



ESSEX METROPOLITAN NETBALL ASSOCIATION

LEAGUE RULES 2018/2019

AMENDMENTS TO LAST YEAR'S RULES ARE PRINTED IN BOLD BLOCK CAPITAL LETTERS. PENALTIES ARE PRINTED IN *ITALICS*.

1. Affiliation

(a) All members of clubs participating in the League, including players, C umpires and officials must be individually affiliated to England Netball and Essex Metropolitan by 12 September. **THIS ALSO APPLIES TO ANY NON-PLAYING C AWARD UMPIRES.** B, A, International umpires and C Award umpires being assessed for the B Award need only hold a current England Netball affiliation card.

PENALTY (a): ANY TEAM NOT SUPPLYING MONEY AND NAMES TO THE TREASURER AND LEAGUE & RESULTS SECRETARIES BY THE APPROPRIATE DATE TO BE FINED £10.

(b) Affiliation for additional members during the year must be sent direct to the Treasurer and also to the Results Secretary with the member's signature and, for a player, with the name of the team for which she will play.

(c) No player shall play in this League for more than one club to which she is affiliated in any one season without the prior permission of the Executive Committee.

(d) Every player must be aged 14 or over on 1st September 2018.

PENALTY (a), (b), (c) and (d): THE OFFENDING TEAM'S POINTS FOR THE FIXTURE WILL BE DEDUCTED FROM THEIR TOTAL POINTS, THE NON-OFFENDING TEAM WILL RECEIVE A TOTAL OF 6 POINTS FOR THE GAME.

2. Fees

a) The League entry fee is **£10.00** per team (if club is affiliated outside Essex Metropolitan area the entry fee is **£60.00** for the 1st team and **£30.00** for any subsequent team). The affiliation fee per member is **£40.00** (£19.00 - U18, £4.65 Registration [2nd claim]).

b) Each team shall pay the appropriate fee for the hire of the facilities where the league is played, in the amounts and at the times required.

c) Each club will pay a deposit of £90.00 with the Confirmation of League Entry form.
i) any team which then withdraws from the League after the closing date for submitting this form, and before the start of the season will lose the £90.00 deposit, or be charged £90.00 if it is a club's 2nd or 3rd or any other team to withdraw.
ii) any team which forfeits any of their first three matches of the season or forfeits three or more matches during the season may lose their deposit. The deposit will be returned when a club's team(s) have played at least 75% of their fixtures.
iii) for cancelled games under Rule 9, the Treasurer shall reimburse the court fees of the non-offending team, utilising the deposit of the team cancelling the fixture.

3. Change of Secretary/Team Withdrawal

(a) Any club secretary taking office after the list of club secretaries has been circulated at the start of the season must notify the change in writing to the League Secretary, the Treasurer, the General Secretary, the Results Secretary and the other club secretaries in her Division(s).

(b) Teams dropping out must also inform the League Secretary, Results Secretary and clubs in their Division(s) immediately in writing via email.

(c) Any team withdrawing from the league will be required to meet the court fees of the opposing teams for any matches then unplayed.

4. Divisions

The League will be arranged as evenly as possible in sections usually consisting of a maximum of eight teams. Each team shall play the other teams in its section twice.

5. Registration

a) All members (excluding non-playing umpires) must be registered to a team in the League and complete Signature Lists sent to the Results Secretary by the date of the first match. Non-playing

members, and umpires do not need to be registered to a team but, if not so registered, they may not play.

b) Each team must name a minimum of seven players and provide signatures.

PENALTY (a) and (b): THE OFFENDING TEAM'S POINTS FOR THE FIXTURE WILL BE DEDUCTED FROM THEIR TOTAL POINTS; THE NON-OFFENDING TEAM WILL RECEIVE A TOTAL OF 6 POINTS FOR THE GAME.

Any member not registered to a particular team shall be registered as a member of the team she first represents.

6. Players

- (a) A player must not play for a lower team of her club without the prior permission of the Executive Committee. Once this permission has been granted, further permission must be granted by the Executive Committee before this player may play in a higher team on any occasion.
- (b) A player may only play in a higher team than the team for which she is registered on a total of **FOUR** occasions in one season.

If a player wishes to play for a higher team on a **FIFTH** occasion, then she may only play in that team for the rest of the season.

(c) This rule also applies to clubs with two or more teams in any one Division.

A player with England duties, (as a triallist, player, umpire, coach, committee member, or as directed by England Netball), may nominate another player registered in a lower team of her club as her named substitute. Such nomination to be made in writing to the League Secretary and the Results Secretary prior to the first game of the season. If that player is unable to play in a league game due to her England duties, the named substitute may play in that player's team and not be considered as playing up under Rule 6(b), provided that the Results card for that game indicate the named substitute and the player with England duties whom she replaces.

Playing up in any other circumstances, (e.g. a named substitute replaces a player with no England duties, or another player replaces the player with England duties, or the Results card do not indicate that the named substitute is replacing a player with England duties) shall be counted as playing up under Rule 6(b)

PENALTY (a), (b) and (c): THE OFFENDING TEAM'S POINTS FOR THE FIXTURE WILL BE DEDUCTED FROM THEIR TOTAL POINTS; THE NON-OFFENDING TEAM WILL RECEIVE A TOTAL OF 6 POINTS FOR THE GAME.

7. Substitutions

This rule is in addition to England Netball rule 9.1 relating to substitutes and team changes.

Up to five substitutes may be used during a game, with unlimited substitutions provided each substitute signs the Results card prior to taking the court, unless such substitution is due to injury or illness during a game, when that substitute shall sign at the next quarter break. It is the responsibility of team captains to ensure that all substitutes sign the Results card.

8. Colours

Players should wear a team uniform of distinctive colour and it is essential that they should also wear place bibs conforming to England Netball rules.

9. Cancellations

- i) Any team cancelling the fixture will be required to meet the court fees of the opposing team; the fees to be paid by the Treasurer from the deposit of the team cancelling the fixture. If the

deposit is fully utilised, it is the responsibility of the team cancelling the fixture to pay such fees, at the written request of the other team and/or the Treasurer.

- ii) Any team cancelling the fixture after 8pm on the Friday before the fixture shall be fined £10.00.
- iii) if any team cancels five or more fixtures in one season, all results involving that team (played or cancelled) are discounted.
- iv) The secretaries of both teams must advise the Results Secretary via email or text within 24 hours of the fixture.

PENALTY: **ii) A FINE OF £10.00 WILL BE LEVIED AS DESCRIBED.**
iv) ANY DEFAULTING TEAM WILL BE FINED. IF NO ADVICE IS RECEIVED, BOTH TEAMS SHALL BE FINED £2 AND THE GAME WILL BE VOID.

10. Postponements and Rearrangements

- a) NO POSTPONEMENTS ALLOWED except
 - i) extreme weather conditions - defined as severe snow, ice and dense fog. The grounds will be inspected and a decision made by Redbridge Sports Centre and a member of the Executive Committee; the information should be available on the Sports Centre's Hotline: 020 8498 1060. Since this line is an answerphone, only the captain of each team should phone the Centre and advise their team members and umpire accordingly. The entire day's fixtures will be rearranged by the Executive Committee for a free date in the calendar.
 - b) Rearrangements of fixtures to another date will be permitted only if two or more players in one team are involved in:
 - i) National Schools/Colleges/Universities Tournaments/Regional Talent Development Screening, LSE Regional League and Challenge Cup fixtures.
 - ii) Any request for rearrangement for one of these special reasons must be made in writing via post or email to the League Secretary at least four weeks prior to the fixture date, giving all the relevant information about the player(s) and team(s) involved. The Executive Committee will decide on the date and venue of any such rearranged game. These exceptions do not extend to players in the Essex Met League involved in other counties'/regions' competitions.
 - iii) England playing duties. Any request for rearrangement for this special reason must be made in writing using the "England player's rearrangement card" (which requires the written agreement of the opposing team) to the League Secretary by 30 November (September & October fixtures will be excluded), giving all the relevant information about the player(s) and team(s) involved. The Executive Committee will decide on the date and venue of any such rearranged game. The team requesting the rearrangement will be responsible for the court costs of the rearranged game.
- c) **REARRANGEMENTS OF DIVISION 1 FIXTURES SCHEDULED TO BE PLAYED OUTDOORS WILL BE PERMITTED TO A DATE PRIOR TO THE FIXTURE DATE ON AN INDOOR COURT, IF BOTH TEAMS AGREE TO THE DATE, VENUE AND PAYMENT OF ANY COURT COSTS. ANY SUCH REARRANGEMENT MUST BE NOTIFIED TO THE LEAGUE SECRETARY AT LEAST FOUR WEEKS PRIOR TO THE FIXTURE DATE, GIVING ALL THE RELEVANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE REARRANGED GAME. THE REARRANGED DATE AND VENUE MUST BE MARKED ON THE RESULTS CARD.**

11. UMPIRES & SCORERS

- a) i) ALL umpires officiating in the League must be **AGED 16 OR OVER ON 1 SEPTEMBER 2018**, qualified and have been successfully re-assessed as required. Both teams must supply a B or above qualified umpire or a C Award umpire working towards a B Award, as confirmed by the Umpiring Secretary for Divisions 1, 2, 3 and 4 and a C or above qualified umpire for all other divisions.
- ii) **AS A PILOT PROGRAMME FOR 2018/2019, TEAMS IN DIVISION 1 MUST SUPPLY A N UMPIRE WHO MEETS THE CRITERIA IN PARAGRAPH i) A BOVE. THESE UMPIRES WILL BE ALLOCATED TO A GAME IN DIVISION 1 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE UMPIRING SCHEDULE PROVIDED WITH THE FIXTURE LIST: THIS WILL NOT BE THE GAME IN WHICH THE TEAM WHICH NOMINATED THAT UMPIRE IS**

PLAYING. THE TEAMS PLAYING EACH GAME ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYING THE UMPIRES WHO ARE ALLOCATED TO THAT GAME (NOT THE TEAMS WHICH NOMINATED THOSE UMPIRES).

b) All umpires shall be neutral. 'Neutral' means not affiliated or registered '2nd claim' to, or currently coaching the clubs playing, nor a close family member of a player in that fixture. All teams must contact and book a neutral umpire for each of their games.

c) All clubs must send to the Results Secretary the name(s) of their club coach(es) before the first game of the season and send to the Results Secretary any changes to those name(s) as soon as possible after any changes.

d) A list of qualified umpires, both active and inactive, affiliated/ registered to each club must be submitted prior to the start of the season. Clubs with no qualified umpires affiliated/registered to their club must also return the form.

N.B. Teams may change umpires during a game (to take account of late arrival, illness or any similar reason) at any quarter time, provided that the substitute umpire is suitably qualified for that game. An umpire may become a player but a player may not become an umpire.

e) All teams must supply a competent scorer aged 14 or older for each of their matches. **The scorer must not coach teams/players whilst scoring.**

- They must have a working knowledge of scoring. Teams can identify more than one person to score throughout the season.
- They will use a simple scorecard.
- Both scorers will stand on the side line, opposite the centre circle, or as otherwise agreed by the umpires and will note and call out the score after each goal.
- At the end of the game, the scorers will advise the umpires of the final score and **the umpires will fill in the final score on the results card**, which will then be signed by both umpires on the front, and by both scorers. The scorers will also write the name of the club for which they are scoring.
- Nothing above precludes an umpire from maintaining a scorecard and calling the score, but the result will be that of the official scorers.

In the event that an umpire fails to turn up, but the game is played as a friendly, this should be noted on the Results Card.

PENALTY a) & b): THE OFFENDING TEAM'S POINTS WILL BE DEDUCTED FROM THEIR TOTAL POINTS, THE NON-OFFENDING TEAM WILL RECEIVE A TOTAL OF 6 POINTS FOR THE FIXTURE. See exception to this rule in B) below.

B) ANY UMPIRE WHO FAILS TO FULFILL AN AGREED UMPIRING COMMITMENT WILL BE FINED £25.00 AND WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO UMPIRE IN THE LEAGUE UNTIL THE FINE HAS BEEN PAID IN FULL. THIS INFORMATION SHOULD BE INCLUDED ON THE FRONT OF THE RESULTS CARDS AND THE SCORE OMITTED. IN THIS EVENT, BOTH TEAMS WILL BE AWARDED 3 POINTS. ALL CLUBS WILL BE NOTIFIED OF THIS FINE AT THE TIME IT IS IMPOSED.

c) IF A CLUB FAILS TO SUBMIT THE NAME OF THEIR COACH(ES) TO THE RESULTS SECRETARY OR ADVISES THE RESULTS SECRETARY THEY DO NOT HAVE A COACH BEFORE THE FIRST GAME OF THE SEASON, A FINE OF £10.00 WILL BE LEVIED.

d) IF A CLUB FAILS TO SUBMIT THEIR LIST OF QUALIFIED ACTIVE AND INACTIVE UMPIRES, OR A NIL RETURN BY THE DATE OF THE FIRST MATCH, A FINE OF £10.00 WILL BE LEVIED.

e) ANY DEFAULTING TEAM WILL BE FINED £5.00. ON THE THIRD OCCASION THAT A SCORER IS NOT PROVIDED, THE OFFENDING TEAM WILL BE DEDUCTED 6 POINTS. FOR ALL SUBSEQUENT GAMES WHERE A SCORER IS NOT PROVIDED, THE SAME PENALTY WILL APPLY.

12. UMPIRING ASSESSMENTS & MENTORING

i) The Executive Committee reserve the right to use any League fixture (up to and including Division 1) for any B Award pre-assessments, B Award assessments and B Award and above reassessments, and any League fixture (up to and including Division 5) for C Award umpiring assessments and reassessments. Candidates for pre-assessments, assessments and reassessments must be affiliated to England Netball.

ii) **THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO USE ANY LEAGUE FIXTURE FOR A MENTORING SESSION FOR A C OR B AWARD UMPIRE WHO IS AFFILIATED TO ESSEX METROPOLITAN AND IS PART OF A RECOGNISED COUNTY OR REGIONAL MENTORING SCHEME. THE COUNTY UMPIRING SECRETARY WILL NOTIFY CLUBS OF ANY SUCH ALLOCATION.**

13. Times

All League matches shall be played under the rules of England Netball, except as otherwise set out in these Rules, and shall be played at the League Centre.

All matches must begin on time.

Umpires are responsible for enforcing this. In the event of a match starting late and therefore being curtailed by the start of the next scheduled game, the umpires must make a note to this effect on the Results card.

Matches will be played for four quarters of 15 minutes each, with an interval of 3 minutes between the first - second and third - fourth quarters, and an interval of 5 minutes at half time.

Stoppages for injury or illness shall be in accordance with England Netball Rule 9.3. Any one of the Team Officials for the injured/ill player may enter the court, as the Primary Care Person, to attend to that player if a Primary Care Person is not available.

Teams must vacate the courts at least five minutes prior to the start of the next round.

In the event of sudden extreme weather conditions which, in the opinion of both umpires, make playing/umpiring dangerous, the umpires may agree to suspend play for up to ten minutes. If such weather conditions continue for more than ten minutes, the result for that game shall be the score when the game was stopped.

PENALTY: WHERE ONE TEAM IS LATE AND THE GAME IS NOT PLAYED, 6 POINTS WILL BE AWARDED TO THE TEAM ON TIME, AND 0 POINTS TO THE TEAM WHICH IS LATE. IF BOTH TEAMS ARE LATE, THE GAME WILL BE CONSIDERED VOID. THIS MUST BE CERTIFIED BY THE UMPIRES AND CAPTAINS ON THE RESULT CARD.

14. Results

(a) Results cards will be available to the 'home' team at the beginning of the season. The Results card must be signed by the starting line up of seven players of each team, and affiliation numbers included, prior to the start of the match **in the presence of one or both umpires.** Latecomers shall sign at the next quarter break.

The winning team, (or the home team in the case of a draw), shall be responsible for the submission of the Results card which must be fully signed by the umpires, scorers and players, including substitutes, and contain the affiliation number for each player. The umpires' affiliation numbers must also be shown. Printed names for absent players will not be accepted. Both scorers must print their name legibly on the Results card.

No pre-signed cards will be accepted by the umpires.

At the end of the game, each captain (or her delegate) is responsible for:-

i) providing the registration cards for all her players and substitutes to the opposing captain (or her delegate) to check against the names and signatures on the results card; and
ii) marking the Results Card to confirm whether or not the opposing team's Registration Cards have been received and checked and to indicate which (if any) of her own team's players have played up at any time during that match.

(b) 6 points will be awarded for a win and 4 points each for a draw. The losing team will be awarded 3 points if its score is one goal less than the winning team's score or 2 points if its score is 10 goals or less than the winning team's score or 1 point if its score is at least 50% of the winning team's score.

(c) The Results card must be placed in the Results Box located near the office in the pavilion of the Sports Centre on the date of the match, and will be collected on behalf of the Results Secretary no later than 4.30pm.

PENALTY: (a), and (c): IF THE CARD IS NOT COLLECTED, THE MATCH IS VOID (I.E. NO POINTS AWARDED AND WINNING TEAM (OR HOME TEAM IN THE EVENT OF A DRAW) SHALL BE FINED £2.)

(a): MISSING SIGNATURES AND/OR AFFILIATION NUMBERS OF PLAYERS AND/OR UMPIRES WILL INCUR A FINE OF £2.00

15. Draws

If two or more teams tie on points at the end of the season, their position shall be decided by goal difference. If this produces a tie, the team with most goals scored (excluding any void games) shall be the higher placed of those teams.

16. **PROMOTION/RELEGATION**

At the end of the season the top two teams in each Division (excluding the First Division) will normally be promoted to the Division above.

The two bottom teams in each Division will normally be relegated to the Division below.

The Executive Committee reserves the right to determine placings of teams in the event of a team withdrawing from the League.

17. New Teams/Assessment/Play-off

The placing of new and rejoining teams in the League shall be left to the discretion of the Executive Committee.

Any new or existing teams in the League may request to be assessed for a higher placing or may be invited to participate in a play-off for such placing; any higher placing as a result of assessment/play-off is subject to availability. Such team(s) applying for assessment or invited to a play-off must designate the players participating in such assessment/play-off match and those players will be considered as being the players representing that team for the following season.

NB. Request for assessment must be made by letter accompanying the League Entry Form for the forthcoming season.

18. Club Title

Any club(s) or team(s) wishing to change name(s) may do so only on the League Entry Form for the forthcoming season.

19. Discipline

a) All umpires have the right to suspend or order off court any player for rough or dangerous play, misconduct or any other conduct which is considered inappropriate. Details of any suspension or ordering off of players should be notified to the League Secretary on the day of the offence and a written explanation must then be sent to the Executive Committee within 7 days, stating the reasons for the sending off. In the event of a formal complaint, the Executive Committee will implement the England Netball Disciplinary Regulations.

b) All umpires have the right under England Netball Rule 13.2 to penalise a player for foul play.

20. Venue

The venue of the league is Redbridge Sports Centre, Forest Road, Barkingside, Ilford, Essex.

21. Team Order

Clubs must clearly identify the merit order of teams on the League Entry Form (e.g. 1,2,3 or a,b,c) irrespective of chosen title, (e.g. Panthers, Blue, Elan, etc.).

22. Trophies
All trophies must be returned to a designated member of the Executive Committee on or before 30 April each year.

PENALTY: IF THE TROPHY IS NOT RETURNED BY THAT DATE, THE OFFENDING TEAM WILL BE FINED £25; IF THE TROPHY IS NOT RETURNED AND THE FINE NOT PAID WITHIN 14 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THE AGM, THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SHALL TAKE FURTHER ACTION AS IT CONSIDERS APPROPRIATE.

23. Disputes & Complaints

A. Any dispute or complaint between Clubs or Teams in the League shall be dealt with as set out in this Rule.

B. Tracy Howe is the designated Competition Referee for the League.

1. Competition Referee

- 1.1 A Competition Referee will be appointed by Essex Metropolitan for the League.
- 1.1 The Competition Referee will have the authority and jurisdiction to make decisions on any matters arising throughout the League including, but not limited to:
- 1.1.1 Altering or amending the playing schedule as necessary;
 - 1.1.2 Determining if there has been a breach of the Rules and imposing an appropriate sanction (including disqualification of any individual, Player or Team), as specified in the Rules;
 - 1.1.3 Instances of unsportsmanlike behaviour or behaviour that brings the sport into disrepute, including instances of Teams predetermining, or attempting to predetermine, the outcome of a Match and/or the League;
 - 1.1.4 Determine the score should any Match not be concluded due to any unforeseen circumstance;
 - 1.1.5 Any matter not covered specifically within the Rules.
- 1.2 The Competition Referee may call upon, or delegate to, additional persons to assist with the League or consult with other persons prior to making any decision. However the final decision and accountability for the decision will rest with the Competition Referee.

2. Competition Complaints Procedure

- 2.1 All queries and complaints (a Complaint) should be directed to the Competition Referee in the first instance, which will be dealt with as follows:
- 2.1.1 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 Results Card with the words "Under Protest";
 - c) Send the marked Results Card to the Competition Referee, within seventy two (72) hours of the match;
 - d) Attach a letter to the Results Card to explain the issue in full to the Competition Referee;
 - e) The Competition Referee will decide what action should be taken.
- 2.1.2 The Competition Referee will acknowledge receipt of the query or complaint and make a decision on the matter within seventy two (72) hours of receipt of the query or complaint. The Competition Referee's decision in relation to decisions taken under 2.1.1 is binding apart from where parties to the Complaint have the right to appeal the decision under 3 below.
- 2.2 Where a Complaint relates to the governance or administration of the League by Essex Metropolitan, such complaints will be dealt with under the Complaints Procedure of Essex Metropolitan.

- 2.3 Where the Complaint relates to the behaviour of an individual Player or Team participating, volunteering or individual attending a Match which could be considered as a Disciplinary Offence under England Netball's Disciplinary Regulations, such Complaints will be dealt with in accordance with the processes set out in England Netball's Disciplinary Regulations.

3. Appeal of Competition Referee's Decision

- 3.1 The decision of the Competition Referee in relation to a Complaint submitted in accordance with 2.1.1 shall be final and binding on all parties save that a party has a right to appeal in the following circumstances:
- 3.1.1 If the decision has a potential impact on a match result, a league table, or the outcome of the League; AND
- 3.1.2 If there has been a failure by the Competition Referee to follow or act in accordance with these Rules and/or the Competition Referee 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:

- 3.2 An appeal should be forwarded in writing from the Club Secretary of the appealing Team to the Competition Referee within 72 hours of receiving the decision, who will refer it to Essex Metropolitan.
- 3.3 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.
- 3.4 Essex Metropolitan will establish a CAC which will consist of individuals that are independent of and not connected to the League. One of those individuals will be appointed as the Chairman.
- 3.5 The Chairman 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 the CAC to submit any evidence or submission that they wish the CAC to consider.
- 3.6 All submissions and evidence must be submitted in writing. The Chairman of the CAC will have the discretion to determine the process, procedure and direction of the appeal.
- 3.7 The CAC shall meet and reach a determination within seventy two (72) hours of receiving all the evidence and submissions.
- 3.8 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.
- 3.9 The CAC shall have the delegated power of Essex Metropolitan 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 League relating to the appeal. There is no further right of appeal on this decision.
- 3.10 The procedures set out in this Rule 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.
- 3.11 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.
- 3.12 The seat of arbitration shall be England, the language used shall be English and the governing law of the Rules and these proceedings under this section 3 shall be English Law.
- 3.13 If the circumstances require a decision to be taken sooner than provided for by this Rule, 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 Rule. In such cases the CAC shall issue a revised directions timetable which shall be binding on all parties.

24. Communications

Any communications relating to any matter referred to the Executive Committee shall, in the first instance, be in writing only from the Secretary of the Club concerned to the relevant member of the Executive Committee.

25. AGM

Each club must be represented at the A.G.M. Failure will result in the club being fined £10.00.

PENALTIES

Infringement of Rules 1(a), 1(b), 1(c), 1(d), 5(a), 5(b), 6, 11(a), 11(b) the offending team's points for the fixture will be deducted from their total points, the non-offending team will receive a total of 6 points for the game.

(e.g.: Offending team 30 goals vs Non Offending team 20 goals.

Points: Offending team $6 - 6 = 0$; Non offending team $2 + 4 = 6$)

Infringement of Rule 1 (a), 11(c), 11(d) will result in the club concerned being fined £10.

Infringement of Rules 9, 14(a), and 14(c); if the Results card is not received by the Results Secretary when the cards are collected from the Centre, or in the case of Rule 9, if the cancellation notifications are not received by the Results Secretary within 24 hours of the match, the following will apply: non-receipt of Results card, the match will be considered void and the winning/home team shall be fined £2. If the cancellation notification is not received, both teams will be fined £2.00 and the game will be considered void.

Should the fine not be paid to the Treasurer within the deadline set, the fine will be doubled. Missing signatures or affiliation numbers will incur a £2.00 fine for the offending team.

Infringement of rule 9(ii), 11(c) will incur a fine of £10.00.

Infringement of rule 11(b) will additionally incur a fine for the umpire of £25.00.

Infringement of Rule 11 (e) will result in the club concerned being fined £5.00. On the 3rd occasion of the infringement of Rule 11 d), the offending team will be deducted 6 points. For all subsequent infringements, 6 points will be deducted.

Infringement of rule 13, where one team is late and the game is not played, 6 points will be awarded to the team on time and 0 points to the team which is late. If both teams are late, the game will be considered void. This must be certified by the umpires and captains on the results card.

Infringement of Rule 22 will result in the team concerned being fined £25. If the trophy is not returned and the fine not paid within 14 days of the date of the AGM, the Executive Committee shall take further action as it considers appropriate.

Any clubs with outstanding fines after the date of the AGM will not be permitted to enter the league the following season.

RECOMMENDATIONS

PREGNANCY:

PREGNANT PLAYERS SHOULD NOT TAKE PART IN MATCH PLAY BEYOND THE 12TH WEEK OF PREGNANCY, OR UMPIRES BEYOND THE 20TH WEEK.

UMPIRES:

UMPIRES SHOULD NOT UMPIRE MORE THAN TWO GAMES, OR UMPIRE ONE GAME AND PLAY ONE GAME ON ANY ONE FIXTURE DATE. THIS WILL CONTINUE TO BE MONITORED DURING THE CURRENT SEASON & REVIEWED. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT A FAMILY MEMBER OF ANY PLAYER DOES NOT UMPIRE A MATCH IN WHICH HER/HIS EXTENDED FAMILY MEMBER IS PLAYING. SEE RULE 11(B) CLOSE FAMILY MEMBERS ARE INELIGIBLE TO UMPIRE THEIR RELATIVES.

UMPIRES ARE REMINDED THEY SHOULD BE WEARING CLOTHING THAT IS DISTINCT FROM THE PLAYERS' KIT, AND SUITABLE FOOTWEAR, WHILST UMPIRING (EN RULE 5.2)

CLUBS & THEIR UMPIRES:

CLUBS SHOULD CONTACT THEIR UMPIRES **AT LEAST TWO NIGHTS** BEFORE EACH FIXTURE TO CONFIRM THE GAME, WITH TIME AND COURT NUMBER, AND REPEAT THE PROCESS APPROX. 15 MINUTES PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED START OF THE GAME IF THEIR UMPIRE IS NOT THEN PRESENT. CLUBS AND UMPIRES SHOULD RETAIN COMMUNICATIONS SENT AND RECEIVED RELATING TO THEIR FIXTURES.

IF A BOOKED UMPIRE FAILS TO TURN UP, CLUBS SHOULD NOTE SAME ON THE REVERSE OF THE SCORECARD, WITH UMPIRE'S NAME, EVEN IF A REPLACEMENT IS FOUND.

HEAD SCARVES:

THE PRIORITIES MUST BE TO ENCOURAGE INCREASED PARTICIPATION IN SPORT AND WITH SENSITIVITY TO THE RELIGIOUS PRACTICES AND CULTURAL DIFFERENCES TOGETHER WITH THE SAFETY OF ALL PARTICIPANTS. WITH THIS IN MIND THE PLAYER, TOGETHER WITH THE COACH/TEACHER/PARENT ETC. SHOULD ENSURE THAT THE MATERIAL USED FOR THE HEAD COVERING IS SOFT, WITHOUT EMBELLISHMENTS WHICH MIGHT CONSTITUTE A DANGER AND WITH POTENTIAL FLOWING/FIAPPING EDGES HELD SECURELY AROUND THE NECK OR TUCKED INTO SHIRT COLLAR. IT SHOULD BE AS NEAT AND SECURE AS POSSIBLE.

MEDIC ALERT BRACELETS: SEE CURRENT EN RULEBOOK (5.1.1)

HATS:

HATS WITH ANY FORM OF PEAK/BRIM OR WOOLLEN HATS **MAY NOT** BE WORN BY PLAYERS. HATS MADE OF FABRIC OR ANY OTHER SMOOTH MATERIAL AND WITH NO VISIBLE FIBRES OR EMBELLISHMENTS **MAY** BE WORN BY PLAYERS.

IT IS THE UMPIRES' RESPONSIBILITY TO CHECK EACH HAT WHICH A PLAYER WISHES TO WEAR TO SATISFY THEMSELVES WHETHER OR NOT IT IS PERMISSIBLE; THE UMPIRES' DECISION SHALL BE FINAL.

THIS DOES NOT AFFECT THE RECOMMENDATION ON THE WEARING OF SCARVES.

GLOVES:

THIS IS IN ADDITION TO THE ENGLAND NETBALL GUIDANCE – GLOVES MAY ONLY BE WORN BY PLAYERS WHERE THE PLAYER HAS PROVIDED A MEDICAL CERTIFICATE/LETTER TO THE LEAGUE SECRETARY AND HAS RECEIVED CONFIRMATION IN WRITING FROM HER THAT GLOVES MAY BE WORN.

THIS WRITTEN CONFIRMATION SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO EACH LEAGUE GAME AT WHICH THE PLAYER WISHES TO WEAR GLOVES. IRRESPECTIVE OF THIS CONFIRMATION, IT IS THE UMPIRES' RESPONSIBILITY TO CHECK THAT ANY GLOVES ARE SUITABLE ON EACH OCCASION ON WHICH THE PLAYER WISHES TO WEAR GLOVES.

PHOTOGRAPHY:

CLUBS ARE REMINDED OF THEIR DUTY OF CARE TO THEIR PLAYERS IN RESPECT OF PHOTOGRAPHY (INCLUDING VIDEO, MOBILE PHONES, ETC.). CONSENT SHOULD BE OBTAINED FROM PARENTS/CARERS OF U18 PLAYERS TO THEIR CHILD BEING PHOTOGRAPHED AND ANY PERSON WISHING TO TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS SHOULD REGISTER WITH THEIR CHILD'S CLUB. COACHES AND UMPIRES SHOULD CHECK THAT ANY PERSON TAKING PHOTOGRAPHS HAS THE CONSENT OF BOTH CLUBS: IF NOT, S/HE SHOULD BE ASKED TO STOP TAKING PHOTOGRAPHS UNTIL SUCH CONSENT HAS BEEN OBTAINED. DETAILED GUIDANCE AND RELEVANT FORMS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE ENGLAND NETBALL WEBSITE (TAKING AND USE OF PHOTOGRAPHIC AND RECORDED IMAGES OF YOUNG PEOPLE GUIDANCE).