



Made in  
Netball.

# Designated Substitution Zones *fact sheet*



## Background

The release of the 2024 edition of the rules of netball by World Netball, included a new rule for 'Tactical Substitutions', requiring umpires to hold time for the purpose of players making tactical changes.

Netball Australia noted that a large proportion of community games are centrally timed and whilst the game can be stopped, time cannot be held as required in the rules. Netball Victoria made a recommendation to its Affiliates shortly after the release that competition administrators could choose to either:

1. Implement the Tactical Substitutions Rule, as per Rule 10.2 or;
2. Introduce Rolling Substitutions as a By-Law (noting that it is not a rule of netball)

## IMPORTANT TO NOTE:

- The Tactical Substitution rule does not require any adjustments to the on-court markings
- This Facility Recommendation only applies to where Rolling Substitutions has been introduced into a competition
- It is assumed throughout this document that two identical Substitution Zones will be implemented

## Considerations:

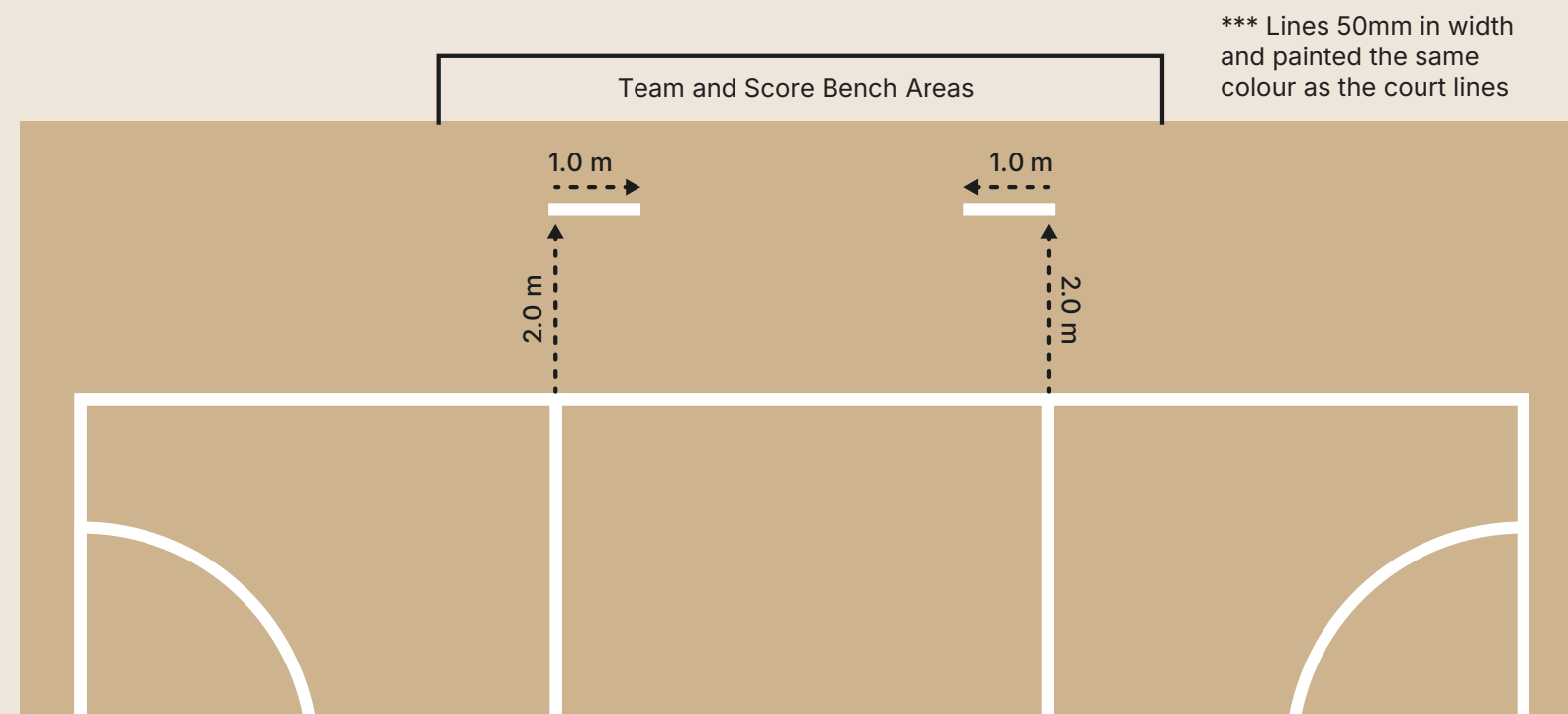
The purpose of designated Substitution Zones is to identify a place for an active substitution for each team during a game, which is a temporary moment in time during the game.

Where possible, the Substitution Zones should be placed on the sideline, on either side of the officials' bench in a low traffic area without impeding the umpire's path.

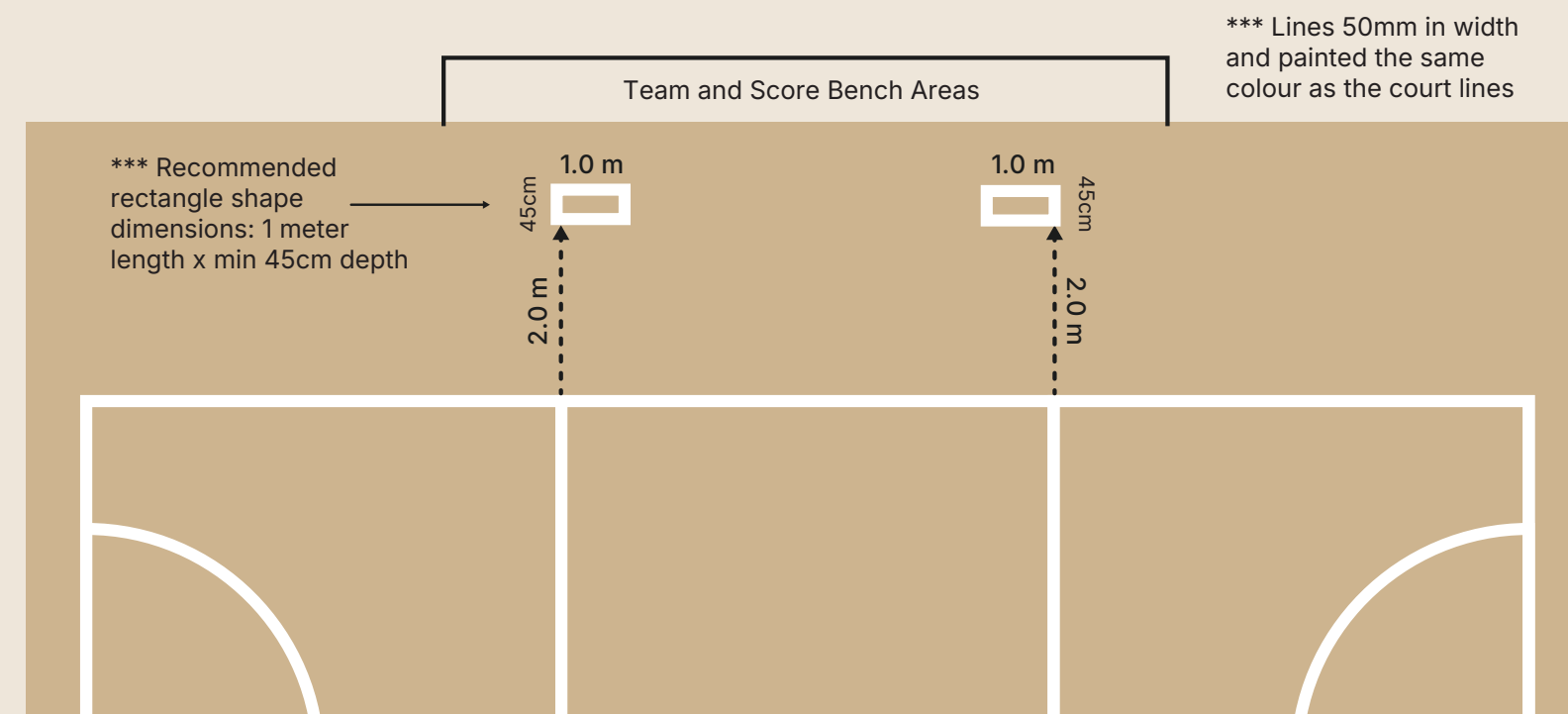
The safety of the umpires is paramount to the consideration of the placement of the Substitution Zones, so that there is minimal disruption to the game when players are substituting.



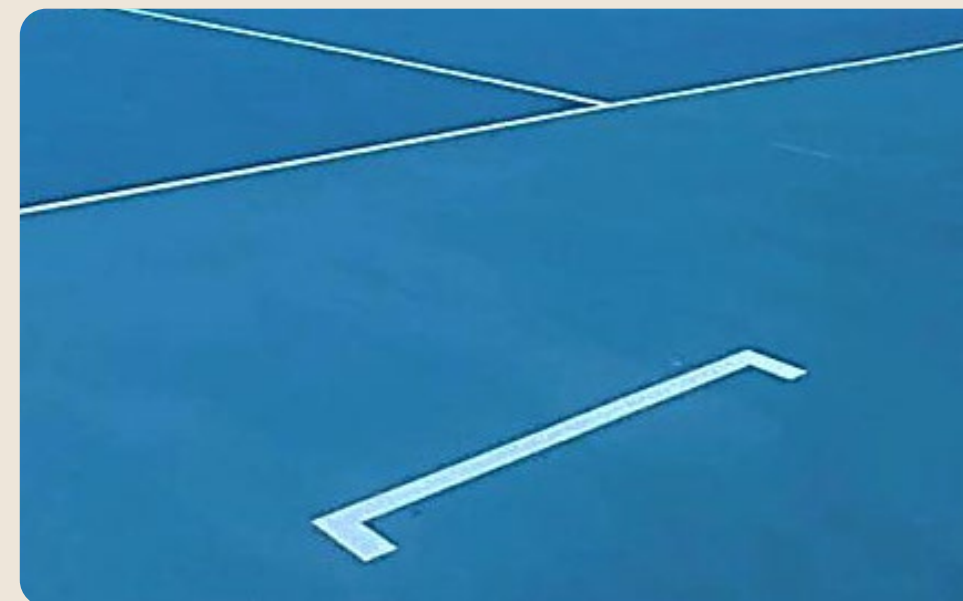
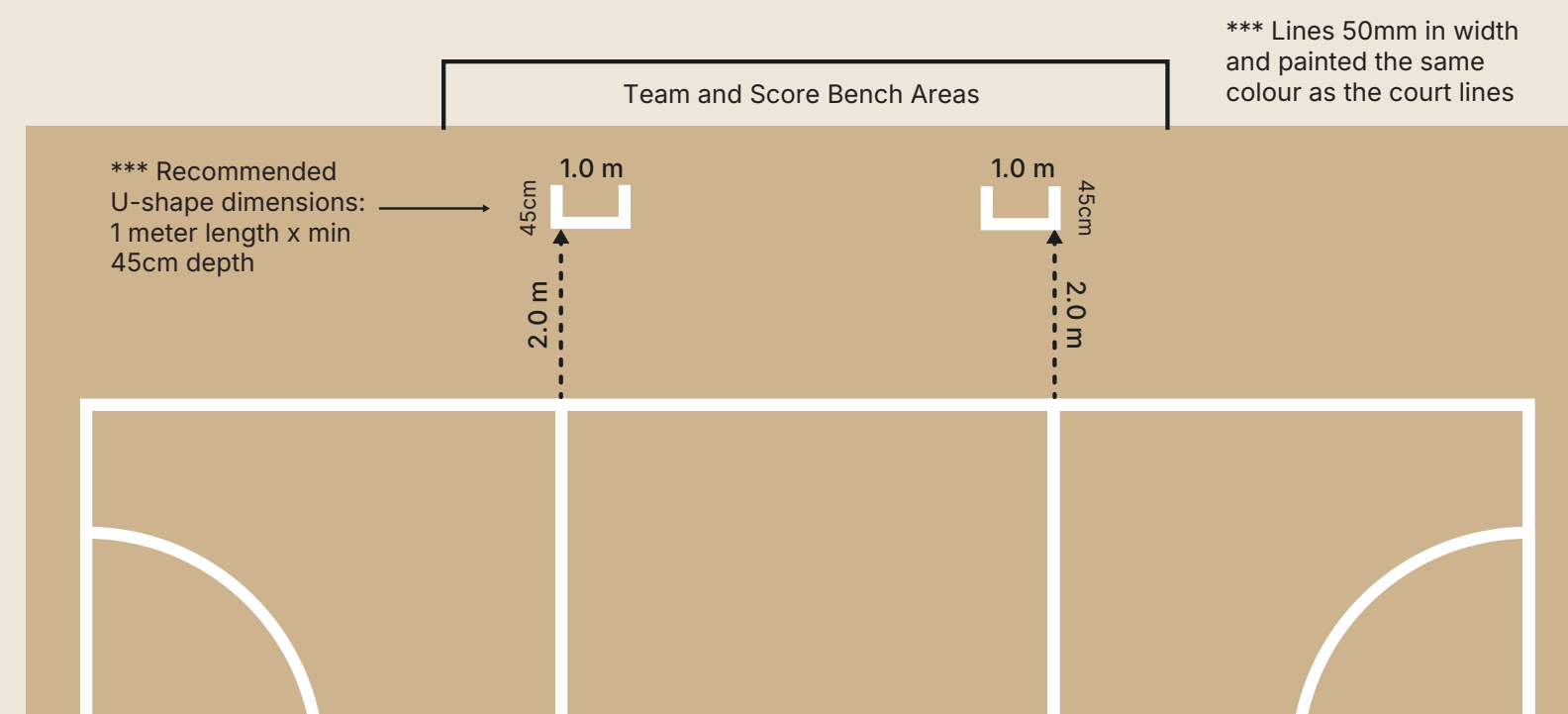
# Single lines



# Rectangles



# U-shapes



## Placement Of Both Temporary and Permanent Measures

*Ensure that both designated Substitution Zones are equal in dimension and distance from sideline.*

### Placement of Substitution Zones:

- Zones should be placed on the sideline, on either side of the officials' bench and ideally outside of the 3.05m runoff.
- Where beyond the 3.05m runoff is not possible, we highly recommend that the Substitution Zones should be a minimum 2.0m from the sideline.

**Placement can either be:**

- from the transverse line towards the goal third
- from the transverse into the centre third
- or using the transverse line as a central point.

With a continual line, we recommend making the line 1-metre long.

With a rectangle shape, we recommend a 1-metre length x minimum of 45cm depth.



## Permanent Line-Marking:

*The provision of permanent line-marking for designated substitution zones is not a mandatory requirement for venues and does not form part of Netball Australia's facility compliance requirements. Therefore, careful consideration must be taken prior to taking such steps and we recommend that you speak to your state/territory Member Organisation prior to doing so.*

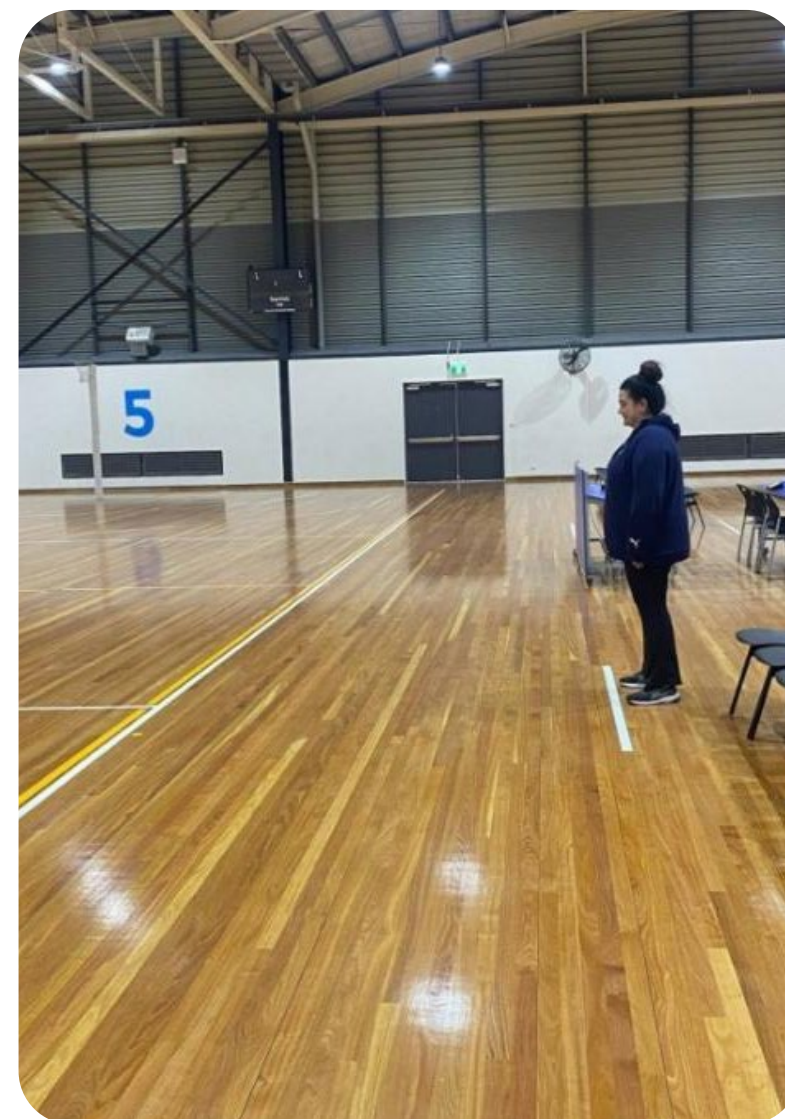
### Considerations for permanent line-marking:

- Prior consultation with the landowner i.e. Council, Committee of Management, DEECA etc.
- Use of the correct line-marking paint relevant to each surface type
- Indoor venue operators must use the correct court tape so as not to damage the timber surface
- Line width: 50mm to match the rest of the court lines
- Colour matching with existing line-markings for netball

## Temporary Measures:

To clearly identify the designated Substitution Zones, the following temporary measures are acceptable and may be implemented a minimum of 2-metres from the sideline:

- Flat discs or squares (either two discs to identify a continual line; or four discs to identify a rectangle)
- 50mm tape applied to the court surface in either a straight line, U-shape or rectangle
- Chalk markings to identify either a straight line, U-shape or rectangle



## Conclusion:

There will be varying scenarios across Australia with implementing our recommendations for designated Substitution Zones including the differences in:

- indoor and outdoor venues
- community and elite level competitions
- compliant and non-compliant venues
- restrictions in space between courts in large Association venues

Therefore, we have addressed the majority of these scenarios. It is important that with any measures put into place, consideration must be given to the safety of the players, officials and spectators.

## For more information & advice, contact

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