



Rules & Regulations

It is the responsibility of all Team Managers, Coaches and Captains to ensure that all players are conversant with the following regulations.

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

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1 RULES OF THE GAME

All matches shall be played to the World Netball Rules of the Game currently in force in England at the time of the Tournament, except where specific Tournament Regulations apply.

2 BALLS AND BIBS

- a Each team must provide a size five (5) match netball, which must be clearly marked for identification purposes.
- b All players must wear positional bibs and teams must have a spare set in a different colour in case of a clash of colours.
- c In the event of a clash of colours, a toss of a coin between the two captains will decide which team retains their original colours.

3 CENTRAL TIMING

- a Central timing, normally sounded by a hooter, will be used, but matches will start and finish on the Umpires whistle.
- b The hooter will sound at the beginning and end of an interval.
- c A warning will be given before play is due to commence.

4 PLAYING QUALIFICATION

- a All players and team officials must be Registered Participants members of England Netball through an East Midlands' club
- b. All membership payments must be received by England Netball at least 4 days prior to the closing date of the Regional Tournament
- c Players must be over 10 years old and under 12 years old by midnight 31st August prior to the tournament (School years 6 and 7 only).

5 REGISTRATION OF SQUAD MEMBERS

- a Team Managers must check in with the Tournament Referees at least 45 minutes prior to the commencement of the Tournament
- b Teams must have with them on the day of the Tournament, copies of the England Netball membership print offs which cover all participating players.
- c The maximum number of players allowed in a squad is 12.
- d Team Sheets must be completed and returned to the Tournament Organiser prior to the event to allow for membership to be checked. Team Managers will be given the opportunity to amend the team sheet at registration and will be asked to confirm that it is correct prior to the start of play. Any amendments on the day must be accompanied by proof of membership.
- e No player, other than the 12 nominated on the Team Sheet may play without the prior permission of the Competition Referees
- f Once the Tournament has commenced, a player named on the Team Sheet cannot transfer to another team
- g Any team who knowingly and deliberately provides false information regarding age or identity of players at registration and the naming of players on team sheets may be expelled from the competition. Disciplinary action may be taken against the club.
- h By entering a team into, this competition teams agree that:
 - They will abide by these rules and regulations
 - 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

6 START OF PLAY AND LATE ARRIVALS

- a Captains should toss for goal end or centre pass well before the start of each match.
- b All teams must be on court, in position and ready to play, at the time and on the court stated in the playing schedule.
- c No team may start a match with less than five (5) players.
- d Any team late on court will forfeit the match points.
- e The forfeited points will be awarded to the team on court, in position and ready to play at the correct time.
- f If a reserve plays because of the late arrival of a player, she shall continue to play until half time when the late arrival may be substituted. The 'Substitution' rule must be obeyed.
- g If a reserve is not used, late arrival(s) may only join the match with permission of the Umpires, immediately after the scoring of a goal and only in the vacant position(s). At half time, positions may be changed and the 'Team Changes' rule must be obeyed.

7 SUBSTITUTES AND TEAM CHANGES

- a Play may be stopped if the umpire deems it necessary but, **ONLY** injured or ill players may be substituted during a match. No other changes can be made at this time by either side
- b During the half time interval both teams may make substitutions provided that they take place immediately
- c No extra time will be allowed for injury or illness.
- d Officials are requested to take great care in moving an injured player or ill player from the court. Should an Umpire or team official feel that a player's injury is critical ie. head, neck or back and she will be better left on court for the medical staff, the Umpire must note the time lost during treatment and report to the Tournament Referees who will adjudicate.

8 TEAM BENCH

- a The Team Bench will be the area at the team's defending end at the start of the match to the right of the netball posts unless otherwise indicated by the umpire. **Do not change ends at half time.**
- b Up to five Team Officials will be allowed on the Team Bench, one of which must be designated as the Primary Carer. Only the Primary Carer will be allowed on court in the event of illness/ injury. The Primary Carer will be required to wear a form of designation which will be issued on the day
- c 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,
- d Coaching is only permitted from the Team Bench

9 RESULTS

- a Scorers and umpires must record their name on the back of the results card.
- b Managers must check the scores with both Scorers and if satisfied must sign the result card.
- c The result card represents the official score of the match and once the result card has been signed, no dispute can be lodged.
- d If a Team Manager is not in agreement with the final score, or does not wish to sign the result card for other reasons, she must advise their opponents and both Umpires stating the reasons for their non-compliance with this regulation and report immediately to the Tournament Referees.
- e It is the responsibility of each Team to take their result card to the recorders table after they have been signed by each Scorer and Manager.
- f 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.
- g Match points will be awarded as follows:
 - 5 points for a win
 - 3 points for a draw
 - 1 point to the losing team if scoring over 50% of the goals scored by the winning team.
- h In the event of a tie on points, the following shall apply:

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.

- i 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.
- j Where one of the Teams has its Goal Average, Goal Difference or total number of goals scored affected by conceded Match(es), then all goals scored by and against conceding or disqualified Team(s) in all Matches shall be omitted from the calculations of both Teams level on points. For example, in the event that one Team received five (5) points for a Conceded Fixture, then the goals scored by and against both Teams level on points, in all matches against the conceding or disqualified team, will not be included when its Goal Average, Goal Difference or total number of goals is calculated

10 MATCH OFFICIALS

- a. Each team will provide a 'C' Award umpire
- b. Each team will provide a competent scorer
- c. Umpires will not be responsible for the score
- d. Umpires will be neutrally placed
- e. Umpires and scorers need to be fully conversant with these regulations and any additional information given out on the day

11 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 match 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
- 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/support/support-for-organisations/leagues/competition-governance/> <

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

12 CLOSE RANGE PHOTOGRAPHY

- a 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 and obtain permission of the opposing team before carrying out such photography.
- b. Anyone wishing to take photographs must register with the Competition Referees and wear a form of accreditation issued on the day

- c Any club with players who do not want to be photographed/videoed must inform the Tournament Organiser prior to the event

13 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

14. COMPETITION REFEREES

- 14.1 Competition Referees will be appointed by the East Midlands Netball Association or the host county
- 14.2 The Competition Referees will have the authority and jurisdiction to make decisions on any matters arising during the Competition Day¹ including, but not limited to:
 - 14.2.1 altering or amending the playing schedule as necessary;
 - 14.2.2 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);
 - 14.2.3 maintaining and being responsible for a confidential Competition Referees' Log Book (if appropriate);
 - 14.2.4 upholding the decision by any medical advisor, including but not limited to the competition doctor or physiotherapist, regarding the participation of a player;
 - 14.2.5 determine the score should any match not be concluded due to any unforeseen circumstance, altering the length of matches
 - 14.2.6 instances of unsportsmanlike behaviour including instances of teams predetermining the outcome of a match;
 - 14.2.7 any matter not covered by the Regulations; and
 - 14.2.8 consult with additional people to assist with the Competition, but the final decision and accountability will lie with the Competition Referees
- 14.3 If a player is suspended from a match, or ordered to leave the court and take no further part in the match, that player and a team official must report immediately to the Competition Referees, who will decide what action should be taken.

15 COMPETITION COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

- 15.1 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:
 - 15.1.1 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.
 - 15.1.2 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.

15.1.3 The Competition Referees’ decision in relation to decisions taken under clauses 15.1.1 or 15.1.2 is binding. Parties to the complaint shall have the right to appeal the decision under Section 16 below.

15.2 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

15.3 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.

16 APPEAL OF COMPETITION REFEREES' DECISION

16.1 The decision of the Competition Referee in relation to a complaint submitted in accordance with sections 15.1.1 or 15.1.2 shall be final and binding on all parties save that a party has a right to appeal in the following circumstances:

16.1.1 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

16.1.2 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.

16.2 An appeal should be forwarded in writing from the appropriate member of the appealing Team to the Competition TSG Chairman within 3 working days of the match who will refer it to the Regional Management

16.3 The Regional Management Board 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.

16.4 The appeal shall be accompanied by a cheque for £100 which shall be returned 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.

16.5 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 3 working days, from the date the appeal notice is sent from CAC to submit any evidence or submission that they wish the CAC to consider.

16.6 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.

- 16.7 The CAC shall meet and reach a determination within 3 working days of receiving all the evidence and submissions.
- However, England Netball recognises that a considerable element of the Sport is delivered through volunteers and therefore some flexibility may be required when applying timescales. If the Appropriate Authority, Investigation, Disciplinary or Appeal Panels fail to adhere to the timescales set out in the Disciplinary Regulations it will not invalidate the Disciplinary Procedure and only unreasonable delays could be used as grounds of Appeal. All parties connected to the Complainant or the Respondent must comply with the timescales set out in these Regulations
- 16.8 The CAC will notify all the parties that made submissions and presented evidence of its decision and any penalties and sanctions imposed within forty-eight (48) working hours of it reaching its determination. The CAC shall have the discretion to publish the decision through whatever means it considers appropriate.
- 16.9 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.
- 16.10 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.
- 16.11 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.
- 16.12 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.
- 16.13 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 3 working days stated in this Section. In such cases the CAC shall issue a revised directions timetable which shall be binding on all parties.