

League Rules



2018/19 Season

Rutland County Netball League Rules – 2018/19 Season

Team Captains should ensure that all players have read and understood the rules.

1.0 Affiliation

1.1 All players must be affiliated to England Netball, with the exception of the “RCNL Feeder Team”. The “RCNL Feeder Team” is managed by the league, and is in operation for the summer league only. The objective of the “Feeder Team” is to create new teams ready for the Winter Season, and not to feed established teams with new players. All players within the RCNL Feeder Team must:

- a) not be affiliated to another team in the RCNL league
- b) complete an insurance waiver form before playing their first match
- c) cannot play for another team in the league as a guest player during the summer season once they have joined and played for the “Feeder Team”

1.2 Players can only play for 1 team. A player may change teams ONCE during the league. Details of the change should be emailed to the Affiliations Secretary to notify the change of team PRIOR to this taking place. Once the player has received email confirmation of the acceptance of the change from the Affiliations Secretary, the player may play for the new team at the following league match.

1.3 All Teams are requested to complete a Team Registration sheet which will be submitted to the affiliation secretary with affiliation numbers by the deadline notified by the league. Any additions / amendments must be submitted to the league secretary.

1.4 Any player that is affiliated to another team in another league may play in the RCNL but they must be formally ‘second affiliated’ before playing with any team in the league. There is a charge for the second affiliation levied by England Netball.

1.5 Any new player(s) (Guests) can play a total of 3 matches with any team in any one season. Guest players must be declared on the relevant match team sheet. A new player is anyone who has not been ‘affiliated ‘or ‘affiliated and not played’ in the previous England Netball season.

1.6 Teams playing an ‘illegal’ player will be deducted 5 points.

1.7 In all cases, the exact name registered with EN must be used on the weekly team sheet submitted after each match. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in a 1 point deduction for each name variant used.

2.0 Matches

2.1 All matches will be played at Catmose Sports Centre, Oakham.

2.2 Play will be in accordance with the current England Netball and Rutland County Netball League rules.

2.3 Match times will be controlled by the duty team.

- 2.4 Matches must start on time. If a team has not shown up or has less than 5 players, 1 goal per minute will be awarded to the opposing team, up until 15 minutes. Failure of a team to start a game after this time will result in the opposition receiving 5 points and will be awarded 20 goals. The conceding team will be deducted 5 points, and deducted 20 goals
- 2.5 A team cannot take the court with less than 5 players.
- 2.6 Duration of the game is 4 x 12 minutes. This will be played in quarters. Breaks will be 1 minutes after the first and third quarters and 2 minutes at half time. Please note, break times may be shortened due to matches over-running to which the duty team MUST notify the teams playing.
- 2.7 In the case of poor weather conditions, matches will be cancelled in the safety of all members travelling to and from the venue. Team Captains will be notified as soon as possible and matches will be rescheduled.
- 2.8 In the event that a match is called off after half time due to adverse weather, the score will stand and the match will not be replayed. Should the match be called off before half time, it will be rescheduled.
- 2.9 In the event that a match is called off for any other reason after play has commenced, the score will stand at the point the match is abandoned. The team with the most goals will be declared as having won and the relevant points will be awarded.
- 2.10 No matches will be re-arranged for circumstances other than adverse weather.
- 2.11 In the event of play being stopped for injury, players have 30 seconds to leave court for treatment
- 2.12 All matches will be played with the league match ball. Teams must provide their own match ball and have an adequate first aid kit available.
- 2.13 All teams must provide an umpire and a scorer. No provision of umpires will incur fines as stated in rule 3.2. Teams which field an umpire who is late will be subject to the point deduction as stated in rule 3.2.
- 2.14 All teams must complete a team sheet, stating the names of all players in the exact form they are registered with EN (see 1.6). Teams should also indicate a best player and most sporting player from the opposing team along with a rating for opposing team sportsmanship. Unaffiliated players who are still legal to play according to league rules must also be listed, with the inclusion of their date of birth.
- 2.15 Completed team sheets must be sent electronically to rcnaffiliation@gmail.com by 1pm on the Friday following the match. Consistent failure to forward the completed form by the specified time will result in a 3-point deduction.
- 2.16 Guest players – a maximum of 3 players may be allowed as guests in a match.

3.0 Match Cancellation by a Team

- 3.1 If a team cannot field 5 or more players they should inform:

- Opposing team
 - Duty Team
 - Umpires who were due to officiate the cancelled match
- 3.2 Teams cancelling matches will still need to provide an Umpire and Scorer. Failure to provide umpire will incur fines: £30 and 5-point deduction.
- 3.3 The opposition will receive the points for a win and 20 goals. The conceding team will be deducted 20 goals and 5 points
- 3.4 Teams who concede together will both be deducted 20 goals, and 5 points.
- 3.5 Teams cancelling a match must do so by midday on the day of the game in question. Failure to notify the opposing team and umpire in good time will result in a £20 fine.
- 3.6 Fines collected will be donated to RCNL's Charity of the Year.

4.0 **League Positions / Results**

The Captains of the home team will at the end of the match text the final score to the League Score Management System.

- 4.1 5 points will be awarded for a win.
- 4.2 3 points will be awarded for a draw.
- 4.3 2 points will be awarded to a team that lose but score 50% or more of the oppositions goals.
- 4.4 1 point will be awarded to a team that plays but loses
- 4.5 Point deductions – League tables will be amended and teams will be notified within 14 days of points being deducted by the Fixtures and Results Secretary.

5.0 **Health and Safety Rules**

- 5.1 The minimum age to play in the league is 14 years. Players must be aged 14 either before or on the day of the match. Players under 16 years of age must have completed an Application for Young Person to play In Adult League form, which has been signed off by the County Representative. Teams who play underage or unapproved players will be deducted 3 points.
- 5.2 The league would prefer that pregnant women do not play or umpire.
- 5.3 Players may not wear anything that could endanger themselves or other players, specifically,
- 5.3.1 No adornment or jewellery may be worn other than a wedding ring which must be covered with tape
 - 5.3.2 Medical alert bracelets may be worn provided they are covered with tape
 - 5.3.3 Fingernails must be worn short and smooth

5.3.4 Hair suitably tied back

Unfortunately, failure to comply with this rule will result in players not being allowed to take to the court or being asked to leave the court

- 5.4 Hats, gloves, hairclips, hair combs and friendship bracelets are not allowed to be worn during play.
- 5.5 Nails should be cut short and be smooth, this will be checked by umpires before each match.
- 5.6 Netball Attire – Must consist either of netball skirt/ dress/shorts, vest top / t-shirt. Leggings are permitted. Umpires can refuse players to play, if the inappropriate clothing is worn due to health and safety reasons.
- 5.7 The chewing of any substance, e.g. gum, by any player is forbidden during play.
- 5.8 If a player is cut or grazed during play the following must be adhered to:
 - 5.8.1 The umpire must advise the player to leave the court or a player must advise the umpire so they can leave the court.
 - 5.8.2 The wound must be cleaned and adequately covered to the satisfaction of the umpire.
 - 5.8.3 Blood stained clothing must be cleaned or replaced.
 - 5.8.4 The ball and court must be cleaned if necessary.
 - 5.8.5 A player can only return to a game if the above has been actioned; please note no time will be added for injury. Matches will only be stopped in the event of a serious injury.
- 5.9 First Aid kit and Ice Packs are not provided by the league. It is the responsibility of each team to ensure they have provided adequate first aid provision for use by their team.
- 5.10 All accidents should be reported to Duty Staff at Catmose Sports Centre, where first aid assistance is available if required. If you have an accident and it is not recorded this will impact on any affiliation claims made.
- 5.11 The league would prefer players not to wear glasses whilst playing netball. If any player chooses to wear glasses, they do so at their own risk. Any accident involving glasses will not be covered from the Affiliation Insurance. Rutland County Netball League does not accept any responsibility for players who choose to wear glasses.

6.0 Disciplinary Rules

- 6.1 Players should respect and accept the umpire's decision at all times. Unfair remarks both on and off the court are not acceptable at any time. Team captains need to ensure that all players and supporters adhere to this policy. The umpire's job can be very difficult and without them there would be no match.

- 6.2 Any verbal abuse directed at the umpires, players or committee members will result in one of the following at the umpire's discretion:
- 6.2.1 Warn a player and / or team official or
 - 6.2.2 Suspend a player for 10 minutes or;
 - 6.2.3 Order a player to leave the court and take no further part in the game - the player cannot be replaced.
 - 6.2.4 Further action may be taken by the committee if a team has been disciplined under rule 7 more than once or if the committee feels that other action is required immediately.

Any other disciplinary matter not covered in Rule 6, will be discussed by the committee and appropriate action will be taken.

- 6.3 Any Complaints should be made in writing to the RCNL Secretary Email: rcnlsec@outlook.com within 7 days of the match being played. Reports will then be requested from both umpires and the opposing team. The complaint will then be considered by the committee and the parties involved will be informed of the decision within 7 days of that consideration.

7.0 Deduction of Points

Clarification for deduction of points - 5 Points deduction will occur for the following:

- 7.1 For a team fielding a non-affiliated player or a player affiliated to another team in accordance with Section 1.
- 7.2 Each team must fulfil duty. Failure to do duty will incur a 5-point deduction. See rule 8 for Appeals / Complaints procedure.
- 7.3 Each team must provide an umpire. Failure to do so will incur a 5-point deduction and £30 fine. Failure to provide an umpire will result in games not going ahead.

Clarification for deduction of points – 3 Points deduction will occur for the following:

- 7.4 For non-attendance at League meetings and AGM. Team representatives, who may be late / unable to attend must ask another member of their own team to attend. Players/volunteers from other teams cannot represent other teams.
- 7.5 Teams who play underage or unapproved players will be deducted 3 points
- 7.6 Consistent failure to forward the completed team sheet by Friday 1pm (following match prior evening) will result in a 3-point deduction.

8.0 General

- 8.1 Rutland County Netball League will not be held responsible for any injury or loss of personal possessions.

- 8.2 Each team must provide a minimum of one representative for the AGM and League meetings. Any team who fails to have a representative from their team will have 3 points deducted.
- 8.3 All fines must be paid within 21 days. Any team who has not paid their fines will not be allowed to fulfil their fixtures until fines have been paid. Fines will be applied for matches not completed.
- 8.4 If any team or player does not abide by the rules of the league, the League Committee will review the situation and take action where appropriate.
- 8.5 Players wishing to raise a concern should do so through their Captain who should in turn raise this with the RCNL Committee by emailing or contacting the RCNL Secretary. Email rcnlsec@outlook.com