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**JERSEY NETBALL ASSOCIATION**

# WINTER LEAGUE RULES & REGULATIONS – WITH EFFECT FROM SEPTEMBER 2015

**The JNA is proudly sponsored by Dominion In association with One Foundation**

**LEAGUE RULES**

1. All players must be registered with the Jersey Netball Association (JNA).
2. All players must be affiliated to England Netball (EN) and to Netball South West (NSW).
3. All matches will be played in accordance with the Official Rules of the International Federation of Netball Associations (IFNA).
4. All Clubs must pay an affiliation fee to the JNA, such fee to be decided at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).
5. All independent/non players must pay a yearly registration fee to the JNA: such fee to be decided at the AGM.
6. All non-playing members must register stating which Club they wish to register with.
7. Any non-playing member who does not wish to sign for a Club may register as an Independent Registered Person and complete the appropriate form.
8. Second claim players will pay the registration fee less the England Netball subscription.
9. Clubs with more than one team must provide a list of players playing in the higher teams to the Assistant Registration Secretary. The Club secretary must inform the Assistant Registration Secretary when they register a new player with EN. Any club playing an unregistered player will have the points awarded to the opposing team and all goals cancelled.
10. In exceptional circumstances, revisions to named players may be requested to the Executive Committee (in writing) stating the reason for the revision (i.e. a player not being able to play for the rest of the season). The Executive Committee will review the request and reply granting or denying permission to make such a change.
11. All applications for transfer of players or non-players from one Club to another or from one team to another shall be submitted in writing by the applicant and the Club of which she is now a member to the Council of the JNA for approval
12. All players shall be 14 years of age or over (as at 1st September in the year of registration) to play in the Winter League however, if there is an exceptionally talented Youth player permission may be sought from the Council.
13. Any Club with registered non-players should ensure that the Assistant Registration Secretary is advised in advance of a match if her status has changed to a playing member.
14. If due to extreme and exceptional/unforeseen circumstances, such as a serious injury on court and a Club has a **registered non-player** in attendance then the Club will be able to utilise the player subject to the Club secretary providing details to the Assistant Registration Secretary immediately following the conclusion of the match.
15. All Clubs must submit Club colours, position bib colours and type of uniform – dresses or skirts and tops which have to be approved by Council. Any change in uniform colours must receive the approval of the Council.
16. Players must wear Club colours and place bibs when playing. Sports pants shall be the same colour as the skirt. Trousers/ cycling shorts to be the colour decided beforehand by the Club and shall match either their shirt or skirt. If the Club does not have the same colour tracksuit bottoms/leggings, BLACK is the colour approved by the Council. Any jumper or sweatshirt shall be the same colour as the uniform top. In the event of a clash of colours, the home team shall change colours. In the event of an inter-Club fixture where the players wear positional patch bibs, the home team MUST wear the normal positional bibs in a neutral colour. Any player not wearing the correct uniform or colours will be fined an amount as decided annually at the AGM.
17. All Clubs, players, umpires and coaches must abide by the JNA Code of Conduct. The JNA will also take guidance and refer to the EN Codes of Conduct for players, umpires, coaches, managers, officials, volunteers and parents. All Clubs must support the implementation of the JNA Codes of Conduct.
18. The structure of the divisions and future growth of the JNA Winter League to be discussed on an annual basis. New Clubs and teams will join the Winter League in the lowest division, unless the Council uses its discretion to place them in a higher division.
19. Prior to the commencement of the League, all Clubs will be provided with a list of Fixtures on which their umpiring responsibilities will also be listed. Any re-arranged fixtures to be arranged by the Fixtures Secretary and advised accordingly at the monthly Council meeting
20. All Clubs will be required to pay court fees to the JNA for the hire of the courts at Les Ormes. The Clubs will be invoiced by the Hon. Treasurer twice a year.
21. All matches shall be of one hour, divided into four quarters of fifteen minutes each, with an interval of three (3) minutes between the first and second, and third and fourth quarters, and a five (5) minute interval at half time, unless decided otherwise by the Council.
22. League points will be awarded as follows:-

 5 points for a win

3 points for a draw

2 points if within 5 goals- i.e. if the result differs by 4 or less goals.

1 point for the losing team if their score is more than 50% of their opponents.

1. In the event of a tie for any final positions goal average (goals scored divided by goals against) will be used. In determining league positions the results of any ‘awarded’ games will be excluded from the calculation of goal average for both teams.
2. Once all the League fixtures are completed, the first and second placed teams of all divisions, except those of the first division will be promoted. Teams finishing in last and second to last place, except those in the lowest division, will be relegated. Any Club wishing to contest this ruling must submit their request in writing to the July Council meeting. Requests will be reviewed on merit. Applications from clubs to stay up or down need to be supported with the names of the players who will no longer be in the team and those players who are joining the team. Without this information, applications will not be considered. The divisions will be adjusted by the Council according to the circumstances caused by team(s) withdrawing or joining the League.
3. Any team who wishes to apply to play in a higher division due to changes in circumstances – i.e. attracting players of a higher standard of ability should submit their request with the information regarding their changed circumstances, in writing, to the July Council meeting.
4. If a Club wishes to withdraw a team from the League it must be their ‘lowest’ team. They will not be able to withdraw their ‘highest’ team unless they disband their Club and re-apply for entry in the lowest division with one team only.
5. If a team withdraws from the JNA Winter League all points and goals gained from matches already played will be totally discounted.
6. Any team unable to fulfil a fixture must contact an Executive Member for confirmation before scratching a match. **This team will pay whole cost of the court fee as agreed at the AGM – June 2012.** The opposing team will be awarded the points and reimbursed their share of the court fee at the end of the season. (AGM 2000) The team scratching must immediately inform the Results Secretary, the secretary of the opposing team and the umpires.
7. Any team with less than five players at the scheduled start time of the match will automatically forfeit the match and the points awarded to the opposing team. The team forfeiting the match will pay the whole cost of the court fee and the opposing team will be reimbursed their share of the court fees at the end of the season. (AGM 2000) The umpires to inform the Results Secretary of any forfeited match**. A score card must be completed with names of players in** **attendance.**
8. If both opposing teams turn out with less than 5 players, the match will be declared null and void. Each team will share the cost of the court and be fined an amount to be decided annually at the AGM. Neither team to receive points. One of the umpires to inform the Results Secretary of the voided match. **A score card must be completed with names of players in** **attendance.**
9. If a Club is to concede a match this must be their **lowest** divisional team and it is a Club’s responsibility to abide by this rule.
10. A team who has conceded more than three League matches in a season may be refused re-entry to the League the following season. The Executive Committee reserves the right to make the final decision on such matters.
11. Any player who plays in a lower team, cannot play in a higher team on more than 3 occasions without automatically becoming a registered player of that team.
12. A Club with more than one team must not use a player registered in a higher team in a lower team.
13. On nights where there are double headers a lower team player who plays in a higher team in the early match is allowed to compete in a lower team **on the later match.**  Subject to that player not having played more than 3 times for a higher team (point 32). However a player may not play in a higher team and move down to a lower team in the same time slot.
14. Scorers will be required for all matches. All scorers to adopt the ‘Scorer’s Guidelines’. It is each team’s responsibility to nominate a scorer and provide them with an official JNA scorecard. There **MUST** be two scorers per match, one provided by each playing team.
15. At the conclusion of the match captains to inform the umpires of Player of the Match. The umpires will **CIRCLE** the named player. Captains and scorers must clearly print their name on the result scorecard which represents the official result of the match. Once this has been completed no complaint can be lodged.
16. Completed scorecards must be posted in the box provided at Les Ormes.
17. The Assistant Registration Secretary will receive the completed result scorecards and will check to ensure that all players named are registered and playing in their respective teams. This is mandatory to ensure that a player who has played on three occasions for the higher team is no longer allowed to play in the lower team.
18. Any player who needs to wear gloves on medical grounds must take out Personal Liability Insurance and notify the JNA. They will have to produce a copy to an umpire if requested.
19. Coaching from the side line is permitted but team officials may **not** move up and down the side lines or along the goal lines outside the court during play. Each team must remain in their designated Team Bench area.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**POSTPONEMENTS/ABANDONMENTS**

All matches will be played on the dates specified in the fixture list and may only be postponed for the following reasons:

1. Matches will be postponed due to insufficient umpires or the courts being unsafe to play on.
2. Consideration to postpone a match with regards to travelling conditions for severe inclement weather – i.e. snow or ice will be made in advance by the members of the Executive Committee.
3. The umpires will have the power to postpone a match due to special unforeseen circumstances such as a power failure at the venue or due to a major traffic accident which would prevent players from a team or the umpire to reach the venue in time.
4. If a match is postponed due to UNSAFE court conditions, a result scorecard must be completed, and signed by both umpires and captains. The umpires to inform the Results Secretary of the cancellation.
5. If a match, once started, has to be abandoned**, the time left to play and the score at the time of** **the abandonment must be** noted by the umpires. If the match is able to be restarted and finished in the time available, this must be done. If the match is unable to continue the score at the time of the abandonment shall stand as the final score except when less than 30 minutes playing time has been completed. In this case, the match must be rearranged.

**UMPIRES**

It is the Club’s responsibility to ensure that they allocated the correct standard of umpire for each fixture.

Minimum standard of umpire required

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Division** | **Home** | **Away** |
| 1 | A Award or B Award | B Award/Experienced C Award working towards a B Award |
| 2 | C Award or above | C Award/Beginner Award/Experienced unqualified |
| 3 | C Award/ Beginner Award  | Experienced unqualified (having attended a Beginner or C Award course |

**A Beginner** umpire is someone who has attended a **Beginner course** **AND** passed a test at Beginner Level.

Unqualified means someone who must have attended a course and been advised that they should gain experience by umpiring league matches but has **NOT** taken or passed a Beginner test.

**PLEASE** do not confuse the two as it is not fair on the umpire or the teams playing. Club Umpire Secretaries must ensure that they allocate the correct qualified umpire for their club. If there is a problem Clubs should liaise with the other Club’s Umpire Secretary **not** just send someone to the court to sort it out.

**Payment to Umpires**

A & B Award Umpires who umpire 1st Division fixtures will receive a payment of £10.00 per game and £5 for 2nd and 3rd division matches.

C Award Umpires will receive a payment of £5.00 per game.

The Treasurer will pay the accumulated amounts at the end of the first half of the season and then the final payment will be made the end of the season.

Umpires will not be paid for the Lloyds & Sinclair Tournaments, The Mary Blake Over 35s Tournament or the Parish Tournament.

**SAFEGUARDING AND PROTECTING YOUNG PEOPLE**

The JNA is committed to creating and maintaining a safe and positive environment for all young people to play netball. It accepts its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all young people and protect them from poor practice, abuse and bullying. The implementation of the policy by all Clubs with Under 18s is compulsory.

**All Clubs who have U18s player** must appoint a Club Safeguarding Officer in line with the England Netball Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Netball Policy and Procedures.

**All Clubs who have U18s** player must adopt and implement the England Netball Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Netball Policy and procedures and guidelines.

**All Coaches/Managers/Assistants** who have regular supervisory contact with young people must complete and hold a current CRB disclosure. All CRB disclosures must be conducted through the Netball Development Officer who will forward the Disclosure Application form to England Netball.

The JNA has appointed Wendy Luce: colinluce@yahoo.co.uk and Sam Smith: sam.smith@localdial.com as independent Safeguarding and Protecting Officers to review any disputes at local level.

**All Clubs who have U18s** must ensure the lead Coach/Manager/Supervisory adult has a copy of the registration details **at all games** in case of needing to contact a parent/guardian in an emergency to be compliant with the Policy and Guidelines.

**HEALTH AND SAFETY – RECORDING OF ALL ACCIDENTS**

If an accident occurs at a Netball match where a player, coach or umpire/scorer is injured, the accident reporting procedure should be followed as detailed below: This procedure should be followed for ALL injuries and accidents, regardless of whether or not medical treatment is given.

In cases of a serious accident please call 999 and request an ambulance to attend the casualty.

A team official - i.e. coach, team manager or other team representative - should complete the Accident Report Book making sure to include as much information as possible.  This may include a diagram or further explanation which may be completed on a separate piece of paper.  Additional pages should be stapled or clipped securely to the Accident Report Book.

The JNA Accident Reporting Book is held at Les Ormes. All Clubs should also have an Accident Reporting Book for their records. The names, addresses and contact details of any witness present should be recorded.  It may also be necessary, in some circumstances, to obtain an Umpire’s Report as evidence.  This is essential for any follow up queries England Netball or its insurers may have.

A copy should be kept by the team and filed for future reference in the Club’s Accident Report Book. Les Ormes may also require a copy of this report for their records.

Les Ormes must be advised of any serious accident and provided with details of the incident for their records. They should also be notified in case they are required to adjust/change anything regarding the court conditions and surrounding area.

**LES ORMES – RULES AND GUIDELINES**

All Clubs must adhere to the Rules and Regulations which Les Ormes have issued in relation to the use of the courts. (Rules attached).

**PREGNANCY REGARDING PLAYERS & UMPIRES**

AENA rules state:

**“PREGNANT PLAYERS / UMPIRES**

**Players:** ‘Pregnant players may not take part in competition beyond the 12th week of pregnancy’.

**Umpires:** ‘Umpires who officiate at National Events are expected to confirm to a standard of physical fitness, which allows them to keep pace with the speed and variability of the game(s). If age, injury, illness or pregnancy is likely to affect the umpire’s movement and positioning to the detriment of the game, she / he is required to withdraw from officiating.

The above regulations are applicable at all England Netball events and this includes Super League, Premier Divisions and Challenge Cup and all National Tournaments. All counties, leagues and other groups are asked to consider inserting these into their own local regulations.

A league, county or other group may however choose not to include them (or even amend it to suit their requirements. They are quite within their rights to do this as they are autonomous bodies. However this does not often happen but every consideration should be made to ensure that any additional regulation does not put the pregnant player or opposing players at risk.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

England Netball Association made the decision to prevent pregnant players playing in national competition from the 12th week of pregnancy for the following reason:-

It has been argued that the team which includes a pregnant player may gain an unfair advantage as an opponent will inevitably modify her play to ensure that no bumping occurs. Hazards exist even in a

well controlled game of netball. The speed of movement, sudden stops, close marking and energetic jumping following a fast run means that contact, sometimes with a considerable impact on the

players concerned could adversely affect the pregnancy.

This is arguably against the spirit of the rules whose intention it is to make conditions equal for both teams. The Association intends to ensure that caring players are not disadvantaged and is taking responsible attitude in acknowledging the dangers inherent in competitive netball. No pregnant woman who is happy in her pregnancy would want any harm to come to the foetus. There is no danger in a healthy, physically fit woman continuing to train for the duration of her pregnancy with the approval her medical advisers but this is a competitive team sport in which accidents can easily happen.”

**DISCIPLINE**

Clubs/Teams are reminded that they are responsible for their players. Rough or dangerous play, verbal or physical intimidation, misconduct or other inappropriate conduct will not be tolerated. The JNA is empowered to discipline a player, an official, a team or team follower whose actions prior to, during or after a match is considered to bring the game into disrepute. (See attached JNA Disciplinary Procedures).

Any queries regarding these rules and fixtures must be sent in writing to the President, Hon Secretary and Fixtures Secretary.

The Winter League Rules and Regulations will be reviewed on an annual basis by the Executive Committee.

Any item not covered by these Rules and Regulations will be dealt with at the Executive Committee’s discretion. The Executive Committee has the right to make a final decision.

From August 2015 all previous Winter League Rules and Regulations are hereby revoked.

August 2015

**Appendices:**

JNA Codes of Conduct for Players, Umpires and Coaches – August 2012

JNA Disciplinary Procedures – August 2012

JNA Guidelines for Scorers – August 2015

JNA Fines and Fees as agreed at the AGM June 2015

Les Ormes Rules for the hire and use of the venue – Previously issued to all Clubs by e-mail August 2015