

ADULT & JUNIOR NETBALL LEAGUE RULES

SEPTEMBER 2024

WINL Constitution & League Rules

1. All teams enter the League undertaking to abide by the Rules and Constitution, together with The League Rules as laid down by the League members.
2. The Constitution and League Rules will be reviewed annually and not be rescinded or amended unless two thirds of member Clubs present at the AGM or EGM are in agreement. For the good of the league, the chair has the discretion to amend/not uphold a rule if in agreement with the committee mid-way through a season.
3. The Committee will decide the standard of the League.
4. All league meetings, for example AGM, held either in person or virtually, will count as a fixture. Clubs must send 2 people to represent them. If not attended by clubs, the team(s) will incur a 3 point deduction. If more than one team per club, all teams will lose the points. (see sanctions)
5. The League is **not** held responsible for loss, damage or injury.
6. Any other matters arising that are not covered by League Rules and Constitution, will be dealt with at the discretion of the League Committee. The league chair has the right to make amendments or to not uphold a rule if it is considered by a quorum of the committee to be for the good of the league.

England Netball Administration

7. All member Clubs to submit their England Netball (EN) & Hampshire affiliation number **before** the **first** League event.
8. EN rules apply throughout, unless overruled by the Committee in extreme circumstances.
9. No team will be eligible to take part in League events unless the above is adhered to.
10. Affiliation numbers and EN receipt of squad members to be received by the relevant Results & Affiliations Secretary by the first fixture of that playing season via the league affiliation sheet, including an Engage download (in excel/csv), to include name, membership, age and DOB if under 15, as minimum. Signatures of squad members to be forwarded to the relevant Results Secretary by the end of September. .
11. Any squad playing unregistered players will receive a 3-point deduction (see sanctions)
12. Teams may register players throughout the season providing the new member has paid the EN & Hampshire affiliation fee and has sent the relevant paperwork to the relevant Fixtures/Results Secretary 24 hours prior to the match
13. The breaking of the rules and/or the employment of any action not covered by the wording of the EN rules, in the manner contrary to the spirit of the game, is not permitted. For further details refer to the EN Official Netball Rule Book and WINL Disciplinary Contract.
14. Spot checks will be carried out to ensure that these Rules are being complied with.
15. No England National Premier, South Region or County Senior registered player may play below Division 3 of either the Adult Winter league or the Adult Summer league. Playing a player of this standard below this division will result in a 3 points deduction from the team's total winter league score as well as forfeit any point from said games. (see sanctions)
16. Players must be aged 14 by the 1st September to play in the Adult Winter league no matter when you join and by the 1st May for the Adult Summer league. Players playing outside this rule

may only do so if an EN age banding form has been agreed by the committee prior to playing in any fixture. Junior players must be aged at the relevant "age banding" (ie U13 must be U13 at 1st September) failure to do so will result in point deductions (see sanctions)

17. All players playing in the Adult Summer league must be affiliated to England Netball & Hampshire as per the winter league for insurance purposes and a reminder that they must be 14 years old by 1st May. Committee will challenge any teams with players that look younger and proof of age or an EN age banding form must be approved prior to the playing of any fixture.

Players Administration

18. Only players registered with the League will be eligible to play via a league registered team sheet which will be sent out with the winter entry and must be completed and returned to the relevant Results Secretary, no later than the 1st Fixture. A minimum of 7 players must be named in each squad. Boys are permitted to play in the junior league, a maximum of 2 boys per team are allowed with a maximum of 1 boy on court at any one time.
19. Deletion of squad members e.g. due to injury, left the Club - should be notified via the score sheet, to the relevant Results & Affiliations Secretary immediately.
20. A player is entitled to change their club during the season providing **all** relevant registrations are made. This must be done in writing to relevant Results Secretary, and with agreement from the Committee before they change club. You may not play for your new club until you have written confirmation from the relevant Results Secretary. You will need to register as a member with EN to your new club if transfer is made within any one season. Failure to do so may result in sanctions being applied.
21. No player may play in a lower Division than the one they are registered in. Playing a player of this standard will result in a 3 points deduction from the team's total score as well as forfeit any point from said games. (see sanctions)
22. A club with more than 1 team entered into the WINL league will specify before first fixture, which are their A, B, C teams etc regardless of the differing names of the teams
23. No member may play A to B or B to C etc... All differences to the rule must be at the discretion of the Committee and be applied for in writing by the Club Secretary to the League Chairperson. (see sanctions)
24. Players may play C to B or B to A for a maximum of 2 games. On the third game of playing they are then deemed to be of the higher standard and therefore not eligible to play down again. If a lower Division player is named reserve and has not taken part in the said game then this will not be counted as playing up. The Umpiring/Result slip must state "Reserve NOT PLAYED" otherwise it will be assumed that the reserve was used.
25. A member who is eligible to play in the Junior Section of the League but whose Club does not run a Junior Team may register to a Junior Team of a different Club. League Rules will then apply twice to that member.
26. In the event of a team dropping out of the League during the season. All points and goals will be deleted from the result table, except if that team has played each team in that Division once, in which case the first round result will stand.

League Administration/Matches

27. The league will run from September to July with the relevant dates being communicated however this is subject to change. Any changes to this will be notified in writing.
28. All matches will be played at a venue agreed on by the League. Adult Games will commence at 7.15pm and 8.35pm on league nights. Junior games will commence at 6.30pm and 7.45pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays

29. Adult Games will be four quarters of 15 minutes, with a maximum of 3 minutes at quarter time and 3 minutes at half time. Junior Games will be four quarters of 10 minutes, with a maximum of 2 minutes at quarter and half time
30. As long as being played as a competitive WINL arranged match points shall be awarded as follows;
- 5 for a win
 - 3 for a draw
 - 1 for 50% of goals
 - 0 for a loss
31. In the event of a draw for first place, after the final game has been played, a play-off for the first position will take place at a time specified by the Committee. Other positions will be decided by goal difference.
32. In the event of bad weather or floodlight failure being the reason for abandoning a match during play;
- (a) If less than half the game has been played, agree to play the game at a date fixed by the WINL Committee
- (b) If more than half the game has been played, the score will stand as a result.
33. In any case of Rule 32 (a) and (b) the relevant Results Secretary must be informed.
34. **No** postponement of matches will be permitted other than for inclement weather or floodlight failure. Decisions to be taken by a quorum of Committee members. Clubs are **not** to contact the Wavell Community Campus. The relevant Fixtures Secretary/Junior League Secretary will contact Wavell before 6.15pm (Adult League) and 4.00pm (Junior League). The Committee will then advise Clubs if the matches are postponed.
35. Teams wishing to cancel matches will do so by MIDDAY on the day of the fixture. They shall inform the relevant Results Secretary, Umpire Co-ordinator and opposing team verbally and in writing.
36. Teams cancelling matches, as in the case of Rule 35, shall forfeit the match and the goals will be awarded to the non-offending team as follows as long as being played as a competitive WINL arranged match;

Adults Divisions 1 & 2	45 goals
Adults Divisions 3 & 4	35 goals
Adults Divisions 5 & 6	25 goals
Adults Divisions 7 & 8	15 goals

Juniors Divisions 1,2,3 & 4	20 goals
Juniors Divisions 5,6,7 & 8	15 goals
Juniors Divisions 9,10,11 & 12	5 goals

If the Adult game is cancelled in advance, the Umpire Co-Ordinator will return the umpire fee to the non-offending team from fees collected at the start of the Winter/Summer League season for the supply of umpires however, if the game is cancelled after the **Midday** deadline, the offending team will not get back umpire fees. (see sanctions)

37. In the event of a team's non-arrival, Rule 36 will apply.
38. Teams are expected to turn up for every game. In the event of teams cancelling more than two games throughout the season, they will receive a deduction of points on the third occasion (and subsequent cancellations) and may be refused entry for the next season.
39. **No** game may commence with less than 5 League registered players per squad/team.

40. If an Adult team is late and the opposing team is **on court** in their positions, a goal a minute will be awarded up to a maximum of 15 minutes. If a junior team is late and the opposing team is **on court** in their positions, a goal a minute will be awarded up to a maximum of 10 minutes. If the team fails to arrive within this time then Rule 36 will apply.
41. If an Adult team is late Rule 40 will apply but the game must be cut down accordingly, ie red team on court, blue team is 6 minutes late, the score should read 6-0 to the red team and 9 minutes playing time remains for the first quarter. If a Junior team is late Rule 40 will apply but the game must be cut down accordingly, ie red team on court, blue team is 6 minutes late, the score should read 6-0 to the red team and 4 minutes playing time remains for the first quarter. The umpire(s) must be notified before the match commences. If both teams are late, playing time to be cut down accordingly.
42. Teams **must** send a legible picture of their results to the relevant Results Secretary within **24 hours** of the match being played. Failure to do so will mean that your team will be deducted 3 points (see sanctions)
43. The results slip must have your players' names printed and signed on before play commences. Playing positions throughout the game must be listed for each player and umpires must use the sheet to indicate players who received warning or sending offs. Slips must be given to the umpires before play starts and captains must ensure the result is sanctioned by both umpires as well as yourselves on both team slips. Results will not be altered once signed. Junior league teams do not have to get players to sign.
44. Entry points for new teams entering the Adult Winter League are division 4 & 8 according to known playing standard. For Clarification – in order to promote healthy competition as a league we work on the basis of 2 teams up and 2 teams down at the end of every competitive season, unless in the case these movements are not viable with the re-entry for a new season by existing teams. Any promotion/demotion is at the discretion of the Committee. The Committee will try to accommodate requests upon entry but may not always be able to grant them. The Committee reserve the right to make last minute changes when deemed necessary i.e if a team pull out of the league. New Teams into the junior league will be entered into divisions based on age and ability, this will be assessed by the Junior Co-ordinator and committee.
45. Teams are reminded not to enter the courts playing areas before the end of the previous games have been completed. Teams should wait in the area by court 1 (coned area on junior league nights) in a safe zone and ensure that they do not cause obstruction to vehicles using the venue.
46. Teams to ensure that they have their own First Aid kit / appropriate person to be available on all league nights
47. No more than 3 officials and 5 subs on team bench for matches – all spectators should remain outside of the courts for the duration of the match.

Umpiring

48. All umpires and Committee decisions are **final**. Physical or verbal abuse **will not** be tolerated by the League. Any breach of this Rule could lead to the team or person involved being brought before the Disciplinary procedure.
49. The League Umpiring Co-ordinator to organise all umpires for Adult league matches. In arranging the umpires the Co-ordinator will also support the development of umpires at all levels of the umpire pathway. Where possible those umpires working towards their Into Officiating will be supported through the junior league but at times they may also be supported at the Adult League. Having passed their Into Officiating Assessment those umpires who book onto a C award course or indicate to EN their interest in completing a C award course will be supported to continue their umpiring at the Adult League. Appropriate umpire fees are to be paid in cash at the 1st game in September and 1st game in January of Winter League and 1st game of Summer League (the Committee will communicate umpire costs at least 2 weeks before the

start of the season). Umpires will be paid in accordance to their qualification, qualified into officiating will get £10 and their mentor will get £10 per game, C Award will receive £20 per game, B Award £25 per game, A Award £30 per game. Should an umpire not be found by the league for any reason, the game will be rescheduled as per Rule 32.

50. If payment of Umpire fees has not been paid in full by the 2nd Fixture, the team will forfeit their position in the League.
51. Umpires are to arrive in plenty of time for the start of games to complete necessary player signature sheet checks and court/nail checks and to collect their payment from Umpire Co-ordinator.
52. Junior League umpire fees will remain at £7.50 for Training Umpires and £10 for Qualified Umpires, this is due to the length of playing time. These fees should be paid to the umpire on the night of the fixture.
53. The League will, as required, carry out assessments on umpire's ability to perform to a minimum level of a grade C umpire. Umpires who have been assessed will be provided with a written assessment detailing their current standard. Where there is concern raised in an umpire's ability by the assessor, the umpire will be given a further assessment within that year. Where a second assessment finds that there is still concern with an umpire's ability the umpire will be asked to only umpire games when they have secured a mentor to work with them to improve their standard of umpiring. A further assessment will be carried out. Should an umpire fail this third assessment they will be withdrawn from the League's umpire list and will not be allowed to umpire at the WINL or in any tournaments run by the League.
54. In case of non-compliance with Rule 48, if an umpire fails to turn up, the League will do its utmost to ensure that the match plays that night, however if this is not possible, the game will be re-arranged by the League and be paid for at the appropriate fee. Umpires shall be responsible for starting their games promptly and timing their own games. Any injury time – England Rules apply. **All** umpires must be aware of all League Rules. Junior League: WINL will use the EN policy and documentation regarding photos and videoing, which will be run by the clubs and coaches. Clubs will be sent the policy. There will be a form to complete for anyone want to photo/film. The form must be complete, and a green band issued to that person. The league will challenge anyone taking photos that does not have a green band. 2 months in the season have been allocated for this to happen and they are October and Feb.
55. No team/club should leave the venue until members who are under 18 have been collected by a parent or guardian.
56. **Scoring** Each Team must provide a Scorer for the match time they are playing ie: Court 1 teams playing at 7.15pm to provide a Scorer for Court 1 for the 7.15pm game. The two Scorers shall stand together on the green X on the relevant court. The Scorers shall together agree the score after each goal is scored and call out the score to the players and umpires. Failure by any team to provide a scorer will result in 3 points being deducted if the game is being played as a competitive WINL match.
 - i) All games must have two scorers, one from each club. A team must remove a player to score if they do not have one.
 - ii) Any events not covered above will be decided by the committee at the time.

Code of Conduct/Discipline

57. The League, in addition to these rules, will have a detailed Disciplinary Contract which all teams will be asked to sign at the beginning of each season. If a Club/Team does not return a signed contract by the league entry closing date, their participation/entry into the WINL league would be reviewed by the Committee.

58. The venue is a non-smoking campus (including vapes) and members are reminded that dogs are not permitted on any part of the venue, car park or the grounds. A £50 fine which will be given to the offending team if we are fined as a league. (see sanctions)
59. Physical or verbal abuse towards any participant/Committee Member or Umpire will be not be tolerated and deductions of 3 points from teams found to be in breach of this contract will be issued following investigation and hearing through the disciplinary committee. (see sanctions)
60. Any player, team, umpire or participant whose actions within the League are not in keeping with the spirit or standards of the League shall be excluded, temporarily or permanently from any or all activities or events within the League. This will be decided by the Committee or if required a Disciplinary Committee will be appointed. The League will act in accordance with the latest England Netball Disciplinary Procedures.
61. The Committee reserves the right to refuse entry into any League event of any team, person or participant whose past actions have caused the League and/or its members embarrassment or have brought the League and/or game of netball into disrepute.
62. Members should not play under the influence of alcohol or drugs, at his will not be tolerated. Umpires and Committee members should be made aware of any player who is deemed “under the influence”. Action will be taken at disciplinary level.
63. All complaints regarding any matter must be received in writing by the Disciplinary Officer within 7 days of the incident and all replies from the Disciplinary Officer will be in writing.

**PLEASE REMEMBER THIS LEAGUE IS RUN BY YOU - YOUR SAY IN
ALL MATTERS IS VALUED**