



Winter Pre-Season Trials

St Monica's Netball Club will hold Junior pre-season trial sessions commencing in early February each year, as advised on the Club Website, Face Book page, emails to existing members, and via the Registration Form. The purpose of these sessions is to select teams to compete in the SAUCNA winter season.

Squad Training Sessions

St Monica's Netball Club may hold squad training sessions to aid with the player selection process. If required, the squad sessions will be held after trials (or instead of trials in the case of hot weather). These sessions will provide further opportunity for Selectors to allocate players and fine-tune teams.

Attendance

- Players in U8 and U9 with enough registrations to fill multiple teams may be required to participate in a squad training session in February 2024 to assist with team and player allocations.
- Players in U11, U13, U15 junior age divisions with more than 10 registrations are required to attend pre-season trials in order to be correctly graded into an appropriate team to compete in the upcoming season. Attendance allows selection panel members to make judgement as to appropriate team selections, with a correct balance of players capable of playing the various team positions.
- In the event that junior players are unable to attend the trial sessions, or weather does not permit the running of trials, selectors and club officials will consider previous playing experience, performance and draw upon reports from previous coaches and any available playing statistics.
- It is important that players who attend pre-season trials understand, that whilst their attendance may certainly be an advantage, there will be other players who may come into consideration for team selection who are not able to attend, or may be injured/away.
- **Players who have not registered prior to selection trials will only be placed in teams with vacancies, following the selection process.**

Selection Panels

The selection process is a comprehensive process, involving many hours of volunteered time from the panel members and the selection supervisor(s).

SMNC seeks to use selectors who are independent from trialling players, and possess sufficient skill and knowledge for this task. Selection panels will report to the selection supervisor(s), who will be responsible for organising the trial days, and providing information and support to the selectors during the process.

Ideally, panels will comprise 3 selectors, one considering shooters, one considering mid court players, and one considering defenders.

Selection panels will not discuss selection matters with players, parents or those not involved in the selection process, either during or after the selection trials.





Parents should direct any relevant information about their child to the supervisor of the day and parents are not permitted onto the courts during trials.

Selection Criteria

Players will attend pre-season trials in the appropriate age group, and be available to represent the club in the selected team. Teams will be selected by the Selection Panel, who may seek further input from previous coaches, and the selection supervisor(s), where appropriate.

Players will be allocated equitable court time, as a minimum, in their first two nominated positions by the selection supervisor(s).

It is therefore important that players nominate their preferred positions on the registration form accurately, as this is a key criteria considered in the trailing process, and subsequent team selections.

It is important to note, however, that following trials and team selections, a coach has the discretion to position their players and team as they see fit, they are not restricted to only positioning players in their nominated trial positions.

Opportunity to trial in further positions will be subject to time constraints and any wishes from the selectors to view players in other positions/combinations. Selectors may suggest players consider other available positions in higher teams where there is a short fall of players to play at that level, in those positions.

Players will be placed after consideration of the following:

- Ability, including ability in nominated positions – as ranked against other players nominating for the same positions: defenders, mid courts, shooters.
- Positions required – generally 3 defenders, 3 mids, and 3 shooters will be selected for each team.
- Experience and past performances, including commitment (games and training), and reliability.
- Team dynamics, team balance and harmony with other players.
- Development requirements.

Overwhelmingly, the needs of a whole team will outweigh any single player's needs.

We do not accept placement requests based on the need to be with specific friends.

Siblings will be placed together unless they are of different ages, or significant ability difference.

Selection Time Line

Selection dates will be announced at the release of the winter registration form.

In January, further information about trials will be emailed to registered players once registrations close. This will include contingency plans for hot weather.

Teams will be announced by the club as soon as possible following the trial process. Selection decisions are final unless positions in other teams become available due to withdrawals.





Grievances and Procedures

Our club is committed to providing an environment where all members feel valued and respected. Club members have the right to express opinions and request feedback on selections.

Player Selections:

Previous experience in a high division of a lower age group does not automatically correlate to selection in a high division team in the next age group. Experienced players, in their second year in an age division, may make up the majority of players in higher division teams of a given age group. The number of players trialling for a given position can have an impact on team selections.

Any requests for feedback will be kept confidential and addressed as promptly as possible. The club will not make comment on the selection of any other child.

Request for feedback, in regard to selections, are to be emailed to club Secretary/President within 5 days of receiving notification of team placement.

Considerable volunteer time is given to all team selections. Concerns will be addressed with head selectors and/or members of the selection panel. We ask parents and players alike to respect the decisions made. Selectors have considered a broad range of factors across multiple teams during the process of team selections. Responses will be provided in a single brief reply.

Registration fees will not be refunded because parents or players are dissatisfied with the selection outcome.

Grievances during the season:

These should firstly be expressed with team coach and/or team manager. If not resolved, please email the club Secretary/President.

Refund Policy

Inability to place a player in a team: 100% refund.

Withdraw before selection trials: 90% refund.

Withdraw after the release of selection outcome, or team selections: 50% refund.

Withdraw after the release of SAUCNA team grading/release of draw: 20% refund.

Withdraw after season start: 0% refund.

In all cases the Management Committee can elect to give a full refund in circumstances where it is warranted.

