

Covid protocols for NY Junior League matches 2021-22

Although it is now not a legal requirement to play Netball with the Rule Modifications, England Netball is anxious to minimise any possible spread through our game. With this in mind, we feel it is right that the following should still be followed in our NY Junior League matches:

- We will play the matches without the Rule Modifications. Standard Netball Rules will be used.
- Coaches should keep an accurate register of their players and officials attending each match.
- Coaches/Team managers should follow the venue regulations about signing in.
- Health checks should continue to be done at home and parents advised NOT to take their daughter to a match if they are unwell or show symptoms of the virus.
- If anyone has been in close contact with someone who tests positive, then you are no longer required to self-isolate if you are an adult who has been fully vaccinated (plus 2 weeks) or if you are Under-18. However, you should take a COVID-19 test and only attend a match if the result is negative.
- Length of matches remain at 4 x 10 mins for all age groups. This will allow games to fit into a 1-hour slot and minimise the risk of the 15 mins close contact. This timing also allows time for a team warmup and cool down as well as reducing contact time of people at the changeover of each time slot.
- Hand sanitiser – players should continue to sanitise hands at intervals
- Balls – balls should continue to be sanitised or changed at intervals
- Posts – coaches should sanitise post protectors at the start and end of each game (and, as appropriate, if touched mid game)
- Bib sharing should be minimal – especially if using overhead bibs.
- Scorers should sanitise and use their own pens etc when scoring.
- Although it is no longer a legal requirement to social distance, respect for others should be observed when players are not actively involved on court. Players are encouraged to take “personal responsibility” and continue to social distance off court where possible. This is to respect personal circumstances, acknowledging that people are still nervous and that we all still need to be cautious about the spread of the virus.
- Everyone should observe the HANDS/FACE/SPACE/ FRESH AIR mnemonic.
- Spectators – please advise parents and other spectators about the need to respect others’ social distance.
- At the indoor venues, coaches and umpires should aim to open doors to allow as much ventilation as possible. Air transmission of the virus is now believed to be biggest spreader. The Sportshalls need to be well ventilated. Doors and windows should be opened to make a through air flow.
- Persistent shouting should be discouraged and clapping at the end of a match rather than calling 3 cheers may limit the risk of airborne transmission.

A reminder that the first teams playing at a venue are responsible for the posts, doors and any benches/chairs. The last teams playing at a venue are responsible for the posts, closing doors and putting away any benches/chairs as appropriate. Please also make sure no litter is left.