

SENATORS DOMESTIC GRADING POLICY

1. Overview

In accordance with the Domestic Competition By-Laws, WARWICK SENATORS reserves the right to grade team entries to ensure fair competitions.

Competitions must be graded into separate divisions/sections if 14 or more teams are entered. Competitions may be graded if less than 15 teams are entered. Graded divisions may be played as separate fixtures or as a single fixture with separate finals for each division at the discretion of the Warwick Senators Competitions team.

All junior and senior team entries are subject to a grading process at the commencement of each domestic competition season.

2. Junior Teams

Teams are required to register via PlayHQ and nominate a division. Teams will be subject to a grading review dependent on this classification and will be allocated to an initial starting division. Teams are expected to play to the best of their ability during the grading period.

2.1 Existing teams

Existing teams are those that have played within the Senators Domestic Competition in a previous season/s.

The Competitions Team will consider the following factors when determining initial grade allocation for existing teams:

- a) Previous season results - ladder position, win/draw/loss ratio and percentage
- b) Pre grading division nomination
- c) Player line up changes from previous seasons
- d) Individual player attributes such as age and skill set
- e) Overall team attributes such as growth/development potential
- f) WABL/State representative players within the team

2.2 New teams

New teams are those that are comprised of a combination of players that cannot be considered an existing team or have played outside of the Warwick Senators competition. The Domestic Competitions Team will consider the following factors when determining initial grade allocation for new teams:

- a) Pre grading division nomination
- b) Individual player statistics and experience
- c) Individual player attributes
- d) Team potential development
- e) WABL/State representative players

3. Senior Teams

Teams are required to register via PlayHQ and nominate a division. Teams will be subject to a grading review dependent on this classification and will be allocated to an initial starting division. Teams are expected to play to the best of their ability during the grading period.

3.1 Existing teams

Existing teams are those that have played within the Senators Domestic Competition in a previous season/s. The Competitions Team will consider the following factors when determining initial grade allocation for existing teams:

- a) Previous season results - ladder position, win/draw/loss ratio and percentage
- b) Pre grading division nomination
- c) Player changes
- d) NBL1/State representative players within the team

3.2 New teams

New teams are required to nominate a division preference via PlayHQ. The Domestic Competitions Team will consider the following factors when determining initial grade allocation for new teams:

- a) Registration division nomination
- b) Individual player attribute, statistics and experience
- c) Team potential development
- d) NBL1/State representative players

4. Grading Phases

4.1 The junior season will be structured into the following grading phases:

- a) Grading Phase 1 - Rounds 1 & 2. Changes are made for round 3, based on game results. We look to ensure the results are as close as possible. 15 points or under is considered by the Competitions team to be a close result.
- b) Grading Phase 2 - Rounds 3 & 4. Changes are made for round 5, based on Referee Supervisor feedback (review of players on court).
- c) Confirmation Phase - Rounds 5 & 6. Changes are made for round 7. During this phase, player and parent feedback/requests that are made in writing will be reviewed.

4.2 The senior season will be structured into the following grading phases:

- a) Grading Phase 1 - Rounds 1 & 2. Changes are made for round 3, based on game results. We look to ensure the results are as close as possible. 15 points or under is considered by the Competitions team to be a close result.
- b) Grading Phase 2 - Rounds 3 & 4. Changes are made for round 5, based on Game Controller feedback (review of players on court).
- c) Confirmation Phase - Rounds 5 & 6. Changes are made for round 7. During this phase a final review of teams will be made along with team representative requests/feedback.

4.3 Grading is at the discretion of the Competitions team and once done, there will generally be no further regrading for the season. However, the Competitions team reserves the right to further regrade if it feels it is for the benefit of the competition.

WARWICK SENATORS reserves the right to regrade teams outside of the specified grading phases in exceptional circumstances including, but not limited to:

- a) Significant loss of players
- b) Addition of players who have played in a higher level of competition
- c) Player welfare
- d) Major injuries causing a player to be unavailable for a significant part of the season

5. Unfair Grading Determination

If the Competition Team determines that a team or teams are believed to have a skill level exceeding most teams in that age group's highest-graded division, the following options will be presented to the team's contact:

- a) The team is divided, and players are merged with players from lower-graded teams in their relative age group
- b) One or more players are moved to a team in a higher age group
- c) The entire team is moved to a higher age group

If the team does not agree on a preferred option within the specified time limit, then option (c) will be applied.

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