

NETBALL

MATCH DAY CHECKLIST AND GUIDELINES



GAME DAY DETAILS

Date	Time	Association	Location / Venue

Nominated Official #1 / Role	Nominated Official #2 / Role

Please place a tick (✓) in the appropriate box.
All actions taken to address identified risks must be documented under section 7. Risk Management Actions.

1. WEATHER CONDITIONS

1.1 Are the weather conditions at the venue acceptable for play to commence? Yes No

Note: Sometimes extreme weather conditions including heat, cold, rain and wind, make it best to postpone training/competition.

2. PLAYING AREA

2.1 Is the playing surface even? (eg. cracks, water pooling ect) Yes No

2.2 Is the playing surface free of any litter, waste or debris? (eg. glass stones ect) Yes No

2.3 Are multi-purpose fittings (eg. tennis post holes) flush with the surface and non-slip? Yes No

2.4 Are the goal posts secure and padded Yes No

2.5 If there are lights at the venue, do they provide sufficient lighting for the playing area, including run-off areas? Yes No

3. RUN OFF AND PERIMETER AREAS

3.1 Does the run-off outside each side line and goal line meet Netball Australia's recommended 3.05m Yes No

3.2 Is the area clear from any hazards or obstructions? (eg. chairs, light poles, fencing, rubbish bins ect) Yes No

Note: If there is not 3.05m run-off around the court, please outline any risk management strategies in Section 7.

4. SURROUNDING PLAYING AREAS / AMENITIES

4.1 Are the public areas free from any hazards, including spectator areas? (eg. glass, needles & splinters) Yes No

4.2 Are the player/official/volunteer areas free from any hazards? (eg. canteen and change rooms) Yes No

4.3 Are there any temporary shade covers / tents securely fixed? Yes No

5. GUIDELINES

5.1 Is there a stocked first-aid kit available and accessible? Yes No

5.2 Is there ice or instant cold packs available for treating injuries to players? Yes No

5.3 Is there someone with first-aid qualifications at the courts? Yes No

5.4 Is there clean drinking water available? Yes No

5.5 Are there emergency, including evacuation procedures in place? Yes No



5. FIRST AID GUIDELINES

The Match Day Checklist is an important tool and should be completed prior to the start of the day. Associations and clubs have a duty of care to ensure the court and surrounds are as safe as possible for participation. The Checklist provides a reliable method of identifying risks and is a significant part of Public Liability Insurance.

Identifying and addressing risks before they occur can decrease exposure to property damage, personal injury or in extreme cases legal action. Documenting your association or club's actions to manage risk is important and may assist in the defence of negligence claims.

1. Who should complete the checklist?

This will depend on the type of competition you run. An association representative should complete the checklist for all centrally located venues and club representatives for matches played on a home and away basis. The checklist requires two nominated officials (over 18 years of age) to sign the declaration at the bottom of the form once they are satisfied the conditions are satisfactory and safe for play to commence.

2. When should the checklist be completed?

Checklists should be completed prior to the commencement of play. If conditions change, playing conditions should be monitored and reassessed throughout the day.

3. The Match Day Checklist is:

Provided to help officials identify foreseeable risks such as:

- Extreme weather conditions: lightning, heat, cold, rain and visibility (fog);
- Courts and equipment: cracks, water pooling, debris, uneven surfaces court markings, goal post padding.
- Run off and perimeter areas: the run-off areas should be free from obstructions such as bags, chairs or other hazards. 3.05m is the recommended run-off distance for all netball courts throughout Australia (as per the Official Rules of Netball). If courts do not have 3.05m at all side lines and goal lines, please document the actions taken to manage the risk prior to the commencement of play.
- Facilities: emergency exits, pathways, maintenance, change rooms
- First aid: qualified first aid personal, first aid kits, ice.
- Other factors: sun protection, clean drinking water, access to courts/facilities, food and beverages.

The Checklist is not aimed to take into account subjective concepts such as court quality, player fitness or fatigue.

4. What should happen if a risk I identified using the Match Day Checklist?

If you have identified a risk(s) it is important that it is documented with the actions taken to manage the risk completed in the table in section 6.

5. How do we address or manage the identified risks?

All identified risks should be dealt with to a satisfactory level before the commencement of play. For example:

- Reduce the risk: sweep courts, rope off hazardous areas, modify the game format, pad light posts.
- Avoid the risk: remove hazardous objects from the area, delay/postpone/relocate matches.
- Transfer the risk: warning signs eg slippery when, written notice to third party eg. council
- Accept the risk: acceptance may occur when the likelihood of an injury or incident is unlikely and the impact is minor.

6. What should we do if the conditions change during the day?

An ongoing assessment of playing conditions should be monitored throughout the day. If conditions change, officials should review Match Day Checklist to ensure conditions remain satisfactory and safe for all players and officials. If conditions change significantly (eg heat, lightning), the nominated officials should convene to decide how to proceed. This decision should be made in collaboration with one another.

7. Will I be held responsible if I complete the Match Day Checklist?

By signing the Declaration, you are stating that you have visually inspected the designated areas and declared them acceptable for use. Legislation and insurance exists to protect the nominated officials who sign the Match Day Checklist. Insurance cover may not exist for officials who show deliberate negligence or disregard for these responsibilities.

8. What if one team or official declines to sign the form?

Further discussions need to take place if one team or official declines to sign the form due to unsatisfactory conditions. All risks identified should be managed to an agreed standard that provides a safe playing/officiating environment. All actions should be documented.

9. What do we do with the completed Match Day Checklist?

All completed and signed Checklists must be retained on file for a minimum of seven (7) years for future reference.



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