**NORTH YORKSHIRE NETBALL**

**HARROGATE DISTRICT WINTER LEAGUE**

**REGULATIONS 2017-18**

*The Harrogate District Winter League will be administered in line with the Regulations for the North Yorkshire Netball Ambassador League. Where necessary, and to meet the needs of the District, amendments have been made. This League is for Female players.*

**1.Organisation and Administration**

*All games in the Winter League will be played in accordance with the current Rules of England Netball and at indoor venues on a Sunday morning. This League is for female players only.*

1.1 The Harrogate District Netball Winter League (the League) will be managed and administered by the Harrogate District Sub Group which forms part of the North Yorkshire Netball Participation and Competition Group (NYNPCG). The first point of contact for the HD Winter League should be the Fixtures Secretary for the Harrogate District League – Kate Kennady – hdnlfixturessecretary@outlook.com

1.2 The decisions of the HD Sub group in respect of these Regulations and on any other matter related to the HDN Winter League, which is not provided for below, shall be considered final and binding for all parties ( subject to the right of appeal which is specifically provided for under Disciplinary Procedures.) For 2017-18 the HD Sub group comprises – Kate Kennady, Christine Stephen, Charlotte Smith, Dianne Henderson, Helen MacKenzie.

1.3 It is the responsibility of all participants in the League to ensure that they are familiar with these League Regulations and also the England Netball Code of Conduct.

**2. Eligibility**

2.1 Application for entry to the HDN Winter League shall be open to any Club or team which is affiliated to England Netball through North Yorkshire County Netball Association, and is based in the Harrogate District and which has paid its subscription in this respect. Application from Clubs or teams situated outside the Harrogate District boundaries may be accepted, if this is seen to enhance the competition.

2.2 The Entry Fee for the League will be determined by the HD Sub group. Entry fees to the Winter League are non-refundable .

2.3 By entering a team in the League, Clubs and Teams agree that they will abide by these regulations, the England Netball Code of Conduct and that they are able and willing to fulfil all costs and commitments relating to the Winter League.

2.4 All players must hold a current England Netball affiliation and must be registered with a Club or Team within the District, except where special provision has been made for a team to participate as per rule 2.1.

2 .5 All players must have their membership lodged with England Netball, and subscription paid before any participation in the HDN Winter League. In addition, Club or Team secretaries must register new players with the Fixtures Secretary via the Registration Form accessed through the HDN Website page on the North Yorkshire website at least 24 hours before the new player plays her first fixture in the HDN Winter League.

2.6 All players must be 16years of age at midnight on 31st August/1st September prior to the commencement of the HDN Winter League unless the appropriate EN Age banding procedures have been followed and they have permission to play in THIS league for the current playing season .Evidence of this permission must be submitted to the Fixture Secretary before a player takes the court. In addition no more than 3 age banded players may form part of the named playing squad for each match.

*Penalty for not adhering to this rule will be a deduction of 2 League points for each offence.*

2.8 Pregnant players must seek guidance from their doctor before taking part in any HDN Winter League matches. Pregnancy, childbirth, miscarriage or any consequence thereof is a policy exclusion.

3.  **Registration of Squad members**

3.1 Clubs must register all players to play in the HDN Winter League. Squad Registration sheets for each participating Club must be completed fully for each player and lodged with the Fixtures Secretary prior to the start of the League. A minimum of 10 players per team must be registered. Registration Sheets must be completed via the online Form on www.netballnorthyorkshire.co.uk.

3.2 Clubs entering more than one team in the League must nominate on the squad registration sheet, a minimum of 10 players for each team participating. Registration of players must be done using the Registration Forms on the HDN Website.

3.3 Teams may only use players whose names have been registered on the squad list held by

 the Fixtures Secretary.

*Penalty for not adhering to this rule will be a deduction of 2 league points for each offence.*

3.4 For Clubs with more than one team, teams must be designated as the A team, B team etc. Where teams are in different Divisions, the highest Division team will automatically be designated the A team.

3.5 Where teams are in the same division, the A team must be specified at the beginning of the Winter League season.

3.6 No player may "play down." ( i.e. no player from a higher team may play for a lower team, unless as provided for in 3.7ii)

*Penalty for not adhering to this deems the result of the match void and 5 points will be awarded to the non-offending team.*

3.7 (i) Any player may "play up" for a maximum of 12 quarters for ANY team in their Club,. On the 13th and any subsequent quarter of play she must become a member of a higher team and there can be no more “playing up” for that player..The Fixtures Secretary must be informed to which team the player has then been registered.

 *(ii)* Due to injury or pregnancy, a player may apply to the HD sub group through the Fixtures Secretary to be transferred to a lower team within their Club.

3.8 Any player may only play for one Club registered in the HDN Winter League.

3.9 A player may only play for one team on any one day in the HD Winter League

*Penalty for not adhering to 3.8 or 3.9 this deems the result of the match void and 5 points will be awarded to the non-offending team.*

3.10 Each team may declare up to 12 players on the Results Card prior to the start of each match, any of these players will be eligible to compete during the match.

**4. Structure of the Winter League**

4.1 Teams entering the HDN Winter League will be placed in Divisions. The number of Divisions will be decided by the number of entries received. The number of Divisions and the Divisional placing of teams will be decided by the HD sub group. For 2017-18, if up to 24 entries are received then 2 Divisions will operate. If more than 24 entries are received, teams will be placed into 3 Divisions and extra playing opportunities will be created on a Sunday by incorporating the Cup and Plate Knockout competition and/or mini tournaments.

4.2 All new entrants to the HDN Winter League will be placed in a Division at the discretion of the HD sub group.

4.3. At the end of season of the Winter League, the Division winners will be decided on points. The top 2 teams in each Division will be promoted and the bottom 2 teams relegated. The HD sub group reserves the right to alter any Division according to its needs. Where necessary, Play-offs will be arranged by the HD sub group to determine any promotion or relegation.

4.4 In extreme circumstances any team may appeal to the HD sub group Fixtures Secretary for consideration regarding into which Division they are placed.

4.5 Each team in a Division will play every other team in that Division twice. Matches will be played on a Sunday morning at one of the indoor venues that are booked by the HD sub group. Matches will be played on the dates and at the times specified on the Fixtures List. For 2017-18 the venues to be used are : Harrogate High School, Ashville College court 1 and court 2; Ripon Grammar. The start times of matches at all venues will be 9.10am; 10.25am; 11.40 am.

4.6 Points for League matches will be awarded as follows:

 5 points for a win

 3 points for a draw

 2 points to losing team if there is less than 5 goals difference between the two scores

 1 point to losing team if goals scored is more than 50% of winning team's

 score

4.7 A League table will be compiled for each Division based on the points awarded. In the event of a team resigning during a season, all points obtained by or recorded against them shall, at the discretion of the HD sub group, be deleted from the League Division table.

4.8 Where teams are level on points at the end of the Winter League, the teams will share the position in the final Table UNLESS the shared positions involve promotion or relegation in which case the HD sub group will arrange the necessary Play-off matches.

**5. Fixture Arrangements**

5.1 All fixtures will be played at the dates and times scheduled and at the stipulated venue. Fixture Lists and a copy of the Results Cards will be sent to Club secretaries/contact via e mail and copies will be on the Harrogate page of the North Yorkshire website. [www.netballnorthyorkshire.co.uk](http://www.netballnorthyorkshire.co.uk).

5.2. No team may rearrange, postpone or cancel a fixture.

*The penalty for not adhering to this rule is:*

*5 league points will be given to the non-offending team. The match will not replayed.*

*In addition, the offending team will be deducted 5 points and they will be liable to pay half the cost of the court hire. This will be reimbursed to the non offending team. The team cancelling the match will also be liable for any costs incurred by the umpires.*

5.3. All games must start within 5 minutes of the scheduled start time as printed on the Fixtures List.

5.4 Any team that fails to arrive for the start time - or within the designated 5 minutes time allowance - will forfeit the match and points will be awarded as in 5.2

5.5 If teams arrive at a match venue and are unable to play because the Umpires deem that the court is dangerous the match will be declared abandoned and the teams concerned should inform the Fixtures Secretary. The Fixtures Secretary will re-arrange the fixture and inform the teams concerned.

5.6 If a match has started and a serious injury occurs necessitating the abandonment of the match, the following will apply:

* If a match is abandoned before three quarter time, it will be replayed and the Fixtures Secretary informed. The Fixtures Secretary will re arrange the fixture and inform the teams concerned.
* If a match is abandoned after three quarter time the score at the time of the stoppage will be deemed as final. The official Results card will be completed in the usual way and forwarded to the Fixtures Secretary.

**6. Match Regulations**

6.1. All games will be played in accordance with the latest current rules of England Netball.

6. 2. Matches will be of 1 hour's duration i.e. 4 x 15 minute quarters. *There will be up to 3 minutes interval at quarter and three quarter time and up to 5 minutes interval at half time*.

6.3 Both teams will provide a suitable match ball and present both balls to the umpires before the start of the match. The umpires will decide which ball is to be used.

6.4 If there is a clash of playing colours, the first named team for the fixture will change colours.

6.5 The situation of the Team Bench ( for substitutes and team officials ) will be determined by the Umpires before the start of the match.

7**. Match Officials**

7.1 All Umpires must be affiliated to England Netball.

7.2. It is the responsibility of the Umpires to start the matches at the time stipulated on the Fixtures List or within the permitted 5 minutes allowance.

7.3. ALL teams must register a qualified umpire as a regulation of entering the HD Winter League 2017-18. Each team must provide an umpire for all of their games at the appropriate standard:

* **1st division matches** - ‘C’ Award and above.
* **2nd division matches** – ‘C’ Award and above or an umpire who has attended a recent C Award Course, is actively working towards his/her C Award and is in the process of achieving this Award.
* **3rd Division matches(if applicable)** – An umpire who has at least attended a North Yorkshire Basic Umpiring Course or an EN Into Officiating Course or an umpire whose Beginner Award is still valid.

***NB – On any one day;***

* ***a person may umpire a total of two games in the HDN Winter League 2017 or***
* ***a person may play in one game and umpire another game***

*Penalty for not adhering to this deems the result of the third match void and 5 points will be awarded to the non-offending team.*

7.4 If, at the agreed start time, or within the permitted 5 minutes allowance, an officiating umpire has failed to arrive then the match will be deemed to be void unless another suitably qualified umpire is available. The Fixtures Secretary should be informed and a decision regarding any penalty will be agreed.

*In this instance, the two teams concerned could play a "friendly" match on the court but the details of why the match could not be played as a League Fixture should be recorded on the Results Card and forwarded to the Fixtures Secretary in the usual way.*

In the event of an Umpire being taken ill or sustaining an injury during a match and is unable to continue, the game will be abandoned unless a suitably qualified umpire is available to take over.

If a match is cancelled because a team is unable to get a suitably qualified umpire, 3 points would be deducted from the offending team’s points.

7.5 I**n ALL Divisions ,** each team must provide a competent Scorer who is at least 14 years of age for each fixture. The Scorers should report to the Umpires before the start of each match. The Scorer from each team will stand/sit together as directed by the Umpires. The Scorers must agree the score after each goal scored and this should be called immediately. Scorers may be required to time the fixture and should provide a suitable timer for this purpose.

 Any team in which fails to provide a Scorer for any fixture will be expected to drop a player from the team to undertake this duty.

7.6 Teams should be prepared to reimburse the Umpire’s expenses of £10 per match.

7.7 At the end of each match, each team should nominate a player from the opposing team whom they feel is that team’s “Player of the Match”. This could , for example, be the player considered to be the best player or the player who has contributed to the game the most or the player who influenced the game the most or the player who demonstrated the best fair play attitude etc. The chosen player should be identified on the Results Card by an asterick or the name/position could be written on the Results Card.

**8. Registration of Results**

8.1 All winning teams shall forward the result of their match immediately after the end of the match by text message to the Results number. The Results text number is : 07795257837. The format is : Harrogate District Senior League

 Division 1

 Ripon Raiders 30

 Tigers 20

 Jane Doe from Raiders.

8.2 Each team is responsible for completing a match Results Card. This must be fully completed, recording full squad details and details of any players “playing up” from lower teams and also the details of the chosen Player of the Match.. The result of the match must be accurately recorded, the card must then be signed by both scorers, both team captains and both Umpires. The Results card must then be scanned and sent to the Fixtures Secretary by **e mail ONLY**.

 Having signed the Results Card, the result of the match is final and no dispute can be lodged. If there is disagreement over the final score then the Results Card should not be signed and details of the disagreement should accompany the unsigned card to the Fixtures Secretary. The Results Card must be received by the Fixtures Secretary within 4 days of the match (i.e. by the Thursday following the match on the Sunday)

*Penalty for not adhering to this rule and for not completing the Results Card accurately and correctly will be the deduction of 1 League point for each offence.*

**9. Queries, Complaints and Disciplinary Powers**

9.1 Any team who intends to raise a query regarding the playing of a match must inform their opponents and the Umpires who officiated on the day of the match.

9.2 Any queries or issues regarding the playing of a match or its result must be submitted in writing to the Fixtures Secretary within 7 days of the fixture.

9.3 All queries, issues and disputes regarding the playing of a match or its result will be determined in the first instance by the HD sub group in conjunction with the NY P&C Chair, using best endeavours to determine the issue within 7 days of receipt of correspondence.

9.4. The HD sub group together with the Chair of the NYP&C group will have the power to determine the penalty to be imposed on teams and players who are in breach of League regulations regarding the playing of matches within the HDN Winter League.

9.5 In the event that any team/player wishes to appeal against any decision of the HD sub group it must notify this intent within 5 days of receipt of the decision. The Appeal should be made to the Chair of the NYNPCG.

9.6. Any team wishing to appeal more generally against the governance and management of the HD sub group or against any specific decision made by it, must also observe the procedures set out in 9.2 and 9.5 above.

9.7. Any team or individual who fails to observe the procedures laid out in the preceding clauses will invalidate their right to raise a query, issue or appeal.

9.8. Any complaint which does not concern the playing of a match or its result, should be made to the Chair of the NYNPCG. Any such complaints may be dealt with by the NYNPCG, or referred to either the Chair or the Disciplinary Secretary of North Yorkshire Netball Association as deemed appropriate.

**10. Miscellaneous**

*The following are Guidelines, advice, confirmation and a reminder of some of the EN Rules. This section is included to ensure that the HDN Winter League runs safely and in the right spirit.*

* 1. All Clubs will be held responsible for the conduct of their players, officials and supporters. Clubs are advised to view the documents pertaining to these areas of the game on the EN website – [www.englandnetball.co.uk](http://www.englandnetball.co.uk)
	2. It is the responsibility of each team to provide adequate first aid cover for its players and officials which should also be made available to the match officials on request. All teams should inform their players of the siting of the Defibrillators at each of the venues.
	3. No form of glove may be worn when playing netball. If gloves are required for medical reasons, the umpires may allow seamless gloves to be worn on the production of an appropriate medical certificate, and provided that they are satisfied that any gloves worn do not present an obvious hazard to other players.
	4. All jewellery must be removed when playing netball, any players wearing jewellery (including body piercing) will not be allowed to participate. Hair must be tied up and back. The following exceptions may apply:
* Wedding rings may be worn, but must be taped .
* Medic alert bracelets may be worn, but must be secured in such a manner that they will not constitute a danger to an opponent, i.e. with clear tape, and in such a way that it cannot be removed/lifted off by any accidental contact.
* No adornment that may endanger player safety shall be worn.
	1. If scarves need to be worn because of religious practices, the material used must be soft, without embellishments which might constitute a danger, and with potential flowing/flapping edged secured as neatly and securely as possible.
	2. All players must wear registered team playing uniform when competing in HDNL matches.
	3. Photography/recording of any HDNL fixture is not allowed unless permission has been obtained from opponents in advance. Umpires must be notified of any agreement.
	4. The HD sub group may review and amend these regulations following changes communicated by England Netball or the NYNPCG.
	5. The HD sub group will adjudicate on any matters not covered by these regulations, seeking guidance from the NYNPCG if necessary.

**11. Trophies**

 Trophies awarded to teams and individuals are the property of the League. Teams & individuals holding a trophy are responsible for its safety and must be returned when requested.

 If a team or individual loses a trophy whilst in its possession, a replacement trophy of similar value must be provided by them.

 In the event of any divisions being discontinued, the trophy for that division shall be returned to the Committee.

Chs - Final- August 2017