

## NETBALL VICTORIA - WHISTLE REDUCTION (DRAFT)

The use of the whistle by umpires in netball is a necessary tool for controlling certain aspects of the game. It is also the signal used by umpires to start and finish each period of play. However, the reduction of whistle use has been implemented over the years, with major changes to the Rules of Netball since 2016.

### Goal scored

“There will no longer be a whistle to signal that a goal has been scored”. The umpire will now raise one straight arm to signal that a goal has been scored.

**Impact:** In a typical 40-minute community level game, anywhere between 20-40 goals per team can be scored. This equates to reduction in the whistle being blown between 40-80 times per game per court. In a Regional facility of 8 courts for example, this a reduction of 320-640 times a whistle will be blown in the one timeslot



GOAL SCORED - WHISTLE REDUCTION  
IS DOWN BY ESTIMATED 40-80  
TIMES PER GAME

### Ball out of court

“No whistle is required if it is clear the ball is out of court”. The umpire will use arm signals to indicate which team is to take the throw in and where it will be taken from.

**Impact:** A ball leaving the court will occur at a various number of times during the game, and the introduction of this new rule will greatly impact the use of the whistle during a game, by no longer requiring the whistle to be blown.



OUT OF COURT - WHISTLE  
REDUCTION IS DOWN BY ESTIMATED  
10-15 TIMES PER QUARTER

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