

NORTH DURHAM NETBALL RULES SUMMER 2022

The following rules stand for the Summer 2022 league hosted at the Beacon of Light, Sunderland. If required additions and amendments will be made to the rules before the start of the Season and these will be communicated at the general meeting

****please note that parking at the Beacon of Light is shared with the Stadium and other business' on site therefore everyone is required to park opposite black cat house or you can use the blue car park and walk across. NDCNA will not accept responsibility for damage, accident or loss****

1. General

North Durham County Netball League is county organised competition organised by North Durham County Netball Association (NDCNA) to enable clubs in their county to compete against each other and encourage participation and development in netball through a progressive league structure

These regulations outline rules in our Summer League 2022. The rules and regulations must be followed by all teams, club members, players, officials, and spectators. It is the responsibility of Team Managers, Coaches and Captains to ensure that all players, club officials and supporters are conversant with the following rules and regulations. All Clubs will be held responsible for the actions and behaviour of their players, officials and spectators.

By entering a team in the North Durham County League, clubs/teams agree to the following...

1. They will abide by these rules and regulations
2. They are able and willing to fulfil the costs and commitments of participation in the County league

The decisions of NDCNA, or its nominee(s), in respect of these rules and regulations and on any other matter related to its leagues not provided below, shall be considered final and binding on all parties (subject to right to appeal detailed in section 9). These Rules shall be subject and secondary to the application of England Netball's rules.

2. Competition Structure

- 2.1 The County League will consist of as many divisions as the entry warrants and can be catered for within the availability of court time and venue. Entry will be determined by NDCNA at its absolute discretion. Priority will be for existing league teams or new teams based in the North Durham County netball geographical area. Teams based in other netball county areas will be required to enter their own county league before they may be considered to enter North Durham County League.
- 2.2 All new entrants to the league will be required to enter our lowest division (this may exclude B2N division)
- 2.3 Teams entering the League must attend any relevant meetings and ensure league fees are paid before the first game (unless prior arrangements have been made).
- 2.4 At the end of the Season the team or teams finishing top of each division will be promoted subject to new teams entering and the standings of our B2N Division
- 2.5 At the end of the Season the team or teams finishing bottom in each division will be relegated to the division below Subject to new teams entering and the standing of our B2N Division
- 2.6 A competition Lead will be appointed by NDCNA for the county senior league and will have the authority to make decision on any matters arising throughout the Competition including but not limited to:

- 2.6.1 altering or amending the playing schedule as necessary
- 2.6.2 determining if there has been a breach of the regulations and Imposing an appropriate sanction (including disqualification of any individual, player or team)
- 2.6.3 Instances of unsportsmanlike behaviour that brings the sport into disrepute including instances of team predetermining, or attempting to predetermine the outcome of a match
- 2.6.4 Determine the score should any match not be concluded due to unforeseen circumstance
- 2.6.5 Any matter not covered specifically within the regulations
- 2.7 The Competition Lead may call upon, or delegate to, additional persons to assist with the competition or consult with other persons prior to making any decision. Decisions will be reported to the NDCNA and the final decision and accountability for any decision will rest with NDCNA

3. Playing eligibility

- 3.1 All players and officials must be affiliated to England Netball if not first claim to North Durham they must pay a 2nd affiliation fee to North Durham
- 3.2 All players must be aged 14 or over prior to taking to court.
- 3.3 Once the league has commenced and team squad sheets have been received teams may only add players to their squad lists who are new to the league and has not played for another team in the same season.
- 3.4 Where a club has teams in the same division they may play up from the lower place team to the higher placed team subject to the rules in Section 4.

Sanctions – teams who play unaffiliated, ineligible or under age will forfeit any points awarded for the game played. The five points will be awarded to the non-offending team and a score of 10-0 recorded.

4. Nomination of Squads

All affiliated players within a team/club must be nominated to a team. A minimum of 7 players (maximum of 25) must be complete for every team.

- 4.1 All teams must submit their nominated squad sheets to the competition lead before the start of the Season on the 27 April 2022.
- 4.2 A maximum of 12 players can play per match and nominations must be completed on a result sheet after each match and emailed to ndcna.competition@gmail.co.uk fully complete. **Penalties will be applied to teams who regularly forget to do this.**
- 4.3 Where a club has more than one team the following limitations will apply..
 - 4.3.1 A higher nominated player cannot play for a lower nominated player within their club
 - 4.3.2 A lower (or same division player) may play up for a higher nominated team within their club once if they play a second time they will become part of the higher team squad for the remainder of the season
 - 4.3.3 Players playing up/across need to be highlighted on the result sheet

Sanction: Teams found to be in contravention of the Nomination rules above will forfeit any points awarded for the games played. The five points will be awarded to the non-offending team and a score of 10-0 recorded.

5. Fixture Arrangement

- 5.1 All matches must be played as per the fixture schedule published by NDCNA. Fixtures will only be re-arranged in the event, that the venue is deemed unplayable. In the event, that

the venue is unplayable, every effort will be made to contact clubs and inform them of the cancellation and no financial compensation will be payable in the event of the expenses incurred.

- 5.2 In the event, that a team cannot fulfil a playing fixture they must either:
 - 5.2.1 Offer the opposing team a friendly. **Sanction for conceding the match: the non-offending team will be awarded the five points and a score of 10-0 recorded.
 - 5.2.1.1 In the event that a friendly is being played both umpires, and the opposing captain MUST be informed before the start of the game that it is a friendly and recorded on the result sheet
 - 5.2.1.2 If a friendly can not be offered, the team cancelling must inform the opposing team, and the competition lead as soon as possible. The non-offending team may request £15 from the cancelling team to compensate for the match time they have already paid for
 - 5.2.1.3 In the event both teams concede a score of 0-0 will be recorded.
 - 5.2.1.4 A team who concede more than 2 of their matches, during the course of the season will automatically have their results declared void.

6. Match Regulations

- 6.1 All games shall be played to the IFNA Rules and game currently in force in England at the time, except where specific local regulations may apply (as outlined below). England Netball Domestic Rules Guidance will also apply where applicable.
- 6.2 Matches will consist of four 12 minute quarters with intervals of 1,2,1 minutes respectively. Central timing will be administered. If a team is not on court at the starting time, the umpires may award the match to the team on court.
- 6.3 Following the changes to the IFNA Rules of Netball in the event of a player being suspended the following will apply..
 - 6.3.1 as we operate on central timing it isn't practicable for umpires to time any suspensions, therefore the penalty for a suspended player will be 3 goals.
- 6.4 Injury/Blood/Illness procedures will be as per IFNA Regulations subject to the following: there is no additional time to extend a match so any stoppages will mean a reduction in playing time. Time will not be added to the end of a match to cover stoppages. It is the responsibility of each team to provide first aid cover for its players, officials and spectators and must be reported to the first aider on duty at the Beacon of Light and recorded on the result sheet.
- 6.5 In the event that a match is abandoned after it has started the re-arrangement or result will be determined by the competition lead. The score, time and circumstances of the abandonment should be noted on the result sheet
- 6.6 **Photography or video recording is not permitted at any match without the following being in place before the match commences...**
 - 6.6.1 the agreement of the opposing team
 - 6.6.2 both umpires have been informed and have no objections

6.6.3 the appropriate paperwork has been completed, including that of the venue, and the competition lead has agreed they have received the paperwork

6.7 All teams are required to provide bibs and match ball which meet IFNA regulations.

Teams are advised to have a spare set of bibs to use in the event of a colour clash. In the event a team attends for a match without bibs or a ball and no spares are available they will be deemed to have conceded the game. If this is both teams the game will be void.

6.7.1 Teams should play in matching kit, as a minimum they should be in the same colour top. Tracksuit bottoms can be worn as long as they don't trail the floor or cause a trip hazard. Umpires can request players to change their kit where clash occurs or could cause a hazard.

6.8 Balls and hands must be sanitised at quarter time in line with COVID-19 guidelines.

7. Registration of Results

7.1 Each team must submit a completed result sheet for every match, naming the umpires, dated and have the correct score, players highlighted any players playing up/across, any injuries, warnings or suspensions.

****Teams who regularly fail to submit complete result sheets will receive penalty points. Result sheets to be sent to Competition lead as soon as possible after the match.**

7.2 Points will be awarded as follows: 5 points for a WIN, 3 points for a DRAW, 1 point for more than half score.

7.3 The league table will be completed on the basis of the points awarded. The results and league table will be accessible at all times, via the county website. Final league positions will be ranked by points, then if required goal average, goals difference and finally goals scored (high ranking preference).

8. Match Officials

8.1 Match officials will be provided on the night. All umpires who officiate in the NDCNA League must be affiliated to England Netball and must be qualified as either A, B or C award. ****With prior agreement with the competition lead trainee umpires working towards their C award test may umpire in the lower divisions and will have a side line mentor.**

8.2 It is the responsibility of the two officials in charge of each match to ensure that the league rules are applied appropriately and that discipline on and around the court is maintained. They should deal with issues brought to their attention by captains on the night and should remain by the court they are umpiring throughout the duration of the match. If any specific issues arise they should either note these on the team sheets or inform the competition lead.

8.3 In the event that an umpire fails to arrive, or is injured or taken ill during a match, the following procedure should be followed:

Another umpire with appropriate qualification should be asked to umpire the match. Failing that, the next best-qualified umpire may umpire subject to the agreement of the two captains. However, if both agree then there will be no right to appeal or replay.

If no suitable substitute is available the Competition lead should be informed as soon as possible so that the game can be re-arranged.

9. Queries, Complaints and Appeals Procedure

The competition lead for NDCNA is Rebecca Cairns (NDCNA Competition Lead)
ndcna.competition@gmail.com

- 9.1 All queries and complaints should be directed to the competition lead in the first instance, which will be dealt with as follow:
- 9.2 Where a complaint relates to the player of a match, the scoring, and /or its results, the relevant squad member or team official, you must do the following:
- Inform their opponents and the umpires of their complaint
 - Mark the result card with the words "under protest"
 - Give the marked result card to the competition lead, within 3 days of the match
 - Attach a letter to the result sheet to explain the issue in full to the competition lead
 - The competition lead will decide what action should be taken
- 9.2.1 The Competition lead will acknowledge receipt of the query or complaint and make a decision on the matter within 72 hours of receipt of the query or complaint. The Competition Referee decision in relation to decisions and may include other members of the committee for assistance.
- 9.2.2 Where a complaint relates to the governance or administration of the competition by the NDCNA, such complaints will be dealt with in accordance with the processes set out in England Netball's Disciplinary Regulations
- 9.2.3 Appeal of competition lead decision
- 9.3 The decision of the competition lead in relation to a complaint submitted in accordance with section 8 shall be final and binding on all parties. A party has a right to appeal in the following circumstances:

If the decision has a potential impact on a match result, a league table, or the outcome of the competition and if there has been a failure by the Competition lead to follow or act in accordance with this regulation and/or the competition lead reached a decision on the basis of error or fact

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

An appeal should be forwarded in writing from the Team Manager/Captain of the appealing team to the competition referee within 5 days of the decision, who will refer it to NDCNA secretary.

The appeal shall be accompanied by a cheque for £50 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 circumstances warrant the cheque being returned.

The NDCNA secretary will establish a CAC which will consist of individuals that are dependant of and not connected to the competition. One of those individuals will be appointed as the chair.

The chair of the CAC will send the appeal to the opposing team and any other team that CAC believe could be affected by the outcome of the appeal. These teams will be permitted five

days from the date of the appeal notice sent to the CAC to submit evidence that they wish the CAC to consider.

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

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

The procedure set out in this section shall be governed by the arbitration Act 1996 and amount to a binding arbitration and agreement for the purpose of section 6 of the Act.

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.

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.

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 an appeal is raised, submissions made and the decision taken can be shorter than 5 days stated in this section. In such cases the CAC shall issue a revised directions timetable which shall be binding by all parties.

Kinds Regards
NDCNA