

# **KINGSTON & DISTRICT NETBALL LEAGUE**

## **RULES & REGULATIONS 2014/15**

These are rules and regulation for the Kingston & District Netball League (the League) and shall apply to all the League's matches and the Knockout Cup.

The latest England Netball Rules shall be the rules of play with the exception of EN Rules 7.1(v) and 7.1(vi) (*Stoppages (Injury or Illness)*) (see rule 4.13 below).

### **1. The League's Committee**

1.1 The League's Committee (the Committee) shall consist of six elected officers:

- Chairperson,
- Secretary,
- Senior Results Secretary
- Junior Results Secretary,
- Treasurer
- League Rules Adviser

and the representatives from the winners of each division.

In the event of duplication of clubs divisional runners-up followed by Knockout Cup and rally winners will be selected to form a Committee of a minimum of ten.

A minimum of 6 Committee members shall be needed to form a quorum at each committee meeting.

1.2. All disciplinary issues will be discussed by the Committee and referred to The Surrey County Netball Association (SCNA) if deemed necessary. The League also reserves the right to take the disciplinary action it deems appropriate in accordance with rules 4.9 and 6 below.

1.3. The Committee's decisions/ruling on any matter referred to it will be accepted as final.

### **2. Membership of the League**

2.1. The area of the Kingston League shall be roughly bounded by: -

- M25, J6 to J15;
- M4, J4 to J1 and
- A22 (Purley) to M25 (J6).

All new clubs' home grounds must be within this area. Any club currently competing in the League with a home ground outside this area shall be permitted to continue playing in the League. However any change of home ground must be to a ground within this area.

2.2 (i) Any club entering the League shall usually enter in the bottom division. If a club enters two teams they may enter the bottom two divisions. (see rule 2.2(ii) below).

(ii) If a club of known proven ability applies to enter the League they may be considered for entry at a higher level, up to division 4, subject to vacancies.

(iii) Applications to the League will be considered on a first come, first served basis.

(iv) Any team relegated from the 'County league' may return to the League in a division deemed appropriate by the Committee.

2.3. If a team proves itself outstanding it may be promoted more than one division, subject to vacancy.

2.4. Any team withdrawing from the League during the season shall not be permitted to re-enter the League until one complete season has passed.

- 2.5. All clubs must be represented at the Annual General Meeting in order to be considered for membership of the League for the following season.

### **3. Players and Teams**

- 3.1. All players must be aged 14 years or over.
- 3.2. (i) All clubs must register its teams by a date agreed by the current Committee.
- (ii) All clubs must register its teams with the results secretaries before the commencement of the second half of the season, whether or not any changes are made to the teams.
- (iii) All new players must be registered with the results secretaries before they play. This can be done by telephone or email with confirmation in writing within 7 days\*.
- (iv) All players, whether first or second claimants, must be affiliated to SCNA and registered to the League before they play.

\* A completed results sheet will suffice as written confirmation

- 3.3. Failure to comply with Rule 3.2 above will incur a deduction of points. (See Rule 5.3 below)  
**The League will award 5 (five) points to the non-offending team and the match will be classed as null and void (neither team will be awarded goals scored)**
- 3.4. (i) No club may use a player registered to play with a higher team(s) in its lower team(s).
- (ii) A club may use a player registered to play in a lower team(s) in its higher team(s) on no more than two occasions. If a club uses a player registered to play in a lower team(s) in its higher team(s) on three occasions or more that player will be deemed to be registered with the higher team(s). **See Guidelines below**
- (iii) Where a club has more than one team, if a player named in a club's highest registered team does not play for three consecutive matches this must be explained to the League Secretary and both results secretaries.
- (iv) If, in extenuating circumstances, a player is required by its club to play permanently for a lower team, a letter must be sent to the Committee for its consideration and appraisal and that player must not play for the lower team until permission has been granted by the League.

In the case of long-term injury, the Committee will give sympathetic consideration.

- 3.5. Failure to comply with Rule 3.4 (i) and (iv) above will incur a deduction of points. (See 5.3 below)
36. Any player who wishes to change clubs during the season may do so immediately provided the League's Secretary is notified in writing before the player plays for the new club.
- No player may play for more than one club participating in the League simultaneously during a season.
- 3.7. Pregnant players may not take part in match play after the 12th week of pregnancy, nor umpire beyond the 20th week.

### **4. Matches, Officials & Stoppages**

- 4.1. The duration of all the League's matches will be four quarters of 15 minutes each. The duration of Knockout Cup matches will be as determined by the competition rules.
- 4.2 (i) League matches must be played on the dates set by the League for the current season unless exceptional weather conditions have made the match unplayable. In such cases clubs will be required to agree a mutually acceptable date for the re-

arranged match, which must be within four weeks of the date of the postponed match. In the event of clubs being unable to agree a mutually acceptable date the Committee will stipulate a date. This must be confirmed in writing from the home team prior to match date.

- (ii) Teams may apply to re-arrange a match if the date clashes with a recognised netball league or tournament. The committee will then consider each individual case.

4.3. Confirmation of the fixture and travelling directions must be received by the away team in writing from the home team at least 28 days before the match. In the event of an amendment, details must also be sent in writing from the home team at least 10 working days before the match.

4.4. (i) All league matches in divisions 1 to 8 inclusive and all Knockout Cup Matches must be officiated by England Netball affiliated umpires with either the England Netball 'C' Award qualification; or higher qualification

- (ii) All League matches played in divisions ,9 and 10 must be officiated by England Netball qualified and affiliated umpires or by England Netball affiliated members who have attended a C Award course or equivalent.

**Failure to comply with rules 4.4 (i) and 4.4 (ii) will result in a deduction of points by the offending team (See 5.3 below) and the League will award 5 (five) points to the non-offending team**

- (iii) All teams in Divisions 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 must provide a competent scorer for all League matches. All teams competing in the senior knockout cup matches must provide a competent scorer.

**Failure to comply with 4.4 (iii) may result in a deduction of points by the offending team (See 5.3 below).**

In a Knockout Cup match the offending team **will** be required to forfeit the match.

4.5. In the event of illness or injury to a player a scorer may substitute for that player subject to the scorer meeting the required registration and affiliation for play and provided that:-

- (i) a competent scorer is available to replace the original scorer

4.6. Any team failing to arrive on court within 15 minutes of the time fixed for the start of the match must forfeit the match **and the League will award 5 (five) points to the non-offending team.**

4.7. In the event of a clash of colours the home team will be required to change bibs.

4.8. All teams must play at least 50% of its fixtures during each half of the season to guarantee a continuing place in the League. This applies to fixtures they themselves cancel.

If a match is cancelled each team is still required to provide a results sheet to the appropriate results secretary

4.9. Any complaints made about umpires, players, spectators etc must be made in writing and be received by the League's Secretary within seven (7) days of the date of the match. The League may pass any complaints involving umpires to the appropriate SCNA officials.

Any complaints about umpires, players and/or spectators received by the League will be investigated by a committee comprised of the League's elected officers, except where the elected officer(s) has direct knowledge of, or is the subject of, the complaint.

If the investigation reveals a bone fide case to be answered, in accordance with the England Netball's Disciplinary Regulations (as published from time to time), the League will hold a disciplinary hearing (attended by a representative of the SCNA) and, as appropriate, may penalise the umpire, player and/or spectator.

- 4.10. A club must be advised by the complaining club in writing of each complaint about their umpires or players within seven days of the match.
- 4.11. The League is not responsible for any injuries incurred during any League match.
- 4.12. It is the responsibility of each team to provide adequate first aid cover for its players and officials.
- 4.13 (i) The EN rules will be the rules of play with the exception of rules 7.1(v) and 7.1(vi) (Stoppages (Injury or Illness)).  
(ii) In the event of an injury the Umpire shall decide the length of time for the stoppage and shall ensure that play is restarted as soon as possible.

## **5. Results Points & Penalties**

- 5.1. Both teams must complete and provide to the appropriate results secretary a results sheet SHOWING EACH PLAYER'S FULL NAME IN PRINT, signed by the umpires (who must also provide their England Netball affiliation number for the season during which the match is played) and captains to arrive no later than seven days after the match.

If the match is not played, in accordance with rules 4.2 or 4.6 above each team is still required to provide a results sheet to the appropriate results secretary.

Failure to provide a properly completed results sheet may incur a deduction of points (**See 5.3 below**)

- 5.2. Teams will be awarded points as follows:
  - 5 points for a win;
  - 3 points for a draw;
  - 2 points for scoring within 5 goals of the winning team; and
  - 1 point for scoring more than 50% of the winning score.
 For example: 36-40 = 2 points, 35-40 = 1 point.

Where teams have equal points, the league position will be determined as follows:-

- (i) Goal difference shall be used to determine their relative positions, i.e. the team with the higher difference score over the course of the season shall take precedence
- (ii) In the event that goal difference does not differentiate between the teams, then goal average shall be applied. Goal average will be calculated by dividing goals scored by goals against.
- (iii) In the event that goal average does not differentiate between the teams, then the team with the greatest number of goals scored shall take precedence
- (iv) Where one of the teams has its goal difference, goal average or total number of goals scored affected by cancellations, then the goals scored by and against defaulting team(s) shall be omitted from the calculations. For example, in the event that one team received 5 points for a cancelled fixture, then the goals scored by the other team against the offending team will not be included when its goal average or goal difference is calculated
- (v) In the event that neither goal average, nor goal difference, nor goals scored can differentiate between the teams, the aggregate score in the match or matches played between them over the course of the season shall be calculated and precedence given to the winning team
- (vi) In the event that none of the above differentiates between the teams, the KDNL Committee shall determine the means of differentiation

5.3. Teams **will** be deducted points as follows:

- (i) Breaches of rules 3.2, 3.4 (i), 3.4(iv) 4.4(i) and 4.4(ii) (minus) –5 points

Teams **may** be deducted a point as follows:

- (ii) Breaches of rules 4.4(iii) and 5.1 (minus) –1 point

5.4 At the end of each season with the exception of Division 10 the teams finishing in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> positions of all divisions will normally be relegated to the division immediately below.

5.5 At the end of each season with the exception of Division One the teams finishing in First and Second positions of all divisions will normally be promoted to the division immediately above.

5.6 The Committee's decisions on the formation of each division will be accepted as final.

## **6. QUERIES, COMPLAINTS & APPEALS**

6.1 Any team or match official who intends to raise a query or complaint regarding the playing of a match and/or its result must inform their opponents and the umpires on the day of the match.

6.2 Any queries or complaints regarding the playing of a match and/or its result must be submitted in writing to the KDNL Committee within 7 (seven) days from the date of the fixture. If practicable advance notice of such query or dispute should also be provided by telephone within 48 hours of the end of the fixture.

6.3 All queries, complaints and disputes regarding the playing of a match and/or its result will be determined in the first instance by a sub-committee convened by the KDNL Committee, which will use best endeavours to determine the issue within 15 days of the fixture.

6.4 The KDNL Committee will have the power to determine the penalty to be imposed on clubs, teams and players who are in breach of these rules and regulations regarding the playing of matches in the KDNL. Such penalties will include reprimands, the deduction of league points (except as specified above in Rule 5.3), the deduction of goals scored fines, suspensions, and expulsion from the league.

6.5 In the event that any team wishes to appeal against the decision of this sub-committee, it must notify the KDNL Committee within five (5) working days of receipt of the decision. In this event, the matter will be considered under England Netball's Disciplinary Regulations which allows for an Appeals Panel to be convened. The decision of the Appeals Panel will be final and binding on all parties. The Appeals Panel will have the power to:

- Endorse the decision of the KDNL Committee, and uphold any penalty imposed
- Endorse the decision of the KDNL Committee, and impose increase or decrease any penalty
- Overturn the decision of the KDNL Committee, and increase, decrease or remove any penalty imposed

6.6 Any team which wishes to appeal more generally against the governance and management of the KDNL or against specific decisions made by it must also observe the procedures laid out in England Netball's Disciplinary Regulations.

6.7 Any teams which fail to observe the procedures laid out in the preceding clauses may invalidate their right to raise a query, complaint or appeal.

6.8 No team may claim victory by default in any match without first submitting itself to the procedures laid out in these rules and regulations.

6.9 Any complaint which does not concern the playing of a match and/or its result, but which is made in respect of a disciplinary offence or an umpire player or spectator, will be addressed respectively in accordance with rules 1.2 and 4.9 above.

## **PLAYING UP GUIDELINES**

A player who plays up for a Club's higher teams on three occasions during either half of the season will automatically be re-registered with the Club's next highest placed team.

### **Example**

C team player	1st	Play up match for B team
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Play up match for A team
	3rd	Play up match for A or B team

Player automatically becomes a registered **B** team player and the rule on playing up starts again.

Please note in the above scenario if a player plays two matches on the same day and as a result Plays-up for the third time, then in order to be eligible for the C team the player must play for the C team **before** playing for the A team

### **Example**

C team player	1st	Play up match for B team
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Play up match for A team
	3rd	(i) Play for C team at 11am and play up for A or B team at 2pm - no breach of rule.
		(ii) Play for A or B team at 11am C team play at 2pm - ineligible for the C team.

*Please note these guidelines aim to explain the practice the results secretaries may apply when a player registered with a club's lower team plays up on 3 or more occasions during half a season. These guidelines are not intended to bind the results secretaries who will consider each case on its merits.*