



## MKINL LEAGUE RULES – September 2016

Milton Keynes Indoor Netball League Rules (supplementary to England Netball rules).

### 1. REGISTRATION TO MKINL

#### 1.1 All Club Registrations

Every CLUB must nominate at least seven players for their team(s) and the Affiliation Officer should receive this information no later than Friday 2<sup>ND</sup> September 2016 along with the England Netball confirmation affiliation email and in line with the Affiliations Process. Failure to comply with this rule will result in a 2 point penalty deduction.

#### 1.2 Multi-team Club Registration

Every multi-team CLUB must seed their teams and the Affiliation Officer should receive this information no later than Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2016. Failure to comply with this rule will result in a 2 point penalty deduction, with the team seeded highest to receive the penalty.

#### 1.3 Master Player Registration Forms

All Teams registered to play in MKINL must have sent their Master Player Registration form to the Affiliations Officer by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016. Failure to do so will result in a 2 point deduction. Any team that fails to provide this information by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016 will have a 2 point deduction applied for every month or part thereof until the Affiliations Officer is in receipt of this document.

#### 1.4 Teams without Umpires

MKINL reserves the right to refuse entry to teams registering or reregistering without a suitably qualified umpire.

### 2. ENGLAND NETBALL AFFILIATION

All clubs and players must be affiliated to England Netball and North Bucks Netball Association (NBNA) prior to taking court. Clubs that do not play in North Bucks as their first county must be second-claim affiliated to NBNA. Failure to comply with this rule will result in any points won in which the offending player(s) played, being deducted along with a 1 point penalty deduction per match. The non-offending team (s) will be awarded the match. The offending player(s) will be unable to participate in MKINL until adequate proof has been supplied and received by the Affiliation Officer.

### 3. PLAYERS

#### 3.1 Age of Players

All players must be at least 14 years of age to be eligible to play in the MKINL. However, if a player has been talent identified and MKINL receives an Age Banding application form, completed in line with the EN Age Banding process (found on MKINL website), then permission may be given for a younger player to participate. If a player is found to be under 14 years old and not talent identified then a 1 point penalty deduction per match in which that player played will occur along with the non-offending team (s) being awarded the match. The offending player will be unable to play in MKINL until they reach 14 years of age or talent identification documentation is received and accepted by the MKINL Chairman.

#### 3.2 Transfers during the season (including transfers within multi team clubs)

Players may transfer between clubs and between teams during the season but cannot return to their original club or team during the same season. If a player leaves one club and joins another, then an administration fee of £5 will apply on each occasion.

Transfers can take place on the night of matches, with relevant paperwork and payment and in line with the Affiliations Process.

##### 3.2.1 Playing up / Transferring

Within multi-team CLUBS players are allowed to play up twice to the team directly seeded above their own. If a player then transfers up to this team, she must play there at least twice before playing up or transferring again. Playing up for a third time will mean that the player has transferred to the higher seeded team. Failure to comply with this rule will result in any points won in match(es) in which the offending player played being deducted, along with a 1 point penalty deduction per match. The non-offending team (s) will be awarded the match.

##### 3.2.2 Playing down / Transferring

Within multi-team CLUBS players are not allowed to play down. However, transfers downwards (within multi team clubs) is both allowed and irrevocable. This movement must take place before the lower seeded teams last four fixtures. Once a player has transferred downwards they cannot return to any higher seeded team for the remainder of the season. Failure to comply with this rule will result in in any points won in which

the offending player(s) played, being deducted along with a 1 point penalty deduction per match. The non-offending team (s) will be awarded the match.

### **3.3 Player affiliation**

If a team plays an unaffiliated player(s) then any points gained in any match in which that player(s) played will be deducted. The non-offending team will be awarded the match but the goal difference will stand. The offending team will also have a penalty of 1 point deducted per match for which any unaffiliated player(s) played in.

Teams can affiliate new players throughout the season including on match days. Payment must be made to England Netball and the confirmation email received by the Affiliation Officer and a copy shown to the duty team on the night, before any new players are permitted to take court.

## **4. RULES OF PLAY**

### **4.1 Miscellaneous**

All payments due must be paid on the night or in advance by cheque or by bank transfer.

Fixtures appearing on the fixtures list are compulsory and must be played. The Committee may make changes to these fixtures at any point during the season.

All teams will play other teams in their division twice, according to the fixture list issued by the Committee (this format may be altered by the Committee if required).

All matches will consist of four quarters of 13 minutes with a 1 minute break at quarter times and up to 2 minutes break at half time. If matches start late then breaks only should be reduced. Under no circumstances should the four quarters be reduced. If this occurs then matches will be deemed void and there will be no automatic right for a replay.

Captains will toss a coin to decide who will take the first centre pass / ends prior to the beginning of the match.

Teams must be on court and in position ready to play their match at the appointed times. Should one team not be on court as per the appointed time, the non-offending team will be awarded one goal per minute up to the start of the second quarter of the match, provided this team are all on court, in their correct thirds and ready to play.

A player arriving late and filling a vacant position may only take court after a goal has been scored, a stoppage for injury, illness or blood or an interval.

Any team who has a query about the match score MUST NOT sign the score-cards and clear notes must be made by the team on duty on the duty sheet for that evening. Disputing teams should contact the Committee by email ([mkinklcontact@gmail.com](mailto:mkinklcontact@gmail.com)) within 7 days with umpires and scorers identified in this email. It will be up to the Committee to adjudicate on such matters. Umpires must still sign the score cards.

Score-cards, once signed by captains and umpires are final.

### **4.2 Points awarded & final positions**

Points will be awarded as follows:

3 points – for a win

2 points – for a draw

1 point – for a losing team who score more than 50% of the opponents score

In the event of a tie (points) at the end of the season, goal difference will decide the final positions. Should goal difference be the same, the team with the most wins and 'who beat who' will decide who is placed in the higher position.

### **4.3 Delayed Matches**

If a team does not arrive by the start of the second quarter of a match, the non-offending team will be awarded the equivalent points due for a win. At the end of the season they will receive goals equivalent to their average score for matches played and the same for goals against. The offending team will gain no points but will have goals averaged for and against. The offending team will be liable to pay court fees for both teams and the fee to both umpires.

If a team arrives late and before the start of the second quarter, then the match will be played from that time. The non-offending team will accrue one goal per minute until the offending team takes court.

### **4.4 Disrupted Matches**

If a match at any venue is interrupted for any reason that is not due to injury (i.e. fire alarm etc.) the match will be deemed a draw unless it has reached the end of the second quarter or beyond. In this instance the score will stand.

At the end of the season both teams will receive goals equivalent to their averaged goals scored for and against for the matches played.

### **4.5 Conceding Matches**

To concede a league match before taking court, teams must inform the MKINL Vice Chairman, MKINL Results Secretary, MKINL Treasurer and MKINL Duty Secretary. There is no automatic right for conceded matches to be rescheduled and the committee will be solely responsible for making this decision.

Teams must also inform the opposing team and the teams that will be umpiring the conceded match as well as the duty team. The team conceding a match must still provide an umpire as per normal rules. The team contact details should be used to find the contact details needed to inform the other teams. The team conceding the match should request confirmation of any emails they send to teams to ensure all parties are informed.

The non-offending team will be awarded the match. At the end of the season they will receive goals equivalent to their averaged goals scored for and against for the matches played. The offending team will gain no points but at the end of the season they will receive goals equivalent to their averaged goals scored for and against for the matches played.

The offending team will be liable to pay court fees for both teams this should be received no later than their next match.

Once a match has been conceded the remaining match start times may be adjusted for the mutual convenience of the remaining teams but full agreement must be reached by all parties. No variation of full match conditions is permitted. It is the sole responsibility of the team conceding to authorise and manage this process. Should full agreement not be received by all remaining parties then the original match timings must be adhered to.

#### **4.5 Replaying Matches**

No match that fails to take place will have the automatic right to be replayed. However, matches that are eligible for consideration to be replayed are those that may affect the outcome of any promotions or demotions or would have an impact on best attack or defence awards in each division. The final decision on whether to replay these matches will be made towards the end of the season by the Committee and once all the facts have been gathered and venues contacted, teams will be informed accordingly.

#### **4.6 Injury Time / Injuries**

An umpire may hold time for blood/injury/illness when requested by an on court player. Umpires may hold time without being requested to do so by an on court player if they feel it is in the player's best interest or blood has been noticed. If injury time has been called - the player concerned must leave court AND within 30 seconds. The Duty Team must manage the 30 seconds of injury time and advise the umpires when there is 10 seconds remaining. Although the main clock will not be stopped, injuries will be timed on a second clock. The umpire, at their discretion may extend the injury time but the main clock will not be stopped.

During the injury time teams may make substitutions and/or team changes provided these are completed within the stoppage time (30 seconds).

If no substitution is made for an injury/illness or blood then play may resume with that position left vacant (if this position is Centre and no substitutions have been made, one player must move into the centre role). If the position is left vacant, the player concerned or a substitute may take court after advising the umpire and after one of the following: a goal, a stoppage for blood, injury, illness or sanction or an interval.

If an injury is so severe that play cannot continue, the match will be deemed void unless it has reached the end of the second quarter or beyond when the score will stand.

All injuries must be recorded on an accident form (found on the MKINL website) as soon as possible after the injury occurs and a copy of this form should be sent to the MKINL Secretary ([mkinklcontact@gmail.com](mailto:mkinklcontact@gmail.com)) within 7 days.

### **5. UMPIRING AND DUTY**

#### **5.1 Umpiring**

Umpires are expected to be fully focused on their duties at all times.

There will be central time keeping and matches will start and end on the umpire's whistle. It is the sole responsibility of the umpire nearest the time keeper to inform the time keeper when to start the clock at the beginning of all quarters and they should instruct this person accordingly.

Either umpire may blow the whistle for quarter, half and full time, regardless of whether play is in their half of the court.

No league fixture will be played with less than two umpires. Should any match go ahead and teams agree to play with only one umpire, the match will be considered a friendly and the result will not stand. Court fees and umpiring fees will still be payable if the match is played. It will be at the Committee's discretion as to whether the match is replayed and if it does get replayed court fees and umpiring fees will be due from both teams.

#### **5.2 Umpires**

##### **5.2.1 Umpiring Housekeeping**

Umpires are encouraged to wear white tops whilst umpiring wherever possible. However should this not be possible on a specific occasion umpires must ensure that their uniform is wholly distinct from the on court players.

The Committee will provide all teams with an Umpiring Contact List. Should any of the umpiring details change, once published, umpires must advise the MKINL Secretary by email within 7 days.

All umpires MUST be affiliated to England Netball. All umpires officiating for MKINL must be named on the Umpire Contact List. Should any other umpire be used, prior authorisation is required from the Umpiring Secretary. This umpire must register with MKINL and be provided with an "umpiring number" which must be subsequently used by that umpire. If an unauthorised umpire is used, the team supplying that umpire will be deducted 3 points.

All umpires must be over 16 years old. Umpires between 16 and 18 years old will only be given permission to umpire if they have a mentor and who will always be present on the side line during any particular fixture. MKINL Umpiring Secretary must assess the umpire before authorisation is given. Clubs using umpires between the ages of 16 and 18 years old must provide the Umpiring Secretary with their names. The Umpiring Secretary should be advised when and where these umpires are officiating on a weekly basis. MKINL reserves the right to withdraw permission to officiate

from any umpire between 16 and 18 should it be felt that it is not in their best interests. The Umpiring Secretary will determine which division(s) the young umpire may officiate at - this may change throughout the season should the umpiring secretary feel this is appropriate and dependent upon the qualification level of the umpire.

All umpires will be allocated a number which must accompany their signature and printed name on the back of all scorecards and used in all correspondence.

Teams without their own qualified umpire must use the umpire contact list to find officials to umpire on their behalf. Teams without qualified umpires must also contact the Umpiring Secretary with regards to putting some of their members on a suitable umpiring course at the earliest available opportunity and by the end of their first year playing in the MKINL should aim to have a qualified umpire.

Temporary non-available umpires will only remain on the umpiring list for up to one season.

Umpires wishing to have the scores called out during a match should make this request directly to the scorers who should comply.

Umpires may officiate a maximum of twice in one evening according to the following: if an umpire is playing as well as umpiring on any particular evening, umpires may only umpire once. If an umpire is not playing on any particular evening, an umpire may umpire a maximum of twice. Should further umpiring be required on a particular evening, permission MUST be obtained from the Umpiring Secretary in advance.

All umpires must attend umpiring forums that are held by the MKINL League.

All umpires without exception will be unable to officiate in MKINL unless they have been on an official EN New rules event 2016 and proof of attendance has been received.

#### **5.2.2 Umpiring Matches**

Teams must supply an umpire as follows:

Match 1 – supplies umpires for match 3

Match 2 – supplies umpires for match 1

Match 3 – supplies umpires for match 2

When there are only two scheduled matches at a venue, teams will be required to umpire each other.

#### **5.2.3 Payment of Umpires**

The teams will each pay an umpire (for their own match) a sum specified at the start of the season and this must be paid on the night. This payment should be made before the start of the match.

#### **5.2.4 Umpiring Qualifications**

Umpires must be of 'C' Award qualification for Division 1 and Division 2 for matches during the Winter Season.

Beginner qualified umpires can umpire Division 3 AND if they have been assessed by the Umpiring Secretary in a division 3 match and have been on a C Award course and completed a pre-assessment, permission may be granted for a beginner qualified umpire to umpire Division 2.

For the Premier Division all umpires must be a 'C' Award umpire or above AND have been approved, through assessment, to umpire this division.

Teams supplying these umpires, found to be in breach of this rule will be deducted 3 points per match and further sanctions may follow should a repeat occur.

#### **5.2.5 Non Attendance of Umpires**

The penalty for not supplying an umpire (qualified to the level the match requires) preventing the match from going ahead will be a deduction of 3 points to the team responsible for supplying the umpire. If the match is played with an unsuitably qualified umpire then this match will be deemed to be a friendly and the result will not stand. Court fees and umpiring fees will still be payable if the match is played. It will be at the Committee's discretion as to whether the match is replayed and if it does get replayed court fees and umpiring fees will be due from both teams.

Any team that is deducted 3 points for not supplying an umpire (and if this match is unable to proceed under full match conditions) more than twice in a season, will be further penalised with a both a points deduction, to be decided by the Committee AND a fine of £25.00 payable to MKINL.

If a match does not go ahead due to an Umpire failing to turn up, the match will be deemed a draw. At the end of the season both teams will receive goals equivalent to their averaged goals scored for and against for the matches played. The team responsible for providing the umpire will be deducted 3 points. All teams providing / booking umpires should re-confirm their continued availability.

#### **5.2.6 Testing Umpires**

Any match played in MKINL may be used to assess (test) umpires relevant to the qualification they are taking. Matches used on test nights will be authorised by the Umpiring Secretary. Wherever possible the teams playing will be advised in advance by the Umpiring Secretary. All due care will be given to the selection of these assessment matches.

All those taking the Beginner Award Assessment may only be tested on division 3 matches.

All those taking the 'C' Award Assessment will be tested on division 1 matches following the successful completion of a pre-assessment designed to confirm they are ready to be assessed.

#### **5.2.7 Bleep Test**

All umpires must provide proof of passing a bleep test annually up to the level required for the umpiring qualification they hold, in line with England Netball rules, by a date specified by the Committee.

Umpires who fail to supply this information will be unable to umpire in MKINL until acceptable proof has been received.

### **5.3 Duty**

The duration of duty is defined as all three duty members turning up before the start of the first match and all three members finishing after the end of the last match.

There must be at least three affiliated MKINL members undertaking the role of duty at any time: two duty members will score / time and all other(s) must manage the other requirements of duty as set out in the Duty Process.

Should any team seek any variation in the above rule, on any occasion, then a formal request must be made in writing to the committee at least 7 days in advance.

The penalty for not turning up for duty, turning up late or leaving early is a 6 point deduction.

A penalty of 1 point will be deducted from duty teams who fail to complete all paperwork to the required standard, as set out in the duty process.

Duty members are expected to be fully focused on their duties at all times

## **6. PROMOTION & RELEGATION OF TEAMS**

At the end of each season the top team in each division will be promoted to the higher division and the bottom team in each division will be demoted to the lower division for the following season. In usual circumstances, there will be playoffs each season to determine the second promoted and demoted teams for each division. I.E. second from bottom teams will play second from top teams (div 1 second bottom will play div 2 second top). This format may be altered by the Committee if required and will be advised to all teams as soon as possible.

Should any team promoted or demoted feel that this may not be appropriate for the following season, they may contact the Committee within 7 days of receiving such notification. The final decision will be made by the Committee.

## **7. WITHDRAWAL FROM THE LEAGUE**

Should any team drop out of MKINL Winter League mid-season they will be liable to a fine, the amount of which will not exceed the amount necessary to cover ALL court fees for ALL matches not played by that team plus any outstanding monies owed to MKINL. The exact amount will be determined by the Committee.

Should a team drop out having played all other teams in their division exactly once, then the results table can remain unaffected but should a team drop out part way through the first or second half of the season then points awarded in that half will be removed.

## **8. MISCELLANEOUS**

### **8.1 Change of Team Contacts**

Each team is responsible for notifying the MKINL Secretary ([mkinlcontact@gmail.com](mailto:mkinlcontact@gmail.com)) of any changes to team contacts within 7 days of these changes taking place.

### **8.2 Attendance at MKINL and North Bucks Netball Association (NBNA) AGM's**

All clubs must be represented at the MKINL AGM by at least one member who will affiliate to that club for the coming season. Failure to send a suitable representative will result in a 1 point deduction (in multi team clubs this means a 1 point deduction per team).

All clubs must be represented at the NBNA AGM each year by a member who will affiliate to that club for the forthcoming season. Failure to comply will result in a 1 point deduction to each team (in multi team clubs this means 1 point per team).

Any extra points deductions that NBNA sanction will be upheld by MKINL.

### **8.3 Complaints process**

Any team with a complaint should notify the Committee, in writing to the Chairman, and be prepared to attend a Committee meeting to voice this complaint, if necessary. The Committee will acknowledge receipt of initial correspondence and the complaint will be discussed at the next Committee meeting.