

## **East Midlands**

### **Bee Netball – Stingers Tournament 2025**

#### **Rules & Regulations**



**It is the responsibility of all Team Managers, Coaches and Adults in Charge of teams to ensure that all players/spectators/supporters are familiar with the following regulations.**

**Team Managers must submit a completed rotation sheet for 7, 8 or 9 players to the registration desk on the day.**

**All teams must provide a C Award Umpire who must be named on the entry form. Umpires will be neutrally placed and may have to umpire while their team is playing.**

**Entry forms must be received by the closing date. Late entries will not be accepted unless approved by the Regional Competition Technical Support Group.**

#### **1. Rules of the Game**

- 1.1 Except where specific regulations apply, all matches shall be played to the rules of the game as attached except where specified in these regulations
- 1.2 The duration of each match will depend on the number of entries
- 1.3 All games begin and end on the umpires whistle (not the central timing bell).
- 1.4 Captains should toss for choice of ends or first centre pass, before each game and notify the umpires of the result. Umpires will then also toss for ends.
- 1.5 If any team fails to arrive on time, the match shall be void and the 5 points awarded to the team on court and ready to start.
- 1.6 If an accident occurs NO extra time can be allowed. In the event of illness or injury substitutions may be made immediately. However, if the player is seriously injured ie broken bone/head/spine injury the said player must only be moved by qualified medical person(s) and the time “lost” recorded by the umpires and reported to the Tournament Referees, who will decide the outcome of the game.
- 1.7 The vacant place must be filled by the next player on the rotation of the same gender, if available. No other positions may be changed. A revised rotation sheet must be handed in to the Tournament Organiser.
- 1.8 The Tournament Referees may make decisions on any matters arising during the Tournament and their decision is binding and final.

## 2. Playing Eligibility

- 2.1 All players must be over 9 years of age and under 11 years of age at midnight on 31 August/1 September prior to the commencement of the Tournament. ie. school years 5 and 6 only
- 2.2 Any team playing an ineligible player may be excluded from the tournament.
- 2.3 All players must be members of England Netball. All players' membership fees must be received by England Netball at least 4 days prior to the closing date of the competition.
- 2.4 Teams may nominate up to 12 players on the Team Registration Form of which up to 9 can play on the day. No additions can be made to the Team Registration Form on the day.

## 3. Squads

- 3.1 Each squad must consist of a minimum of 7 and a maximum of 9 players, with 5 on court at any one time.
- 3.2 Each squad may contain up to 3 boys.
- 3.3 Squad rotation sheets for each participating team must be completed fully prior to the competition starting and a copy must be handed in to the Tournament Organiser/Referee at registration. Squad rotation sheets will be sent out with the tournament draw.
- 3.4 Teams may only use those players whose name appears on their squad rotation sheet.
- 3.5 Teams not following the Rotation Sheet may be penalised

## 4. Squad Rotation

- 4.1 The following squad rotations will be used:  

For squads of 7:	GK – off – GA – GD – off – C – GS – then back to GK
For squads of 8:	GK – off – C – GA – off – GD – off – GS – then back to GK
For squads of 9:	GK – off – GA – off – GD – off – C – GS – off – then back to GK
- 4.2 Squads **must** rotate at EVERY interval and at the start of each match as per the rotation sheet.
- 4.3 The playing positions for boys will be indicated on the squad rotation sheet.

## 5. Results

- 5.1 Teams will be awarded points as follows
  - 5 points for a win
  - 3 points for a draw
  - 1 point for a loss, but scoring more than 50% of the opponent's score
- 5.2 A results table will be compiled on the basis of points awarded to each team. Where two teams are level on points:

**Goal Average** shall be used to determine their relative positions, i.e., the team with the higher Goal Average over the course of the tournament shall take precedence.

**Goal Difference** shall be applied in the event that Goal Average does not differentiate between the teams, then, i.e., precedence shall be given to the team with the greater difference between goals scored and goals conceded.

**Greatest number of goals** scored shall take precedence in the event that Goal Difference does not differentiate between the teams, then the team with the greater number of goals will take precedence

**Competition Referee** shall determine the means of differentiation in the event that none of the above differentiates between the team.

Quarter, Semi and Finals (where applicable) - in the event of a draw at full time, extra time of 2 minutes each way will be played, changing over at half time without a break. Teams will toss for centre pass and change ends. In the event of a draw at full time, play will continue without a break, until the next goal is scored. This will be timed by the Competition Referees.

- 5.3 It is the responsibility of each team to take their scorecard to the recorders table.
- 5.4 In the event of a team being 'non competitive' for any reason, their results and those of their opponents will not be included on the master score sheet.

## **6. Team Bench**

- 6.1 The Team Bench will be the area at the team's defending end at the start of the game, to the right of the netball posts. Do not change ends at half time.
- 6.2 Up to five Team Officials, in addition to the players not on court, shall constitute the 'Team Bench'.
- 6.3 The Team Officials should include a Level 2 Coach, a Team Manager and a Primary Carer
- 6.4 The Team Officials and bench players may not move up and down the side lines or along the goal lines outside the court during play.

## **7. Match Officials**

- 7.1 Each team must provide a C Award umpire and who is not the coach. The umpire will be neutrally placed and may have to umpire while their team is playing.
- 7.2 Umpires need to be fully conversant with these regulations and any additional information given out to the participating teams.
- 7.3 Umpires are expected to conform to a standard of physical fitness, the Tournament Referee reserves the right to withdraw the Umpire from the Tournament should this be necessary.
- 7.4 Teams must provide a competent scorer for each game. This cannot be the coach.

## **8. Equipment**

- 8.1 Each team must provide a set of bibs (marked front and back).
- 8.2 Each team must provide a well-marked, **size 4** regulation netball. Each team may use its own ball for half of each game.
- 8.3 Each team must provide a spare set of bibs in case there is a clash in team colours

## 9. Miscellaneous Provisos

- 9.1 All teams will be held responsible for their players, officials and spectators.
- 9.2 All nails must be cut short. Umpires must inspect their team's nails before the start of the tournament.
- 9.3 The Tournament Referees will adjudicate on matters of dispute.

## 10. Health & Safety

### a **Umpires and bleeding**

Play may be stopped for injury or illness or any other cause. This would allow the Umpires to stop the game if she/he sustained and injury herself/himself.

### b **Pregnant players and umpires fitness, Gloves, Jewellery, Headscarves Leg Braces, Uniform**

England Netball Domestic Guidance must be followed and can be found

[http://www.EnglandNetball.co.uk/officiating/Rules\\_Directives.php](http://www.EnglandNetball.co.uk/officiating/Rules_Directives.php)

### c **Accident Reporting**

An England Netball Accident form must be completed for all accidents and sent to England Netball. Alternatively an online form is available

<https://www.EnglandNetball.co.uk/membership/insurance/report-a-claim>

All participants acknowledge that participating in the sport of netball involves a risk of personal injury and by taking part in the East Midlands Bee Netball – Stingers Tournament whether as a player, team member, team official, other official or spectator, each participant does so at their own risk.

First Aid will not be provided. Teams must provide their own basic first aid. In the event of a serious injury, the emergency services will be called

## 11. Close range photography

- 11.1 The England Netball Safeguarding guidelines require that any person wishing to engage in any video, zoom or close range photography should register their details with staff in the Registration area before carrying out such photography
- 11.2 Any club with players who do not want to be photographed/videoed must inform the Tournament Organiser prior to the event
- 11.3 Flash photography and live streaming are not permitted

## 12. Competition Referees

- 12.1 Competition Referees will be appointed by the East Midlands Netball Association or its nominees
- 12.2 The Competition Referees will have the authority and jurisdiction to make decisions on any matters arising during the Competition Day<sup>1</sup> including, but not limited to:

- 12.2.1 altering or amending the playing schedule as necessary;
  - 12.2.2 determining if teams and/or players are in breach of these Regulations and imposing an appropriate penalty (including disqualification of any individual, player or team)
  - 12.2.3 maintaining and being responsible for a confidential Competition Referees' Log Book (if appropriate);
  - 12.2.4 upholding the decision by any medical advisor, including but not limited to the Competition doctor or physiotherapist, regarding the participation of a player.
  - 12.2.5 determine the score should any match not be concluded due to any unforeseen circumstance
  - 12.2.6 altering the length of matches
  - 12.2.7 instances of unsportsmanlike behaviour including instances of teams predetermining the outcome of a match:
  - 12.2.8 any matter not covered by the Regulations; and:
  - 12.2.9 consult with additional people to assist with the Competition, but the final decision and accountability will lie with the Competition Referees
- 12.3 If a player is suspended from a game, or ordered to leave the court and take no further part in the game, that player and a team official must report immediately to the Competition Referees, who will decide what action should be taken.

### **13 Competition Complaints Procedure**

- 13.1 On the Competition Day, all queries and complaints (a Complaint) should be directed to the Competition Referees in the first instance, which will be dealt with as follows:
- 13.1.1 Where the Complaint relates to the competition format or management, including (but not limited to) the schedule, the opposing team, playing surface or other playing arrangements, a protest must be made, before the start of the match (or as soon as possible after the issue becomes apparent during the match) to the Competition Referees by the relevant Team or Match Official. The Complaint must then be acknowledged by the Competition Referees who will decide what action should be taken.
  - 13.1.2 Where the Complaint relates to the playing of a match, the scoring, and/or its result, the relevant team or match official, must do the following:
    - Inform their opponents and the umpires of their complaint;
    - Mark the score card with the words “Under Protest”;
    - Take the marked score card to the Competition Referees, straight after the match;
    - Explain the issue in full to the Competition Referees
    - The Competition Referees will decide what action should be taken.
  - 13.1.3 The Competition Referees’ decision in relation to decisions taken under clauses 13.1.1 or 13.1.2 is binding. Parties to the complaint shall have the right to appeal the decision under Section 14 below.
- 13.2 Where a Complaint relates to the governance or administration of the Competition by the host county or the East Midlands Competition Technical Support Group, such complaints will be dealt with under the Complaints Procedure of the East Midlands Netball Association
- 13.3 Where a Complaint relates to the behaviour of an individual or team participating, volunteering or attending the Competition which could be considered as a Disciplinary Offence under England Netball’s Disciplinary Regulations, such complaints will be dealt with in accordance

with the processes set out in England Netball's Disciplinary Regulations and should be referred to the Regional Resolution Lead.

## **14 Appeal Of Competition Referees' Decision**

14.1 The decision of the Competition Referee in relation to a complaint submitted in accordance with sections 13.1.1 or 13.1.2 shall be final and binding on all parties save that a party has a right to appeal in the following circumstances:

14.1.1 if the decision of the Competition Referee has a potential impact on a Match result, a league table, or the outcome of the Competition Round; AND

14.1.2 there has been a failure by the Competition Referee to follow or act in accordance with these Regulations and/or the Competition Referee has reached a decision on the basis of an error of fact.

These are the only grounds of appeal and any appeal must be submitted in accordance with the appeals process set out below.

14.2 An appeal should be forwarded in writing from the appropriate member of the appealing Team to the Competition TSG Chairman within seventy two (72) working hours of the match who will refer it to the Regional Management Board.

14.3 The Regional Chair will establish a CAC which will consist of individuals that are independent of and not connected to the Competition. One of those individuals will be appointed as the Chair.

14.4 The appeal shall be accompanied by a bank payment of £100 to East Midlands Netball, Account Number 3261, Sort Code 40-30-24 which shall be refunded if the appeal is upheld or if there are any other extenuating circumstances. The Competition Appeals Committee (CAC) will decide whether the extenuating circumstance warrant the cheque being returned.

14.5 The Chair of the CAC will send the appeal to the opposing Team and any other Team the CAC believe could be affected by the outcome of the appeal. These Teams will be permitted seventy two (72) working hours, from the date the appeal notice is sent from CAC to submit any evidence or submission that they wish the CAC to consider.

14.6 All submissions and evidence must be submitted in writing. The Chair of CAC will have the discretion to determine the process, procedure and direction of the appeal.

14.7 The CAC shall meet and reach a determination within seventy two (72) working hours of receiving all the evidence and submissions.

14.8 The CAC will notify all the parties that made submissions and presented evidence of its decision and any penalties and sanctions imposed within twenty four (24) hours of it reaching its determination. The CAC shall have the discretion to publish the decision through whatever means it considers appropriate.

14.9 The CAC shall have the delegated power of East Midlands Netball Association to make all decisions and impose and enforce any penalties and sanctions (including but not limited to, reprimands, the deduction of points, fines, suspensions and expulsions from the Competition) relating to the appeal.

14.10 The procedures set out in this section shall be governed by the Arbitration Act 1996 (the Act) and amount to a binding arbitration agreement for the purposes of Section 6 of the Act.

- 14.11 The parties also waive irrevocably their right to any form of appeal, review or recourse to any court or other judicial authority, or under England Netball's Disciplinary Procedures Manual or otherwise, insofar as such waiver may be validly made.
- 14.12 The seat of arbitration shall be England, the language used shall be English and the governing law of the regulations and these proceedings under Section 3 shall be English Law.
- 14.13 If the circumstances require a decision to be taken sooner than provided for by this section, and all parties to the appeal consent, the timetable within which an appeal is raised, submissions made and the decision taken can be shorter than seventy two (72) working hours stated in this Section. In such cases the CAC shall issue a revised directions timetable which shall be binding on all parties.

NB Competition Day is defined as the day(s) when a tournament is played as determined by the LOC

- 14 By entering a team in the Regional League, teams agree that:
- They will abide by these rules and regulations
  - They are able and willing to fulfil the costs and commitments of participation in the Regional League and associated play offs
  - They will participate in a sporting manner and play within the spirit of the game
  - They are bound by all the rules, policies, regulations and by-laws of England Netball, including the England Netball Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Regulations

## 15 **Disclaimer**

East Midlands Netball will not be liable to any person, whether in contract, tort (including negligence) or otherwise for any direct or indirect loss or injury of any nature, howsoever caused and howsoever arising from the matters covered by these Regulations, provided that nothing in these Regulations excludes or restricts East Midlands Netball's liability for any personal loss or injury caused by East Midlands Netball's own negligence, the negligence of its employees, or for fraud