



Tournament Rules

Emirates Airline Dubai
Rugby Sevens

Invitation Tournament

Netball

1 - 3 December 2016



Section 1: Tournament Contact

The Sevens - Tournament Manager

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It is the responsibility of Team Manager to ensure team members and team personnel are conversant with the Tournament Rules

Section 2: Tournament Structure

Each competition will have a distinct tournament structure. Please refer to the competition specific information for further details.

2.1 Pool Stage Matches

The first round of games will be played in pools on a round-robin basis. For composition of pools please see competition specific information. Following the pool round there will be knock-out rounds.

2.1.1 Play will consist of matches between teams in the same pool on a round-robin basis. Pool matches will be seven (7) minutes each way with a one (1) minute half-time break.

2.1.2 All Pool Matches carry the following points:

- 3 points for a win
- 2 points for a draw
- 1 point for a loss
- 0 points for a no show, abandonment or referee disqualification

2.1.3 In the event of two or more teams being equal on competition points for any position in the pool table the higher placed team will be determined using the following sequence:

- 1) If two teams are involved and have played each other, the winning team will take the higher position. If more than two teams have equal points this rule will not apply.
- 2) The margin of points scored for and against a team in all pool matches shall be considered. The team with the highest positive margin of points shall be ranked higher in the pool table. In the event that the tie remains unsolved then;
- 3) The team that scores the most points in all pool matches shall be ranked higher in the pool table. In the event that the tie remains unsolved then;
- 4) The team that concedes the least points in all pool matches shall be ranked higher in the pool table. In the event that the tie still remains unresolved then;
- 5) If teams are still tied after all the above, the winner will be decided by the toss of a coin between the Managers of the teams concerned.

2.2 **Knock Out Stage Matches**

Following the completion of the pool stage matches there will be knock-out finals stages. The draw will be based upon the team positions in the pool tables. For details on the knock-out stages please see the competition specific information.

- 2.2.1 All quarter-final, semi-final and Plate final games will be seven (7) minutes each way with a one (1) minute halftime break.
- 2.2.2 The Trophy finals will be ten (10) minutes each way with a two (2) minute halftime break.
- 2.2.3 In the event of a match being drawn at the end of normal time (in the knock-out stages) extra time will be played, in five (5) minute periods until a winner is determined. There will be an interval of one (1) minute after full time has been declared then play shall commence with a coin-toss the winner of which chooses either; which way to play or to start the period of extra time. The first team to score will immediately be declared the winner and play will cease. After each five (5) minute period of extra time, teams will change ends, without stoppage, and resume play.
- 2.2.4 For all matches, should the Umpire decide there is a clash of shirt colours the Umpire will call both team captains together and toss a coin; the loser will change shirts or wear bibs.
- 2.2.5 Due to scheduling constraints play will continue as often as possible to avoid any delays. Umpires will penalise unnecessary delays as time wasting. All games are required to start on time. The organisers may change courts without

prior notice to facilitate completion of the tournament on time.

2.2.6 All teams are required to be at the allocated court and ready to start 5 minutes before the scheduled start time. Should a game not start on time, the Umpire may shorten the match to enable it to finish on time. Team captains will be advised if a match is to be shortened. The Umpire shall note on the match report which team was responsible for the match being shortened and the Tournament Manager may decide to deduct additional points based on the circumstances of the delay or for consistent offenders.

Section 3: Rules of the Tournaments

3.1 The rules of the Tournament, including their interpretation, are matters for the Disputes Committee. As such the Tournament Management will appoint a Disputes Committee to arbitrate on all matters concerning the rules of the Tournament. The Disputes Committee will be convened only in the event of an official written complaint being registered with the Tournament Manager or at the discretion of the Tournament Manager. The complainant and affected parties may be required to attend a hearing at the discretion of the Disputes Committee. Failure of the complainant to attend will render the complaint void. In the event of any matters arising that are not covered by the Tournament Rules, or ambiguity of the Tournament Rules, the Committee shall make a ruling after interpreting the rules in the best interests of the tournament. Its decision shall be final, without appeal.

3.2 All the matches will be played in accordance with the International Netball Federation - Official Rules of Netball and the rulings therein and directions published in the Tournament Rules unless a variation to those rules is mentioned herein.

3.3 Teams, Players or Team Personnel who breach the Tournament Rules will jeopardise their team's likelihood of being invited to participate in future tournaments.

3.4 At the end of each match the Umpire must sign the scorecard prior to the Team Captains, to verify the final score.

3.5 A disputed match result must be brought to the attention of the Registration Manager, (situated in the Registration Tent), by the Team Manager within 30 minutes prior to the commencement of their next game or within 2 hours of match completion, whichever is soonest.

3.6 Variations

The Tournament Manager reserves the right, before and during the tournament, to make or vary rules and give directions as to the conduct of the tournament, the conduct of participating teams and each member of their team. All such rules and directions when made and communicated will become binding on the

participating teams and each member of their team, at the time of publishing by posting of a notice in the Registration Tent.

3.7 Eligibility

3.7.1 Eligibility is a competition specific element of the Tournament Rules. Please see competition specific information for further details. (Section 7)

3.7.2 Players/officials currently under any sanction which could prohibit them from playing or officiating in/at the tournament, who participate in the tournament, will have the following action taken:

- they will be immediately banned from the tournament.
- their respective home Netball Association will be informed who will use their discretion with regards to further sanctions being enforced.
- the player/official will be barred from participating in the Emirates Airline Dubai Rugby Sevens Netball Tournament for two (2) years.

3.8 Appointment of Officials

The Tournament Management shall appoint the relevant Officials and/or agencies to:

- Administer and implement the Tournament Disciplinary Programme;
- The position of Umpire Manager and all other necessary accredited personnel;
- Administer the Tournament and ensure that rules of eligibility are adhered to;
- The position of Tournament Medical Officer (and support staff/structure);
- The membership of the Disputes Committee.

3.9 Request by Officials

All participating Clubs and each member of their team will comply with all requests of the Tournament Officials, Match Umpires and Court Marshals. Any failure to do so could result in a complaint being made to the Tournament Manager and disciplinary action.

3.10 Forfeit, No Show or Disqualification

3.10.1 If a team does not show up, refuses to play or forfeits a match prior to its commencement without the prior consent of the Tournament Manager or their delegate, that team will 'lose' the match. The Tournament Manager will decide upon the further participation of that team in the tournament. Games will be considered forfeited if a team fails to appear at the appointed court, ready to play, within two (2) minutes of the published start time.

3.10.2 Teams who 'no-show' may not be invited to participate in future tournaments.

3.10.3 If a match is forfeited, a team fails to show up for a match or a team is disqualified by an Umpire or a Tournament Official a Tournament score will be recorded in favour of the offended team.

3.11 **Abandonment**

If a team refuses to play or abandons a match in progress, that team will forfeit the match. The Tournament Manager will decide upon the further participation of that team in the tournament.

If the Umpire abandons a match due to conduct of a team:

A. this will result in a Disputes Committee decision being taken on the final result of the match,

or for non-disciplinary reasons:

B. at half-time or any time in the second half, the score will stand;

C. during the first half, the result will be declared a draw unless the match is a knock-out or final stage competition in which case the score will stand.

3.12 Declaration of Squads, Teams and Replacements

Team squads registering for Netball Sevens (7s) sections will consist of a maximum of ten (10) players. All ten (10) players are eligible to play in each match. Teams may use five substitutions throughout each match (see Section 5 Substitutions, Replacements and Stoppages). Teams must have a minimum of seven (7) players on the court in order for a match to start.

3.12.1 A player, having been registered in a team, irrespective of whether he or she has taken part in the tournament, cannot register or make themselves available for registration in any other netball team other than in accordance with 3.12.6 below.

3.12.2 Each squad must register their team with the Registration Tent no later than one (1) hour before their first game of the tournament. Squad players must personally sign the Squad Registration form to become an official squad member and prior to participating in any matches. Non-registered players are not eligible to play or participate in squad activities at any time, and new squad members i.e. individuals whose name is not on the squad sheet when the team is registered, cannot be added to the squad sheet after the team's first match of the tournament has been played.

3.12.3 Teams must register for each game by presenting themselves to the on-court Registration Staff (located at the Marshall stand beside the court on which they are due to play) no later than 20 minutes before the match is due to start. The on-court Registration Staff will check the players carry accreditation and that they are registered to play in that team. Players may be required to surrender their players' Accreditation Pass to the on-court Registration Staff prior to the commencement of the game if further verification is required.

3.12.4 A player injured and certified by the Tournament Medical Officer as unfit to take any further part in the Tournament will remain a non-playing member of the team squad. There will be no replacement player allowed to join the squad.

3.12.5 Once a player has been eliminated through injury and his/her name deleted from the Squad Registration form, that player can take no further part in the Tournament, and cannot be re-instated at a later date or time.

3.12.6 The Umpire is the sole judge of fact and law and will take into consideration medical information available prior to ruling whether a player is fit to participate in

a match.

3.13 Pool Players

3.13.1 Invitation Tournament

- Individuals wishing to play who have not been selected by a team may join the list of Pool Players. Pool Players must register at the Registration Tent, by 5.00pm on Thursday 1st December 2016. Special conditions apply.
- Pool Players must state their standard of play and not accept a position in a team participating in a tournament below their ability. The tournament reserves the right to cancel a player's registration at any time should it be found this condition has not been followed.
- Player Accreditation passes will not be issued to Pool Players until their place in a team has been secured.

Section 4: Understanding the Laws of the Game

4.1 All players are expected to have a basic understanding of the laws of the game of netball and have physical competency and fitness to play the game.

4.1.1 Adult teams wishing to include youth players i.e. girls aged 14 - 17 year olds may do so by providing written parental/guardian permission to the Tournament Manager. NOTE: Only two (2) youth players are permitted per adult team.

4.2 Youth teams may comprise girls aged 14 - 19 years who are born on or after 1st January 1997 and before 1st December 2002. Girls who are 19 years old on or before 31st December 2015 or earlier may not participate in this section.

4.3 Girls aged 13 or younger, at the time the tournament takes place, may not participate.

4.4 All tournament participants must hold private medical insurance covering them to play netball. Proof of medical insurance will not be requested by the Tournament however, prior to their first match of the tournament players (or the parent/guardian of an under 18 year old player) will be required to sign a medical waiver form indemnifying the Tournament Organisers and Match Officials from all liability arising from any injury caused as a result of participating in the tournament. Personal liability insurance is also recommended but not a tournament requirement.

Section 5: Substitutions, Replacements and Stoppages

5.1 All substitutions and replacements during a match, including but

not limited to blood replacements, shall be made in accordance with International Netball Federation rules, however, time will not be held for stoppages due to injury, illness or blood.

- 5.2 Teams may use all ten (10) players during a game.
- 5.3 Substitutions may be made at half-time having been acknowledged and approved by the Umpire.
- 5.4 Players substituted cannot re-enter the game from which they have been substituted.
- 5.5 All substitutions should be made via direct communication with the Umpire.
- 5.6 For any injuries or illness, time will not be stopped UNLESS it is determined by the Umpire in consultation with the medical team that the injury is serious enough to require the game to stop for safety reasons. The Umpire, at his/her discretion, may call the game off early to maintain the safety of participants.
- 5.7 The Tournament accepts no liability for injuries sustained during the course of the tournament.

Section 6: Judicial and Disciplinary Committee

- 6.1 All discipline will be initiated by the Umpire court-side unless referred to the Disciplinary Committee by the Umpire.

Section 7: Rules Regarding Eligibility

The Tournament comprises three (3) tournament sections, as follows;

1. Gulf Women

Teams in this section must comprise adult women (18yrs or older) who reside in the Gulf/Middle East region and hold a valid resident's visa for the Gulf/Middle East country in which they reside.

Accreditation: Teams receive - 10 Player & 2 Personnel passes i.e. 12 passes in total.

2. Open Women

Teams in this section must comprise adult women (18yrs or older).

Accreditation: Teams receive - 10 Player & 2 Personnel passes i.e. 12 passes in total.

3. Open Youth

Teams in this section must comprise young women who are between the ages of 14yrs and 19yrs and are born on or after 1st January 1997 and before 1st December 2002.

Accreditation: Teams receive - 10 Player & 2 Personnel passes i.e. 12 passes in total.

The Tournament reserves the right to decline entry to teams who it is felt, at the Tournament's sole discretion, do not qualify for the section which they have entered.

Tournament Sections will comprise the following number of teams:

NETBALL		
1	Gulf Women Netball	24
2	Open Women	16
3	Open Youth	16
NETBALL TOTAL		56

Should the minimal number of teams not be achieved the section may be removed from the tournament.

Eligibility Documents Required

This table summarises which documents MUST be submitted electronically for each team member with the team accreditation information prior to the tournament commencement.

Section	Resident's Visa	Passport Sized Photo	Passport Copy Proof of Age/Residency
Gulf Women	√	√	√
Open Women		√	√
Open Youth		√	√

Eligibility is subject to the Tournament Manager's discretion as the tournament host.

Section 8: Accreditation

8.1 All participating players and registered team personnel must be accredited in order to participate.

8.2 The purpose of accreditation is:

- to ensure the correct players are on the pitch at any time
- to ensure each team has the correct number of players & personnel registered in adherence with the section eligibility criteria and Tournament Rules
- to ensure accredited players and personnel have access to the appropriate areas of the venue for the accreditation they hold and

- to provide security and protection in case of an emergency
- 8.3 Providing false names, photos, details or eligibility documentation for accreditation is a breach of the Tournament Rules and will result in accreditation being denied or withdrawn.
- 8.4 Trying to enter the venue without the correct accreditation or using accreditation that is counterfeit, damaged or altered in any way will result in the individual concerned being removed from the venue and from the competition. It could also result in a ban from future competitions.
- 8.5 Accreditation will only be issued to registered team players and personnel when squad sheets are submitted.
- 8.6 Teams failing to accredit their players by the time the Online Accreditation System closes may not be invited to participate the following year.
- 8.7 Pool Players will only be issued accreditation when their place in a squad has been confirmed and their name and signature has been added to the squad sheet.
- 8.8 Late additions to the team will only have accreditation issued once the submitted squad sheet has been signed.
- 8.9 NOTE: Lost accreditation passes must be reported to the Registration Manager. The cost of a replacement accreditation pass is 500dhs which must be paid before a replacement pass is issued.
- 8.10 Anyone found within the venue without either accreditation or an entry wristband will be removed.
- 8.11 Players subject to a match ban during the course of the tournament, for any reason, will have their accreditation removed during the period of such ban.
- 8.12 Any abuse of the accreditation system will be dealt with seriously with all benefits immediately removed.

Section 9: Payment 'Terms & Conditions' and Refunds

- 9.1 Teams will be invited in two phases as follows:
- **Previous competitors** - will receive a preferential invitation on 1st May 2016 i.e. two months before other invitees. Confirmation of invitation must be made with payment of the Tournament Fee by 30th June 2016. Failure to make payment by 30th June will result in the invitation no longer being preferred. Failure to make payment by 31st August will result in the invitation being withdrawn.

- **New or previously waitlisted participants** - will be invited on 1st July and must confirm their place with payment of the Tournament Fee by 31st August 2016. Invitations will be sent to several teams with confirmations being accepted on a 'first come...' basis with previously waitlisted teams being accepted first once payment of the Tournament Fee has been made.

9.2 Tournament Fees are as follows:

- 4,200dhs (US\$1,150) per team.

9.3 Invitations will be withdrawn from teams failing to confirm their place with payment of the Tournament Fee by 31st August 2016.

9.4 Teams who have received and accepted an invitation but failed to pay by 31st August will have their invitation withdrawn and re-issued to include a 750dhs (US\$205) late fee which must be paid by 15th September 2016 in order to confirm their place.

9.5 Teams failing to pay the Tournament Fee plus late fee by 15th September will have their invitation withdrawn permanently.

9.6 Teams who have paid the Tournament Fee and find they are no longer able to participate will be eligible for a refund if the Tournament Manager is informed, in writing, by 30th September 2016.

9.7 Teams withdrawing from the Tournament on or after 1st October 2016 will forfeit any Tournament Fees paid.

9.8 Teams who cancel their tournament entry within one (1) month of the tournament start date will not only forfeit their Tournament Fee, they will also not be invited to participate the following year.

Section 10: Social Media

10.1 Teams participating in the Tournament are required to comply with the Social Media guidelines which are available upon request or by visiting:

<http://dubairugby7s.com/mediazone/socialmedia/content.aspx>

Section 11: Conduct

11.1 General Behaviour - participants, associated team personnel and supporters are expected to behave in a manner that is appropriate and sympathetic to the cultural sensitivities of the UAE. General conduct during the tournament is expected to be inoffensive and in the spirit of sportsmanship.

11.2 Pitch/Court Invasion - participants and associated team personnel are only allowed onto the pitches for warm-up and match play. Team supporters are not allowed onto any of The

Sevens Stadium pitches/courts at any time. Participants and associated team personnel who access pitches/courts when not eligible to do so will leave themselves open to Police intervention, detention and criminal proceeding being actioned, plus removal from the stadium and a ban from future tournaments.

- 11.3 Acts of Violence -acts of violent behaviour will result in Police intervention, detention and criminal proceedings being actioned, plus removal from the stadium and a ban from future tournaments.

Section 12: Data Protection

- 12.1 Information provided by teams and their representatives will be used by the Tournament Management for tournament related purposes.
- 12.2 Information provided by teams and their representatives will only be shared with official tournament representatives and service providers.
- 12.3 Information provided by teams and their representatives will be treated as confidential and held securely.
- 12.4 Team managers are responsible for informing team members of any personal information that is shared with the tournament organisers.
- 12.5 By signing the official tournament invitation and the squad sheet the team manager, team officials and players accept the terms itemised above.

Section 13: Sponsorship/Commercial Activity

13.1 Sponsorship

- (a) Subject to the remainder of this clause, teams that are sponsored may acknowledge such sponsorship through branding on their team kit.
- (b) When incorporating sponsors/branding on team kit, teams must take into account the appropriateness of the sponsor and/or branding giving consideration to the local culture and religious beliefs.
- (c) The Tournament Management has the right to disallow a team to play in a kit which, in the Tournament Management's opinion, is inappropriate. The tournaments decision is final.
- (d) Teams and any associated groups are not permitted to use the official Tournament logo or any official Tournament marks on their kit, associated items of team clothing or any team paraphernalia. This will be strictly enforced & any teams or

persons disregarding this ruling will be asked to remove such item or will be required to leave the stadium.

- (e) Besides branding on kit, any other branded items (including but not limited to gazebos, tents, banners, fliers and/or hand-outs) will be deemed to constitute Commercial Activity under 13.2 below.

13.2 Commercial Activity

- (a) Teams (including players, officials and any persons associated with the team) are not permitted to undertake any type of marketing and/or promotional activity (including any ambush marketing) in or around the venue during the Tournament.
- (b) Notwithstanding clause 13.2(a), teams may have sponsor branding on gazebos that are club branded and being used by them during the tournament, on condition that the sponsor branding is not in conflict with the Emirates brand, any Emirates Group companies, World Sevens Series sponsors and/or any other sponsors that are identified on the tournament website.
- (c) Any breach of clause 13.2(a) will be considered a breach of the rules and subject to clause 3.3. Any person associated with any unauthorised promotional activity will be required to immediately remove such material from the venue. The Tournament Management, at their discretion, may take steps to have offending items removed from the Venue. If it does so, the offender will be liable for any and all costs incurred.

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