



3 Counties Netball League

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3 COUNTIES NETBALL LEAGUE CONSTITUTION

The 3 Counties Netball League is a Hertfordshire based development league for all, so called as at its inauguration it was lucky enough to have club participation from 3 separate Counties.

The League strives to be a friendly and welcoming place for players and umpires to develop. All games will be played in adherence to the current rules and directives of All England Netball Association (England Netball/EN) and the Hertfordshire County Netball Association (Hertfordshire Netball). All teams must abide by the Constitution and the 3CNL Competition Rules.

1. TITLE

1.1 The League shall be called 3 Counties Netball League, hereafter to be referred to as the "League" and shall be affiliated to England Netball (hereafter called EN).

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 Promote and encourage the game of netball.
- 2.2 Plan and help in the growth of netball within the geographical area under its jurisdiction.
- 2.3 Organise such events as the Members desire.
- 2.4 Adopt the rules and regulations laid down by EN.
- 2.5 Employ the funds of the League as shall be deemed by the Committee to be in the best interests of the game.

3. OFFICERS

- 3.1 The Officers of the League, who must be affiliated to EN, collectively referred to as the Committee, shall be as follows:
- Chairperson
 - Vice-Chair
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer



3 Counties Netball League

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- Safeguarding Officer
- Fixtures Secretary
- Umpiring Secretary
- Resolution Lead

3.2 Any Officer who shall be found not to be an affiliated member of EN, shall be unable to vote and liable to removal from office. The remaining Officers shall fill the vacancy as per 4.4 or call an EGM at the earliest opportunity to appoint a replacement Officer.

3.3 At Committee meetings, all Officers shall be entitled to one vote provided that if more than two Officers are from the same Member club, that Member club shall have a maximum of 2 votes in total.

4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

4.1 All Officers shall be elected either at the Annual General Meeting ("AGM") or at an Extraordinary General Meeting ("EGM") of the League, from and by the Members of the League.

4.2 All Officers are elected for a period of one year, and will automatically resign at the end of that year, but may be re-elected to the same office or another office at the AGM or EGM the following year.

4.3 All elected persons on the Committee may serve for a total term of no more than nine years, if re-elected on consecutive years to enable this. Re-election to the Committee will only be permitted after a break in continuity of at least one year.

4.4 The Committee may fill any vacancies that occur during the year on an interim basis, provided that the interim office holder resigns at the next AGM and may offer themselves for re-election to that post.

4.5 No one person may hold more than one of the following roles: Chairperson, Vice-Chair, Safeguarding, Treasurer and Secretary to avoid a conflict of interest arising.

4.6 An Officer may resign their post by providing notice in writing of their resignation, together with the effective date of resignation, not less than 28 days, unless in exceptional circumstances as agreed by the Committee, before the effective date of resignation.

4.7 An Officer may be removed from office, or required to resign, by a simple majority vote of the Committee. In the event of a split vote, the Chairperson will have a casting vote, unless the vote is to remove the Chairperson, in which case



3 Counties Netball League

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the Vice-Chair shall have a casting vote. The Officer who is the subject of a vote to remove them shall not have a vote.

4.8 All Officers, including interim office holders, must be affiliated to EN.

5. MEMBERS

5.1 Each and every Resident Club and New Club shall be collectively referred to as the Members of the League. The term "Resident Club" refers to a club, or representative collection of players, that has been playing in the League for the previous season, and the term "New Club" refers to any club that has applied to play in the League in the forthcoming season, and been accepted by the Committee.

5.2 Each club that has an individual profile and identity on EN shall be entitled to one vote.

5.3 The League welcomes applications for entry from New Clubs.

5.4 If the League have split age groups into A&B divisions to cater for all entries, new teams will automatically be placed in the lowest division within their age group. However, an assessment may be requested for placement into a higher division.

5.5 Any club may apply for membership to the League. Such application should be made in writing to the League Secretary, at least 21 days before the date of the AGM but applications outside of this timeframe can be considered at the Committee's discretion.

5.6 Clubs wishing to play in the League must be affiliated to EN, have in place a club Safeguarding Officer and be connected to the League via Engage.

5.7 The League Committee reserves the right to accept or refuse any application to the League.

5.8 All members shall be bound by the Constitution and any other rulings of the League Committee and by the current England Netball rules of the game, and Hertfordshire County Guidelines.

5.9 Membership may be revoked by a majority vote of the Committee for any offence considered contrary to the Constitution.

6. WAITING LIST

6.1 If a space becomes available in the League, during the season, a team can be promoted from the waiting list into the vacant spot and play the remainder of the season's games as friendlies. At the Committee's discretion this team may



3 Counties Netball League

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compete for placing. The incoming team will be considered as a Resident Club for a place in the League the following season.

7. COMMITTEE

7.1 The Committee shall meet at agreed intervals, which are not less than two times per year.

7.2 The duties of the Committee shall be:

- To control the affairs of the League on behalf of the Members.
- To keep accurate accounts of the finances of the League through the Treasurer. These should be available for reasonable inspection by Members and should be independently scrutinised before every Annual General Meeting.
- The League shall maintain a current bank account, in the name of the League, independent of any Member, with at least two Officers as authorised signatories.
- To co-opt additional members of the Committee as the Committee feels necessary. Co-opted members shall not be entitled to vote on the Committee but may be awarded voting rights at the discretion of the Committee.
- To make necessary decisions on the basis of a simple majority vote. In the case of equal votes, the Chairperson or vice chair (in their absence) shall be entitled to an additional casting vote.
- To update and amend the Rules of the League as required from time to time.

7.3 Committee members must not vote on any matter in which they have a conflict of interest or a conflict of loyalty, which may, or may appear to, influence or affect their decision making.

7.4 Committee members entitled to vote are Chairperson, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Umpire Secretary and Fixtures Secretary only. All other roles are non-voting roles.

7.5 Any Committee member absenting themselves from a vote or discussion in accordance with 7.3 above, will not be counted towards the quorum for the purposes of such decision.

8. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LEAGUE COMMITTEE

8.1 The collective Committee has the following roles and responsibilities:



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- Make key decisions relating to strategy, policy, finance and business management to achieve the objects and aims of the League
- Create an environment conducive to high achievements
- Establish policy and oversee its implementation in a safe, equitable and inclusive manner
- Be responsible for the management of the affairs and for the success of the League
- Implement an organised approach to succession planning for the Committee so as to ensure an appropriate level of stability and continuity of the League
- Make, vary and revoke regulations, procedures, codes of behaviour, terms of reference, standing orders and byelaws for the better administration of the League; and
- Adopt those rules, regulations, policies and resolutions of England Netball as applicable to members of England Netball.

8.2 The Committee shall, on a joint and several basis;

- Ensure that the League complies with the terms of any contract with a third party; and
- Indemnify any member of the Committee who enters into a contract under clause 8.2 in respect of any reasonable expenses and reasonable costs, losses or liabilities, judgements, fines and amounts paid in settlement incurred in respect of such contract.

9. ACCOUNTING RECORDS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

9.1 The Committee shall cause accurate accounting records for the League to be kept that are sufficient to show and explain the League's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy, at any time, the financial position of the League. The financial year ends on [DATE].

9.2 The Committee are responsible for the preparation of the annual accounts and must not approve them unless they are satisfied they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the League and of the surplus or deficit of the League for that period.

9.3 In preparing the annual accounts, the Committee are required to;

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently



3 Counties Netball League

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- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
 - Prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is appropriate to presume that the League will continue in business.
- 9.4 The accounting records shall be kept and retained for a minimum period of 6 years.
- 9.5 The annual accounts shall be scrutinised by an independent examiner, appointed by the Committee, who has the requisite ability and experience to carry out a competent, financial examination.
- 9.6 The Committee are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the League and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.
- 9.7 The League is a "not for profit" organisation, all funds generated will be paid towards the furtherance of its objects.
- 10. AGM**
- 10.1 The AGM shall be held within the months of June or July following the conclusion of the current season. The AGM may take place in person or via video call.
- 10.2 Twenty-one days written notice shall be given to Members of the AGM by circulating a copy of the notice to every Member's club secretary at either their home address or by electronic mail.
- 10.3 Members must advise the League in writing, addressed to the League Secretary, of any business to be moved at the AGM at least fourteen days before the meeting is to be held. The League shall then circulate an agenda to Member's club secretaries not less than seven days prior to the meeting.
- 10.4 Nomination of candidates for election of Officers shall be made in writing to the Chairperson at least fourteen days in advance of the AGM date. Nominations can only be made by EN members and must be seconded in writing by another Member.
- 10.5 The Chairperson shall conduct the AGM, and if not present, then they shall appoint the Vice-Chair or another Officer to conduct the AGM in their place. That replacement Officer shall have the same voting power as the Chairperson.
- 10.6 A quorum for an AGM or EGM shall be the Members being present, being at least four or a simple majority, whichever is the greater.



3 Counties Netball League

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- 10.7 At General Meetings (AGM or EGM) all resolutions shall be passed by simple majority of those present and entitled to vote. In the event of a tie of votes cast, the Chairperson of the meeting shall have a casting vote.
- 10.8 The business of the AGM is to:
- (a) Confirm the minutes of the previous AGM and any General Meeting held since the last AGM
 - (b) Receive the Annual Report of the Committee from the Chairperson
 - (c) Receive and approve accounts for the year from the Treasurer
 - (d) Approve the Registration Fee for the next season
 - (e) Approve any changes to the Constitution and Rules
 - (f) Elect all Officers of the Committee
 - (g) Consider applications from New Clubs wishing to compete in the League
 - (h) Transact such other business received in writing by the Secretary from Members, fourteen days prior to the meeting and included on the agenda
- 10.9 Each Member must send a least 1 club representative to the AGM prior to the start of the season in which they wish to compete. Failure to attend and the Member forfeits entry into the League at the Committee's discretion.
- 10.10 Minutes of the AGM will be prepared by the League Secretary and circulated via electronic mail to all Officers and Members within 14 days of the date the meeting was held. Any query relating to the content of the minutes must be raised in writing within 14 days of receipt of the minutes, failing which they shall be deemed as an accurate reflection of what took place at the meeting.
- 10.11 Persons entitled to vote at the General Meetings shall be:-
- (a) Members - 1 vote per Club
 - (b) In the event of equal votes, the Chairperson shall have the casting vote.

11. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

- 11.1 An Extraordinary General Meeting may be convened:-
- (a) by order of the Committee
 - (b) upon the written request to the Chairperson of the Committee, by three or more Members entitled to vote at the General Meeting.



3 Counties Netball League

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- 11.2 Each requisition shall state the purpose for which a meeting is required and shall set out, in full, any resolution which it is desired to propose.
- 11.3 The meeting shall be held within twenty-eight days of receipt of the requisition by the Chairperson and fourteen days' notice of the meeting and of any resolution proposed shall be given to each Member's club secretary.
- 11.4 Minutes of the EGM will be prepared by the League Secretary and circulated via electronic mail to all Officers and Members within 14 days of the date the meeting was held. Any query relating to the content of the minutes must be raised in writing within 7 days of receipt of the minutes, failing which they shall be deemed as an accurate reflection of what took place at the meeting.

12. ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION

- 12.1 Any proposed alterations to this Constitution may only be considered at an AGM or EGM.
- 12.2 Any alteration or amendment must be proposed by an Officer or Member and seconded by another Officer or Member, and made in writing to the Secretary 21 days before the date of the AGM or EGM. Such alterations shall be agreed if supported by 2/3 of those Members present at the meeting.

13. LEAGUE ENTRY FEES

- 13.1 The League Entry Fee per team, per annum, will be agreed at the AGM and communicated to all Members via electronic mail at the earliest opportunity.
- 13.2 A non-returnable deposit of £50 per team will be payable no later than 31st July before the start of the new season, by all Members. The balance of the League Entry Fee must be received no later than two weeks before the start of the season. This fee is also non-refundable.
- 13.3 Non-payment of the balance of the League Entry Fee may result in the team's place in the League being forfeited at the Committee's discretion.

14. VENUE

- 14.1 All matches will be played at a League designated venue. The League will be responsible for booking courts and communicating to Members the location of the Venue at the earliest opportunity.

15. INDEMNITY



3 Counties Netball League

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- 15.1 Any Officer shall be indemnified by the League against all costs and losses which they may incur or sustain in relation to the execution of the duties of their office, or by reason of any duty performed properly and lawfully for and with the authority of the Committee. Written evidence of all and any such costs must be provided to the Treasurer.

16. ARBITRATION

- 16.1 If any dispute shall arise on the interpretation of this Constitution or the need arises to deal with any matter not provided for in this Constitution, reference shall be made to the Chairperson or to another member of the Committee, who shall refer the same to the Committee whose decision shall be final and binding on all parties.

17. DISSOLUTION

- 17.1 The League shall only be dissolved at an AGM or EGM.
- 17.2 Any proposal to dissolve the League shall be made in writing to the Secretary not less than 21 days before the AGM or EGM.
- 17.3 In the event of the dissolution of the League, the Committee shall realise the assets and property of the League and call in all monies due to the League.
- 17.4 After discharge of all debts and liabilities, any remaining surplus shall be given to such sporting organisations, that share the aims of the League, which further and develop amateur sport, as agreed at the AGM or EGM.
- 17.5 The consent of the benefactor shall be sought before the disposal of any property or assets, which have been donated or have come to the League as a result of Grant Aid.
- 17.6 No person on the Committee, nor any Member of the League, shall benefit financially from the dissolution.
- 17.7 In the event of a dissolution where there are not sufficient funds remaining to satisfy all the debts and liabilities, the members of the Committee are responsible for absolving those debts and liabilities. Such debts and liabilities should be divided equally between members of the Committee standing at the time of the dissolution, but remain joint and several.

Date Approved: September 2025

Date for Review: