing time throughout the season where possible including Finals, unless they are injured or have not attended training or alternate arrangements are made with the coach due to positioning.
- d) Coaches cannot coach an opposing club team which is considered to be a real, potential or perceived conflict of interest by the MLC Committee

7 Registration and fees

Fees will be reviewed and set each year by the Executive Committee. The fees will be charged to members on a season-by-season basis and shall cover costs of:

- (1) Team registrations
- (2) Equipment
- (3) Training court hire
- (4) Trophies and awards
- (5) Annual wind-up contribution

Online uniform purchases are separate to club fee.

Fees must be paid before the first match of the season. Players will not be permitted to take court if fees have not been paid unless an agreement is made with MLC.

Players withdrawing from a team, including if they do not accept a position in a team due to any reason other than injury will be refunded less

- a) training cost of \$5 per session
- b) team formation costs of \$10
- c) Credit card Fees

Failure to pay any of these fees will result in the player not being eligible for consideration in the following season unless the committee deems special circumstances apply.

8 Player Registration

The MLC committee will nominate a registration period with a deadline prior to the start of the competition.

Players wishing to be considered for a team must register within this time frame and attend Team Formation Day or trials unless an approved exception due to injury. Players failing to register and pay fees within this time frame may not be considered for team selection. Late registration fees may be applied at the discretion of the club.

9 Annual events/social calendar

MLC shall organise such social events as determined by the committee. Annually at the end of the season, a club wind up will be provided at a subsidised rate by the club. Individual team wind ups or events are outside the scope of the club and not supported by the club financially or otherwise.

Any consumption of alcohol is to be done responsibly and only by those over the age of 18. Should a member be deemed to be intoxicated they will be removed from the function.

10 Age Requirements

The age requirements for each level and team will be in accordance with the relevant competition by laws for which the team wishes to enter and represent MLC.

11 Uniform

The MLC uniform is set by the Committee. Players are not permitted to take court unless in full uniform. Undergarments must be considered appropriate i.e. G Strings are not appropriate.

12 Selection of Team

A team selection formation Committee shall be formed, and teams shall be selected in accordance with the Team Formation Day Policy.

13 Training

If training indoors court hire and payments must be negotiated and finalised with the club Administrator in consultation with the Coach and/or Manager. Coaches must contact the club Administrator promptly if they cancel training dates so that fees can be recouped or transferred.

Suitable footwear to be worn at all times and players need to supply their own water bottles. Clothing should be comfortable sports appropriate wear and can not include any club logos of opposing clubs.

Team Managers and Coaches will be provided with a full contact list of team members. Players will be provided with Team Managers & Coaches contact details.

Players who can not train need to advise the coach and manager as soon as possible. Ideally no less than 30 minutes prior to training commencing.

14 Equipment

New balls and other equipment will be purchased as required. All equipment is the coach's responsibility. If a coach needs to replace items in their coach's kit, they need to inform the administrator who will arrange for this to occur. Coaches are not expected to replace equipment; just take care of it in a reasonable fashion.

15 Child protection

All MLC members who are appointed as Office Bearer of the club, coach, assistant coach and team managers over the age of 18 are required to provide the club with a Working with Children's Card prior to the season commencing unless an exemption applies. Member's numbers will be stored in a data base and each individual will have their number checked each year. Photos of club members under the age of 18 will not be published online without the consent of parents/guardians.

16 Social media

MLC communicates with members via Facebook, club website and Email. Individual teams may further communicate via messenger, text or other App. Social media platforms used by MLC for communication are administered by the club's Executive Committee and is intended for the sharing of information to keep members informed.

Behaviour that the Club finds abusive, offensive or brings MLC OR its sponsors into disrepute will not be tolerated and will be dealt with accordingly and could be grounds for MLC refusing or cancelling membership. Any social media communications or publications made by a member which negatively discusses or targets another member will not be tolerated and is grounds for MLC refusing or immediately cancelling membership. MLC does not accept discussion or comments from "Troll" accounts being those set up for the purpose of being able to make comments and not be identified.

MLC accepts disputes with our sponsors can be of a private nature and can occur however they need to occur respectfully and in private via appropriate legal avenues not via Social Media.

MLC does not support any irresponsible and/or at risk behaviours for Drugs, Tobacco or Alcohol. No member can post or promote on social media images of themselves or others drinking irresponsibly at any MLC function, event, training and/or in an MLC uniform at any location. Such posts can normalise such behaviours for our younger members as well as put our members themselves at risk of harm and as such is not acceptable.

17 Good Sports Drug and Alcohol Policy

MLC is a Good Sports supporter and has committed to the Good Sports policy which requires our members to take a responsible approach towards drugs and alcohol by;

- a) encourage all members to avoid posting on social media any items encouraging alcohol
- b) no media posts are to be made on the MLC facebook page promoting drinking or drugs in any way
- c) all training and other sports events are encouraged to be smoke free.
- d) drinking alcohol at any MLC event is to be done responsibly and only be members over 18 years of age.
- e) Water is the best option for trainings and games and no alcohol is to be consumed during these times by any member
- f) MLC will avoid having any rewards which are linked back to alcohol and or smoking.

Any adverse media be it social or public will be handled by the President and only the President or their delegated representative is authorised to speak on behalf the Club.

18 Awards

Awards for all teams will be presented to players at the end of season wind up. Each team will be provided with 2 trophies. In the primary school participation competitions coaches will be asked to determine who these awards are to be distributed to. For other competitive competitions one award will be based on the associations MVP or Fairest & Best counts and the other will be at the discretion of the coach. Should the association vote be close 1-2 point difference the coach may exercise their discretion as to who is the final MVP. This will be based on other factors including leadership, training attendance etc. Effectively the association vote relates to the "best concept" not the most valuable.

For the SWNFL league one trophy/reward is to be based on an MVP vote. This system will consist of a coaches vote and a selection from the other team. The 2 votes will be added together and those with the total number of points will be awarded the points of 3, 2, 1 for the game. If there are an equal number of points for players at the end, the coach's preference will prevail. The other trophy is at the discretion of the coach. Awards maybe given week by week if a sponsor is found or costs recovered by players. The weekly award can be given to any player the coach feels is worthy and is not necessarily aligned with the trophy MVP votes for that week.

Should any player be in breach of the MLC code of conduct and suspended they will no longer be eligible for any awards for that season.

19 First aid

- a) MLC recognises that first aid services are generally provided by the competition association or centre officials.
- b) A first aid kit will be stored in the coach's bag and all appropriate personnel will have access to it.
- c) Coaches/managers will ensure its maintained and any top ups can be provided by advising the administrator of their needs
- d) SWNFL teams are strongly encouraged to register a team carer and ensure this person is on the bench for each game.

20 Code of conduct

- (a) All MLC members agree to consent to the code of conduct as outlined by the MLC committee upon registration of any program or competition. Breaches of this code which encompasses players, officials and spectators is grounds for MLC refusing or immediately cancelling membership or imposing appropriate game suspensions.

21 Dispute resolution

- (a) Where a member breaches a by-law, and that by-law prescribes a penalty for such breach, then the Committee may impose such penalty. For any other breach of the by-laws, the Committee will impose any other penalty it sees fit in accordance with these by-laws and the Constitution and code of conduct.
- (b) Any member who does not agree with a penalty or action of the Committee made under this by-law, may advise the Committee in writing within a timely manner following the penalty or decision being made. The Committee may then:
 - (1) Discuss the issue with the relevant party and make a decision regarding the matter. The Committee shall inform the party/s involved of their decision either verbally or in writing; or
 - (2) Have an informal meeting with the relevant party/s in order to discuss and resolve the dispute.
- (c) Any penalty imposed under the by-laws is final.
- (d) Where an MLC player or Official has a complaint involving players or officials who are not part of MLC, they must contact the MLC Administrator or President within 24 hours of the event occurring. It is the club who then lodges this complaint with the association, which must occur within their by-laws requirements and is often 48 hours.
- (e) Internal Club member dispute process is covered under Clause 5 Membership

22 Special circumstances

- (a) Where there is no direction offered in the form of a by-law the MLC committee can opt to make a ruling, modify the by-laws or impose a penalty which they consider to be in the best interests of the club. In making all decisions and assessing complaints, precedence shall be taken into account.

23 Indemnity

- (a) Except where provided or required by law and such cannot be excluded, the Association and its respective directors, officers, members, servants or agents are absolved from all liability arising from injury or damage, however caused, whilst participating in the Association's activities as a member.