



Apollo Netball Club Grading – The how and why?

Apollo is taking a new and innovative approach to grading players and teams for 2020. We have experienced rapid growth over the last few years and it is becoming extremely important for our members to be graded according to their ability and skills.

The Club's aim is to produce teams with balance and similar ability across all playing positions. To succeed in this, Apollo wants to:

- provide players with the opportunity to demonstrate their skills
- provide coaches with the opportunity to provide feedback on players
- assess team dynamics
- retain players year on year
- treat all players fairly
- develop well-balanced teams
- instil the Apollo attitude to play

Grading is an ongoing process with Club officials drawing on knowledge, watching games, results from the previous season, coach input, paper grading, and practical grading sessions. In particular, for 2019-2020 the club will follow this five step process:

1. Coach evaluation reports
2. Season assessments by club officials
3. Paper grading
4. Compulsory attendance at practical/physical grading sessions
5. Grading outcome

Each coach will submit a written evaluation of each player's skill/ability levels, match fitness, commitment to training, teamwork and overall attitude. This report is confidential and will not be available to other coaches, players or family members.

It is expected that all players will attend practical grading where there will be, club executives, as well as experienced and independent graders.

Practical/physical grading is the pinnacle of the grading process and it is expected that to play for Apollo in 2020, you will attend the grading sessions. Grading is compulsory for all members turning 10 years and over including senior divisions; therefore, any player unable to attend all of their grading sessions (without prior notification) cannot be guaranteed to be placed in a team that best suits their playing ability. If you have a problem with attending any or all of your grading dates, as we do understand that there may be exceptional circumstances which prevent your attendance, we ask that you let us know in writing to by emailing apollonetballclub@gmail.com 2 days prior to grading dates. In the event of not attending and failing to give notification – grading will be done as per the steps 1, 2, 3, and 5 as set out as above.

Players and parents should be aware that success for a team one year does not ensure they will remain together the following year. Due to the nature of change, new registrations and differing development rates of all players from season to season, player movement in and out of such teams will occur. It should be noted that a netball team requires a balance of ability and ball skills as well as shooters, defenders and centre court players.

The final grading day dates will be posted on the Apollo Netball Club Facebook page and club website and all players must be registered with the Club before that day, via Netball NSW, and the *MyNetball portal* that the Club anticipates will open on 1st January 2020. Please keep yourself updated.

If you wish to register "as a team" and opt-out of the grading process, please have your coach/manager email the club for consideration before registration closes.

Looking to a successful 2020 season, we thank you sincerely for your continued support and co-operation.

Apollo Netball Club East Gosford Executive