

2024 RULES UPDATE

PLAYER SAFETY

Player safety is paramount in netball.

We've made some changes in the new rules, most of them to ensure the game of netball is safe & fair. It's important that player safety is taken seriously by players, coaches and umpires in dealing with injury incidents.

HEAD, NECK & CONCUSSION

We've also made some changes regarding head & neck injuries and suspected concussions.



At the elite level, we've introduced an independent concussion observer who may ask the umpires to hold time if there is a suspected concussion.



The new rule clarifies that umpires may hold time without a request being made if there is an obvious or serious injury.

CHECK OUT THE RESOURCE HUB



[EXPLAINER VIDEO](#)



[RULES OF NETBALL APP](#)



[NETFIT NZ APP](#)



CALLING INJURY TIME

The new rule clarifies that as well as umpires holding time for injury or illness following a verifiable request by an on-court player, they may also hold time without a request being made if there is an obvious or serious injury which would include an injury to the head or neck and/or suspected concussion.

BLOOD

Players who are bleeding, have an open wound or blood-stained clothing must leave the court and be substituted but we no longer require a player with dried blood on them to be substituted.

Players with dried blood are now permitted to clean up quickly and continue playing. This will usually happen while the bleeding player is being substituted or other players or the ball are being checked for blood. Any clothing that becomes blood-stained must be replaced within the time allowed for the stoppage by the umpires and this may occur away from the playing enclosure.



This update includes measures to ensure the game of Netball is safe, fair and fun for netballers of all levels.

**HOLD TIME
HAND SIGNAL**