

Netball East RCL Entry Tournament Regulations 2023



7th May 2023 Norfolk

It is the responsibility of **all** Team Managers, Coaches and Captains to ensure that all players are conversant with the following regulations.

1 RULES OF THE GAME

All games shall be played to the INF Rules of the Game currently in force in England at the time of The Tournament, except where specific Tournament Regulations apply.

2 BALLS AND BIBS

- Each team must provide a size five (5) netball, which must be clearly marked for identification purposes.
- All players must wear positional bibs front and back and teams must have a spare set in a different colour in case of a clash of colours.
- In the event of a clash of colours, a toss of a coin between the two captains will decide which team retains their original colours.

3 CENTRAL TIMING

- Central timing, normally sounded by a hooter, will be used, but matches will start and finish on the Umpires whistle.
- The hooter will sound at the beginning and end of an interval.
- A warning will be given before play is due to commence.
- Duration of matches – matches will be 12 minutes each way, three minutes at half time and eight minutes between rounds.

4 PLAYING QUALIFICATION

- Must be the winner or Runners up of their league or nominated by their County Chair
- All players must have primary EN membership of the club for the 2022/23. For the purposes of this competition a primary club will be classed as the first club a player becomes a member of in a membership year and is dated by 30th September 22.
- All players must be registered with the relevant league within that County for the season 2022/23, and players must have played in at least one league match within that county for the qualified/nominated team during the current season.
- Qualification is via Registered Participant through a Club affiliated to England Netball
- AGE BANDING OPEN = All players must be over 14 years of age or be approved via the Netball East Performance system after submitting a completed age banding form.
- Proof of ID will be required on the day & checked by the Tournament Referees
- Players who have played in the EN Super league, Premier League or any Regional League in 12 or more quarters in those leagues in season 2022/23 will be ineligible

5 REGISTRATION OF SQUAD MEMBERS

- Team Managers must check in with the Tournament Referees prior to the commencement of the Tournament (see Special Regulations)
The maximum number of players allowed in a squad is twelve (12).
- No player, other than the 12 nominated on the Registration Form may play without the prior permission of the Tournament Referees.

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- Registration Forms must be completed and lodged with the Regional League Organiser 2 weeks prior to the event to check membership
- Once the Tournament has commenced and a player has been named on a Registration Form she cannot transfer to another team once she has played.
- Any amendment to the Registration Form must be made to the Tournament Referees prior to the commencement of the Tournament.
- Amendments must be accompanied by proof of affiliation – see Rule 4
- Any team who knowingly and deliberately provides false information regarding identity of players when registering players or naming of players on team sheets will forfeit their deposit and may be expelled from the competition. Disciplinary action may be taken against the club

6 START OF PLAY AND LATE ARRIVALS

- Captains should toss for centre pass well before the start of each game.
- All teams must be on court, in position and ready to play at the time and on the court stated in the playing schedule.
- No team may start a game with less than five (5) players.
- Any team late on court will forfeit the match points.
- The forfeited points will be awarded to the team on court, in position and ready to play at the correct time.
- The match may be played, and the Umpires must record on the Score Card, prior to the commencement of play, the name and arrival time of the team who arrived late.
- If a reserve plays because of the late arrival of a player, she shall continue to play until half time, when the late arrival may substitute. The 'Substitution' rule must be obeyed.
- If a reserve is not used, late arrival(s) may only join the game with permission of the Umpires, immediately after the scoring of a goal and only in the vacant position(s). At half time, positions may be changed and the 'Team Changes' rule must be obeyed.

7 SUBSTITUTES AND TEAM CHANGES

- Only injured or ill players may be substituted during a game but owing to the short games, opponents may not substitute at this time, although playing positions may be changed if desired.
- During the half time interval, substitutions may be made providing they take place immediately.
- No extra time will be allowed for injury or illness.
- Officials are requested to take great care in moving an injured player or ill player from the court. Should the Umpires feel that a player's injury is critical i.e., head, neck or back and she will be better left on court for the medical staff, the Umpire must note the time lost during treatment and report to the Tournament Referees who will adjudicate. (England Netball accepts most Netball injuries i.e., knee, ankle etc. fall outside this exemption clause).

8 TEAM BENCH

- The Team Bench will be the area at the team's defending end at the start of the game to the right of the netball posts. **Do not change ends at half time.**
- The Team Officials, in addition to the five players not on court, shall constitute the 'Team Bench'.
- The Team Officials and bench players may not move up and down the side lines or along the goal lines outside the court during play.
- Coaching is only permitted from the Team Bench.

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9 RESULTS

- Scorers must record their name on the back of the score card.
- Captains must check the scores with both Scorers and if satisfied must sign the score card.
- The result card represents the official score of the match and once the score card has been signed, no dispute can be lodged.
- If a Team Captain is not in agreement with the final score or does not wish to sign the result card for other reasons, her Team Manager must advise their opponents, and both Umpires (who must print their names on the reverse of the score card) and state reasons for their non-compliance with this regulation and report immediately to the Tournament Referees.
- It is the responsibility of the winning Team Captain to take both result cards to the recorders table after they have been signed by both Scorers and Team Captains.
- In the event of a draw, each Team Captain will take responsibility for taking a card to the recorders table.
- In the event of a team being 'noncompetitive' for any reason, their results and those of their opponents will not be included on the master score sheet.
- Match points will be awarded as follows:
 - 5 points for a win
 - 3 points for a draw
 - 1 point to the losing team if scoring over 50% of the goals scored by the winning team.
- In the event of a tie on points, goal average will decide placings (goals for divided by goals against).
- If goal average is tied, then goal difference will be applied (the difference between goals for and goals against).
- If goal difference is tied, the result of the group match between the two teams will be the decider.
- In the event of a further tie, the team with the most goals will be adjudged the winner.

10 MATCH OFFICIALS

- Separate Umpire specific regulations apply
- Umpires are not responsible for the score
- Scorers must agree the score before the Team Captains sign the cards.
- Umpires and Scorers need to be fully conversant with these regulations and the additional information given out within their own official package.
- Scorers will be required for all fixtures. Each team must provide a competent scorer who is either a minimum Beginner/C award umpire, or someone who has completed a MBO course or has a good knowledge of the scoring system.
- Netball East will provide umpires for the tournament.
- Netball East will provide tournament referees for the tournament

11 COMPETITION COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

- 11.1 On the Competition Day, all queries and complaints (a Complaint) should be directed to the Competition Referees in the first instance, which will be dealt with as follows:
 - 11.1.1 Where the Complaint relates to the Competition format or management, including (but not limited to) the schedule, the opposing Team, playing surface or other playing arrangements, a protest must be made, before the start of the Match (or as soon as possible after the issue becomes apparent during the Match) to the Competition Referee. The Complaint must then be acknowledged by the Competition Referee who will decide what action should be taken; or.

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- 11.1.2 Where the Complaint relates to the playing of a Match, the scoring, and/or its result, the relevant Squad member or Team Official, must do the following:
 - a) Inform their opponents and the Umpires of their complaint.
 - b) Mark the Score Card with the words 'Under Protest'.
 - c) Take the Score Card marked 'Under Protest' to the Competition Referee, straight after the Match.
 - d) Explain the issue in full to the Competition Referee.
 - e) The Competition Referee will decide what action should be taken.
- 11.1.3 The Competition Referee's decision in relation to decisions taken under clauses 11.1.1 or 11.1.2 is binding apart from where parties to the complaint have the right to appeal the decision under Section 10 below.
- 11.2 Where a Complaint relates to the governance or administration of the Competition by Netball East, such complaints will be dealt with under the Complaints Procedure of Netball East.
- 11.3 Where a Complaint relates to the behaviour of an individual Player or Team, volunteer or individual attending the Competition which could be considered as a Disciplinary Offence under England Netball's Disciplinary Regulations, such complaints will be dealt with in accordance with the procedures set out in England Netball's Disciplinary Regulations and should be referred to the Disciplinary Secretary of Netball East.

12. APPEAL OF THE COMPETITION REFEREES DECISION

- 12.1 The decision of the Competition Referee in relation to a complaint submitted in accordance with sections 11.1.1 or 11.1.2 shall be final and binding on all parties save that a party has a right to appeal in the following circumstances:
 - 12.1.1 if the decision of the Competition Referee has a potential impact on a Match result, a league table, or the outcome of the Competition Round; and
 - 12.1.2 there has been a failure by the Competition Referee to follow or act in accordance with these Regulations and/or the Competition Referee has reached a decision on the basis of an error of fact.

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

- 12.2 An appeal should be forwarded in writing from the Team Manager of the appealing Team to the named contact from the Netball East Organising Committee within seventy-two (72) hours of the match.
- 12.3 The appeal shall be accompanied by a cheque for £100 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 circumstance warrant the cheque being returned.
- 12.4 The named contact from the Netball East Organising Committee will establish a CAC which will consist of individuals that are independent of and not connected to the Competition. One of those individuals will be appointed as the Chair. The CAC will usually but not exclusively be 3 members of Netball East.
- 12.5 The Chair of the CAC will send the appeal to the opposing Team and any other Team the CAC believe could be affected by the outcome of the appeal. These Teams will be permitted seventy-two (72) hours, from the date the appeal notice is sent from CAC to submit any evidence or submission that they wish the CAC to consider.
- 12.6 All submissions and evidence must be submitted in writing. The Chair of CAC will have the discretion to determine the process, procedure and direction of the appeal.
- 12.7 The CAC shall meet and reach a determination within seventy-two (72) hours of receiving all the evidence and submissions.

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- 12.8 The CAC will notify all the parties that made submissions and presented evidence of its decision and any penalties and sanctions imposed within twenty-four (24) hours of it reaching its determination. The CAC shall have the discretion to publish the decision through whatever means it considers appropriate.
- 12.9 The CAC shall have the delegated power of England Netball to make all decisions and impose and enforce any penalties and sanctions (including but not limited to, reprimands, the deduction of points, fines, suspensions and expulsions from the Competition) relating to the appeal.
- 12.10 The procedures set out in this section 12 shall be governed by the Arbitration Act 1996 (the Act) and amount to a binding arbitration agreement for the purposes of Section 6 of the Act.
- 12.11 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.
- 12.12 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 8 shall be English Law.
- 12.13 If the circumstances require a decision to be taken sooner than provided for by this section 8, and all parties to the appeal consent, the timetable within which an appeal is raised, submissions made, and the decision taken can be shorter than seventy-two (72) hours stated in this Section 8. In such cases the CAC shall issue a revised directions timetable which shall be binding on all parties.
- 12.14 In order to adhere to the timescales set out in Section 12, all communication will take place via electronic mail to the contact held on England Netball's administration system, which is confirmed on the Squad Registration Sheet, or if this is left blank, the contact provided on Engage. It is the participating Teams responsibility to ensure that these contact details are kept up to date.

* = An LOC is the organising committee responsible for the management and delivery of the competition and for the Regional Tournament of the national Clubs competition is The Netball East Organising Committee
Definition

¹ Competition Day is defined as the day(s) when a tournament is played as determined by the LOC

13 DISCIPLINE

- If a player is suspended from a game or ordered to leave the court and take no further part in the game, that player will be required to appear in front of a disciplinary board immediately after the end of the game.
- At the end of the game the Team Manager/Coach and the player concerned must report immediately to the Tournament Referees.
- The tournament referees will then make decisions as to whether the player in question takes any further part in the tournament.

14 GLOVES/JEWELLERY/MEDIC ALERT BRACELET/SCARVES

- No form of glove may be worn when playing Netball.
- If, for medical reasons, gloves are required, then on the production of an appropriate medical certificate, the Tournament Referees may allow seamless leather gloves to be worn.
- These players are advised to have personal liability insurance.
- Umpires are reminded that they still have to be satisfied that any gloves worn do not present a hazard to other players.
- All jewellery & body piercing's must be removed.

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- A wedding ring must be taped if worn.
- Players wearing jewelry will not be allowed on court.
- Only a medical alert bracelet may be worn during a netball match.
- The bracelet must be secured in such a manner that it will not constitute a danger to an opponent i.e., with clear tape, suitably taped to ensure that it cannot be removed/lifted off by any accidental contact.
- Head Scarves – If these need to be worn because of religious practices, the player, together with the Coach should ensure that the material used for the head covering is soft, without embellishments which might constitute a danger and with potential flowing, flapping edges held securely around the neck or tucked into the shirt collar. It should be as neat and secure as possible.

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SPECIAL REGULATIONS

REGISTRATION

Team managers must report to the Tournament Referees in the registration area at least 45 minutes before the start of play.

PLAYERS AND BLEEDING

Please note Rule 7 clearly states the procedure regarding players and bleeding. However, where no time is allowed for injuries, the following should apply:

- If the bleeding is not profuse, the player should be asked to cover the injury at the next interval.
- If the bleeding is very heavy, the player will be asked to leave the court for the dressing of the injury and to return according to rule 7.
- In these shorter matches, it is not the intention to penalise a team with an injured player and Umpires will need to be very aware of the time of the next interval, in order to keep a player on court unless it is absolutely necessary to have the injury covered. A sticking plaster could be used in order to stem the flow until the next interval.
- **PLEASE NOTE: IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE TEAM OFFICIALS TO HAVE FIRST AID DRESSINGS AVAILABLE AT THE SIDE OF THE COURT.**
- If dressings are not available, then a substitute would have to be used or the team would have to play on with only six players.

UMPIRES AND BLEEDING

- Play may be stopped for injury or illness or any other cause. This would allow the Umpires to stop the game if she/he sustained and injury herself/himself.
- In tournament play where no time is allowed for stoppages, the Umpire should try to wait until the next interval before dealing with her/his injury. If the injury is bleeding, the Umpire should avoid touching the ball. This may mean that she/he should request the other Umpire to take any Toss Up that she/he may award, until she/he can deal with her/his own injury. It may now be advisable for Umpires to keep an Elastoplast about their person in order to deal with any small injury that may occur. In the event of a major injury to either a player or an Umpire, the game would have to be stopped and the Tournament Referees would have to make a decision as to how the emergency situation would be coped with.

PREGNANT PLAYERS AND UMPIRES FITNESS

- Pregnant players may not take part beyond 12th week of pregnancy.
- Umpires are expected to conform to a standard of physical fitness, which allows them to keep pace with the speed and variability of the game(s). If age, injury, illness or pregnancy is likely to affect the umpires' movements and positioning to the detriment of the game, she/he is required to withdraw from officiating.
- At the discretion of the Umpiring Committee an appropriate penalty may be imposed on the umpire concerned.
- The Umpiring co-ordinator reserves the right to withdraw an umpire from the Tournament should this become necessary. The decision will be made by two nominated umpires in consultation with the Umpire Co-ordinator and after observation of the Umpire concerned.

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CLOSE RANGE PHOTOGRAPHY

The England Netball Duty of Care guidelines require that any person wishing to engage in any video, zoom or close-range photography (Taking picture from the surround area of the court i.e., action shots) should register their details with Tournament Referee in the Registration area before carrying out any such photography.