



Heathmont United Netball Club Fill In Guidelines

If a team is short of players and requires a fill-in for a game there are Association rules that need to be followed to ensure that no player or team is disadvantaged or penalised in this instance.

HUNC is required to adhere to the MENA Club Competition Rules (Updated Dec 2024)
<https://menanetball.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/MENA-Club-Competition-Rules-2025.pdf>
regarding eligibility for players.

These include:

- Players must be Netball Victoria registered prior to playing. This can be via a Single Game Voucher or Full Netball Victoria Player Membership (maximum of 3 x single game vouchers can be used before a full NV membership is required)
- Players may only play for one club during the season (within the MENA competition)
- New players/fill in players must be recorded on the front and the back of the scoresheet. They must be ticked as playing on the front of the scoresheet also. The details on the back of the scoresheet must include their full name (no nicknames), their regular team and section, the last 3 digits of the mobile number linked to their netball connect account (please note for junior players this will most likely be the parent's mobile number) and their date of birth. Please note if the scoresheet is not filled out correctly this will result in the loss of 1 premiership point.
- In order to qualify for finals a player must be a fully paid financial member of the club and that player must have played a minimum of 4 regular season games
- Players must be a registered player to the team they are playing for through Netball Connect to qualify for finals
- A maximum of 3 fill-in players are permitted per game
- Fill in players must meet the age requirements outlined in the MENA Bylaws:
<https://menanetball.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/MelbourneEastNetballAssociationByLawsupdatedJuly2024-1.pdf>
- Players can only fill in for a team in a higher section or age group, not a lower one.
- Players and fill-ins for open teams must be 15 years of age before 31st December of the current year of play. This includes Saturday and Wednesday night competitions.
- For Wednesday Night MENA competition only:
 - Players may only play one game per night. Once they have played with a team, they belong to that team. Players may only play in one team per season

HUNC Requirements for Fill-ins in addition to the above MENA requirements

- Fill in players are only to be used to bring a team up to have 7 or 8 players. 7 is preferable so we can best utilise our fill-ins across the club over the entire season.
- Players are only permitted to fill in a maximum of 3 times for any team for the entire season as according to the MENA rules playing more than this makes the fill-in player ineligible to play for their own team for the remainder of the season.
- Where possible, fill-in players should be sourced from a team playing at a different time slot to ensure they are not missing out on their own game.

- If a player has filled in 3 times this season already they are not permitted to fill in again for any team unless this has been approved by the HUNC committee. This will be considered for finals eligibility only. A request must be made to the Executive Team for approval in this instance.

Sourcing Fill-In Players Guideline:

The coach is responsible for selecting an appropriate fill in with the skill level and attributes suitable for their team.

If a Coach does not have a player in mind that they would like to use, an indication of skill level of HUNC players can be given by following the colour order of the HUNC teams for U11 and above, which is Black, White, Green, Red, Blue, etc.

Coaches seeking a fill-in player may choose to consult with another coach (ie. via Coaches Chat on WhatsApp) for assistance in finding the most suitable player.

HUNC grade their teams using colors to assist in identifying sections, however there are times where this color order does not reflect the sections the teams are playing in. It is important that the Coach/TM ensures that the selected fill-in is playing in a lower section than the team they are filling in for to ensure the team, the individual player and the club is not penalised.

Team Managers and Coaches must ensure that an accurate and current record is kept regarding the number of games each player has played as a fill-in. **Once they have filled in a total of 3 times, they cannot be a fill-in again for this season for any team.** To confirm the number of games played, please contact the committee at heathmontnetball@gmail.com.

After the game, the Coach or Team Manager needs to email heathmontnetball@gmail.com with the name/s of the players who filled in for the team to enable the keeping of accurate records of games and players.