



## STNA

# Surgically implanted piercings 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.

In order not to have these players permanently excluded from netball, while still protecting player safety and also not setting a wider precedent for jewellery in general, the following policy applies:

- Any player with a surgically implanted\* piercing who wishes to play in any of the STNA Netball Competitions must submit a medical certificate to the Chair of the STNA Netball Management Committee prior to playing. The certificate should outline the type of piercing/s and if the piercing/s are not able to be removed unless by undertaking a surgical procedure. The certificate will be reviewed by the NMC prior to a decision being made. Any correspondence or further information requested will be in consultation with the player and the Chair of the NMC. Upon acceptance of the certificate, a permit must be obtained for that playing year and each year following the piercing/s remain in place.

The player must also sign a waiver stating that in playing with said piercing/s, they accept any increased risk of harm to themselves caused by this piercing in the course of a game, and that they indemnify STNA and its Officers from action – including but not limited to – collisions with other players.

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

This certificate must be shown to the umpires before each game. If the certificate 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 form of jewellery that is physically removable, regardless of whether removing it might cause issues such as ears closing over or other inconvenience.



## Notes

\*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 piercings, the number of them, the type of jewellery, AND it specifies the 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.”

Please note Daith Piercings can be removed and will not be accepted as an exception to the rule.