

**AYLESBURY & DISTRICT NETBALL LEAGUE (ADNL) RULES
(Supplementary to England Netball Rules)**

2019-20 Season

PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL YOUR TEAM MEMBERS ARE AWARE OF THE FOLLOWING RULES:

1. Registration to ADNL

Team and Player

All documentation to be completed as per the instructions and by the deadlines indicated on the Team, Player and Umpire Registration Document, published on www.adnl.org.uk. *Failure to comply with the instructions is a contravention of the rules and will incur a penalty as indicated in Rule 9(i).*

It will be deemed that your Club / Team no longer wish to play in the ADNL if you fail to submit documentation by the due date.

2. Membership to England Netball

All players, coaches and umpires must be a member of England Netball (EN). Instructions on how to become a member can be found in the Membership Document, published on www.adnl.org.uk. All documentation to be completed as per the instructions and by the deadlines indicated. *Failure to comply with the instructions is a contravention of the rules and will incur a penalty as indicated in Rule 9(i)*

3. Mid-Season Transfers

3.1. Transferring Clubs

Players are permitted to leave a Club and join another within the League during the season. A £10 administration fee will be payable to the ADNL. The transfer request, which should include the reason must be made in writing for the Committee to consider via the Membership Secretary 5 days in advance of the player's first match. Full instructions on how to complete the process can be found in the Membership Document. *Failure to comply with the instructions is a contravention of the rules and will incur a penalty as indicated in Rule 9(i) (ii) and (iii)*

3.2. Transferring Teams within Your Club

Players are only able to transfer between teams within the same Club during the course of a season with the permission of the Committee. The transfer request, which should include the reason must be made in writing for the Committee to consider via the Membership Secretary 5 days in advance of the transfer. Requests will only be considered before 31st December. Full instructions on how to complete the process can be found in the Membership Document. *Failure to comply with the instructions is a contravention of the rules and will incur a penalty as indicated in Rule 9(i) (ii) and (iii)*

4. Rules Relating to Players

4.1. Miscellaneous

4.1.1. All newly registered players must be 16 years of age or older. An exception may be made at the discretion of the Committee if a player aged 14 or 15 is currently on the England Performance Pathway.

4.2. Playing Up/Down

The Playing up/down Rules are in place for emergency situations where a fixture would have to be cancelled due to a Team from a Club not having enough players to take the court. It should not be used for any other reason.

Playing up: During each season a Multi-team Club can have seven play ups. A player cannot play up more than TWICE in a season. When Playing up, teams should have a maximum of 8 players listed on their scoresheet.

Playing down: During each season a Multi-team Club can have two play downs. This cannot be the same player on both occasions. Only one 'DOWN' player can be used at a time in any match. Play downs are only permitted to enable the team to take the court with 7 players, i.e. teams are not allowed to play or have listed on their score sheet more than 7 players.

A maximum of 2 players from other teams in the club may be used. (For example, only 2 players playing up or 1 playing up and 1 playing down).

There must be at least 5 players registered to that team in the starting line-up.

The On-court Captain is responsible for ensuring that players who are playing up/down sign the score sheet and venue record sheet BEFORE the match starts. This cannot be completed afterwards.

If a player is playing down, they may only play down by one division i.e. From Prem to Div One, from Div One to Div Two. A player may not play down for example from Prem to Div Two. They may only play down one team, i.e. Prem team one can play down to Prem team two but not to Division one team three. Teams are responsible for maintaining records of players playing up or down.

Definitive records are kept by the Membership Secretary – if in doubt check with the Membership Secretary, before the evening of the game. *Failure to comply with the instructions is a contravention of the rules and will incur a penalty as indicated in Rule 9 (i) (ii) and (iii)*

5. Rules Relating to Game Officials

5.1. Miscellaneous

All teams in each division must supply a scorer.

Game officials are expected to be fully focused on their duties and are not permitted to use electrical devices, books or anything else which may cause them to be distracted for the duration of their duty. *Failure to comply with the instructions is a contravention of the rules and will incur a penalty as indicated in Rule 9(i)*

5.2. Umpiring

ADNL follows the EN recommendations that U18 umpires officiate their peers. Please refer to the EN website for the Age Limits for the Younger Umpire document. However as suggested by EN the ADNL league may allow an U18 umpire to officiate a senior game; permission will be given on an individual basis and must be requested in writing by emailing adnlumpiring@hotmail.co.uk in advance of the match. The umpiring secretary will confirm the decision.

All teams in each division must supply an appropriately qualified umpire; the minimum umpiring requirement is as follows:

- Premier: EN B award and EN C award umpires that have attended an EN working towards B award course and are actively working towards their B Award, plus Talent ID umpires and umpires on the approved ADNL umpire list.
- Div 1: EN C award umpires who are on the approved ADNL umpire list.
- Div 2: EN C award.
- Div 3: EN Into Officiating award and must have attended a C Award course and be actively working towards their C award.
- Div 4: EN Into Officiating award

5.2. Umpiring (Continued)

Umpires will not be eligible to umpire matches unless they are qualified to do so. If umpires are unsure whether they are qualified to umpire in a particular division, they must seek clarification from the Umpiring Secretary before umpiring the match.

It is mandatory for all umpires to attend a refresher course over a two year league period; to include the ADNL start of season umpiring evening and workshops. Contravention of this rule will disqualify the umpire from umpiring in the league.

Once an umpire starts to umpire a match she/he must continue umpiring until the end of the match. An umpire can only be replaced once on court in the event of illness/injury to that umpire.

If a team is unable to provide an appropriately qualified umpire (for any reason) but the game is able to go ahead with the help of a substitute umpire, the team failing to provide the umpire must pay £10.00 to the replacement umpire within 14 days.

If a replacement umpire cannot be found and the game is cancelled. The team failing to provide the umpire will be liable for the full cost of the original fixture and if applicable payment to the umpires for the rearranged game. The cost of the re-arranged fixture will be shared by both teams. *Failure to comply with the instructions is a contravention of the rules and will incur a penalty as indicated in Rule 9(i).*

5.3. Rota Duty

The responsibilities of the team members on Rota Duty will be notified to teams as part of the Fixtures. The person fulfilling the rota duty role cannot be fulfilling any other role i.e. umpiring at the same time

Teams that do not carry out their FULL ROTA DUTY, including not sending the results via Text/WhatsApp or via email, to the results secretary by 5pm on Thursday following the Wednesday match, will incur the penalty clause. *Failure to comply with the instructions is a contravention of the rules and will incur a penalty as indicated in Rule 9(i)*

6. Rules of Play

6.1. Miscellaneous

A team cannot take the court with less than 5 registered players.

All matches will consist of 4 quarters - 12 minutes per quarter with 2 minutes after the first and third quarter and 2 minutes at half time. If there are time constraints at the venue the following will apply – 10 minutes per quarter with 1 minute after the first and third quarter and 2 minutes at half time.

Scoring will be awarded as follows:-

5 points for a win plus 1 bonus point = 6 points (if scored more than double of losing team's score)

5 points for a win

3 points for a draw

2 points for the losing team (if scored up to 5 goals less of the winners score)

1 point for 50% or more of the winners score

Any team having a query about the match score MUST NOT sign the score card, and a note made on the Record Sheet for that evening. It will be up to the Committee to pass judgement on such matters. Scorecards once signed and printed by the captains and umpires are final.

All teams must provide a suitable match ball and a set of patches or overhead bibs that are a different colour to the regular playing set.

6.2. Delayed matches

In the event of an unforeseen delay due to facility unavailability or officials arriving late, there must be the ability for a game of 40 minutes duration – divide into 4 x 10 minute quarters to be played for the match to be valid with 1 minute at each interval. *Failure to comply with the instructions is a contravention of the rules and will incur a penalty as indicated in Rule 9(i)*

6.2. Delayed matches (continued)

Teams must be on court and ready to play their matches at the appropriate times. If this is not the case, the offending teams will be forced to accept an infringement penalty of one goal per minute awarded to the non-offending team. If both teams do not have enough players ready to start the match, the infringement penalty will apply from when one of the teams has the minimum of 5 players waiting on court. As long as it is before the end of the first quarter.

Teams awaiting the arrival of a late team must wait on court for the duration of the 1st quarter of the scheduled match.

If there are not sufficient players (minimum of 5) from the late team to start the match by the end of the first quarter, the match will be rearranged by the committee and the late team will be responsible for all costs related to the rearranged fixture. If both teams do not have a minimum of 5 players to start the match by the end of the first quarter, they will both have to concede, then the match will be abandoned.

If the opposing team completely fail to arrive for a league match, whatever the reason, *the full penalty clause as indicated in Rules 9(i),(ii),(iii) and (iv) will apply.*

6.3. Cancelling Matches

To cancel a league match; teams must give a minimum of 24 hours' notice to the Fixtures Secretary. The team cancelling the match will incur the full penalty clause as indicated in Rules 9 (i), (ii), (iii) & (iv).

Teams cancelling league matches are reminded that they MUST supply an UMPIRE & SCORER for the game preceding/following the cancelled game and providing cover for rota duty if required. Failure to comply with the instructions is a contravention of the rules and will incur a penalty as indicated in Rule 9(i)

If a team has cancelled three League Matches in a season they will be asked to leave the league and expected to pay all remaining court fees. All points scored in the teams' fulfilled fixtures will be null and void.

It is not permitted for cancelled matches to be rescheduled by teams who are unable to fulfil the fixture.

The League Committee reserves the right to cancel / postpone any fixture, for example the need to cancel fixtures due to bad weather or venue availability.

6.4. Injuries

Each stoppage for either team in each quarter for injured or ill player is 30 seconds.

The injured/ill player has 30 secs to leave the court, they can be replaced by a substitute which must take place within the 30 secs.

The umpire will restart the game after 30 secs regardless of whether the substitution has been made. If the substitution does not take place within the 30 secs, the player or substitute can only return to the court following a goal scored or further break.

Where a substitute is not available the injured player's team should continue with a player short. Total injury time allowed per match is 5 minutes, once this time has expired there is no further injury time allowed for either team.

If an injured player cannot be removed from the court and by the time she is moved there is not enough time to continue with the original format of the game and within the allotted time slot, the game will be abandoned to be re-scheduled by the fixtures secretary.

NB The ultimate decision about whether an injured player should be moved rests with the player themselves.

The cost of the re-arranged fixture will fall to the team of the injured player. Costs for the original fixture will be shared by both teams. If the abandonment occurs within the last quarter, the score stands. All injuries (no matter how minor) should be recorded on the Record Sheet and in the venue accident log. No insurance claim can be made if an accident is not recorded. All teams must have their own first aid kit present at each game.

6.5. Pregnancy

In accordance with EN's guidance, ADNL recommends that individuals (player, coach, umpire) if pregnant should only participate with written approval from their doctor and in accordance with any guidelines issued by England Netball. **Contact should be made with the ADNL Committee via adnl@live.co.uk prior to participating in Netball Activities.** Neither EN, nor ADNL will be held liable for any pregnant individual participating in recognised and authorised activity should the expectant mother suffer a miscarriage or permanent damage to herself and / or unborn child as a result of participating.

It should be noted that the EN Personal Accident cover will not provide any benefit for injury, loss or expense due to pregnancy, childbirth, miscarriage or any consequence thereof. This EN policy information is intended as a guide only - full terms and conditions apply as detailed in the EN insurance policy documents, in association with EN's current Memorandum, Articles, Regulations and Policies. Further details can be found on EN's website <https://www.englandnetball.co.uk/membership/insurance/>

7. Promotion and Relegation of Teams

7.1. Process

The following procedure for promotion or relegation will be used:-

- To promote the teams finishing 1st and 2nd from each division each year.
- The teams finishing bottom:
 - Premier and Division 1 - (9th) and 2nd from bottom (8th) will be relegated to the division below.
 - Divisions 2-3 – (10th) and 2nd from bottom (9th) will be relegated to the division below.
- The format of the League will be regulated by the Committee.
- New teams entering the League will normally be placed in the last division if there is space available.
- Seeding of any new team will be decided by the Committee on request – space permitting.
- Any team having a complaint should notify the Committee in writing to the Chairperson, who will give a final ruling.

8. Withdrawing from the League

Any teams voluntarily withdrawing from the League or who have been expelled will be expected to pay the whole cost of each court for each fixture they are unable to meet. All points scored in the teams' fulfilled fixtures will be null and void.

9. Contravention of Rules

For any rule that is broken the following penalty will apply:

- (i) *The offending team shall have maximum points for a win deducted from their total immediately.*
- (ii) *The non-offending team shall be awarded the match (maximum points for a win). Goals for the played/un-played game will be awarded at the end of the season using an average of all goals scored by that team during the season.*
- (iii) *The offending team will receive a penalty of the average of goals 'scored by' the non-offending team during the season. This will be added to the offending team's 'goals against' at the end of the season.*
- (iv) *The offending team will be expected to pay the whole cost of each court for each fixture they are unable to play.*

Misinterpretation of the ADNL/EN rules cannot be accepted as a reason for noncompliance of the foregoing.