

**NORTHERN FOOTBALL  
NETBALL LEAGUE  
INCORPORATED**



**SCHEDULE 24:  
FIXTURE GENERATION  
PRINCIPLES**

**Adopted  
December 2019**

**NORTHERN FOOTBALL NETBALL LEAGUE INCORPORATED**  
**FIXTURE GENERATION PRINCIPLES**

**1. INTRODUCTION**

This document has been developed to assist the Northern Football Netball League (NFNL) and its member clubs during the process of fixture generation for the regular season and finals series on a year to year basis.

It also provides the principles by which Junior Grading and Re-Grading operates. The aim of grading within the junior competition is to create a balanced and fair competition across all age groups and divisions, and to ensure that every team is given an opportunity to play finals at least once every three years.

**2. PROCESS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SENIOR MENS FOOTBALL FIXTURES**

2.1 On the conclusion of the finals series, Affiliated Clubs may submit fixture requests for the following season. Such requests shall close as of the 31<sup>st</sup> of October yearly.

2.2 The NFNL will give full consideration to all requests received prior to the stated deadline.

2.3 The NFNL will release the fixture by no later than 15<sup>th</sup> December yearly

**3. SENIOR FIXTURE PRINCIPLES**

3.1 No club will play more than two home or away matches in a row during the season.

3.2 No games shall be fixtured outside of the competitions standard day and starting times unless both clubs have agreed and the request submitted to the league according to section 2.

**4. JUNIOR FIXTURE PRINCIPLES**

4.1 The first four rounds are grading game rounds.

4.2 To accommodate ground allocation, clubs may have teams with an imbalance of home versus away matches. It is the responsibility of the club to identify these.

4.3 Clubs with teams who have an imbalance of home versus away matches must forward their concerns to the NFNL Football Operations Manager prior to Round 7.

4.4 The NFNL will endeavor to balance the number of home and away matches for each team as much as possible.

**5. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

5.1 The NFNL reserves the right to change venues for featured matches.

**6. SENIOR FINALS FIXTURE PRINCIPLE**

6.1 Where possible, no club will be given a home Final in any division or grade.

6.2 All finals are scheduled according to ladder positions and subsequent finals results.

**7. JUNIOR FINALS FIXTURE PRINCIPLES**

- 7.1 Where possible, no club will be given a home final in any division or grade.
- 7.2 As much as possible, the NFNL will schedule teams from the same club to the same location.
- 7.3 Where a club is hosting finals matches and has teams playing finals matches, the NFNL will endeavor to fixture those teams as close to their home ground as possible.
- 7.4 No guarantees will be given that teams from within the same club will be fixtured at the same location during any week.

**8. GRADING PRINCIPLES**

- 8.1 Clubs must supply their Grading Request, with feedback, by the date as directed by the NFNL.
- 8.2 The following criteria will be taken into account during the grading process:
- i. Club feedback;
  - ii. Team performance the year prior;
  - iii. Team history (performance in prior years, finals appearances);
  - iv. Balance of divisions.

**9. RE-GRADING PRINCIPLES**

- 9.1 A re-grading process will be completed as quickly as possible after the conclusion of Round Four.
- 9.2 During the grading period, four points for a win and two points for a draw will be awarded and no percentage points will be applied. Normal points and percentage applications will apply after the grading period.
- 9.3 The following criteria will be taken into account during the re-grading process:
- i. Club feedback;
  - ii. Team performance the year prior;
  - iii. Team history (performance in prior years, finals appearances);
  - iv. Balance of divisions;
  - v. Opponents during first four rounds;
  - vi. Scoring shots during first four rounds.

**10. NETBALL FIXTURES AND GRADING PRINCIPLES**

- 10.1 As much as possible, the NFNL will schedule teams from the same club to the same location.
- 10.2 No guarantees will be given that teams from within the same club will be fixtured at the same location during any week.
- 10.3 The first four rounds are grading rounds in winter season.  
The first three rounds are grading rounds in summer season.
- 10.4 Clubs must supply their Grading Request, with feedback, by the date as directed by the NFNL.

- 10.5 The following criteria will be taken into account during the grading process:
- i. Club feedback;
  - ii. Team performance the year prior;
  - iii. Team history in winter and summer competitions (performance in prior years, finals appearances);
  - iv. Balance of divisions.
- 10.6 The re-grading process will be completed as quickly as possible after the conclusion of Grading period.
- 10.7 During the grading period, four points for a win and two points for a draw will be awarded and no percentage points will be applied. Normal points and percentage applications will apply after the grading period.
- 10.8 The following criteria will be taken into account during the re-grading process:
- i. Club feedback;
  - ii. Team performance the year prior;
  - iii. Team history (performance in prior years, finals appearances);
  - iv. Balance of divisions;
  - v. Opponents during first four rounds;
  - vi. Scoring shots during first four rounds.