Netball ACT Inclusion Position Statement

What is Inclusion?

Inclusion means creating a space where individuals of all ages, genders, abilities, and backgrounds have the opportunity to participate to the extent they choose. It requires a deliberate focus, commitment, and flexibility to break down barriers, ensuring programs and activities enable everyone to reach their full potential. At its core, inclusion is about making space for everyone.

Our Commitment

Netball ACT is dedicated to creating a welcoming environment for all members of the community, regardless of gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, intersex status, ability, skill level, cultural background, ethnicity, location, religious or political beliefs, or life stage. We strive to ensure all people feel safe, represented, included in decision-making processes, and free from discrimination.

We encourage everyone to engage with Netball ACT at a level that suits their interests and goals—whether that means playing at a social or competitive level, or contributing to the club's operations. We acknowledge the vital role that sport plays in fostering a sense of belonging and inclusion.

Netball ACT has a zero-tolerance policy toward all forms of bullying, harassment, and vilification. This includes discrimination based on gender identity, sexual orientation, intersex status, ability, cultural background, ethnicity, religion, political beliefs, and other personal characteristics. We are committed to treating every individual with respect and ensuring protection from abuse, discrimination, and harassment.

We recognize that individuals perform at their best when they feel valued, respected, and welcomed. It is our responsibility to provide an environment where everyone is treated with dignity.

Our Goals

We are committed to ensuring that:

- No one is excluded based on culture, ability, gender, race, sexuality, religion, or age. We aim to create a space where everyone belongs.
- Everyone is supported to participate in ways that align with their comfort level and personal goals.
- Our facilities, resources, and communications are accessible to all.
- Individuals are welcome to wear uniforms that allow them to participate in a manner they feel comfortable with.

- Our events are inclusive and welcoming to all participants.
- Our staff, volunteers, and leadership are trained to support inclusion and address any complaints or concerns promptly and effectively.
- Our committees and leadership reflect the diversity of our membership.

Coverage

This policy applies to all areas of Netball ACT's operations and extends to everyone involved with the organization, including committee and board members, staff, volunteers, players, coaches, administrators, parents, and other stakeholders.

Your Role

Inclusion is a collective responsibility. Everyone has a part to play in fostering an inclusive environment, whether on or off the court. Success in inclusion is not only measured by outcomes, but by the atmosphere and spirit of belonging we create together. All staff, volunteers, members, players, parents, and supporters are expected to behave in a manner that aligns with this vision—acting with respect, inclusivity, and dignity for all.

Related Policies

This statement should be read in conjunction with the following policies:

- Netball ACT Inclusive Uniform Policy
- Netball Australia - Inclusion of Transgender & Gender Diverse athletes in Elite Netball
- Netball Australia – Inclusion of Transgender & Gender Diverse athletes in Community Netball
- NA Member Protection Policy
- NA Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy
- Other Netball Australia Integrity Policies