

South Essex Thurrock Netball Association

Rules of the Competition

1. PURPOSE

- a) The amalgamation of teams to be known as: -

SOUTH ESSEX THURROCK NETBALL ASSOCIATION

- b) To be played under England Netball (EN) Rules as adopted by County League .
- c) Teams arranged into Divisions.
- d) At any Annual General Meeting (**Refer Con. Rule 9.7**) a majority of the members shall have the authority to alter/amend these League Rules/Divisions, applicable to South Essex Thurrock Netball Association, at their discretion.
- e) The League shall be governed by a County Committee (**Refer Con. Rule 8**)

2. MEMBERSHIP (**Refer Con. Rule 4&5**)

- a) Entry Forms must be submitted to the Hon. Secretary together with the relevant League and court fees each season. Teams must include an alternative contact
- b) All teams must register a minimum of 7 players with the Affiliation Secretary by 31st July (winter) and 15th February (summer) each calendar year. Failure to comply will result in a fine of £25.
- i. In addition all players must be affiliated via EN website and all fees paid to EN by 1st September (winter) and 1st March (summer) each calendar year.
- ii. Teams must submit umpire registration forms for all qualified umpires in their team to the **Officiating** sec.
- iii. **Umpires that have not completed the Umpire Compliance Notice will not be able to umpire in the league.**
- i. All teams must provide D.O.B for all players on team registration form, as requested by EN.

Please be aware that players will not be insured until England Netball has received full payment

- c) The league will follow the current Duty of Care Guidelines, issued by England Netball. All Clubs must have a nominated safeguarding officer, who is active within the club and holds a DBS. It is the responsibility of all clubs to ensure that all personnel connected with their specific club are made aware of the safeguarding guidelines as set out by England Netball.
- d) **The league will provide safeguarding training for the Safeguarding Officer of each club free of charge on one occasion. Any subsequent training will be chargeable.**
- e) Additional registrations must be received by the Affiliation's Secretary prior to the new player participating in any game. **It is the individuals responsibility** for affiliating **themselves**

as a new player on line and payment of EN fees, which must be prior to the player taking the court

Failure to comply with any of the above will result in the player being deemed unregistered (refer rule 5g).

Please be aware that players will not be insured until England Netball has received full payment

- f) Any team whose fees have not been paid by the closing date stated on the Entry Form will not be allowed to compete for that season.
- g) All matches will be played at the Netball Centre, Hassenbrook Academy, Hassenbrook Road, Stanford-le-Hope as per fixture list.
- h) The home night for all teams playing in the Thurrock League shall be Monday to Thursday.
- i) The County Committee will assess all new and returning teams as deemed necessary.
- j) Teams withdrawing from the League must notify in writing to the Hon. Secretary, Results Secretary, **SETNA Booking**, any booked umpires and all teams in their Division as soon as withdrawal occurs.
- k) The SETNA League will reimburse all relevant Court Fees to Team(s) who have their Home Fixture, yet to be played, against the Team(s) withdrawing providing rule 2(i) has been adhered to.

3. HONORARY OFFICERS (Refer Con. Rule 7)

The Officers of the League shall consist of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Results Secretary and Selected Committee Members.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) All communications shall go to the Hon. Secretary, unless otherwise stated below, who shall conduct all correspondence and record all matters arising.
- b) It is the responsibility of the home team to submit the result card within 24 hours of the fixture, either in the green box or electronically, if sent electronically the card must also be posted.

If a team cancels the game they are responsible for submitting the result card or notifying the results secretary via Email stating the reason for cancellation. Failure to comply will result in the offending team having one point deducted from their total league points and a fine of £5-00 imposed on each occasion.

It is the responsibility of the home team to submit the player registration card within 24 hours of the fixture, either in the white box or electronically, if sent electronically the card must also be posted, providing the game took place. The registration card should only list those players who have taken the court.

- i) Failure to comply will result in the home team having one point deducted from their total league points and a fine of £5-00 imposed on each occasion.
- c) If a result card is incorrectly completed, a £5 fine will be imposed on the home team on each occasion. This does not include any parts that are completed by the umpire

If an affiliation card is received incorrectly completed, a £5 fine will be imposed on the home team on each occasion. The away team are responsible for the away team player list details, if this information is incorrectly completed a £5 will be imposed on the away team on each occasion.

- d) Complaints regarding any matches, team, player or umpire must be made in writing to the **Disciplinary Secretary** within **28** days of the game being played and the matter will be brought before the Committee. It will be handled under EN disciplinary procedure.
- e) Failure to pay any monies within 14 days of notification will result in disqualification from the League. A team or player with outstanding monies from any season **may** not be allowed to participate in any further league fixtures until such monies are paid
- f) Notification of all abandoned or reasons for re-arranged matches must be sent to the Results Secretary and opposing team secretary. No matches can be re-arranged without the prior permission of the Committee. Failure to notify the Committee of this will result in the match being made void.

5. PLAYERS

- a) No team may borrow a player from any other team in the same League, except as under 5d).
- b) No registrations or transfers shall be made where three or less games remain on the stipulated Fixture List date. A player having completed the fixtures for her own team in any one season shall not be allowed to register for another team in the same season.
- c) A player shall not be allowed more than one transfer in any one season. A transfer will not be valid unless a Transfer Form and/or an email, (to include both team secretaries, the player concerned and Affiliations Sec) has been completed and confirmed by all parties.

Failure to comply with any of the above will result in the player being deemed unregistered (refer rule 5g).

- d) No team may borrow a player from any other team in the League except when a Club has two or more teams which must be defined as 'A', 'B', 'C' etc.
 - i A player of a Club with two teams or more is only eligible to play up, three times in total, to any level during any one season. When a player has played up on the third occasion, she will be deemed to have transferred to that team for the remainder of the season and will not be eligible to play up for any other team for the remainder of the season.
 - ii. A maximum of 3 players may play up at any one given time Failure to comply will result in the game being made void. All goals will be disregarded, but the non-offending team will be awarded the points. The offending team will lose any points gained in the match and will also have **three** points deducted from their total League points. The offending team will also be subject to a fine of £10.00.

Failure to comply with any of the above will result in the player being deemed unregistered (refer rule 5g).

- e) Any player(s) warned of misconduct on court can be sent off by an 'A', 'B' or 'C' award umpire only and that player(s) may appear before the Disciplinary Committee. (Refer EN code of conduct/DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES).

- f) A player must be school year 10 as of the 1st September to play in the league
- g) In the event of a team playing an unregistered player(s) it will result in the game in which that player(s) participated being made void. All goals will be disregarded, but the non-offending team will be awarded **three** points. The offending team will lose any points gained in the match and will also have **three points deducted for the first** unregistered player and **one point for and subsequent unregistered player during** the game from their league total and be subject to a fine of £10.00 per player(s). Both teams will be notified, in writing, of such occurrence
- h) No player shall, knowingly, take the court after the 12th week of pregnancy. South Essex Thurrock Netball Association will accept no liability in the event of an accident or mishap, which could adversely affect the pregnancy.
- i) Any player incurring an injury resulting in loss of blood is required to leave the court and dress the wound immediately. Every team in the League must be equipped with a first aid kit. All other contaminated items e.g. ball, must be cleaned thoroughly or replaced before the game can continue. **Any accident should be on the Accident form, which can be found on the SETNA website and submitted to the Hon Sec.** NB this information is required for anyone claiming on their England Netball Insurance.
- j) If a player needs to tie their shoelaces during a match then that player must leave the court. Once tied the player can return to the court without waiting for permission from the Umpire or goal being scored.

6. **MATCHES**

- a) Winter and summer games will be four times 12 minutes duration, commencing at 7.15pm or 8.30pm. All games must commence at the stipulated time provided there are 5 players per team and both umpires present. Teams will only be allowed to wait up to a maximum of ten minutes for the late arrival of an Umpire. Failure to comply with the above will result in a cancelled game (refer rule 6g)
- b) Three points for a win, two points for a draw, one point if **losing teams** score is 50% or more of the **winning teams** score. Teams must play if they have five players.
- c) Home team to provide a size 5 match ball
- d) Each team shall wear appropriate playing kit in the team colours designated on the fixture list and should include proper sport shoes, bibs/tops/skirts/ tunics/bottoms.
- e) Any matches abandoned by an Umpire up to any time before the end of the game shall be re-played, with the same number of players as the original fixture. In any other instance points will be awarded to the non-offending team.
- f) Cancellation due to adverse weather conditions only allowed at both umpires' discretion. If a game is abandoned during play because of bad weather a replay will be awarded. The result card must be submitted by the home team and must be signed by both umpires detailing their explanation as to why the game was abandoned.
- g) If a team cancels a match or fails to arrive at the venue on the evening of the match with a minimum of 5 players, a fine of £10.00 will be imposed and 3 points will be deducted from their league total. If the AWAY team cancels the match they must reimburse the HOME team's court fee. If a team cancels or **fails to arrive** on the evening of the match the offending team

to cover the full expenses of both umpires should they arrive at the venue, within seven days of the cancelled game. The non-offending team will be awarded 3 points. The non-offending team will be notified, in writing, of such occurrence.

- h) The Committee will have the right to withdraw from the league any team which concedes 3 matches within one season. Should the team be withdrawn and they wish to re-enter Should they wish to re-enter they will be subject to a £50 bond which will be returned on completion of the current seasons league fixtures, provided no more than 3 matches have been conceded.
- i) A replay may be considered provided details are sent by the cancelling team secretary to the Results Secretary within 7 days. Non-arrival of an umpire will not automatically constitute a replay, the umpire **MUST** also write in to explain the reason for the oversight. In the event of the Committee awarding a replay and the two teams involved are unable to mutually agree a date and play within 28 days of notification by the results secretary, the Committee will determine the final arrangements for said replay. If any team fails to comply with the specified date set by the Committee they will forfeit the game and points will be awarded to the non-offending team. If both teams are unable to fulfil the fixture replay the game shall be null and void.
- j) Any team wishing to change a fixture to another night within the same playing week may request to do so providing agreement is obtained from the opposition and confirmed in writing 14 days before the scheduled fixture. The team wishing to change the fixture must check court availability with **SETNA Booking** and advise the Results Secretary in writing and receive confirmation from the results secretary, 14 days prior to the match being played. Failure to notify the results secretary will result in the game being made void.
- k) A team may request neutral umpires, via the umpiring secretary, on two occasions per season. This must be requested 3 weeks prior to the fixture and the requesting team will pay both umpires' expenses. The Umpiring Secretary will advise both teams of who the Umpires for the match will be.
- l) Teams are responsible for the conduct and behaviour of their spectators. Spectators showing dissent or making comments directed against any player(s) or the umpire(s) shall first be warned about their conduct. If such conduct continues, then the umpires may ask the spectator(s) to leave the court area and advise the captain that the team and spectator(s) will be reported in writing to the committee. The umpire has the authority to abandon the game if the spectator(s) refuse to change their behaviour, or if asked, to leave. The committee will consider all such reports and shall be able to take action as it sees fit against teams whose supporters were in breach of the rule.
- m) Team secretaries must reconfirm umpires availability 48 hours before the match. Should a team not reconfirm with the Umpire a replay will not be awarded.
- n) In the event that a Team 'double-books' an Umpire and that 'Double-Booked' Umpire is,
 - i. in the case of a 7.15 Match:- Not required but is either playing or umpiring at 8.30;
 - ii. in the case of an 8.30 Match:- Has either played or umpired at 7.15

then, as no actual expenses have been incurred, 50% (£6.00 at present) be offered to that 'Double Booked' Umpire instead of Umpires expecting the full £12.00 to be paid. In the event that the 'Double Booked' Umpire has specifically attended for the one game, then the £12.00 expenses will be met by the Team who has 'Double Booked' said Umpire.

7. PROMOTIONS AND RELEGATION

The competition shall be decided by points system. In the event of a tie for any place, it will be decided by goal average (i.e. goals for minus goals against equals goal difference which is divided by the number of games actually played).

In the event of a team withdrawing during a season all points and goals shall be expunged from the table.

The Winners and Runners-up of each Division must purchase a minimum of 7 tickets per team for the Presentation Evening at the end of each season and the league shall provide 7 medals/trophies per team if required.

8. UMPIRES

- a) No person may umpire in any competition organised by the Association after her 12th week of pregnancy. South Essex Thurrock Netball Association will accept no liability in the event of an accident or mishap, which could adversely affect the pregnancy.
- b) There must be two Umpires to every game.
- c) The Umpires shall have the deciding power on whether the court is fit to play on or not.
- d) The Umpires' decision shall be final in all respects.
- e) The teams shall pay the Umpires their expenses of £12.00, to be paid before start of match.
- f) In the event of one team failing to arrive, and the Umpires and non-offending team not given notice that team will then pay both Umpires expenses. The non-offending team will be entitled to claim incurred court expenses.
- g) Only EN qualified/affiliated umpires aged 16 and above allowed to umpire. Failure to provide an EN umpire the non-offending team will be awarded the points.
- h) EN 'Into officiating' (Previously Beginner) umpires aged 16 and above may only umpire for Division 4 teams providing the "home" team umpire is grade C or above, they may umpire for any teams in division 5 and below.
- i) As per England Netball criteria the testing of umpires must be carried out on a league fixture. If your match is selected for testing you will not be required to pay the umpires expenses.
 - i. If deemed necessary the testers may request a replay should candidates prove unsuitable for the selected game, the league will cover any further costs incurred.
- j) Teams are permitted to have scorers, England Netball rules must be adhered to:
 - i. Both teams must have scorers
 - ii. Record goals scored for each team as they occur
 - iii. Keep a record of the centre pass taken by each team
 - iv. Call the centre pass if appealed to by an umpire
 - v. Signal the direction of the centre pass to be taken
 - vi. Notify the umpires if a wrong centre pass is indicated
 - vii. Record any official warning, suspension and/or ordering off