

Kensington Junior Netball News

Spring Season 2025 – July



Kensington Junior Netball Club
www.kfjnc.com.au/netball
Kensington Flemington Junior Sports Club Inc
ABN 77 195 317 280 • Inc Assoc A0026770F

Congratulations Cassowaries • Key Dates • KJNC Stats • KCARC
New Teams • Holiday Clinic • Parkville Saturdays • How To Complain • Conduct
FightMND • Grading • Events • S&C • Opening Local Schools • KONC

Congratulations Cassowaries!

What a season for the Kensington Cassowaries! This 15&U team fought their way into 4th position, then won three finals to become Kensington's sole premiership-winning team in Parkville's Autumn season.



When the pressure was on and fans were screaming from the sidelines, the Cassowaries were cool, calm and collected – first knuckling down in Extra Time to win the preliminary final, then coming from behind to win the Grand Final 17 to 16. What champions!





NETBALL KEY DATES SPRING 2025

SATURDAYS @ PARKVILLE

JUL 26 - DEC 13
EXCL. 27/9, 4/10, 18/10, 1/11
FINALS (13&U, 15&U): 6/12, 13/12
OR EXTRA ROUNDS (11&U, NSG)

TUESDAYS 17&U @ RIVERSIDE / PARKVILLE

JUL 22 - DEC 9
EXCL. 23/9, 30/9, 4/11
FINALS: 2/12, 9/12



**THURSDAYS
15&U @ RIVERSIDE**

JUL 24 - DEC 11
EXCL. 25/9, 2/10, 16/10
FINALS: 4/12, 11/12

**THURSDAYS (EDNA)
11&U + 13&U
@ RIVERSIDE**

JUL 24 - DEC 4
EXCL. 25/9, 2/10
FINALS: 20/11, 27/11, 4/12

KENSINGTON JUNIOR NETBALL CLUB

We're run by parents who volunteer their time.

We follow a code of conduct, extending respect and positivity to every player, umpire, opponent and official.

RESPECT INCLUSION FAIR PLAY POSITIVITY IMPROVEMENT

Nelson Alexander



KJNC Stats: Spring

Kensington is one of the biggest clubs in the Parkville league, and we're still growing. For Spring 2025:

- 5 x NetSetGO teams, plus a new Development Squad to start in Term 4
- 8 x 11 & Under teams, incl. 2 playing Thursdays in the EDNA league
- 7 x 13 & Under teams, incl. 2 playing Thursdays
- 11 x 15 & Under teams, incl. 4 playing Thursday evenings
- 3 x 17 & Under teams, all on Tuesday evenings

That's 34 teams in total – another club record. Every team has a dedicated coach or two, a hard-working Team Manager, an umpire – and, of course, a bunch of determined netballers.

KCARC: So Close, And Yet Not Quite

The all-new **Kensington Community Aquatic and Recreation Centre** (say that three times quickly) wasn't quite ready in time for Spring season, but it's not far away! The club remains excited to move in to what will be a convenient and top-quality new training facility.

At time of writing, KCARC expects to open for the start of Term 4. Assuming that comes to pass, we'll decide whether to try to move teams or stick with our current schedule for the rest of the year. The facility is already in very high demand, so our challenge is to lock down hard-won court bookings for future years.

Guess the New Teams!

Three of these are new Kensington teams, and three are impostors! Can you guess which? (Answers on page 10.)

- Kensington Cranes ● Kensington Cockatiels ● Kensington Cuckoos
Kensington Clownfish ● Kensington Cosmics ● Kensington Killer Whales



Holiday Clinic – Specialist Position Training 13&U, 15&U, 17&U

Once again, a wonderful day was had by all at the KJNC Specialist Clinic, where motivated netballers come to shake off holiday cobwebs and hone position-specific skills.

The kids really enjoyed learning their specialist positions and applying those skills on court.



Thanks to our coaches for giving their time and energy once again.

And a special mention to Rebecca Urban for getting this amazing event off the ground! The club and players are all the richer for it.





Parkville Saturdays: Bursting at the Seams

The Saturday competition at Parkville continues to grow, with 33 new teams added in Spring, bringing the total to almost 250.

That's a lot of kids, and an increasing fixturing challenge – so spare a thought for the organisers who have to juggle them all each season, including occasionally losing courts or even entire weekends to unexpected maintenance or acts of government.

To meet demand, this season there's a new 4:30pm timeslot for some 13&U and 15&U teams. Next year, the league may have to move some levels out of Saturday altogether.

How To Complain

As of this season, Parkville will no longer accept complaints and reports directly from families. Perhaps you, like me, were surprised to learn they ever did. But either way, you are now required to speak first to your club, i.e. us! Our Complaints Officer can guide you through the process.

[Parkville Netball Policies](#)

Complaints Officer

Rachel Thomson
rethomson82@hotmail.com

Courtside Conduct: What's OK?

Speaking of which! You can never have too many reminders of what's fine and what's not as a court-side spectator. Here's another!

Always good:

- Positive encouragement: “*Come on, Kensington!*” “*You can do it!*”
- Celebrating effort, skill or cleverness: “*Good effort!*” “*Great defence!*”
- Celebrating the process, not just the outcome
- Passionate clapping, cheering, whistling!

Be wary of:

- Loud celebration when you're winning easily – *can be dispiriting for the other team*
- Coaching – *might conflict with coach instructions*



- Highlighting mistakes — *can become very negative*
- Encouraging aggressive play — *can sour the spirit between teams*

Never:

- Approach or address an umpire or opposition player – *forbidden*
- Audibly criticise a player, umpire or umpiring decision — *forbidden*
- Instruct other people’s kids – *rarely well-received, even with the best of intentions*
- Tell a coach what to do – *undermining, particularly of younger coaches*
- Be disrespectful, intimidating or aggressive

While the mildest of parents can get hot under the collar if they see their child on the wrong end of rough play, all grievances **must** be addressed through proper channels. Families can be sanctioned for approaching, calling out to, or even loudly commenting on umpires, officials, or opposition players and coaches, no matter the reason. Instead, speak to your Team Manager, or contact the club’s Complaints Officer.

[Parkville Netball Codes of Behaviour](#)

Complaints Officer	Rachel Thomson rethomson82@hotmail.com
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Fight MND



In mid-June, Kensington entered five teams into Parkville’s Fight MND Charity Tournament, raising \$5,466.19. Even the coaches got involved!





Grading Games? Or Not!

Typically the first three rounds of Parkville's Autumn season are grading games, used to figure out whether teams are in the right division. After these, the ladder (13&U and above) is reset, and the season begins in earnest.

That's not the case in Spring! While the league can always move a team if they determine a mismatch, there's no ladder reset, and every game counts.

Following KFJSC policy, our club aims to place teams where they're likely to win between 30 and 70% of games. We use performance-tracking software and our own knowledge to do this, and have an excellent record of getting it right. But we don't always get what we want! It's easier for us to say where a team belongs than for Parkville to make it work in conjunction with what every other club is saying plus the logistical constraints of the competition. (A bit like how it's easier to say where one player belongs than to make a whole team roster!)

Upcoming Events

Three unmissable events for your social calendar:

SSN Grand Final – Screening

Saturday 2 August 5 – 9pm

Flemington Bowls Club

Free – BYO food, drinks @ bar

<https://www.trybooking.com/DDPIW>





Trivia Night

Saturday 11 October

Flemington Bowls Club

Start organising a table for your team!

Presentation Day

Sunday 7 December (around midday)

Kensington Town Hall

Strength & Conditioning: Wed 5:45 – 6:30pm

Sign-ups opening very soon! Keep an eye out for our announcement.

KJNC is offering an additional weekly training session designed to develop high-performance players' strength, power, speed, agility, balance and coordination. Cost: \$30 for a six-week block.

Initial numbers will be capped at 12 for the 13&U group and 12 for the combined 15-17&U group.

Opening Local Schools to the Community

When KJNC was founded in 2013, local kids often wandered down to Kensington Primary School to play netball and basketball after school or on weekends.

Sadly, that hasn't been possible for years, as the school is now locked up tight after-hours. It means many kids have no close, safe netball court or shooting space they can use in their own time – especially if they live in a flat or have a small backyard.

Netball is the #1 team participation sport for girls and women, but you wouldn't know it from glancing around inner-city Melbourne, where courts, if they exist at all, tend to be multi-purpose and fixed permanently in the basketball position.

Our club has pushed hard on this issue for a long time, and it's thrilling to see progress this week in the form of a pilot program announced by Victorian Deputy Premier and Education Minister Ben Carroll MP to open 40 government schools across Melbourne's west – including North Melbourne Primary School Molesworth campus and Footscray High School Pilgrim campus.



This pilot program will give families a taste of the past – access to public sporting space where motivated kids can play and practice on their own time.

In the inner city, where competition for space is fierce, it makes all the sense in the world to open up these sporting facilities we already have. We hope the pilot program is a rousing success, and in the future more kids can enjoy throwing around a netball on their own time, not just at official club training sessions.

Kensington Open Netball Club



There's life after KJNC! Graduates are invited to keep up with friends, fun and fitness at KONC, with most games played Thursday evenings. For more info, contact Meg Olive at: olivemf@icloud.com

Child Safety

The most important thing we do is keep kids safe. At KJNC, if you have an issue or concern, there's always someone you can talk to – whether you're a player or family member.

Child Safety Officer

Keryn Coster

keryncoster@me.com

Sponsors

Know a business that wants to show off its community connections to hundreds of local families? Maybe they'd like to become a sponsor! Let us know.

President

Max Barry

kjnc.president@gmail.com

Quiz Answers

A: The Cranes and Cockatiels are new GO teams. The Cosmics are a new 11&U team. There are no Cuckoos, Clownfish or Killer Whales – yet!



KJNC Committee & Operations

President	Max Barry kjnc.president@gmail.com
Secretary	Sian Summers
Treasurer	Drew Anderson kjnc.treasurer@gmail.com
Complaints Officer / Team Manager Co-ordinator	Rachel Thomson rethomson82@hotmail.com
Registrar	Pilar Abou Haila kjnc.registrar@gmail.com
Child Safety Officer	Keryn Coster keryncoster@me.com
Coach Co-ordinators	Leigh McHenry & Kathryn Anderson kjnc.coaches@gmail.com
Umpire Co-ordinator	Shane Healey shanehealey@yahoo.com
NetSetGO Co-ordinators	Lindel Feldman & Morelle Bull kjnc.netsetgo@gmail.com
Uniforms Co-ordinators	Kim Luong & Sue Williams sue.williams.au@gmail.com
Welcoming Officers	Rebe Taylor & Glen Hancox kjnc.welcome@gmail.com
Venue Managers	Peter Ernst-Russell & Raoul Endres kjnc.venues@gmail.com

Kensington Junior Netball Club is part of the **Kensington Flemington Junior Sports Club Inc**, a not-for-profit incorporated sports association that exists in order to:

- be a community based junior sports club run primarily by parents for the development and enjoyment of young people;
- provide an environment that is safe, friendly and inclusive for all;
- create a culture that:
 - seeks to positively develop all players' self-esteem;
 - emphasises the primacy of learning co-operative skills within a team environment;
 - promotes a sense of good sportsmanship and respect for others;
 - ensures participation is accessible to all regardless of gender, ability or background;
 - encourages all players to develop their sporting skills to their fullest potential;
 - promotes active, healthy living amongst young people;
 - facilitates the fielding of teams that are competitive, disciplined and well drilled.

www.kfjsc.com.au/netball



Nelson
Alexander