**LEICESTER NETBALL LEAGUE**

**HANDBOOK 2018/2019**



**NAME \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**TEAM \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**AFFILIATION NO \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

## www.leicester-netball.co.uk

See website for fixtures, results and tables throughout the season

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**WELCOME**

Dear Fellow Leicester Netball League Members,

Welcome back for the Winter Season 2018/19 and all the netballing fun we are about to begin. The summer has been a hot, sweaty one so lets assume normal weather conditions for the winter about to resume with full on snow for us to combat!!

This season sees the amalgamation ACE Ladies (Ladybugs) with Hawks for this season! We also welcome new teams into the league..TFC and Hinckley Hurricanes. Let’s show them that the Leicester league is a competitive but fun league that accepts all. I’m sure if you need assistance, that those teams you are playing against, or alongside, will be more than happy to point you in the right direction – even if that is to a committee member!

The college have brought us new posts for the season so please be careful not to knock the pegs off the back!! We’ve brought new nets so again let’s take care of them so they stay on for the season! The welfare facilities are now open next to the Netball Centre – there are limited toilets so plan accordingly and expect to queue at peak times!! PLEASE DO NOT PARK AT THE FRONT OF THE COURTS/ SIDE OF THE NETBALL CENTRE – THERE IS AMPLE PARKING SO MAKE SURE IT IS USED!!!!.

A reminder of some things to remember for the upcoming season – RE-FIXTURES WEEKS are part of the fixtures so please do not plan anything to happen on those nights and MENTORED UMPIRE SLOTS require a MENTOR!

It is just left for me to say good luck for the season ahead. May it by injury free, pregnancy free ☺ and enjoyable!

Best wishes

**Tracy**

Tracy Glover

**Chairperson**

Leicester Netball League

LEICESTER NETBALL LEAGUE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Position** | **Contact Information** |
| CHAIRPERSON(Grasshopper NC) | Tracy Glover | **Please see your club secretary for information on this page or use the contact us ‘general enquiries’ section on the website** |
| VICE CHAIRPERSON -DEVELOPMENT OFFICER(Grasshopper NC) | Kate Garner |
| LEAGUE SECRETARY\*(Knighton)Enquiries concerning court conditions after 5pm on match nights | Julie Hunt |
| FIXTURES SECRETARY(Hawks) | Celine Li  |
| RESULTS SECRETARY (Team Vend) | Lisa Glover |
| TREASURER / INVOICING SECRETARY(Team Vend) | Louise Glover |
| UMPIRING SECRETARY |  |
| AFFILIATIONS SECRETARY (Fusion) | Rachel Wilkinson |
| BOOKINGS OFFICER(Team Vend) | Celine Li |
| MINUTING SECRETARY |  |
| TOURNAMENTS ORGANISER(Hawks) | Gemma Curry |
| YOUTH LEAGUE COORDINATOR(Knighton) | Jayne Tate |
| NEW PLAYER LIAISON OFFICER(Fusion) | Rachel Wilkinson |
| SAFEGUARDING OFFICER(Knighton) | Feroza Ladd |
| ORDINARY MEMBERS: Abby Deacon Kate Ward Jessica Evans  |

**LNL CONSTITUTION**

**1. TITLE**

1.1 The League shall be called Leicester Netball League, hereafter to be referred to as the “League” and shall be affiliated to England Netball (hereafter called the EN).

1. **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**
	1. Co-operate with EN and with the region to promote and encourage the game of netball.
	2. Plan and help in the growth of netball within the geographical area under its jurisdiction.
	3. Organise such events as the members’ desire.
	4. Adopt the rules and regulations laid down by the EN.
	5. Keep a watching brief on netball facilities within Leicester.
	6. Employ the funds of the League as shall be deemed to be in the best interest of the game.
2. **MEMBERSHIP**
	1. Any club may apply for membership to the League. Such application should be made to the League Secretary, by the date set by the Committee, together with the appropriate fees.
	2. Clubs wishing to play in the Winter League must be affiliated to EN.
	3. The league is for players ages 14 years and older only. All players over the age of 14 but under the age of 16 must be screened and assessed by an appropriate representative for eligibility to play within the league, but also at what divisional level.
	4. All EN affiliated members shall be entitled to vote at the Annual General Meetings and any Extraordinary Meetings of the League. If more than one club representative is present – one person shall be nominated to vote on behalf of that club. Membership may be revoked by a majority vote of the Committee for any offence considered contrary to the Constitution.
	5. The League Committee reserves the right to accept or refuse any application to the League.
	6. All members shall be bound by the Constitution and any other rulings of the League Committee and by the current rules of the game.
3. **OFFICERS**
	1. The officers of the League shall be as follows:-

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Executive Officers** | **Non executive Officers** |
| Chairperson Vice Chairperson Treasurer Invoicing Secretary League Secretary Fixture Secretary Results SecretaryUmpiring Secretary Minuting SecretaryTournaments Organiser | SVC Bookings Officer New Player Liaison Officer 4Ordinary Members |

1. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**
	1. All officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the League, from and by the members of the League.
	2. All officers are elected for a period of one year, but may be re-elected to the same office or another office the following year.
	3. All officers must be affiliated to EN.
2. **GENERAL COMMITTEE**
	1. The affairs of the League shall be controlled by a general Committee comprising of the Executive Officers of the League and four other ordinary members, elected from and by the members of the League. The general Committee shall meet at agreed intervals, which are not less than four times per year.
	2. The duties of the General Committee shall be:
		1. To control the affairs of the League on behalf of the members.
		2. To keep accurate accounts of the finances of the League through the Treasurer. These should be available for reasonable inspection by Members and should be audited before every Annual General Meeting. The club shall maintain a current bank account and the following officers shall be authorised to sign League cheques: Chairperson and Treasurer.
		3. To co-opt additional members of the Committee as the Committee feels is necessary. Co-opted members shall not be entitled to vote on the Committee.
		4. To make necessary decisions on the basis of a simple majority vote. In the case of equal votes, the Chairperson shall be entitled to an additional casting vote.
3. **GENERAL MEETINGS**
	1. The Annual General Meeting of the League shall be held not later than the end of September each year. Twenty-one days written notice shall be given to Members of the Annual General Meeting by circulating a copy of the notice to every club secretary at either their home address or by electronic mail. Members must advise the League in writing of any business to be moved at the Annual General Meeting at least fourteen days before the meeting is to be held. The League shall then circulate an agenda to club secretaries not less than seven days prior to the meeting.
	2. The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be to:
		1. Confirm the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting and any General Meeting held since the last Annual General Meeting.
		2. Receive the audited accounts for the year from the Treasurer.
		3. Receive the annual report of the Committee from the Chairperson.
		4. Elect the Officers of the League.
		5. Transact such other business received in writing by the Chairperson from members, fourteen days prior to the meeting and included on the agenda.
		6. Persons entitled to vote at the General Meetings shall be:-

Clubs - 1 vote each

Elected officer - 1 vote each.

* 1. Nomination of candidates for election of officers shall be made in writing to the Chairperson at least fourteen days in advance of the Annual General Meeting date.
	2. Nominations can only be made by EN members and must be seconded by another member.
	3. At all General Meetings, the chair will be taken by the Chairperson or, in their absence, by the Vice Chairperson or by a deputy appointed by the League or League members attending the meeting. In the event of equal votes, the Chairperson shall be entitled to an additional casting vote.
	4. A quorum for a General Meeting shall be five officers of the Committee and five other ordinary members from the League.
1. **EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING**
	1. An Extraordinary General Meeting may be convened:-
		1. By order of the League Committee.
		2. Upon the written request to the Chairperson of the Committee, by five or more members entitled to vote at the General Meeting.
		3. Each requisition shall state the purpose for which a Meeting is required and shall set out any resolution which it is desired to propose.
		4. The Meeting shall be held within twenty-eight days of receipt of the requisition by the Chairperson and fourteen days’ notice of the Meeting and of any resolution proposed shall be given to each club secretary.
2. **DISCIPLINE**
	1. The Committee shall have the power to discipline in such a manner, as it sees fit, an individual or team that has been guilty of conduct considered by the League to be disgraceful or detrimental to the interests of the League or the name of netball. Written notice shall be given to teams or individuals involved in such instances.
3. **INDEMNITY**
	1. Any Honorary Officer and any Member of the League Committee and/or its Sub-Committees shall be indemnified by the League against all costs and losses which he/she may incur or sustain in relation to the execution of the duties of their office, or by reason of any duty performed for and with the authority of the League Committee.
4. **ARBITRATION**
	1. If any dispute shall arise on the interpretation of this Constitution or the need arises to deal with any matter not provided for in this Constitution, reference shall be made to the Chairperson who shall refer the same to the League Committee whose decision shall be binding on all parties.
5. **ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION**

12.1 Any proposed alterations to the League Constitution may only be considered at an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting, convened with the required written notice of the proposal.

12.2 Any alteration or amendment must be proposed by an EN member of the League and seconded by another EN member. Only EN members affiliated to the LNL can propose amendments and/or alterations. Such alterations shall be passed if supported by not less that two thirds of those members present at the meeting, assuming a quorum has been achieved.

#### 13. DISSOLUTION

13.1 The League shall only be dissolved at an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting.

13.2 In the event of the dissolution of the League, the Committee shall realise the assets and property of the League and call in all monies due to the League.

13.3 After discharge of all debts and liabilities, any remaining surplus shall be given to such sporting organisations as agreed at the Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting.

13.4 The consent of the benefactor shall be sought before the disposal of any property or assets, which have been donated or have come to the League as a result of Grant Aid.

SEPT 2018

#### WINTER LEAGUE RULES

1. The LNL is a senior league (16 years and older) played in Leicester. All matches are played at SVC on a Tuesday and Thursday (if necessary) evening from 7pm.

Any player under the age of 16 entering the senior league must meet the requirements of LCNA prior to playing within the league. Only on receipt of an authorization letter from Val Kindred, V.Kindred@lboro.ac.uk, will that player be eligible to participate.

No player under the age of 14 is allowed to play within the LNL.

 Cup and plate commitment for those teams playing in those competitions with Under 16s are done so at the responsibility of the club. These competitions are outside the authorisation from LCNA for Youth layers playing within the senior league.

1. All rules are played to England Netball Rules except for Rule 5, Rule 32 and Rule 49, which is covered by Domestic Ruling.
2. All members representing their club in *any* capacity MUST be affiliated to the England Netball (EN) through that club. Checks will be made throughout the season and relevant penalties be applied for non-affiliation.
3. Each team entering the LNL must have a named qualified umpire with a minimum level of 'C' Award.

Exceptions to this apply in Division 2 & 3 where designated fixtures will be marked BOLD to indicate mentored umpire allocations.

 Mentored umpires must:

* Have completed a c award course in last 2 yrs (proof provided to league) and,
* Have a league approved mentor with them whilst umpiring at ALL times

On occasion higher division matches may be required for unqualified umpires for testing purposes. This will be organised by the Umpiring Secretary of LCNA.

If an umpire is unable to complete their commitment they must arrange for another umpire to undertake their commitment.

Where an umpire turns up late and another umpire takes her place, they may take over the match after a goal has been scored or during a stoppage in play.

Where an umpire takes ill or is injured during a match, the match will be abandoned and replayed at a later date unless a suitable umpire can be found to continue. Team Captains must inform the League Secretary of any abandonment.

 Relevant penalty to be applied for non-provision of umpire.

1. Matches consist of 4 quarters with 3 minute intervals following each quarter. 5 minutes will be allowed for lateness (domestic league ruling) - relevant penalty to be applied. The umpires will have ultimate responsibility to time this and their decision is final.
2. Clubs in the league must submit a list of affiliated club players for the start of the league to the Results Secretary. Following the 3rd week of divisional fixtures each club with multiple teams must provide the team sheet. Failure to provide this sheet will mean that the league will take the teams submitted on the evening as the ultimate list and therefore players are not allowed to play for a lower team unless they abide by rule 8.

7a. Where a club has more than 1 team in the league no player may play for a lower team with exception to the first 3 weeks of the league.

7b. Players can only play for the team immediately higher (I.e. team 3 player can play up into team 2). Where teams do not have an obvious team hierarchy this will be determined by starting league positions. A player may only play up on 3 occasions – on the 4th occasion the player will remain in the higher team.

7c. An occasion means for a whole match or part thereof. Players may not switch between matches being played at the same time (I.e. start in qtr 1 for 2nd team, move to 1st team in qtr 2, return to 2nd team during qtr 3). The on court players are team tied once the match has started.

7d. A higher team cannot cancel a match. Eligible players should be pulled from lower teams (ref. 7b). The lowest team's match will be postponed and re-fixtured by the league if left short of eligible players.

1. Permanent team changes can only be permitted once put in writing to the league secretary and approval received back in response. Where a player is moved to a lower team this player may not be eligible to be considered to play up.

 Relevant penalty to be applied for player infringements.

9a. A player may change clubs once during a season. Any player changing club must inform the League Secretary, in writing, of their intentions - specifying the date the change is to occur from before they play for their new club. Only after approval received back in response will the player be eligible for the new club. Prior to playing for the new club the League Secretary must receive confirmation of 2nd affiliation claim.

9b. TWO or more members of a disbanded club cannot play down more than one division i.e. players from a Premiership team disbanding, may only play in the Premiership and Championship. They must secondary affiliate to that team. Within the last 6 weeks of the playing season, no member of a disbanded club may join another team.

1. Once a player has changed clubs, they will be eligible to play in matches for their new club. They MAY NOT however, play in any further matches for their old club for the duration of the League. If a player does play again for their old club during the League, the match will be forfeited and the points awarded to the opposing team.

11. If a team withdraws from the League before the end of the season, or defaults on ANY commitment likely to inconvenience others, they will lose their £20 deposit.

12. If a team does withdraw from the League before the end of the season, all points scored from the games already played against this team will be lost and all goals scored for and against will also be deducted.

13. Clubs are asked to take particular note of the rules regarding bibs. EN rules require bibs to be marked FRONT AND BACK. The offending team will forfeit the game if not adhered to. Teams allocated the left hand column of the fixtures will be classed as the ‘Home’ team and as such given priority of bib colour for that match.

14. Players are reminded to take note of the IFNA rules regarding fingernails, the wearing of jewellery (including piercings and spacers) and medic alerts. Infringement of these rules will result in the player being barred from participating by the umpires. Taping of nails is not allowed. EN ruling concerning wearing gloves and head coverings applies.

15. Any player who has to cut fingernails, remove jewellery etc. and is not on court when the match is due to start, must be treated as a latecomer (see EN rule 9). If this means that a team does not have 5 players on court, they lose the points sa per rule 5.

16. The scoring system for the League will be: -

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| Win | 4 Points |
| Draw | 2 Points |
| Lose (but finishing with 50% or more goals of winning team) | 1 Point |
| End of quarter winning team (per quarter, goals scored) | 1 point per quarter won – where both team score the same amount of goals then the point will be 1/2 |

17. Each team will be required to be on duty at Soar Valley at least one half evenings during the League, which will be on a match night. The DUTY TEAM is responsible for ALL the duties on the Duty Team checklist.

18. Teams are responsible for providing a completed teamsheets, which must be handed in to the DUTY TEAM each evening by the team representative. The matchsheet MUST be signed by the umpires.

19. Each team will be asked to pay a court fee of £14 per team for each match for the senior divisions and £8.00 for the youth division or youth teams (75% of player are 18 or under) in the senior league. For reasons of security, teams MUST pay their court fees by CHEQUE OR BANK TRANSFER. Cheques should be made out to LEICESTER NETBALL LEAGUE; for details of our bank account please contact the Treasurer direct.

20. The Invoicing Secretary will invoice all clubs, twice during the season. Invoice 1 will show all matches, played, postponed and cancelled up to the turnaround in fixtures, and Invoice 2 will show the same to the end of the Winter League. Payment should be returned to the Invoicing Secretary within 30 days. Failure to make payment within this period may result in the club being removed from the League.

21. A team finding that they are unable to honour any fixture MUST inform the League Secretary, using the correct form. Both umpire's club secretaries and also their opponents must be notified immediately. Relevant penalties will apply for non-completion of process.

22. Any other cancellation of matches, for whatever reason will be decided only by the League Committee. Any queries regarding possible cancellation due to adverse weather conditions should be addressed to the League Secretary - after 5 pm.

23. In the case of adverse weather conditions which would prove hazardous to your travelling from your area of the County, i.e. fog, black ice, floods etc., Captains are to contact the League Secretary as soon as possible, as well as the opposition and umpires.

1. In the case of adverse weather at the courts, the league committee are to decide before the start of play, if the matches are to be cancelled and inform the League Secretary. In the event that the game has commenced and has to be subsequently abandoned due to weather conditions deteriorating (or injury) the following will apply:
2. If 50% or more of the game has been played, the score will stand as the final result and all court fees need paying in full.
3. If less than 50% of the game has been played, the game will be null and void and be re-scheduled by the League Secretary, unless both teams agree on the night for the score to stand. The League Secretary must be informed of any abandonment. Any games cancelled by the league committee will be re-scheduled at no extra cost to the team.

25. All postponed games are to be played in the specified re-fixture weeks, dates and times to be notified. Due to the length of the league these matches may be on a THURSDAY evening.

26. Should a club or team withdraw or disband or finish the season with outstanding League fees, they will NOT be allowed to enter the next season UNLESS fees are cleared by the closing date of the next Winter League application, or a prior arrangement has been made with the LNL Committee. This request must be sent in writing to the committee outlining a fixed number of weeks and determined amount to be paid to clear the debt.

27. Any team cancelling 4 matches will automatically be withdrawn from the League. The Committee upon receipt of written application from the team will consider extenuating circumstances.

28. The Fixtures Secretary will nominate the teams to umpire for all League matches. An umpiring schedule will be drawn up at the start of the season and must be adhered to. Some umpiring commitments will be covered by the league committee and these will be notified in advance of the fixture occurring. ALL teams must provide a scorer at the same time of their match playing. Failure to provide a scorer will result in a player being taken from the court to carry out this duty.

29. LNL does not provide injury time due to central timing of matches.  In the event of an injury umpires may stop play to allow an injured player to be removed from court or to check their well-being – this should be no longer than 30 seconds and are dealt with as per EN rules.

30. In the event of a serious accident occurring on court, the injured player(s) must not be moved until the ambulance arrives and the injured player attended by QUALIFIED FIRST AIDERS. As this will probably involve a considerable amount of time, the game will probably have to be abandoned, whereupon the League Secretary is to be informed and rule 24 will come into play. The accident book, which is on the back of the LNL First Aid bag must be annotated.

31. Committee Meetings - A representative from each club may be asked to attend two specific committee meetings throughout the season. Failure to attend these meetings will result in a £20.00 fine to the club.

32. Pregnant players should not take part in matches played after the 12th week of pregnancy. Pregnant umpires must take into consideration their general fitness and ability to conduct officiating to the level of the match they are overseeing.

33.Where the goal post is not secure (spins around) a GS/GA player in possession of the ball in the shooting circle can ask immediately for the post to be turned to the correct position. Once the post is correctly positioned the umpire will blow their whistle to restart play.

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| **Rule Infringement Penalties** |
| 1 | Non authorised Under 16 playing in the league. | 1st -Warning letter to club secretary. Ban for player until proof is received and confirmation by the league committee returned.2nd - 8 Point deduction and league fine for 2nd offence(in-line with ineligible player) |
| 3 | Non-affiliated player | 8 point deduction & league fine.Ban for player until proof is received by the league committee of affiliation. |
| 4a | Non provision of umpire | 8 point deduction & league fine |
| 4b | Non provision of qualified umpire | 4 point deduction & league fine. Where another umpire cover a further £15 is added to cover their costs.If match cannot be played due to lack of umpire the courts fees as stated in hand book is added to cover court costs. |
| 4c | Non provision of mentor with unqualified umpire | 4 point deduction & league fine.Where another umpire cover a further £15 is added to cover their costs.If match cannot be played due to lack of umpire the courts fees as stated in hand book is added to cover court costs. |
| 5  | Lateness | 5 goals for non-offending team (applied after the match has finished) |
| 7a | Player playing down | 8 point deduction & league fine. |
| 7b | Player playing up but not to the Immediately high team. | 1st instance – warning letterFurther instance – 4 point deduction & league fine. Player bans for any further instances |
| 7c | Player switching courts / teamsduring a match | 4 point deduction for the teams incident occurs between. |
| 7d.2122 | Cancellation of match | 8 points & 20 goals awarded to opposition. Full court costs for both team incurred if not cancelled in sufficient time.Cover both umpire commitments. |
| 9a,9b10 | Player playing for a different team | 8 point deduction for non-registered team and league fine for appropriate team |
| 1127 | Default of commitments | Retention of £20 deposit.Removal from the league |
| 13 | Inappropriate playing wear – bibs | Forfeit game and cover all court fees |
| 17 | Non completion of Duty Night | 4 point deduction and league fine |
| 18 | Non completion of team sheet | Warning letter to club secretary.Follow up action dependant on non-compliance. League fine for continual non-compliance |
| 21 | Cancellation of match – not following correct procedure | 1st instance – club warningFurther instances – league fine. If insufficient time to cancel allowed then full court costs incurred as per handbook |
| 31 | Non Attendance of official meeting | League fine. |

Please note that the League fine is set at £20.This list of penalties is not exhaustive and may have variances dependant on severity, re-currence and notifications.All infringements will be considered by the league committee and club secretary notified of finding of wrong doing. Appeals, complaints and queries are to be received within 7 days of notification.In an instance where your club disputes the finding and no consensus can be found an arbitration by LCNA will be actioned.**WINTER LEAGUE TEAMS** |

**PREMIERSHIP CHAMPIONSHIP**

Blaby Netball 1 Blaby Netball 2

Charnwood Rutland 1 Grasshoppers 3 Grasshoppers 1 Hawks 1

Grasshoppers 2 Hawks 2

Knighton 1 Hinckley Hurricanes

Knighton 2 Knighton 3

Melton Marvels 1 Melton Gold

TFC Team Vend

**DIVISION 1 DIVISION 2**

Charnwood Rutland 2 Blaby Netball 3

Fusion Charnwood Rutland 3

Grasshoppers 4 Knighton 4

Ictas Melton Marvels 3

Melton Marvels 2 Melton Silver

TFC 2 Soar Valley Allsorts

University of Leicester A

**DIVISION 3**

Charnwood Rutland 4

De Montfort University

Hawks 3

Hawks 4

Knighton 5

University of Leicester B

**Club Contact Information**

**Please see your club secretary for information on this page or use the contact us ‘general enquiries’ section on the website**

LNL Game Timings for Winter League

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Game 1** | **Quarter Start** | **Quarter End** | **Break** |
| **Quarter 1** | **7.00** | **7.15** | **3 minutes** |
| **Quarter 2** | **7.18** | **7.33** | **3 minutes** |
| **Quarter 3** | **7.36** | **7.51** | **3 minutes** |
| **Quarter 4** | **7.54** | **8.09** | **End** |
| **Intermission between matches** |
| **Game 2** | **Quarter Start** | **Quarter End** | **Break** |
| **Quarter 1** | **8.20** | **8.35** | **3 minutes** |
| **Quarter 2** | **8.38** | **8.53** | **3 minutes** |
| **Quarter 3** | **8.56** | **9.11** | **3 minutes** |
| **Quarter 4** | **9.14** | **9.29** | **End** |

**SOAR VALLEY COLLEGE CLOSES AT 9.45PM PROMPTLY!**

**PLEASE NOTE:**

**Toilet and changing facilities are now located next to the netball centre.**

**No Parking is allowed at the front of the netball courts / beside the toilet/changing block at any time – please use the designated parking bays behind the courts or on the opposite side of the brook.**













**Coaches List**

**Please see your club secretary for information on this page or use the contact us ‘general enquiries’ section on the website**

**Umpire Mentor List**

**Please see your club secretary for information on this page or use the contact us ‘general enquiries’ section on the website**

**Umpires List**

**Please see your club secretary for information on this page or use the contact us ‘general enquiries’ section on the website**

**REMINDER**

**Unqualified umpires can only be used in Division 2 or 3 and MUST have a mentor with them at all times. To register for ‘unqualified status’ proof of attending a C award course within the last 2 years must be provided to the Umpire Secretary.**

**Umpire finder**

**If you are struggling for an umpire and need some extra help why not post on the Umpire finder facebook page.**

**‘Leicester Netball League – umpire finder!’**

**Duty Team Responsibilities**

1. Must control all matches by Central Timing. It is therefore advisable to bring an extra person to carry out this task. Please use the large clocks inside the netball centre to time.

2. The duty team MUST sound a fog horn or similar device for the start, end of quarter time, half time and end of match. The Duty Team should check all courts have matches playing on them and note any vacant courts on an umpire comment card.

3. Matches are timed from the moment the horn is sounded and NOT at the time the Umpires blow their whistles for start of play. Some matches may be late in starting, as per League Rules, and therefore play a shortened first quarter.

4. At the end of 1st set of matches the early duty team MUST ensure they have all team sheets from each team and then pass them onto the late duty team. The late duty team must also do this at the end of the evenings play. A table is provided inside the netball centre for teams to bring their team envelopes to the duty team – please keep it manned.

5. The late duty team must send both sets of team envelopes and both sets of Umpiring Score Cards to Celine Li, Results Secretary.

6. If either of the duty team’s matches are cancelled or deferred on their duty team night, either by themselves or their opponents, they MUST STILL fulfil their commitment as duty team. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN A FINE OF £10

7. The late duty team is responsible for ensuring that at the end of the evening's play, teams correctly store the posts in the designated storage areas. Failure to ensure that the posts are correctly and safely stored will result in A FINE OF £10.

8. The early duty team must check that at the start of the evening that the toilets/changing facilities are open and that there are sufficient toilet rolls, soap etc., in the ladies toilet. If this has not been done, please send a member of your team to fetch these items from the caretaker’s office. These should be unlocked and ready to use at 6.45pm.

9. Both duty teams are responsible for handing out 1st aid supplies and other items located within the duty cupboard – when handing out items please write down in the book provided who has been given what items and if a 1st aid incident occurs ensure that the accident book is completed.

IT IS ADVISEABLE TO HAVE AT LEAST THREE PEOPLE TO DO THE DUTY, ONE FOR TIMEKEEPING, ONE TO COLLECT ENVELOPES AND THE LAST TO ENSURE THAT THE TEAMS PUT THE POST’S AND BASES CORRECTLY AND SAFELY IN THE CONTAINER.

**Players’ Responsibilities**

1. As a player you have a responsibility to yourself, to your club and to other players to conduct yourself in accordance with the official Netball Rules and those of the League in which you play.

2. Have you got a rule book; do you really know the rules?

3. Why not invest in one, you are bound to discover things you never knew about the game and make yourself a better and safer player into the bargain. Better still, take up umpiring and see things from the other side of the whistle.

4. The Umpires are not always right, they are only human. They do see things differently from the players though and players are not always right either!

5. The difference between you and the Umpires is that they control the game, which requires everyone to comply with the rules or be penalised for breaking them.

6. You know that Umpires will vary in standard in the same way that players do, but at least they have qualified to do the job. No-one has to qualify, by demonstrating their knowledge of the rules, to be a player.

7. So, play hard, play fair and let the Umpire do the rest.

8. If you have an issue which you wish to bring to the Umpires’ attention, then do so through your Captain. They may approach the Umpires at an interval. You, as a player, should not make such an approach.

9. If you have an issue which is leading to friction between you and another player, or Umpire, then deal with it. Either change your game tactic or approach, ask your Captain if you can change position or take time out if you have subs. Cool off one way or another.

10. If you don’t take control of yourself, then your Captain or the Umpires will have to take action which could be embarrassing for you and your team and will spoil your match.

11. It is also your responsibility to have the correct kit, short, smooth nails, no jewellery and ensure your bags are out of the way. NO TAPING of ears is allowed in the LNL.

12. It is expected that at the end of a game you shake your opponent’s hand, regardless of what has transpired through the game. It is also usual for each team to collect together to cheer the opponents and even the umpires.

**Captains’ Responsibilities**

1. You may have a host of jobs including bringing spare kit, first aid, hot drinks, bibs, ball and everything else …. But none of those are in the rule book. So if you are wise, share those jobs around all of the players. You have enough on your hands with team discipline, control and communication.

2. Leicester Netball League however, also expects the Captain of the team to take a leading role in controlling the behaviour of all team players, substitutes and spectators, be they parents, husbands, children or other pets you want to bring along to watch!!!

3. It’s your responsibility to make sure that you have tossed a coin with the opposing captain for first centre pass in plenty of time before the match is due to begin and that you have informed both umpires of the outcome.

4. As the Umpire has a duty to observe players’ behaviour and play, as Captain you should be aware of players personalities, their attitudes and moods, as these may affect their play and that of other team members.

5. As outlined in the Umpire’s section; they will refer any matters they wish to convey to a player through you.

6. So if you anticipate any friction areas then take action before things get out of control. You may move players’ positions, sub them off for a short while or give them advice during the game about their play or behaviour.

7. You are more than just a member of the team, you must adopt an impartial, ambassadorial role and you are the club representative with a role to play on court.

8. You may actually be a player who feels aggrieved about a situation; well you still have the role of communicating this to the Umpires and their response to your team mates.

9. You may legitimately approach the Umpires at an interval to address any matters of concern or about rule interpretation. Do so before something which needs some attention ends up needing an apology!

10. Do not support or encourage players to argue with the Umpires or the opposition, but take the matter up at the interval with the other Captain, through the Umpires.

11. If there are matters which your club wishes to refer to the League Committee, then they may write to the Committee. You will be a key person who may be called upon to give an account of events in your role as Captain.

12. Ask spectators/supporters to stand so as not to cause obstruction the players or Umpires – to the right of the goal on the goal line.

13. Personal comments about players/umpires should be discouraged by the Captain as this may lead to unnecessary tension. An Umpire may penalise a team for the inappropriate behaviour of team officials, players and/or spectators.

**Umpires’ Responsibilities**

1. The Umpire should never be without their up to date rule book, which should be used frequently to refresh or remind one of the rules of the game. You umpires have the responsibility of controlling the game which is best done through knowledge of the rules and a consistent application of them. Don’t be afraid to refer to the book, before the match or during intervals to check your interpretation of the rules.

2. Complete an informal area safety check before the match , check the scorers have the same score throughout the match and check the correct centre at quarter time and don’t forget to sign the team sheet at the end of a match.

3. As part of your duties, introduce yourself to the team and to each Captain. You may have to refer to them during the match, so find out who the Captain is.

4. Each game will be unique in the events and tensions that occur between players, or even between players and spectators or umpires!

5. Watch for these tensions developing, whilst the game is in the other Umpire’s half. They will be in your half next quarter so prepare for your response to what you have seen.

6. You may be fully occupied whilst the game is in your half, but you will soon spot the player, who is inclined to make a late challenge for the ball, or regularly obstructs their opposition or is keen on blocking tactics etc. If you have to penalise them for repeated offences, it may be that they don’t know or understand the rule. It may be a cause for friction developing between them and their opponents, so again, sharpen your awareness to these things.

7. Depending on the level of the game, it may be appropriate to explain the rule to the player, after an infringement. This may help her to avoid committing the same offence repeatedly and avoid the build-up of tension with her opponent.

8. If foul or rough play, not ignorance of the rules is the cause, it still may be appropriate to explain your reasoning to the player, when you penalise her for the offence.

9. At the interval, discuss these issues with the other Umpire. Explain what you have seen or said, so the other Umpire is aware of the issues at hand.

10. Agree a course of action with the other Umpire. It is always better to deal with the matter through the game. If you feel that the situation is beyond you and your fellow umpire’s experience, then seek assistance from a committee member or another umpire.

11. Section 13 of the Official Rules Book relates to game management and discipline matters.

A. Caution a player

B. Issue an official warning

C. Suspend a player

D. Order a player off

It is just a game after all (no-one wants to get stressed out or injured), but it is a good one, which we all want to enjoy and by everybody taking their responsibilities seriously we all can.

**Code of Conduct for Parents, Guardians and Supporters**

1. Ensure your club has all your child’s personal details, including any needed medical history at all times.

2. Ensure that you are contactable when your child is at their club.

3. Take care of injuries and always get appropriate medical advice.

4. Listen to your child's thoughts and advise accordingly.

5. Encourage and support your child to learn the rules and play within them.

6. Discourage unfair play and arguing with officials.

7. Do not question the umpire’s decisions or honesty. Remember he/she is only human with the same feelings as you, and like you, can sometimes make an honest mistake.

8. Help your child to recognise good performances, not just results.

9. Teach your child that honest effort is more important than victory so that the result of each is accepted with undue disappointment.

10. Turn losing into winning by helping your child towards skill improvement and good sportsmanship.

11. Never force your child to take part in sport.

12. Remember children are involved in netball for their enjoyment not yours.

13. Set a good example by recognising fair play and applauding the good performance of all.

14. Show respect for other spectators / players / officials at all times.

15. Never punish or belittle a player for losing or making mistakes.

16. Support your player’s involvement and help them to enjoy their sport.

17. Use correct and proper language at all times.

18. Remember that players learn best by example. Applaud good play by your team and by members of the opposition.

19. Recognise the importance and value of coaches who are all volunteers. They give their time and resources to provide netball for your players.

20. Read the rules of netball to understand better what you are watching and commenting on.

21. Promote this code of conduct to other parents, guardians and supporters.

The committee will take action against clubs whose parents, guardians or supporters bring the club into disrepute.