

NETBALL HANDBOOK & SELECTION CRITERIA

Guiding Excellence, Sportsmanship, Transparency & Community Pathways

KEY PERSONNEL & KEY CONTACTS

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Teacher in Charge (TIC):	Ben Hopkins	ben.hopkins@tepuke.school.nz
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1. WELCOME, PURPOSE & GUIDING VALUES

At Te Puke High School (TPHS), sport is an integral vehicle for developing our rangatahi (youth) holistically. We hold a proud history of regional, national, and international sporting achievement. Whether playing competitively or socially, all student-athletes, coaches, and parents are guided by our school's core values and Sport New Zealand's *Balance is Better* philosophy, which emphasises multi-sport participation and delaying early specialisation.

Respect

Whakawhanaungatanga:

Showing honour to opponents, officials, rules, and spectators on and off the court.

Relationships

Whanaungatanga:

Fostering positive connections between staff, student-athletes, coaches, and whānau.

Responsibility

Takohanga:

Demonstrating self-management, punctuality, high attendance, and personal accountability.

Resilience

Manawaroa:

Building mental toughness, physical conditioning, perseverance, and strong sportsmanship.

Realising Potential

Whakapakari:

Striving for continuous skill development, personal excellence, and growth (*Plus Ultra*).

2. PROGRAMME PATHWAYS & DEVELOPMENT

Pathway Structure: Year 9 to Post-Secondary

- **1. Transition & Foundation (Year 9):** Focuses on skill acquisition, positional versatility, team culture, and adjusting to high school intensity. Seamless progression from Te Puke Intermediate's Netball Academy into TPHS Junior Teams (Junior A/B & Social).
- **2. Development & Progression (Year 10–11):** Focuses on tactical awareness, position specialisation, strength & conditioning, and leadership development. Placement into Premier 2 / Senior Open teams or entry into the *Plus Ultra High Performance Athlete Programme*.
- **3. Performance & Senior Excellence (Year 12–13):** Focuses on elite match execution, game analysis, performance psychology, and representative trials. Premier 1 Team competing in Bay of Plenty / Tauranga secondary school competitions and the UNISS (Upper North Island Secondary Schools) Tournament.
- **4. Post-Secondary & Community Extension:** Focuses on lifelong participation and transition into high-performance pathways, with strong connections to senior clubs and WBOP Netball Zone performance squads.

Tier & Team Breakdown

TIER / LEVEL	SCOPE & TARGET COMPETITIONS	FOCUS & EXPECTATIONS
Senior Premier / Senior A	Tauranga Secondary Schools, BOPSS, UNISS Tournament	High performance, tactical mastery, fitness, merit-based selection, and a results-driven focus.
Junior Premier / Junior A	Tauranga Secondary Schools, BOPSS	High performance, tactical mastery, fitness, merit-based selection, and a results-driven focus.
Development & Junior Teams	Local Tauranga & Regional BOPSS fixtures	Skill progression, positional rotation, tactical awareness, and equal play.
Social Teams	Local secondary school leagues	Participation, community connection, fun, and playing with friends.
Student Officiating & Coaching	Pre-season workshops & regional fixtures	Developing student coaches and qualified student umpires to officiate matches.

Strategic Goals & High-Performance Development (Plus Ultra Integration):

- Support student identification for Bay of Plenty representative trials and regional development squads.
- Integrate top-tier netballers into the *Plus Ultra Athlete Programme* to deliver specialised mentoring, athletic conditioning (Fitter, Sharper, Stronger), and nutrition support.
- Maintain academic performance standards alongside sport-specific training to foster balanced, dual-career student-athletes.

3. CODES OF CONDUCT & EXPECTATIONS

Player Code of Conduct

- **Academic & Attendance:** Maintain a minimum 80% attendance record and positive classroom behavior to remain eligible.
- **Commitment:** Attend all scheduled trainings and matches. Communicate absences well in advance.
- **Substance Policy:** Strict adherence to TPHS rules regarding alcohol, vaping, and banned substances.
- **Fair Play:** Show respect to all officials and opponents. Foul language or abuse will not be tolerated.

Spectator & Whānau Code of Conduct

- **Positive Sideline Culture:** Cheer positively; remember that school sport is played for enjoyment and development.
- **Respect Officials:** Never argue with, harass, or verbally abuse referees, umpires, or coaches.
- **Zero Tolerance:** Physical or severe verbal altercations result in immediate removal and a ban from future matches.

4. TEAM SELECTION PROTOCOLS & TRIAL PROCEDURES

Trial Procedures & Transparency

1. **Notice:** Trial dates, expectations, and criteria are publicly announced at least 2 weeks prior.
2. **Multiple Windows:** Players participate in a minimum of two trial sessions.

3. **Assessment Panel:** Evaluations are conducted by the Head Coach, TIC, and independent evaluators.
4. **Sign-Off:** Premier rosters are strictly provisional until reviewed and signed off by the TIC and Director of Sport.

Selection Rules & Protocols

- **Senior A / UNISS Roster:** Selected pre-season. Junior students may trial; if skills are equal between a junior and senior student, preference goes to the senior student.
- **Game Time Equity:** For all non-Premier teams, coaches are mandated to give every player a minimum of half a game per fixture.
- **Conflict of Interest:** Selectors/coaches with family ties must recuse themselves from scoring that athlete. Tie-breakers rest solely with the TIC & Director of Sport.

5. SELECTION CRITERIA & PLAYER EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

Selection decisions are based on holistic evaluation across core competencies, personal attributes, fitness standards, and position-specific execution during trial matches and training sessions.

Core Evaluation Framework:

- **Core Playing Competencies:** Sound skill base and consistency on court, tactical decision-making under pressure, flair and innovation, sustained physical fitness, and potential to represent at higher levels.
- **Core Personal Qualities:** Strong work ethic, discipline, resilience under pressure, dedication on court and bench, versatility, consistency, and adaptability.

Position-Specific Selection Criteria

POSITION	KEY SELECTION CRITERIA & EXPECTATIONS
GS Goal Shooter	■ Shoots goals from anywhere, sight shot first-target of 10 goals per quarter (75%–85% accuracy). ■ Looks for strong off-loads to enhance team shooting accuracy; actively rebounds missed shots. ■ Availability to the ball, especially in 1-on-1 situations; reads and creates space in circle with GA. ■ Applies constructive defence to the line upon turnover.
GA Goal Attack	■ Minimum of 5–6 goals per quarter with a shooting accuracy of 70%–80%; actively rebounds missed shots. ■ Links the attack end cleanly to the shooting end; runs clear lines and sharp angles in/out of goal circle. ■ Reads and creates space in the circle working cohesively with GS; constructive defence upon turnover.
WA Wing Attack	■ Dominant role in Centre Pass (proactively working 1st and 2nd phase play); drives quick transitions through court. ■ Ball in hand appropriate decision-making including variety of passing with accuracy and positive feeds. ■ Receives ball with change of pace/movement; attacks goal circle edge; reads/creates space outside circle with C.
C Centre	■ Gets Centre Pass off accurately and stress-free; dominates speed and tone of game when appropriate. ■ Attacks goal circle edge and readjusts positioning; reads and creates space outside circle with WA. ■ Links attack and defence ends seamlessly; dictates running paths of opposition on defence with clean execution.

POSITION	KEY SELECTION CRITERIA & EXPECTATIONS
WD Wing Defence	■ Dominant role in Centre Pass (dictating 1st & 2nd phase play of attackers); prevents opposing GA on Centre Pass. ■ Variety of defence (loose for pickings or tight around circle edge); comes up with clean turnovers. ■ Dictates running paths of opposition; executes quick transitions through court with GD, GK, and C.
GD Goal Defence	■ Dictates running paths of shooters in/out of circle; variety of defence on shot; consistently rebounds. ■ Variety of defence (loose for pickings, tight in circle, space marking with GK); clean ball-in-hand turnovers. ■ Works with WD, GK, and C to bring the ball through the court to the line in a controlled manner.
GK Goal Keeper	■ 1-on-1 continuous pressure on opposing GS; dictates shooter running paths; dominant rebounder. ■ Variety of defence on shot and circle play; clean ball-in-hand turnovers with minimal umpire involvement. ■ Delivers clean pass from back line throw-in-attack through to the line.

6. DISPUTE RESOLUTION & COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

TPHS enforces a strict, staged procedure for addressing team selection enquiries or sideline complaints:

STAGE 1 The 24-Hour Rule

Parents, carers, and students must wait 24 hours after team announcements or match completions before lodging a complaint or requesting feedback. Immediate sideline or post-trial confrontations are strictly prohibited.

STAGE 2 Informal Resolution (TIC Level)

The student or parent contacts TIC Ben Hopkins via email. The TIC will consult with the coaching staff and arrange a meeting to provide constructive feedback and developmental steps.

STAGE 3 Formal Complaint (Director of Sport)

If procedural unfairness or code of conduct breaches persist, a written complaint must be submitted to Director of Sport Martin Ash. The Director will review scoring rubrics, interview independent selectors, and provide a formal written resolution within 5 school days.

7. LOGISTICS, UNIFORMS & HEALTH SERVICES

- **Fees & Payment:** Fees vary based on venue, transport, and tournament entries and must be paid prior to season start. *Account:* 12-3217-0084683-02 | *Reference:* [Student Name/ID & Netball]
- **Financial Aid:** Confidential financial assistance is available via the A. Lionel Litt Memorial Education Fund by contacting jocelyn.reardon@tepuke.school.nz.
- **Playing Uniforms:** Official playing gear is issued directly from the TPHS Sports Office. Custom team gear (hoodies, bags) must go through Legend Sportswear via the Sports Department—unauthorized use of school logos is prohibited.
- **Physiotherapy & Health:** Free on-site ACC physiotherapy operated by Boutique Physiotherapy is available Mondays and Fridays (8:00 AM–12:00 PM). Parent consent forms and injury registration forms must be submitted at school reception.
- **Safety & Police Vetting:** All adult volunteers, managers, and coaches involved in regular duties or overnight trips must complete a police background check.