



HUDDERSFIELD NETBALL LEAGUE **WINTER 2023**



- 1) The HNL follows the rules as laid out in the current INF rules of netball with the following variations as permitted under the current INF rules of Netball regulations:
 - 1.1 Team officials are not a requirement at HNL matches.
 - 1.2 All league matches shall be 4 x 10-minute quarters with intervals as appropriate.
 - 1.3 A reserve umpire shall not be appointed however, in the event of injury/illness to an umpire, another umpire present at the match may continue the match. This may include dropping a player that has participated already in the match.
 - 1.4 The number of technical officials shall be a minimum of two (one scorer and one scorer/timekeeper) provided by the teams. These roles may be interchanged to allow substitutes to score/keep time. As stated in INF rules of netball, 'the scorers are jointly responsible for keeping an accurate record of the score' and should, therefore, stand/sit together. If agreement cannot be reached as to where, this should be at the transverse line on the 'home' team side of the court. The score should be called loudly by one or both scorers after every goal. If there is a discrepancy in the score, the scorers should ask the umpire to hold time whilst the scorers resolve the discrepancy. Umpires and captains should only be consulted if agreement cannot be reached.
- 2) All clubs and their individual members must be fully paid-up members of England Netball for the relevant Membership Year.

All teams must be registered and paid the relevant registration fee to the Huddersfield Netball League.

Copies of the HNL registration sheet, including membership numbers should be submitted via email before the first match, to the membership secretary and the two results secretaries as advised via email from the league secretary, and the league website. Any additions to the register should be communicated via e-mail or post, including membership numbers to both the membership secretary and the two results secretaries at least 24 hours before fielding the player. Any game played with unregistered players or non-members of England Netball will be deemed as forfeited by the offending team (refer to rule 5a).
- 3) Players may only be registered with one club per season but if for any reason a club disbands players may register with another club. They must be registered by informing two members of the committee. No team may register more than 15 players.

Any player that contravenes this rule and plays for a '2nd' club will be treated as an unregistered player for that club (refer to rule 2). If a player registered with a club hasn't played any part of a match during that season for that club, they can move and register with another club in the same season. They must inform and gain agreement from two members of the committee to do this.

- 4) Postponement or cancellation of matches is not permitted unless under extreme circumstances. No fixtures may be re-arranged except with the consent of the Huddersfield Netball League committee and only in extreme circumstances. Please contact the fixtures secretary in the first instance, then the league secretary, or (if they are unavailable) another member of the Committee to request that a match is cancelled/postponed and reasons why. The Committee members will then agree if the match can be re-arranged.
- 5) All games should start within five minutes of the allotted fixture time. No team may take to the court with less than five players.
 - a) By entering the Huddersfield Netball League, teams agree to fulfil all the fixtures allocated. Should a team forfeit a fixture, this should be communicated to the relevant results secretary and secretary of the opposing team by telephone/text message or in person seven days prior to the fixture. A 20-0 win will be recorded for the non-offending team and a four-point deduction for the forfeiting team. Any team forfeiting a fixture with less than seven days' notice will be required to pay all venue and umpiring costs incurred.
 - b) Any team forfeiting three fixtures in any season will be expelled from the Huddersfield Netball League and their results for that season expunged. Their entry into subsequent seasons will be at the discretion of the Huddersfield Netball League Committee.
- 6) Points will be awarded: - 4 for a win, 2 for a draw, 1 for half score or above.
- 7) If there is a draw on points in any division the winner will be decided on goal difference. At the end of the summer season, placings are determined with automatic promotion and relegation normally being that two teams are relegated, and two teams are promoted. It is at the committee's discretion if more than two teams are promoted to ensure the divisions are as equal as possible in numbers.

8) (Summer League only)

- a) Any registered club player may participate in two league games for each other team within her club per season. If she participates in a third game with that team, she becomes registered with that team and may take no further part in any league games for her original team.
- b) Any number of club players registered with a lower placed team may participate in a higher placed team game.
- c) Only one team player from one of the club's higher placed teams may participate in a lower placed team game at any one time.

Any game where rule 8 is contravened will be treated as forfeited by the offending team (refer to rule 5a).

- 9) For each game both teams must provide an umpire that is qualified or on the current league umpire list. Each team is responsible for payment of their umpire. Qualified umpires should be offered a minimum of £10 per game. Unqualified umpires may be paid a minimum of £7. This is however at the team's discretion. The fee must be paid prior to the game being

played. Any team failing to provide an umpire shall be deemed to have forfeited the game (refer to rule 5a).

- 10) Score sheets for every game must be returned to the relevant WhatsApp group within seven days of the game being played. Players' names must be recorded with first names and surnames as per the registration sheet and all sections completed fully. If a player that is registered for one team within a club, plays for another team within the same club, the scoresheet must show which is their registered team by placing for example (A), (B) or (C) in brackets after their name. Failure to submit an accurately completed score sheet will incur a two-point deduction for the offending team. This does not replace rules 2 and 3 if the error relates to unregistered or incorrect players.
- 11) Scores for each game should be sent via WhatsApp message or submitted online on the website within seven days of the fixture being played (for up-to-date details, see the website). Failure to do so will incur a two-point deduction for the offending team.
- 12) Each team can declare up to 12 players on the score sheet.
- 13) The committee will inform teams of rule infringements within 14 days via email. A further period should be allowed to dispute if deemed necessary.
- 14) Any new teams entering the league will be placed in the appropriate division. This will be decided by the committee.
- 15) Pregnancy – England Netball (EN) recommends that individuals (player, coach, umpire) if pregnant should only participate with approval from their doctor and in accordance with any guidelines issued by EN. 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. For example, if an 'Insured Person' who is pregnant is involved in an accident (not pregnancy related) and suffers a broken leg then, subject to claims validation, EN would pay any broken bones benefit, the Hospital Confinement benefit and Temporary Total Disablement benefit due under the Personal Accident Insurance Policy resulting from this injury. However, if the absence or hospital stay is prolonged as a direct result of pregnancy, pregnancy complications or even early childbirth then this would not be covered. The EN insurance scheme is provided as a Membership benefit and ensures that Affiliated Members (referred to in the Liability insurance documents as 'Registered Participants') and in the Personal Accident documents as an 'Insured Person' are covered for Liability and Personal Accident Insurance, at the level of cover applicable to their category of membership. Full terms and conditions apply as detailed in the EN insurance policy documents and can be downloaded by every member on the downloadable documents in MyNet on the EN website.

Irrespective of doctor's advice and personal opinion

- (a) Players must not play in any match beyond the 12th week of pregnancy.

- (b) Umpires may not take part in any matches beyond the 20th weeks of pregnancy
 - (c) Every player/umpire participating in any match whilst pregnant does so at their own risk.
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- 16) Any complaints regarding teams or individuals whilst playing must be received in writing to the league secretary, within seven days of the match being played. If it is necessary for a disciplinary committee to be formed, it will comprise of clubs who are not involved in any way with the offending team or person.
 - 17) Appropriate kit must be worn. Team colours are required although not necessarily a skirt. The home team is responsible for ensuring no clash of bibs and so must use an alternative set if required.
 - 18) Every club should have the same ratio, or greater, of qualified/affiliated umpires to teams. E.g., if a club has three teams it needs three qualified and affiliated umpires within its club. Any new clubs applying to join the league that don't have the requisite number of umpires, will be allowed one year's grace providing that they have the correct number of nominated unqualified umpires working towards their qualification. This rule only applies to umpires that are the designated team umpire. Learner umpires may still umpire in the Huddersfield league (refer to rule 19).
 - 19) Unqualified umpires that have been on a C award course in the last two years may umpire in the 3rd division in winter league and divisions 3 and 4 in summer league. Those unqualified umpires that are working towards their pre-assessment, with the recommendation of a mentor (as defined by County or Regional Umpiring Secretary), may umpire appropriate level games in division 1 of winter league and division 2 of the summer league. The names of these umpires will be communicated through the league committee via email as and when recommendations arise.
 - 20) Venues used by teams for all league fixtures should be in the Huddersfield (HD) postcode area. If a team wishes to propose using an alternative venue, this should be raised with the Committee who will make the final decision. Venue bookings for league fixtures should only be made on Monday to Thursday evenings.
 - 21) Permission must be sought from players and officials prior to any taking of photographs or video recordings of match play. The secretary or captain must gain permission from those involved in the fixture with confirmation of how the images or footage is to be used.
 - 22) All teams wishing to participate in the following year of fixtures must have a representative at the AGM. Failure to do so will incur a fine equivalent to the league entry fee. Repeat offenders not attending may be withdrawn from the league, at the discretion of the Committee.
 - 23) If a club folds one of its teams within its club structure, this should be the lowest placed team to fold.