 Middlesex County Netball League

www.middlesexnetball.co.uk

**Rules and Regulations 2021-2022**

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# TITLE

The League shall be known as **THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY NETBALL LEAGUE** hereafter to be known as the League.

# OBJECT

The Object of the League shall be to establish a County Champion Team by promoting the game of netball in a spirit of friendly competition as part of the England Netball Competition Pathway.

# 1 ADMINISTRATION

* 1. The League shall be **governed** and **managed** by the Middlesex County Netball Association (hereafter to be known as MCNA). which may delegate its powers and authority in this respect to a League Technical Support Group, known as the County League Committee (CLC), to **administer**.
  2. The decisions of the MCNA, in respect of these rules and regulations and on any other matters related to the League 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 England Netball’s Disciplinary Regulations).
  3. The Chair of the CLC will be elected annually at the MCNA Annual General Meeting.
  4. It is the responsibility of all Team Representatives, Coaches and Captains to ensure that all players are conversant with the following Rules and Regulations.

# 2 PLAYING QUALIFICATIONS AND ELIGIBILITY

* 1. The League shall be open to any Netball Club which is a Member of England Netball with Middlesex County Netball Association as its PRIMARY COUNTY, which has paid its subscription in this respect and which is situated within the area of jurisdiction of the MCNA. (MCNA Constitution 3 – London Boroughs of Barnet, Brent, Camden, City of London, City of Westminster, Ealing, Enfield, Hackney, Hammersmith & Fulham, Haringey, Harrow, Hillingdon, Hounslow, Islington, Kensington & Chelsea, Richmond upon Thames and Tower Hamlets).
  2. No player registered to a Super League team may play in the Middlesex County League
  3. No player listed as one of the core 7 players of any National Premier League Team is eligible to play in the Middlesex County Netball League
  4. Club teams must apply for membership annually prior to the Annual General Meeting of the MCNA and application will be accepted at the discretion of the MCNA. Teams not represented at the Annual General Meeting of the MCNA maynot be included in the League. All teams must also attend a half-season Re-registration meeting, if this is scheduled. Failure to do so will incur a £25 fine and their place in the League may be jeopardised.
  5. The MCNA will charge an entry fee to the League to be reviewed annually.
  6. All Clubs entering the League will be encouraged to work towards an accreditation under the England Netball CAPS scheme.
  7. By entering a team/s in the League, clubs/teams agree that
* They are conversant with and will abide by these rules and regulations, the England Netball Codes of Conduct and the England Netball Disciplinary Regulations.
* They are able and willing to fulfil the costs and commitments of participation in the League.
  1. In order to qualify to participate in the County League, a player shall be female, a fully paid Member of England Netball and registered
* through a Club which has **Middlesex as its Primary County** or
* through a University/College within Middlesex – with additional England Netball Insurance

2.9 All players must have their Membership lodged with England Netball, their subscription paid and marked ‘active’ on the EN Membership System (ENgage), prior to their participation in the League.

2.10 All players must be over 16 at midnight on 31 August/1 September prior to the commencement of the League.

2.11 **TALENTED** youngster(s) outside the Age Banding guideline in 2.10:

2.11.1 All players must be 14\* at midnight on 31 August/1 September prior to the commencement of the League. *\*This is official EN AB guidance for Adult play.*

2.11.2 A **separate** Age Banding Form must be completed for **EACH** **ATHLETE**, individually signed (no electronic signatures accepted), and submitted with their Registration to the Registration & Results Co-ordinator **AT REGISTRATION OR AT THE LATEST ON THE WEDNESDAY BEFORE THE PLAYER WISHES TO TAKE THE COURT.**

2.11.3 In relation to 2.11.1 athletes should not take the court until notification has been received from the Registration & Results Co-ordinator that their Age BandingForm has been accepted.

2.12 TEAM OFFICIALS (Bench Officials)

* Must hold England Netball Membership for the current season.
* Coaches must be at least 18 years of age.

2.13 PREGNANCY – England Netball recommends that individuals (player, coach, umpire) if pregnant should only participate with approval from their doctor and in accordance with any guidelines issued by England Netball.

## 3 REGISTRATION OF SQUAD MEMBERS

* 1. A player may only play for one League Club in any one season except at the discretion of the CLC with ratification by the Middlesex County Management Committee.
  2. Clubs which also participate in the National Premier League must submit their core 7 National Premier League players to the CLC when they register their Middlesex County League squads.
  3. Players who play in the National Premier League or Regional Leagues must be registered in a Club’s highest placed team in the Middlesex County League. Failure to comply will result in the offending team being penalised by the deduction of any points gained for the match(es) concerned together with the additional penalty of a one point deduction per match.
  4. Any player wishing to play for a club in a Regional League which is not their Middlesex League Club should ensure that both they and their Middlesex League Club are fully aware of the County League and Regional League Rules particularly with regard to eligibility criteria for possible future playoffs for entry into the London & South East Region League.
  5. Squad Registration sheets must contain at least 10 **active** players for each participating team and must be completed fully. The sheets must be received by the Registration Co-ordinator by 11.59 pm on 2nd September prior to the commencement of the league.

3.5.1 **Squad Registration sheets received after 11.59pm on 2ndSeptember prior to the commencement of the League will incur a 10 point deduction for each team.**

3.5.2 To simplify Membership checks Clubs must also submit their Official Club roster report (from the England Netball Membership system) showing players flagged as ‘active’ for the current membership year **by 6pm on the WEDNESDAY** prior to the first fixture of the League**.** Teams may only use those players whose names appear on their squad Registration list held by the CLC.

* 1. Any additions to the squad Registration sheets must be lodged with and acknowledged by the Registration & Results Co-ordinator by 6 pm on the **WEDNESDAY** prior to playing the fixture.

3.6.1 If the Additional Registrations are also new EN Members to the Club, a copy of the relevant England Netball Membership Receipt must accompany the Registration.

* 1. Once registered, players are eligible to play up ONCE for another of their higher club teams during the first half of the season. If a player plays up on a second occasion for that team, they will then become registered to that higher team and unable to play for their own team again during that half of the season. (Please see County League Guidance notes appended and also available on the MCNA website for clarification.)
  2. All teams must re-register their squads for the second half of the season.The DATE will be notified to all Clubs before Christmas. The play-up eligibility for clubs with multiple teams will recommence at this point.

3.9 After Round 10 of matches any further additions to the squad Registration sheets will have to

be approved by the CLC before participation in any County League fixtures.

### 4 STRUCTURE OF THE LEAGUE

* 1. The League will be divided into Divisions of**, normally,** eight teams, the number of the Divisions depending upon the entry. The Divisions will be called Premier, 1, 2 etc..

4.1.1 **As part of the EN Competition Pathway** the final structure of the League and the Divisions cannot be determined until after National Premier League and L&SER League playoffs.

* 1. Only one team per Club may compete in **EACH DIVISION.**
  2. Each team in a division will play each other twice.
  3. League points will be awarded as follows:
* 5 points for a win
* 3 points for a draw
* 2 points for within 5 goals (i.e. 40-36)
* 1 point for over 50%
* 0 for a loss
  1. A League Table will be compiled on the basis of the points awarded. Where teams are level on points, positions will be decided on GOAL DIFFERENCE (goals for minus goals against). Failing that, GOAL AVERAGE (goals for divided by goals against) will apply. For either calculation, if one of the teams concerned has been given a walkover, the score of the corresponding match, i.e. against the same opponents of the other team(s) involved, shall not be included in the calculations. If there is still equality the CLC will adjudicate.
  2. The team that finishes top of the Premier Division is the County Champion. As such that team will be eligible for promotion to the London & South East Regional League Division 2, contesting a play-off involving the other County League Champions and L&SER League Division 2 clubs in order to pursue that promotion. Should the County Champion Team already be represented in the Regional League or not wish to go forward, the next highest Premier Divison eligible team will be put forward. Any players who are registered for and have played in the County League for that team may play in the Regional League playoff.
  3. At the end of each season, any team or teams which are based in the County and which are relegated from the L&SER League Division 2, will be automatically included within the Premier Division of the League for the following season.

**5 PROMOTION & RELEGATIO**N

5.1 Promotion and Relegation will **normally** be as follows **(subject to 4.1.1):**

* The winner of Premier Division – County Champion – eligible for promotion to L&SER League. (Optional and L&SER League Eligibility Rule 2.5 applies)
* The winners of the lower Divisions (1,2 etc) of the League will be promoted
* The bottom team in each Division will be demoted
* The second from bottom and the second from top of consecutive Divisions will play off to determine their Division placings.
* If the League has a full compliment of teams per Division and there is a waiting list, the bottom team in the lowest Division will play off against the team(s) on the waiting list to complete that Division

5.2 Should 4.6 above apply, normal promotion and relegation will be affected. In the event that the promotion and relegation of clubs under 5.1 would materially alter the structure of the County League or cause 4.2 to be broken, the County Management Committee and the CLC will make arrangements for the structure of the league as they deem appropriate.

5.3 PLAY-OFF Regulations:

5.3.1 The matches will be played under the current season’s County League Rules and Regulations except where specific Play-off Regulations apply.

5.3.2 For inter-divisional playoffs, only players who have been registered during the season to these teams, (or in the case of a club who also has lower team(s) within the league, this also includes players registered to their lower team(s)), may play in the play off matches. Umpires will be provided by the league but teams must provide scorers and pay umpire expenses.

5.3.3 For entry to Division 3, the bottom placed Division 3 team may only use players who have been registered to that team during the second half of the season. No new registrations are allowed.

5.3.4 For entry to Division 3, new teams who already have club players registered to the league who have played in higher divisions or division 3 this season may only play a player who has been registered to their higher county league team(s) but who did not play at all during the season.

5.3.5 For entry to Division 3, teams cannot play anyone who may have been registered to a Super League team but not taken the court during the season nor can they play anyone who was named as a core player for a Premier League team this season.

5.3.6 For entry to Division 3, a new team cannot use players who have played for another Club within the County League during the current season.

5.3.7 For entry to Division 3, each team may be asked to supply a non-playing umpire who is a minimum C award and who holds a ‘bleep’ test of 5.1 minimum which has been registered with the League Umpiring Co-ordinator prior to the playoffs.  Each team must provide a scorer for their games.  This may be a player.

5.3.8 For entry to Division 3, the format of the play-off competition will depend on the number of entries.

# 6 FIXTURE ARRANGEMENTS

* 1. Matches will be played at central venue/s arranged by CLC in conjunction with MCNA, unless otherwise agreed by MCNA.
  2. All matches **must** be played on the date specified on the fixture schedule, as agreed by CLC, MCNA and L&SER Netball Association. The first named team will be regarded as the Home Team for that fixture.
  3. The start time of each match will be set by the CLC. Start time is fixed.
  4. All teams will be responsible for arranging their own travel and for the costs thereof, allowing sufficient travelling time to cover any unexpected delays. Any team that fails to present themselves at the agreed start time will forfeit the match, and the non-offending team will be awarded the points as winners by default.
  5. If a fixture is cancelled before or on the day of the fixture:
* It is the responsibility of the offending team to ensure that the Registration & Results Co-ordinator and the opposition are informed immediately
* The non-offending team will be awarded five (5) league points for the match and the team that cancels will have five (5) league points deducted from their total
* The team that cancels may be liable to pay any costs incurred by the match officials, subject to the discretion of the CLC
  1. In the event that a match is abandoned for any reason, e.g. adverse weather conditions, the result of that match will be determined by the MCNA, having regard to the score and the circumstances prevailing when play was suspended.
  2. In the event of cancellation or postponement due to adverse weather conditions or a National Emergency, the matches will be played on the spare date.

# 7 MATCH REGULATIONS

* 1. All games shall be played to the INF Rules of the Game currently in force in England at the time, except where specific regulations may apply.
  2. All matches shall normally be of one hour duration (i.e. four x 15 minutes).
  3. Half time interval will be 5 minutes, quarter time intervals with be 3 minutes
  4. Each team may have a maximum of 12 players per match and up to 5 team officials.
  5. Each team must provide their own scorecards for the match.
  6. Before a match starts a team must identify who is responsible for managing injuries to players in their team if no suitably qualified Primary Carer is present with their team.
  7. Stoppages: Applied to All Divisions

All stoppages will be 30 seconds.  The player must leave the court within 30 seconds.  They can either be substituted or the team can play with 6 and the player once fit and ready can come back on court after a goal, at another stoppage for injury/illness or blood or the next interval, whichever comes first.

# MATCH OFFICIALS

* 1. Umpires must hold England Netball Membership, be active and hold a Netball Europe C Award or above *(Preliminary and* *Intermediate etc are not acceptable in this League)* and the allocation of umpires will be determined by the CLC and reviewed annually.
  2. White is the standard colour for umpires’ attire. Umpires officiating Premier and Division 1 must wear all white attire, ideally County Umpire Kit. Umpires officiating Divisions 2 and lower must wear at least a white top.
  3. **Premier Division** - Each team may be asked to nominate at least one umpire who holds the B Award or above and has achieved level 6.1 or above on the Multistage Fitness Test (bleep test). The appropriate certification must be submitted to the County League Umpire Co-ordinator prior to umpiring in the County League. An umpire can only be nominated by one team in the league.

**Division 1** – Each team may be asked to nominate at least one umpire who holds the B Award or above or who is a C award umpire who is actively working towards their B Award qualification and can satisfy the following criteria - attended a B Award course, passed their B Award theory paper and be working with a mentor accredited by Middlesex County. They must also have achieved level 6.1 or above on the Multistage Fitness Test (bleep test). The appropriate certification must be submitted to the County League Umpire Co-ordinator prior to umpiring in the County League. An umpire can only be nominated by one team in the league.

**Division 2, etc -** Each team may be asked to supply at least one umpire who holds the minimum C Award and has achieved 5.1 or above on the Multistage Fitness Test (bleep test). The appropriate certification must be submitted to the County League Umpire Co-ordinator prior to umpiring in the County League. An umpire can only be nominated by one team in the league and cannot be part of the County League central allocation of umpires pool.

* 1. The CLC may operate a central allocation of umpires for any or all divisions during a season depending on umpire commitment levels. Their appointment will usually be notified to the teams in advance of each fixture date.
  2. If requested, all teams must advise the County League Umpiring Co-ordinator which umpires they plan to nominate for the County League to ensure all umpires receive full briefing details on rule updates and any necessary COVID risk mitigations.
  3. All Clubs must provide details of at least 2 suitably qualified umpires with active England Netball membership for the 2021/2022 season on the registration sheet.
* There may be fixtures dates when the CLC are unable to provide umpires for matches from the central allocation pool and Clubs will be asked to nominate their own umpire to cover these matches.
* All nominated umpires will receive full briefing details on rule updates and any necessary COVID risk mitigations from the County League Umpiring Co-ordinator.
  1. Umpires from outside of Middlesex County should contact the County League Umpiring Co-ordinator prior to umpiring any County League fixtures if central allocation is not in place.
  2. Special dispensation may be given by the County League Umpiring Co-ordinator, in consultation with the County Officiating Lead, to support the development of Middlesex County umpires working towards a qualification level to officiate league matches.
  3. Fitness levels will be assessed twice yearly as advised by the CLC and all umpires will be expected to attend a ‘bleep’ test venue as set up by the County. Failure to comply will incur the deduction of Penalty points as 10.1.4.
  4. **Umpires from outside of County should contact the County League Umpiring Co-ordinator prior to umpiring any County League fixtures.**
  5. Umpires must conform to the standards of physical fitness set out above. However, if age, injury, illness or pregnancy is likely to affect the umpire’s movement and positioning to the detriment of the game, they will be required to withdraw from officiating.
  6. The umpires who start the match must complete that match unless they become ill or injured when they may be replaced by an umpire suitably qualified for that division.
  7. A non-playing umpire on a fixture date may umpire a maximum of two matches on that fixture date and it is recommended that there is a match length rest period between umpiring commitments. Failure to comply may incur the deduction of penalty points as 10.1.4 and/or the umpire may be removed from officiating at the County League.
  8. A playing umpire on a fixture date may only umpire one match on that fixture date and they must umpire before they play or have a match length rest period before umpiring. Failure to comply may incur the deduction of penalty points as 10.1.4 and/or the umpire may be removed from officiating at the County League.
  9. It is the responsibility of the umpires to ensure provision for the timing of the match duration,

intervals and any injury/illness stoppages.

8.16If central allocation of umpires is undertaken, all umpires nominated for matches will receive an

expense payment of £25 to be placed in an envelope and provided to the umpires prior to the

commencement of the match.

8.17 Should an umpire not arrive at the appropriate time and place, the following emergency action

should be taken:

8.17.1 If another umpire of the appropriate standard is available then he/she will umpire the

match

8.17.2 If there is no umpire available with the specified qualification, then the next best qualified available umpire should be asked to umpire the match (Penalty points will be deducted as per Rule 10.1 and the opposing team will be awarded the match points if central allocation is not in operation)

8.17.3 The County League Umpiring Co-ordinator must be informed immediately after the match.

8.18 Scorers will be required for all fixtures. Each team **must** provide a competent scorer. A dedicated

scorer is preferable; however, the scorer may be a player and may be changed at an interval or

stoppage for injury/illness if a substitution on court is called for and a substitute scorer is provided

promptly by that team. Failure to provide a scorer will incur the deduction of Penalty Points as per

10.1.3.

# 9 RESULT SHEETS

* 1. Each team will be required to provide their own Results Sheet detailing full names of all participants present and their roles.

9.2 Both teams are required to complete and sign a Result Sheet for each match.

* 1. The full names of up to twelve (12) players for each team must be listed (starting 7 with positions) on the Result Sheet which must be handed to the Scorers before the match starts. A team cannot take to the court until this has been done and the umpires will employ INF Rule 8.1.1 if necessary.
  2. At the end of the match, the umpires and scorers must print their names and add the required information to both of the Result Sheets which must then be checked by BOTH teams and signed by the Captains.
  3. The Game Management section must also be completed on both Results Sheets if any recordable Game Management issues arose.
  4. **On the day of the matches:** 
     1. **EACH Team must immediately scan or photograph their Results Sheet and email/electronically send to the Registration and Results Co-ordinator to arrive by midnight on the day of the match.**  All will be acknowledged within 48 hours. Results sheets not received on the day will result in a deduction of 2 (two) league points.The CLC will not enter into any correspondence regarding late results cards.
     2. The **HOME Team only** should text the results to the Results Service by midnight on the day of the match. Full details of information required is in the County League Guidance notes.

# 10 LEAGUE ADJUDICATION

10.1 The MCNA will have the power to determine the penalty to be imposed on teams and players who are in breach of the Rules and Regulations regarding the playing of matches in the League. Such penalties may include reprimands, the deduction of league points, fines, suspensions and expulsion from the competition, except as specified below:

10.1.1 The use of an unaffiliated player – Deduction of 10 (ten) league points

10.1.2 The use of an unregistered or ineligible player – Deduction of 5 (five) league points

10.1.3. Failure to provide a scorer – Deduction of 2 (two) league points

10.1.4 Failure to provide a suitably qualified or eligible umpire – Deduction of 5 (five) league points

10.1.5 Should an appointed umpire fail to arrive for a match and no spare eligible umpire is available resulting in the match not being played, the non-offending team will be awarded 5 points. An additional 5 (five) penalty points will be deducted for not fulfilling the fixture and 10.1.4 may be applied to the offending team

10.1.6 The late arrival of Results Sheet – Deduction of 2 (two) league points

10.1.7 For each error on the Results Sheet – Deduction of 1 (one) league point.

1. Missing Division
2. Incorrect/incomplete score
3. Incorrect player name listed
4. Failure to provide the umpire’s EN Membership number

10.1.8 Failure to play on more than one occasion may result in suspension of the team from the League.

**11 COMPETITION REFEREE**

11.1 The Competition Referee for the League will be the Chair of the CLC.

11.2 The Competition Referee will have the authority and jurisdiction to make decisions on any matters arising throughout the **Middlesex County League** including, but not limited to:

11.2.1 Altering or amending the playing schedule as necessary;

11.2.2 Determining if there has been a breach of the Regulations and imposing an appropriate sanction as detailed in 10 LEAGUE ADJUDICATION.

11.2.3 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 Competition;

11.2.4 Determine the score should any Match not be concluded due to any unforeseen circumstance;

11.2.5 Any matter not covered specifically within the Regulations.

11.3 The Competition Referee may call upon, or delegate to, additional persons to assist with the **Middlesex County 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.

**12 LEAGUE RESOLUTION PROCEDURE**

12.1 All queries and complaints (a Complaint), which should be directed to the **League Resolution Co-ordinator** in the first instance, must be dealt with as follows:

12.1.1 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:

1. Inform their opponents and the Umpires of their complaint;
2. Mark the Score Card with the words “Under Protest”;
3. Send a copy of the marked Score Card to the League Resolution Co-ordinator, within seventy two (72) hours of the match;
4. Attach a letter to the Score Card to explain the issue in full to the League Resolution Co-ordinator.
5. **The Competition Referee** will decide what action should be taken.

12.1.2 The League Resolution Co-ordinator will acknowledge receipt of the query or complaint and forward the relevant information to the Competition Referee who will 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 clause 12.1.1 is binding apart from where parties to the complaint have the right to appeal the decision under Section 13 below.

12.2 Where a Complaint relates to the governance or administration of the **Middlesex County League** by the CLC such complaints will be dealt with under the Resolution Procedure of the **Middlesex County Netball Association**

12.3 Where the Complaint relates to the behaviour of an individual Player or Team participating, volunteering or an individual attending a Match, or making an inappropriate comment about a fellow player, coach, official, volunteer or the governing body which could be considered as a Disciplinary Offence under England Netball’s Disciplinary Regulations (including through the use of social media technology), such complaints will be dealt with in accordance with the processes set out in England Netball’s Disciplinary Regulations.

12.4 No team may automatically claim a fixture.

**13 APPEAL OF COMPETITION REFEREES DECISION**

13.1 The decision of the Competition Referee in relation to a complaint submitted in accordance with section 12.1.1 shall be final and binding on all parties save that a party has a right to appeal in the following circumstances:

13.1.1 If the decision has a potential impact on a match result, a league table, or the outcome of the Competition**; AND**

13.1.2 If there has been a failure by the Competition Referee to follow or act in accordance with these Regulations 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:

13.2 An appeal should be forwarded in writing from the **Secretary** of the appealing Team to the **Competition Referee** within 72 hours of receiving the decision, who will refer it to **Middlesex County Netball Association.**

13.3 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.

13.4 The **Middlesex County Netball Association** will establish a CAC which will consist of individuals that are independent of and not connected the Middlesex County League. One of those individuals will be appointed as the Chair.

13.5 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 the CAC to submit any evidence or submission that they wish the CAC to consider.

13.6 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.

13.7 The CAC shall meet and reach a determination within seventy two (72) hours of receiving all the evidence and submissions.

13.8 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.

13.9 The CAC shall have the delegated power of **Middlesex County Netball Association** 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. There is no further right of appeal on this decision.

13.10 The procedures set out in this section 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.

13.11 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.

13.12 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 3 shall be English Law.

13.13 If the circumstances require a decision to be taken sooner than provided for by this section, 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. In such cases the CAC shall issue a revised directions timetable which shall be binding on all parties.

**14 SUPERVISION AND FIRST AID**

14.1 All teams will be held responsible for their players, officials and spectators.

14.2 It is the responsibility of each team to provide adequate first aid cover for its players and officials, which shall also be made available to the match officials on request.

# 15 JEWELLERY AND CLOTHING - For further details on all areas refer to EN Domestic Rules Guidance. (ENDRG)

15.1 Neither EN, nor the club will be held liable for any pregnant individual participating in recognised and authorised activity should the expectant mother suffer a miscarriage or permanent damage to herself and /or unborn child as a result of participating. The EN Personal Accident cover will not provide any benefit for injury, loss or expense due to pregnancy, childbirth, miscarriage or any consequence thereof. **(ENDRG – Pregnancy)**

15.2 All players on court will wear team uniform as registered with the League **(ENDRG – Players’ Uniform)**

15.3 ALL jewellery must be removed when playing netball and players wearing jewellery (including body piercing) will not be allowed on court The following exceptions will apply:

* Only a wedding ring may be worn but MUST be taped. No engagement or other rings may be worn under taping.
* 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. **(ENDRG – Jewellery/adornments and medic alerts)**

15.4 No form of gloves may normally be worn when playing netball. England Netball Domestic Rules Guidance October 2014 v2 advises that in extreme weather or climatic conditions, or with a medical conditions, gloves may be worn. The CLC are to be notified in advance if a player needs to wear gloves for medical conditions. A copy of the medical certificate is to be held by the CLC and also a copy kept by the player to show to the umpire at each match. The umpire will check that the gloves conform to the supplementary guidance notes provided by England Netball in relation to gloves worn for medical reasons prior to each fixture (further detail is available in the Guidance Notes). The nails of the player will also be checked in accordance with INF Rule 5.1.1(iv)(c). **(ENDRG – Gloves)**

15.5 In order to encourage increased participation in sport, with sensitivity to religious practices and cultural differences, together with the safety of all participants:

* If head coverings or trousers need to be worn because of religious practices, the player and the coach must ensure that the material used for the head covering is soft, without embellishments which might constitute a danger to any other player on court, and with potential flowing/flapping edges held securely around the neck or tucked into the shirt collar as neatly and securely as possible.
* Headbands that meet the requirements as above will be allowed.
* Peaked baseball or ‘tennis type’ caps do not meet the requirements as above and will not be allowed. **(ENDRG – Head Coverings)**

15.6 As per INF Rule 5.1.1 (iv)(c) Fingernails shall be short and smooth. If their fingernails conform to this rule then they can participate, whether their nails are square or round. Please beware that should a player be wearing Acrylic nails which do not conform to the above, then they should not participate according to the rule. If the players Acrylic nails do conform to the rule, and they subsequently suffer damage to their nail(s) then, they participate at their own risk and they would not covered by any England Netball Insurance.

15.7 Sunglasses should not normally be worn when participating in netball activities as a player, official or coach. However, sunglasses may be worn for genuine medical reasons when participating in the County League. The CLC are to be notified in advance if sunglasses need to be worn for medical conditions. A copy of the medical certificate is to be held by the CLC and also a copy kept by the player/official/coach to show to the umpire at each match. **(ENDRG - Eyewear)**