

General Rules

- 1.0 (a) To represent fair competition and competitor safety, Dudley Netball League is solely for the participation of female teams.
- (b) All players and umpires must be members of the All England Netball Association (AENA) and must agree to abide by their rules. Each player will be responsible for the payment of their membership fee. Details for each player including their membership number, must be registered with the League prior to playing their first game. **Non-compliance will result in the relevant player(s) being unable to play.**
- (c) Points shall be awarded for league games as follows:
5 points for a win
3 points for a draw
2 points for finishing within 5 goals (5 goals or less)
1 point for 50% or more of opposition's goals.
- (d) All matches will be played at a central venue, organised by the Committee.
- (e) All games will be organised with a fair allocation of match start times.
- 2.0 (a) All matches shall be governed by AENA rules.
- (b) Match cards will be filled in before every game. All players used during the game must be accurately recorded on the match card indicating the division of any player who is being temporarily transferred.
- (c) It is the team's responsibility on the match night to delete the name of players entered on the card if not used.
- (d) Any breach of the Codes of Conduct will incur a penalty at the discretion of the committee.
- 3.0 (a) All players must be registered IN FULL with the Match and Registration Secretary. A minimum of 7 players must be registered before the start of the season and proof of AENA membership must be provided at the Secretaries meeting. **Non-compliance will result in the relevant player(s) being unable to play until such time as those details are made available.**
- (b) Teams wishing to register an additional player with the Match & Registration Secretary in advance by e-mail must provide full name and proof of affiliation 48 hours before the game and have received confirmation of this from the Match & Registration Secretary; otherwise teams must register at the desk 30 minutes before their game commences.
- (c) Players may not be registered for more than one club at any one time but transfers will be allowed up to half-season. Requests must be submitted to the League, in writing, using the official transfer request form available from committee before the transfer takes place. Only one transfer per player, per season, to another club allowed.
- (d) A lower team player may transfer temporarily within a club to any higher team twice and still remain eligible to play for the lower team. A player will become a permanent transfer to the higher team that she plays for on the third occasion. Only one permanent transfer per player is allowed in a season.

- (e) Teams are allowed to register 12 players before incurring extra cost. After that, each additional registration will be £1 per player.
- (f) The playing of an ineligible player will result in the offending team forfeiting the match and result in disciplinary action.
- (g) Teams will not be allowed to register more than two players for the last match of the season.
- (h) It is the team's responsibility to inform the league of any change in their contact details or any change to their playing kit.
- (i) Pregnant players will not be allowed to play in the League beyond 12 weeks.

4.0 The matches will be played at the date and time arranged by the League Committee, no matches can be re-arranged except by the committee which may be due to inclement weather or other exceptional circumstances.

- (a) All matches will be centrally timed. Matches will be of 40 minutes duration i.e. 4 x 10 minute quarters, with two one minute intervals and two minutes at half-time.
- (b) If any team is not on court at the arranged time, they will forfeit the match and pay both teams costs; "The non-offending team will be awarded 5 points.
- (c) Teams may not arrive on court with less than five players.
- (d) If an injury occurs and time is called by a player on court, the umpire needs to stop the game if required. Time will be taken to deal with the injury and a substitution made if necessary but time will not be added on to that period.
- (e) In the event of an injury of a serious nature, the removal of the player from the court is at the discretion of the team manager, coach or captain. It is the responsibility of said people to ensure the player is removed as soon as possible so that the match can continue.
- (f) Teams should arrive and sign in at least 15 minutes before the arranged time of match. Match fees must be paid at the time of signing in to cover umpiring and court costs. Teams paying in advance must also sign in so that duty members know they have arrived.
- (g) Teams must provide competent match scorers for each fixture who should stand together, but away from spectators, and not impede the umpires, as instructed by the league.

- 5.0
- (a) It is the responsibility of all teams to nominate an AENA qualified umpire for the day that they are playing. These should be notified 7 days prior to the scheduled match. **Failure to comply will result in a £20.00 fine.**
 - (b) It is the responsibility of the league to allocate suitably qualified umpires for each division. In the event that the league is unable to allocate two umpires for any game due to unforeseen circumstances, the game will be postponed and rearranged by the league at the discretion of the committee.

- (c) Umpires will be allocated to games by the Umpiring Co-ordinator, and will officiate the match round as below:

Playing 7.00 pm round Umpire 7.50 pm round
Playing 7.50 pm round Umpire 8.40 pm round
Playing 8.40 pm round Umpire 7.00 pm round.

- (d) It is the nominating team's responsibility to obtain a suitably qualified replacement, should the umpire become unavailable to officiate at the allocated time.
- (e) In the event that a team is unable to fulfil a playing commitment, they must still provide an AENA qualified umpire for the allocated time (in accordance with rule 5.0 (c)).

6.0 (a) The Committee shall arrange tournaments as deemed necessary.

(b) These shall be on a handicapped basis.

(c) The handicaps shall be based on mid-season or end of season results as appropriate.

7.0 (a) Games cannot be conceded.

(b) In the event of unforeseen circumstances where teams have to concede they **must not** contact the opposition, the League will make all communication. Teams must contact the Match and Registration Secretary or a nominated committee member.

(c) All conceded matches, including any matches conceded following a rearrangement by the committee, will incur an administrative fee which will be twice the weekly match fee.

(d) If the non-offending team cannot be contacted 2 hours before the scheduled match to confirm it has been conceded, the team conceding will incur an additional fine of £20.00.

(e) Teams conceding more than two games in a season may forfeit their position in the league and may not be eligible to enter the next season.

(f) In the event of teams withdrawing from the league before the season commences, the entry fee will not be refunded. Should teams withdraw after the commencement of the season they will be subject to a financial penalty to be determined by the committee.

8.0 League fees per team will be agreed annually and communicated on the league entry forms for the forthcoming season.

9.0 In line with England Netball's policy, Dudley Netball League is committed to providing a safe environment for young people under the age of 18. Photography and/or video recording will be allowed, for coaching and educational purposes only. Permission from teams and umpires must be obtained prior to the start of the match, and details lodged with the league desk. There will be consequences for anyone not adhering to this rule at committee's discretion.