## SACSNA Representative Player- Court Time Policy

Reviewed September 2025

The purpose of this policy is to clearly outline the expectations regarding court time for players selected in a SACSNA Representative Team during scheduled games

#### **Allocation of Court time**

- Court time allocation is at the discretion of the coach.
- It is expected that all players will receive equal court time across the season, taking into consideration:
  - Position availability
  - o Training attendance and participation
  - Player performance and readiness
- If a player attends and participates in training, they must receive court time in the next game.

#### **Finals**

- All team members must receive court time in each finals game; however, equal court time during finals games is not compulsory nor guaranteed.
- Coaches may adjust court time based on strategic considerations, player form, game conditions, and team requirements.

### **Absences from Training**

- If a player misses a training session, their court time in the next game may be restricted.
- If the upcoming round is a bye or if not all players are available, this restriction can be applied in a subsequent game.
- Injured players are encouraged to attend training to observe, where appropriate, in order to maintain continuity with the team — as long as it does not hinder recovery.

#### Fill-In Players

- Fill-in players may be used when selected team members are unavailable.
- A fill-in player should receive no more than the average court time of selected team members.
- Additional court time is permitted only if needed due to limited player availability.



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• *Example*: If only two goalers are present and one is a fill-in player, that player may be required to play the full game.

## **Training Partners**

- When training partners are used to fill in for absent players, they are to receive equal court time to the majority of selected team members.
- This applies to both weekly games and tournaments.

## **Training and Team Criteria contributing to court time variations**

Variations in court time may be influenced by the following factors:

- Commitment and attitude
- Training attendance and punctuality
- Behaviour and team conduct
- Work ethic and effort
- Injury or recovery status

Players are encouraged to discuss court time and seek feedback from their coaches in a respectful and constructive manner.

