

NETBALL - BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR NOMINATING UMPIRES

The Western Region Academy of Sport (WRAS) is a non-profit organisation that assists young athletes to achieve sporting excellence. WRAS supports athlete development in a holistic manner and recognises the value of education. WRAS expects athletes to be attending school or tertiary education, meaningfully employed, or undertaking other educational or training opportunities.

As an integral component of the NNSW Umpire pathway, WRAS will deliver a program that supports identified talented umpires to access quality education and development opportunities delivered by professional and specialised service providers in a well-managed, monitored and controlled environment. The program is endorsed by Netball NSW and provides talented athletes the opportunity to grow as umpires and people. The program will allow umpires to upskill and work towards a National C or B badge depending on their experience.

Who can nominate for the WRAS 2022 netball program?

- Be aged between 14-18 years of age in 2022
- Be working towards a National C or B badge
- Display the potential to progress through the NNSW & NA Umpire pathway
- Demonstrate a dedication to improving performance
- Athletes must reside, attend school, or be employed in the WRAS catchment area.

Proposed Program of Events – guide only

The WRAS netball umpire program will run from February 2022 to September 2022 and will include

- Early February 2022 – 2-day Orientation/Team Bonding
- On Court Training Sessions in line with the WRAS netball program – this includes squad training days, camps and satellite sessions – program dates and locations TBA
- Education sessions in conjunction with the 2021/22 Netball squad
- April 2022 Your Local Club Academy Games in Wagga Wagga *
- September 2022 – Academy Challenge (3-day inter-academy event in Port Macquarie)*
- 2022 Regional Academy Camp hosted by Netball NSW- date and location TBA
- Strength and Conditioning training program between Orientation and the Academy Games

*All umpires will be required to attend each session; however, a limited number of umpires may be selected to attend the Academy Games and Academy Challenge. This decision will be under the discretion of the umpire coaches

How are selections made?

- Umpires wishing to be considered for the netball squad must complete the WRAS nomination form before the closing date/time and attend the WRAS netball trial.
- A detailed selection criteria is used which includes physical capabilities, technical competence, tactical awareness, potential to improve, individual application, coachability and behaviour, performance and representation at specific events
- A list of selected Umpires is placed on the WRAS website and trialling athletes are advised by email.
- Offers must be accepted by the due date or it may be withdrawn and offered to another athlete.

What is expected of a WRAS Umpire?

- Attendance at ALL activities in the WRAS program (including presentation evening). WRAS avoids clashes with higher level events run by the State Sporting Organisation. In certain circumstances exemptions can be applied for.
- Umpires are expected to adhere to the WRAS Code of Behaviour policy, participate to the best of their ability, display exemplary behaviour, show enthusiasm, and maintain high dress standards.
- WRAS umpires are expected to commit to improving their physical profile and should be aware that this includes undertaking physical activities and testing. They are also expected to undertake an injury prevention program.

What does the program cost?

Athlete Levy	\$270
Compulsory uniform – WRAS polo shirt, training singlet, netball dress, white socks and hoodie	\$238
WRAS Uniform Subsidy	-\$33
TOTAL	\$475
Note: Each athlete will be required to pay an additional \$110 (estimated) to Netball NSW to attend the Regional Academy Camp Selected Umpires will have costs covered to attend Academy challenge	

Athlete levy covers: WRAS membership and insurance, Intensive training sessions under the guidance of local elite coaches, Injury prevention screenings and training program, Sports science fitness testing, Educational seminars.

Selected athletes will be advised how they can offset their levy by seeking personal sponsorships through the 'Friends of the Academy' program. WRAS also invites athletes to apply for assistance from funding received from some of the Central West ClubsNSW member clubs.