

WEST MIDLANDS REGIONAL NATIONAL CLUBS U14 & U16	
1.0	ORGANISATION AND ADMINISTRATION
1.1	The West Midlands Regional Netball League (hereinafter called the "League") will be administered by a Regional Committee (RLC) and chaired by the Regional Management Board (RMB) member with responsibility for Competition.
1.1.1	The RLC whilst autonomous will be fully accountable to the RMB and the RMB appraised of all League progress and matters directly.
1.2	A Regional League Administrator (RLA) will be appointed by the West Midlands RMB and will be a member of the RLC.
1.3	All games will be played according to the INF Netball Rules.
1.3.1	Rules will be in line with England Netball competition rules and may be reviewed by the RMB as and when required and operative immediately. The RMB will have jurisdiction over any matters not covered herein.
1.4	It is the responsibility of all Team personnel to ensure that all are conversant with, and abide by, the rules and regulations.
1.5	A Central Venue system will operate unless otherwise deemed appropriate.
1.6	Emergency cancellation, only in exceptional circumstances, will be decided by the RLC.
1.7	All fees and costs are to be administered by the RLA in conjunction with the Netball West Midlands Regional Office
1.7.1	ALL fees are to be paid by the dates specified. In case of difficulty please contact the RLA.
1.7.2	Clubs will NOT be allowed to participate in the "League" until the required fees have been paid.
2.0	LEAGUE STRUCTURE
2.1	The Region will operate a League as the Regional Round of the England Netball National U14 and U16 Clubs competition on Sundays usually from January to Easter.
2.2	A Club can only be represented once in each age group of the "League".
2.3	Games will be 48 minutes duration (i.e. four quarters of 12 minutes each) with injury/stoppage time in accordance with current INF rulings. Care should be taken in moving injured players.
2.4	Clubs will qualify for the Regional League via Junior Leagues/Competitions endorsed by the County Netball Associations.
2.4.1	Normally there will be two Clubs for each age group from each County within the West Midlands.
2.4.2	When a County does not send two teams a draw will be made to determine which County will be invited to send a third team.
2.5	In each age group teams will be divided into two sections of seven teams.
2.5.1	Each team will play all teams in their section. The top two teams in each section of each age group will go forward to the semi-finals and then it will be on a knockout basis.
2.5.2	The top two teams in each age group will qualify and progress to the National Club Finals which are normally held in April or May.
2.6	Points awarded for each game are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 5 points for a win ▪ 3 points for a draw ▪ 2 points for a loss, scoring within 5 goals of the winning team's score, for example Final score 50-46 = 2 points to the losing team. ▪ 1 point for a loss but scoring 50% or more of their opponents score, for example Final score 50-45 = 1 point to the losing team In the event of a conceded match 5 points will be awarded to the non-offending team.
2.6.1	If teams are equal on points at the end of the Competition league positions will be decided by Goal Average, then Goal Difference, then by the result of the matches between the teams. If Goal Average is needed to decide league positions at the end of the Competition then the goals of the teams involved in conceded matches will be ignored in the table calculations.
2.7	The season's schedule is to be organised with a fair allocation of starting times and arena's.
2.8	Postponement requests may be considered in exceptional circumstances by the RLC with the consent of the opposing team. Such requests should reach the RLA at least seven (7) days before the appropriate match date who will then put the request to the RLC.
2.8.1	Should a postponement be granted, the requesting team must make the arrangements for replaying the fixture covering all costs. Matches must be played within two (2) weeks of the original date with the date and venue agreed by the opposing team and the RLC.

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3.0	PLAYING QUALIFICATIONS AND ELIGIBILITY
3.1	Clubs shall either be accredited under England Netball's CAPS scheme, or working towards same.
3.2	ALL players MUST be members of England Netball and members of the Club they are representing in the current season of Competition. Proof of Membership which will be a copy of the Club Receipt from the EN membership system NetbALL Connected should be submitted at the time of registration.
3.2.1	ALL players must be within the appropriate age bands for the U14 and U16 Leagues as at 11.59 p.m. on 31 st August prior to the commencement of the Regional League. Talented players capable of playing at a higher level may be exempted from this regulation, providing a copy of a completed age-banding permission has been received by the RLA at the time of entry
3.3	New registration - If a player was not named on the Squad Registration Sheet the Club must provide evidence that the player has played for the Club in line with rule 3.2.
3.3.1	Evidence must be provided that the player has been registered or played for the Club prior to entry into this Competition either in the County element of the competition or other competitions.
3.4	Teams may only use those players whose names appear on their Squad Registration Sheet held by the RLA. Any additions or alterations may be made to the squad sheet by registering with the RLA by 11.59 p.m. of the Tuesday prior to the fixture in accordance with all other rules under section 3 Playing Qualifications and Eligibility
3.4.1	Any infringement of these eligibility rules will result in points automatically being awarded to the opposition.
3.5	The use of an "unaffiliated" (NON MEMBER) will result in loss of points for that game(s) plus a further deduction of three (3) points.
3.5.1	The use of an " unregistered " player will result in the loss of points for that game(s) and a fine
3.5.2	The match points (5 points) will be awarded to the opposition.
3.6	No transfer of players between Clubs will be allowed during the competition.
4.0	OFFICIALS
4.1	League participants will provide their own umpires who must be 'C' Award or above and will be placed neutrally when their nominating club is playing.
4.1.1	'C' Award umpires must be recommended by their County Umpiring Secretary and have a named Mentor.
4.1.2	Clubs will be responsible for the payment of umpires. This should be done at the Registration Desk when signing in.
4.2	Each team must provide a competent Table Official (scorer) for each of their fixtures. A Table Official (scorer) may not participate in the current match as a Player, Coach or Primary Carer.
4.2.1	Failure to comply with this rule may result in loss of points or other sanctions as determined by the RLC.
4.3	Each team must provide someone to operate the 'score flip chart' (who may be from the bench) for their own fixture. If this person is not named as part of the bench then they should not approach the bench during intervals. The score flip chart is a visual aid for players and spectators only. This person is not a table official and may have no input to the recorded final score.
4.3.1	Failure to comply with this rule may result in loss of points or other sanctions as determined by the RLC.
4.4	The Regional Umpiring Secretary reserves the right to use Regional League matches for the purpose of Assessment.
5.0	MATCH DAY
5.1	A League Registration Desk will be in place on the day.
5.2	The first named team on the fixture schedule is designated as the "Home" team.
5.3	The 'Home Team Bench' will be deemed to be on the left hand side on entering the arenas (both team benches will be to the left of the Umpires on each side of the court). Second named team is the "AWAY" team and should change bibs if requested to do so by the Umpires.
5.4	Team Bench Personnel should only include players listed on the Match Team Sheet, and may have up to five(5) Team Officials which will include a Coach and at least 1 Primary Carer(able to treat injury/illness). The identified Primary Carer may not have another role. There must be an identified on court Captain.
5.5	A Match Team Sheet for each fixture is to be completed at the Registration Desk by both teams 20 minutes prior to the fixture start time. Failure to comply will result in sanctions determined by the RLC.
5.5.1	The Match Team Sheets are to be collected by the "Home" team in order to be ready for a prompt start.
5.5.2	ALL parts of the Match Team Sheet must be completed in legible printed writing, including the date, arena number, names of captains, scorers, players, substitutes and final score. The starting seven should be entered on the Match Team Sheet in their playing positions. Any changes and substitutions must be notified to the score desk at each interval.
5.5.3	Up to 12 players may be nominated for each match and must be entered on the Match Team Sheet before the

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	match. Only players recorded on the Match Team Sheet at the beginning of the match will be eligible to play in that match. The name of any player who did not take part in the match should be deleted, by the relevant club, at the end of the match
5.5.4	At the conclusion of the match the Match Team Sheet must be completed by the Table Officials (scorers) and signed by the captains and umpires. Once the Official Match team Sheet has been signed by the Captains no dispute may be lodged. In the event of a discrepancy or dispute, " Under Protest " should appear in the signature space on the Official Match Team Sheet. The Match team Sheet should be returned to the Registration Desk.
5.6	Only those named as Players or Team Bench Personnel will be allowed in the court arena and those not actually playing must remain on the appropriate team side-line bench during play. No-one else should be on the side-line bench or enter the court areas unless in the case of an emergency.
5.7	All spectators must use the viewing gallery.
6.0	GENERAL
6.1	Please ensure that mutual respect and courtesy is shown between all officials, players, volunteers, spectators, and centre employees.
6.2	Kit bags and equipment must not be left where they may cause an obstruction.
6.3	Whilst the University of Wolverhampton Walsall Campus has first aid, it is the responsibility of each team to provide their own. Each team must now provide their own highly visible Primary Care identification to be used each match.
6.4	Any accidents must be reported to the University of Wolverhampton Walsall Campus and recorded appropriately.
6.4.1	A Netball West Midlands Incident Record sheet should be completed and lodged with the League Administrator at the Registration Desk.
6.5	The RLC, RMB, or the University of Wolverhampton Walsall Campus cannot be held responsible for any loss, damage, injury, or accident.
6.6	Any photography and/or video recording (for coaching and educational purposes only) must be approved and details recorded at the Registration Desk where a badge will be issued. Permission from teams and umpires must be obtained prior to the start of the match. Flash photography is not permitted. Such Photography and/or video recording may only be posted on closed social media forms. The RMB reserves the right to comply with this rule for Business and Marketing purposes.
7.0	COMPLAINTS
7.1	Any complaints or queries must be submitted in writing to the RLA within five (5) working days. The RLA will acknowledge within 48 hours any such submission.
7.2	All queries, issues and disputes regarding the playing of a match and/or its result will be determined in the first instance by the RLC, which will use best endeavours to resolve the issue within ten (10) working days of receipt of correspondence.
7.2.1	The RLC will have the power to determine the penalty to be imposed on teams and players who are in breach of these West Midland Regional League rules. Such penalties may include reprimands, the deduction of league points, fines, suspensions, and expulsion from the "League/competition".
7.3	In the event that any team wishes to appeal against the decision of the RLC, it must notify the West Midlands Regional Board via the Regional Office in writing within seven (7) working days of receipt of the decision.
7.3.1	The appeal shall be accompanied by a cheque for £100, sent to the Regional Office and received before the Appeals process may start. The £100 shall be returned if the appeal is upheld.
7.4	An Appeals Panel which shall be independent of the RLC will be convened within seven (7) days to consider the matter. The conclusion of this Appeals Panel will be final and binding on all parties. The Appeals Panel will have the power to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce, increase, quash or confirm the penalty imposed by the RLC ▪ Make such other order or determination as it may think right or just