



Heathmont United Netball Club Fill In Policy

If you are short of players and require a fill-in for your game, please ensure that you follow this process as we need to ensure that we are monitoring the use of fill-in players across the whole club, as players are only allowed to fill in a **maximum of 3 times in any other team** for the entire season.

Guidelines:

You can only use fill-in players to make your team up to 7 or 8. If you can play with only 7, this is preferable so we can best utilise our fill-ins across the club over the entire season.

Players can only fill in for a team in a higher section or age group, not a lower one. Where possible, fill-in players should be sourced from a team playing at a different timeslot to ensure they are not missing out on their own game.

To request a fill-in player, the coach should contact other coaches directly or by messaging in the coaches' WhatsApp group. You cannot go to the fill-in players' parents; you must go through the coach. Coaches may ask their team managers to assist them in managing fill-ins and should make sure they keep their team manager informed of all fill-in players used in each game so they can assist with keeping track of the number of fill-in games each player has played across the season.

Sourcing Fill-In Players:

- Where possible, fill-in players should first be sourced from the team directly below.
- Our teams are selected in the order of Black, White, Green, Pink, Blue and Orange in all age groups so you should be sourcing fill-in players from the next team in this order.
- There may be times where the sections allocated by MENA do not follow this order and the team directly below in our order may be in a higher section. If this is the case, you are to source fill-ins from the next team in this order that is in a lower section than you. Please ensure you check the section to ensure any fill-in players are from a lower section. This will also apply if the team below is in the same section as you, as teams that are in the same section are unable to fill in for each other.
- If you are the lowest team in your age group, you should source fill-ins from the highest team in the age group below.
- If the team directly below is unable to assist with fill-ins you should then ask the next team in the order.
- Where the team directly below plays at the same time, fill-in players should then be sourced from the next team below which plays at the earlier timeslot.

If you haven't been able to find a player through messaging the coaches' WhatsApp group or contacting other coaches directly, please contact the Coaches and Team Managers Coordinator directly so they can assist.

If you require a last-minute fill-in on game day, please try and find or contact a coach/team manager or a committee member to assist before finding any player to fill-in. If you can't find a coach/team manager or a committee member first, please ask the player/parent if they have filled in for another team this

season and, if so, how many times. If they have already filled in 3 times, you **CANNOT** have them fill in, and you will need to find someone else. If they are unsure how many times they have filled in but know it is more than once, please contact their coach/team manager or the committee to check before they take the court.

Please ensure you write the fill-in player on the front of the scoresheet and tick them as playing **AND** fill out all of their details on the back of the scoresheet, including 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.

After the game, please email heathmontnetball@gmail.com with the name/s of the players who filled in for your team so we can keep a record of this.

Fill-in players should **only** be current HUNC members/players. Any external fill-in players not currently registered with HUNC **MUST** have approval from the HUNC Committee and be registered before they can take the court. Please email heathmontnetball@gmail.com **BEFORE** your game to seek this approval.

Fill-in players cannot be qualified for another team for finals without approval from the HUNC Committee as in order for a player to qualify for finals they need to play 4 games in that team which would mean once they play the 4th game, they will then belong to that team and will not be able to play in their original team again. Approval for a fill-in player to qualify for another team for finals will only be granted where the fill-in players' regular team will definitely not make finals and where they can still play every game in their regular team. This means the 4th game played to qualify can only be played in the final round of the season to ensure the fill-in player is still able to play every game in their regular team.

If a coach is asked for a fill-in player, they should rotate this and not have the same players fill in every time so that everyone has an opportunity to fill in and not just one or two players. This is also important because players can only fill in a maximum of 3 times in any other team for the whole season.

Please also ensure that you are keeping track of how many games each of your players has played as a fill-in, and **once they have filled in 3 times, they cannot be a fill-in again in any other team**. Many coaches ask their team managers to keep track of this for them. So please keep in mind how many times players have filled in when asked if you can provide a fill-in player. If you are ever unsure of how many times a player has filled in, please contact the committee at heathmontnetball@gmail.com so we can assist you.