

# **LEAGUE REGULATIONS**

## **1. Organisation & Administration**

- i. The North Yorkshire Netball Ambassador League (NYNAL) shall be managed by the NYNCMB Participation & Competition Sub Group (PCG).
- ii. The decisions of the PCG or its nominee(s), in respect of these rules and regulations and on any other matter related to the NYNAL, which is not provided for below, shall be considered final and binding on all parties (subject to the right of appeal which is specifically provided for under disciplinary regulations).
- iii. It is the responsibility of all participants in the NYNAL to ensure that they are familiar with the League regulations and the England Netball Code of Conduct.

## **2. Playing Qualifications & Eligibility**

- i. Application for entry to the NYNAL shall be open to any club or team which is affiliated to England Netball through North Yorkshire Netball County Association, and which has paid its subscription in this respect. Application for entry from clubs/teams situated outside the NYNCA boundaries may be accepted, if this is seen to enhance the competition.
- ii. Entry to the NYNAL will be determined by the PCG at its absolute discretion, subject to its reasonable application of these rules and regulations and having due regard to the standard of play of teams wishing to participate. Vacancies appearing in the NYNAL will be addressed by the PCG in whatever way seems fit.
- iii. The entry fee for the League will be determined by the PCG.
- iv. By entering a team in the NYNAL, clubs/teams agree that they will abide by these regulations, the England Netball Code of Conduct and that they are able and willing to fulfill all costs and commitments relating to the League.
- v. All players must hold a current England Netball affiliation and be registered with a North Yorkshire club, except where special provision has been made for a team to participate as per rule 2.i.
- vi. Players can only play for one club within the NYNAL.
- vii. All players must have their membership lodged with England Netball, and subscription paid before any participation in the NYNAL.
- viii. All players must be over 16 years of age at midnight on 31st August/1st September prior to the commencement of the NYNAL playing season, unless they have permission to play in **THIS** league for the current playing season, following the England Netball age banding procedure. Evidence of this must be supplied to the Lead of the PCG before that player participates in the League.
  - *Penalty for not adhering to this rule will be a deduction of 2 league points for each offence.*
- ix. Pregnant players may not take part in NYNAL matches beyond the 12th week of pregnancy. Pregnancy, childbirth, miscarriage or any consequence thereof is a policy exclusion.

## **3. Registration of Squad Members**

- i. Clubs must register all players to play in the competition. Squad registration sheets for each participating Club must be completed fully for each player and lodged with the PCG as specified prior to the start of the League.
- ii. Any additions to the squad sheets must be lodged with the PCG at least 48 hours before the fixture in which the additional player(s) wish to compete.
- iii. Clubs entering more than one team into the NYNAL must nominate on the squad registration sheet, a minimum of seven (7) players for each team participating.
- iv. Teams may only use players whose names have been registered on the squad list held by the PCG.
  - *Penalty for not adhering to this rule will be a deduction of 2 league points for each offence.*
- v. Where a Club has multiple teams competing in the NYNAL, players from the lower teams within

### **3. Registration of Squad Members (cont...)**

the NYNAL may play for higher teams for no more than sixteen (16) quarters during the season. Where this happens, it must be clearly recorded on the result card. If a player starts a 17<sup>th</sup> quarter they are automatically moved into the next highest team and are no longer eligible to compete for a higher team.

- vi. Once a player has been named on a squad sheet and played, she cannot transfer to another Club and compete for that Club in the NYNAL during the current season.
- vii. Each team may declare up to twelve (12) players on the result card prior to the start of each match, any of these players will be eligible to compete during the match.

### **4. Structure of League**

- i. The League formation will allow for teams to progress to or move back from the Yorkshire Regional League. Each team will play each other twice, matches will be played on the dates and at the times specified on the fixture schedule. Matches will be played indoors (wherever possible) at the venues booked by the PCG.
- ii. Points for 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 teams score.
- iii. A league table will be compiled based on the points awarded. Where teams are level on points, the following will be used to differentiate:
  - Goal average (goals for divided by goals against) shall be used in the first instance - i.e. the team with the higher goal average will be the higher placed.
  - If goal average does not differ, goal difference shall be used (goals for minus goals against) and the team with the highest goal difference shall be placed highest.
  - In the event that neither of the above can differentiate, the team which has the greatest number of goals scored shall be highest placed.
  - Should any team have any of the above affected by cancellations, calculations will be adjusted to reflect this.
  - In the event that none of the above can separate the teams, the aggregate score of matches played between them will determine the outcome.
- iv. The team which finishes top of NYNAL will be eligible to represent the County in the play off's for the Yorkshire Regional League - however if that Club is already represented in the Regional League, the next highest team in the NYNAL who is not already represented in the Regional League will be nominated. *Please note - only Clubs which are affiliated through North Yorkshire County will be eligible to progress to the Regional League from the NYNAL.*
- v. Once an optimum number of ten (10) teams per division has been reached, the NYNAL will operate a promotion/relegation system of 2 up 2 down between its divisions, however this may have to be adjusted if teams progress to, or are relegated from the Yorkshire Regional League.
- vi. Any vacancies arising in the NYNAL will be filled by the PCG as appropriate.

### **5. Fixture Arrangements**

- i. All fixtures will be played on the dates and times scheduled and at the venue as stipulated on the fixture schedule.
- ii. The fee per fixture will be £20 per team. Each team will be issued with an invoice for the whole playing season, this is payable either as a whole or in installments as directed and agreed with the County Treasurer.  
Any bank charges incurred by the County arising from any default by any Club/team, will be passed on to that Club/team and these charges must be paid immediately.
- iii. No team may rearrange, postpone or cancel any fixture.  
*The penalty(ies) for not adhering to this rule are:*

## **5. Fixture Arrangements (cont,,)**

- The non-offending team will be awarded 5 league points and 20 goals, and the offending team will be deducted 5 league points
  - The offending team will be liable to pay any costs incurred by the PCG in this instance.
- iv. Any team which fails to arrive for the start time of the fixture will forfeit the match, and points will be awarded as in 5.iii.
  - v. If for any reason a fixture cannot be played (e.g. venue problem) both teams must inform the PCG immediately.
  - vi. In the event that a match has to be abandoned for any reason (e.g. serious injury), the result of that match will be determined by the PCG having regard for the score at the time and taking into consideration any recommendations from the umpires officiating the fixture.

## **6. Match Regulations**

- i. All matches will be played observing the Official England Netball rules - 2016 edition.
- ii. Matches will be of 1 hour duration - i.e. 4 x 15 minute quarters. There will be a three minute interval at quarter time, and a five minute interval at half time.
- iii. Both teams will provide a suitable match ball - umpires will decide which ball will be used for the match.
- iv. If there is a clash of playing colours, the first named team for the fixture will change.
- v. 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**

- i. Each Team must provide a suitably qualified umpire for each fixture.
- ii. The umpire qualification required is a minimum of IFNA 'B' Award.
- iii. 'C' Award umpires who are actively working towards 'B' Award (i.e. have attended a recent 'B' Award course and currently being mentored towards achieving this qualification by a NY approved mentor) may umpire to assist with progression. Application to be considered in these instances must be made to the PCG.
- iv. If any team fails to provide an umpire for any fixture that team will forfeit the match, as per rule 5.iii.
- v. In the event that an umpire fails to arrive for a fixture, or is taken ill during a match, if another umpire of the appropriate standard is available then she/he can be approached to take over.

**or,**

Providing that both team captains agree, the next best qualified umpire could be used.  
The PCG must be informed immediately.

If team captains cannot agree a suitable outcome, the PCG must be informed immediately.

- iv. Each team must provide a competent scorer for each fixture. The minimum age of any scorer is 14 years. The scorer from each team will stand or sit together as directed by the umpires. The scorers must agree the score after each goal is scored and this should be called immediately. The scorers should report to the umpires before the start of each match. Scorers may also be required to time the fixture and each must provide a suitable timer for this purpose. No team members or supporters shall stand or sit with the scorers.
- v. Any team which fails to provide a scorer for any fixture will be expected to drop a player from the team to undertake this duty.

## **8. Registration of Results**

- i. All teams shall forward the result of their match immediately after the match by text message.
- ii. Each team is responsible for completing a match result card. This must be fully completed, recording full squad details and details of any players playing up from lower teams. 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 card must be posted as directed by the PCG, following the fixture.

- *Penalty for not adhering to this rule will be the deduction of 1 league point for each offence.*

## **9. Queries, Complaints & Disciplinary**

- i. Any team who intends to raise a query regarding the playing of a match and/or its result must inform their opponents and the umpires on the day of the match.
- ii. Any queries or issues regarding the playing of a match/and or its result must be submitted in writing to the PCG (Lead) within seven (7) days of the fixture.
- iii. All queries, issues and disputes regarding the playing of a match and/or it's result will be determined in the first instance by the PCG, using best endeavours to determine the issue within ten (10) days of receipt of correspondence.
- iv. The PCG 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 in the NYNAL - such penalties will include reprimands, the deduction of league points, fines, suspensions, and expulsion from the League.
- v. In the event that any team/player wishes to appeal against any decision of the PCG, it must notify this intent within five (5) days of receipt of the decision. In this event the matter should be referred to the Chair of the NYNCMB.
- vi. Any team wishing to appeal more generally against the governance and management of the NYNAL by the PCG, or against specific decisions made by it, must also observe the procedures set out in 9.ii and 9.v.
- vii. Any team/individual which fails to observe the procedures laid out in the preceding clauses will invalidate their right to raise a query, issue or appeal.
- viii. Any complaint which does not concern the playing of a match and/or its result, but which is made in respect of a disciplinary offence, should be made in writing to the PCG (Lead).

## **10. Miscellaneous**

- i. All Clubs will be held responsible for the conduct of their players, officials and supporters.
- ii. 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.
- iii. 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.
- iv. All jewellery must be removed when playing netball, any players wearing jewellery (including body piercing) will not be allowed to participate. 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.
- v. 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.
- vi. All players must wear registered team playing uniform when competing in NYNAL matches.
- vii. Photography/recording of any NYNAL fixture is not allowed unless permission has been obtained from opponents in advance. Umpires must be notified of any agreement.
- viii. The PCG may review and amend these regulations following changes communicated by England Netball.
- ix. The PCG will adjudicate on any matters not covered by these regulations.