



## STNA Jewellery Policy

### Background

The Rules of Netball, as published and used at STNA, do not allow any jewellery to be worn on court with the exception of a wedding ring and/or a medical alert bracelet. If either are worn, they must be taped.

There are a small number of players wishing to play, who have surgically implanted (dermal) piercings that cannot be removed without further surgery, or jewellery for religious or medical reasons.

In late 2022 Netball Australia issued Uniform Guidelines covering religious/medical jewellery:

'If jewellery is not able to be removed for medical or religious purposes it is the players choice to play with them, and this player accepts the risks involved. Jewellery that cannot be removed for religious / medical reasons should be covered with padding / tape as necessary to prevent injury to others. Jewellery or other items which cannot be securely covered or taped must be removed.'

As with surgical implanted piercings, a player who chooses to wear religious/medical jewellery whilst playing must apply annually to the Netball Management Committee for a waiver from the above, which must be granted in writing and provided to the umpires at each game.

In order not to have these players permanently excluded from netball, while still protecting player safety as well as not setting a wider precedent for jewellery in general, the following policy will be in place from the 2023 Winter Roster.

### Policy and Procedure

#### Surgical Piercings

Any player with a surgically implanted\* (see Notes) piercing who wishes to play in the Winter Roster must present a medical certificate to the Netball Management Committee or one of its members PRIOR to playing, stating that said specific piercing/s is/are not able to be removed without surgery (see below 'Suggested medical certificate wording' for examples). A permit must be obtained each year, but can be re-issued on the basis of the same certificate for up to three consecutive years.

#### Medical Piercings

Any player with medical piercings must also present a medical certificate to the Netball Management Committee or one of its members, PRIOR to playing, stating where the piercing is and that it is required for medical reasons (see below 'Suggested medical certificate wording' for examples). Again, a permit must be obtained each year, but can be re-issued based on the same certificate for up to three consecutive years.



### Religious Jewellery

Any player choosing to wear religious jewellery whilst taking part in games must contact the Netball Management Committee, one of its members or the Netball Manager PRIOR to playing detailing the type of jewellery to be worn.

### Waiver

The player must also sign a waiver stating that in playing with said piercing, they accept any increased risk of harm to themselves caused by this piercing during the course of a game, and that they release and indemnify STNA from any claims or costs relating to the wearing of jewellery during any STNA activity – including but not limited to – collisions with other players.

Given presentation of this evidence, the NMC will authorise the STNA Office to issue a card indicating the player may take the court, on condition that the jewellery is covered in such a way that the umpire is satisfied it is not a danger to any other player.

This card must be shown to the umpires before each game. If the card is not brought to the game, the umpires will not allow the player to take the court in that game.

*This policy does not extend to any other form of jewellery that is physically removable, regardless of whether removing it might cause issues such as ears closing over or other inconvenience.*

### Notes

This policy has been reviewed by the Netball Management Committee at the close of the 2014 Winter Roster, in March 2017, and in early 2023. The policy remains current for STNA rosters.

\* The term “surgically implanted” refers to dermal implants, where part of the piercing is inserted under the skin and does not include standard piercings such as earrings, nose studs and eyebrow piercings.

The term “surgery” does not refer to standard piercing procedures, regardless of the use of sterilised instruments or local anaesthetic.

### Dermal piercings

Dermal piercings, also known as micro dermal piercings or single-point piercings, are piercings installed on flat surfaces of the body.

Dermal piercings are different from ordinary body piercings in that the latter have entry and exit points for the jewellery. In dermal piercing, only one end of the ornament emerges from the surface of the skin; the other end is embedded in the dermal layer of the skin. This gives the appearance of having small beads on the surface of the skin.



### Suggested medical certificate wording

Please note the emphasis is on the fact they are dermal/medical piercings, the number of them, and in the case of dermal piercings, the type of jewellery, AND location on the body.

"Jane Doe has two dermal piercings that cannot be removed without surgery.

Piercing one is a stud in the left cheek.

Piercing two is a stud in the right forearm."

"Jamie Dyson has one daith piercing in their left ear which is required for medical reasons."



## Other Relevant Policies/Documentation/Contacts

INF Rules of Netball – 2020 Edition

<https://netball.com.au/sites/default/files/2020-02/INF-RulesofNetball2020.pdf>

Netball Australia Uniform Guidelines: Netball in Australia December 2022

<https://netball.com.au/sites/default/files/2022-12/2022%20WOS%20Uniform%20Guidelines%20Final%2011122022.pdf>

2023 STNA Conduct of Roster

<https://www.stna.org.au/conduct-of-roster>

Coaching Convenor email: [stnaumpiringconvenor@gmail.com](mailto:stnaumpiringconvenor@gmail.com)

STNA Office email: [netball.manager@stna.org.au](mailto:netball.manager@stna.org.au)

## Appendix

Appendix A – STNA Waiver for Jewellery

### Approval

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<b>Approved by</b>	Alison Lai	President (on behalf of the Board)	<a href="mailto:president@stna.org.au">president@stna.org.au</a>	Date: 03/07/2023

### Revision History

Version	Approved by	Approved by	Amendment Notes
1.0			



STNA Waiver for Jewellery

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (player name)  
Of \_\_\_\_\_ (club)  
have a surgically implanted piercing, a medical piercing or religious jewellery in/on, \_\_\_\_\_ (location of piercing)  
that cannot be removed/replaced for the purpose of playing sport.

Circle appropriate section:

If 18 or over:

I understand that netball is a physical sport which involves risk of physical injury, and that wearing this piercing/jewellery may increase this risk. I accept any risk of injury to myself caused by wearing this piercing/jewellery during the game and release and indemnify STNA from any claims or costs relating to the wearing of jewellery during any STNA activity, including but not limited to that caused by collisions with other players.

If under 18:

I understand that netball is a physical sport which involves risk of physical injury, and that wearing this piercing/jewellery may increase this risk. I accept any risk of injury to my child/ward caused by wearing this piercing/jewellery during the game and release and indemnify STNA from any claims or costs relating to the wearing of jewellery during any STNA activity, including but not limited to that caused by collisions with other players.

..... (name of player or parent/guardian)

..... (signature of player or parent/guardian)

..... (date)

I have been presented with suitable evidence that the player above has a surgically implanted piercing, medical and/or religious jewellery that cannot be removed.

I am also satisfied that the player above understands the increased risk to themselves caused by wearing this piercing during a game.

..... (name of NMC Representative)

..... (signature of NMC Representative)

..... (date)