



Kensington Junior Netball News

Spring Season 2025 – November

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

Presentation Day • KCARC Return • Disruption & Fees • 2026 Timeline
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High Performance • Junior Umpire Mentoring • KONC

Presentation Day: Sunday Dec 7 – now with Trading Cards!

The end of the year is coming up fast, which means it's almost Presentation Day!

This is a chance for the whole club to come together and celebrate our netballing achievements. Every team gets on stage to receive a photo and gift, and hear a story about their year from the coach.



This year we have Personalized Player Trading Cards! Look out for instructions next week on how to secure your set. They're free, and kids will get 4 copies of their own card, to do with what they please – swap extras with teammates to create a set, or perhaps give to favourite grandparents! Thanks to our new club sponsor [Next Star Cards](#).



Kensington Town Hall

Sunday Dec 7th

Youngest Teams 11am-noon; Middle Teams 12-1pm; Older Teams 1-2pm



KCARC return

At long last, we've moved most of our teams to Kensington Community Aquatic Recreation Centre, a brand new facility offering 3 courts in the heart of Kensington, near JJ Holland Park.



Being able to train more teams alongside each other provides many benefits, including the ability to share coaches, players, and equipment! (And for most families, being able to avoid Racecourse Road is a bonus, too.)

Disruption & Fees 2026

Autumn 2026 has been an interrupted season—with a particularly unfortunate sequence around the Term 3 / 4 break, where holidays, byes, and venue unavailability have all conspired to take away netball games.

One of our teams got only two games in 10 weeks — an incredibly challenging situation when we're trying to build strong, bonded teams.

Two big reasons behind the interruptions are:

1. The State Netball Centre is overflowing with teams on Saturdays, with more teams every season. In the past, Parkville tried to avoid byes, but now all divisions have them just to fit in enough matches.
2. [State Sports Centres Melbourne](#), who control the State Netball Centre, have begun hiring it out for special gymnastics events, forcing Parkville to cancel, shorten, and relocate games.



Unfortunately, there's no relief in sight—we expect Autumn 2026 to be similarly interrupted. There may be even fewer games, due to the timing of Easter.

As such, KJNC netball committee has approved a **special one-off discount of approx. \$50 next season**, which will lower the price of a standard single season membership from \$345 to \$295.

We're frustrated that teams can't play more often, but want to at least pass the results of lower costs back to families.

While we're very fortunate to call the State Netball Centre home, it's essential that we get regular access to it! Our club has been in contact with State Sports Centres to express our concerns, and we encourage parents to do so, too.

2026 Timeline

Our team works incredibly hard over Summer to fit together a jigsaw with hundreds of moving parts, and we're mindful of families with tight schedules.

November: Grading Day, Expressions of Interest, Uniforms portal opens

Early December: 2026 registrations open

Early January: Teams, Coaches, Training Times & Venues released

Last week of January: Autumn season starts

We have secured the same venue bookings for training in 2026, and will attempt to maintain continuity as much as possible—however, some movement may be necessary due to changing team numbers at each age group.

2026 Teams & Grading

Grading Day is this Sunday Nov 16 at the State Netball Centre for players entering 11&U, 13&U, 15&U and 17&U next year.

While Grading Day is important, as it allows the club's experts to see all kids in action alongside their peers, it's not the sole determinant of next year's teams. Our most important feedback comes from current coaches, who report on each



child's skill and social development. We combine this with information we receive from families — such as preferences for sticking with existing friendships versus playing in a more challenging division.

At this time of year, kids are often worried about losing teammates with whom they've grown close. It's the natural cycle of team sport: at the start of the year, everyone is apprehensive about their new team, and more often than not, by December, they don't want anyone to leave.

The club doesn't move kids lightly, but teams do usually change from one year to the next, for a variety of reasons including matching skill development, logistics, and social dynamics. A huge part of what we do is about developing children's social confidence—which means finding a balance between preserving existing key friendships and creating opportunities for new ones to grow.

Uniforms Shop – Opening November



The KJNC online uniforms shop will open soon – this will be your chance to purchase gear ahead of the 2026 season.

Our new personalised training tops have been a hit!

If your child is one of the many around the club who was a bit late to order, and has since been going around saying, “I wish I got a personalised training top,” here comes their second chance!

The uniforms portal will take orders for uniforms, hoodies, and training tops for delivery ahead of the 2026 season. Our shop opens twice a year, in May and November, and provides gear to families at near-cost price.





Finalist: Netball Victoria NetSetGO Centre of the Year 2025



KJNC was honoured as one of three finalists in *Netball Victoria's 2025 Community Awards* for **NetSetGO Centre of the Year**.

It's fitting reward and high praise for our brilliant NetSetGO coaches and team managers, and the hard work of our NetSetGO Co-ordinator Lindel Feldman,

carrying forward a program previously run by Leigh McHenry.

NetSetGO, which is for our youngest kids, builds new netballers through fundamental skill development and fun netball-adjacent games.

It's where KJNC started—the club was founded in 2013 with two young teams, and we've kept building up the NetSetGO program even as our oldest kids have been pushing ever-deeper into top competitions.

Volunteers Night

Our end-of-year thank-you dinner is no longer just for coaches! We invite Team Managers and other volunteers to join us at the Dousta Galla on Wednesday evening December 10. Save the date!

High-Performance Player Development

Special congratulations to Emmaline Oliver from the Kensington Cubs (11&U). Like quite a few of our kids, Emmaline tried out for a Parkville representative (rep) team — comprising the top kids from across the Parkville league. And she made it! She'll be part of the 2026 Parkville 13&U rep team, taking on other rep teams in top competitions.



Junior Umpire Mentor Program

We continue to develop our much-admired junior coaching & umpiring programs, which provide motivated players aged 15 and up with the opportunity to develop their skills—and earn a little money.

This season, KJNC launched a dedicated Umpire Mentor Program, aimed at supplementing the official Parkville program, to ensure our young umpires receive enough guidance and feedback to progress quickly and effectively.

Our junior coaches and umpires aren't just good at their jobs – they're inspiring, too! This week, we checked in with Frankie Portelli, who fits in coaching & umpiring with Kensington between representing Victoria at the National Under 15 Titles and her signing with Melbourne Uni Lightning Under 19 Reserves in Victoria Netball League.

“I remember my first team with Kensington,” Frankie says. “The coach’s name was Gen, and she was a teenager: a junior coach and an umpire. I feel like she influenced me to want to become a coach and do all this extra stuff, too.”





Kensington Open Netball Club



There's life after KJNC! Those who have grown out of the junior club – or 17&U players looking for a 2nd weekly game – are invited to keep up with friends, fun and fitness at KONC. Most games played Thursday evenings, and the possibility of Mondays in 2026.

Register your interest in KONC for 2026:
<https://forms.gle/hCAaoMhVXS9XgLgFA>

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
president@netball.kfjsc.com.au



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 Committee & Operations

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| President | Max Barry president@netball.kfjsc.com.au |
| 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-ordinator | Lindel Feldman kjnc.netsetgo@gmail.com |
| Uniforms Co-ordinator | Kim Luong plant.luong@gmail.com |
| Welcoming Officers | Rebe Taylor & Glen Hancox kjnc.welcome@gmail.com |
| Venue Managers | Peter Ernst-Russell & Raoul Endres kjnc.venues@gmail.com |
| Committee Members | Finlay Barry & Chris Cane |

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.

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