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**Contents**

1. **Organisation and Administration**
2. **Integrity Clause**
3. **Playing Qualification and Eligibility**
4. **Registration**
5. **Structure of the League**

**ONCE YOU HAVE READ THESE RULES YOU MUST SIGN AND RETURN THE SLIP ON THE BACK PAGE TO :**

*Sue Kemp*

*The Haven*

*New End*

*Hemingby*

*LN9 5QQ*

1. **Fixture Arrangements**
2. **Match Regulations**
3. **Match Officials**
4. **Registration of Results**
5. **Queries, Complaints & Appeals**
6. **Miscellaneous Provisos**
7. **Close range photography**
8. **Health & Safety**

**Umpires and bleeding**

**Pregnant players**

**Gloves, Scarves, Headscarves & Leg Braces**

**Accident Forms and procedure**

1. **Payment**
2. **Disclaimer**

**1. ORGANISATION AND ADMINISTRATION**

1.1 The Lincolnshire League shall be governed and managed by the Lincolnshire County Management Board (LCMB).

1.2 The decisions of the LCMB in respect of these rules and regulations and on any other matter related to the Lincolnshire League which is not provided for below, shall be considered final and binding on all parties (subject to the right of appeal which is specifically provided for under England Netball's Disciplinary Regulations).

1.3 It is the responsibility of all Team Managers, Coaches and Captains to ensure that all players are conversant with the following rules and regulations.

1.4 All clubs will be held responsible for the Overall Conduct (behaviour, demeanor and actions) of all members associated with the club (players, officials and spectators).

**2. INTEGRITY CLAUSE**

 **Any team who knowingly and deliberately provides false information regarding identity of players at registration and the naming of players on team sheets may be expelled from the competition.**

**3. PLAYING QUALIFICATIONS AND ELIGIBILITY**

3.1 Application for entry to the Lincolnshire League shall be open to any club or team which is affiliated to England Netball through the Lincolnshire County Association.

3.2 LCMB will charge an entry fee to the Lincolnshire League.

3.3 By entering a team in the Lincolnshire League, clubs/teams agree that:

* They will abide by these rules and regulations
* They are able and willing to fulfil the costs and commitments of participation in the Lincolnshire League

3.4 In order to qualify to participate in the Lincolnshire League, a player shall be in membership of England Netball via the Lincolnshire County Affiliation

* Affiliated to the club they are representing in the league (first or second affiliated – cannot 2nd affiliate to another club to play in a different age group if their club has that age group).

3.5 All players must have their membership lodged with the England Netball Head Office and their subscription paid, prior to their participation in the Lincolnshire League

3.6 Players must play within their appropriate age groups (as of 31 August 2018) and in the appropriate division.

Players may play up unlimited unless a club enters two teams in the same division then players from the B squad may play up to an A squad for 12 quarters but thereafter they become an A team member. A team members may not play down.

U11s may play up unlimited to U12s.

U12s and U14s – may play up unlimited within their age group and can only play up one age group (ie U12 -> U14; U14 -> U16).

U16 Division 1 players may play up unlimited to senior league. However, U16 Division 2 players may only play up to senior division 2 unlimited.

3.7 **Age Banding**

Age banding on the appropriate England Netball forms will only be accepted signed by a Regional or Franchise Head Coach (not hub coach) and permission will only be granted to miss one age group, ie U11->U14; U12->U16; U14->Senior Division 2.

3.8 Teams / Clubs with squad(s) in the Regional Senior Leagues must send a copy of their Regional team sheet to Sue Kemp prior to their first Senior Lincolnshire County match being played by that team/club. Failure to do so will automatically result in the non-offending team being awarded 5 points and the offending team the same penalties as conceding a match. Within 7 days of a Regional match being played by a team/club a signed copy of the team sheet that has been submitted to the Region must be send to Sue Kemp (scanned copies via email are acceptable). Failure to do so will result in the same penalties as mentioned above.

3.8.1 Any regional players named after the first 8 may play in the Lincolnshire League until they have played 10 quarters in the Regional League when they then cannot play any further matches in the Lincolnshire League. \***The EXCEPTION to this is if the girls are U14 or U16 when they are permitted to play in the Lincolnshire League as seniors until they have played 10 regional quarters; once this has occurred they may only play within the U14 and U16 leagues (FOR ONLY ONE TEAM IN THE AGE GROUP NOT IN ALL) – if these exist - (This is to enable the most able squads at these age groups to qualify for the regional tournaments).**

3.9 No player shall be permitted to take the court in more than two games per day (Including regional seniors Junior if applicable)

3.10 **Kit**

 Players must be wearing the same kit throughout their team. Exception will be Hi5 teams wearing overhead bibs. Repeat offenders will be deducted 2 points per match. Please note photographic evidence is required of the offending team.

3.11 Pregnancy – see 13.2

**4. REGISTRATION OF SQUAD MEMBERS**

4.1 Registration Sheets for each participating team must be completed fully for each player and lodged with

The League Secretary by the stated date. A minimum of 7 players must be listed. In exceptional circumstances 5 players may be listed with 2 or more players from a lower age group. Permission must first be obtained from the League. Please email Sue Kemp with the details (sukijane128@gmail.com).

4.2 Teams may register as many affiliated players as they wish.

4.3 Teams may only use those players whose names appear on their Registration Sheet held by the League Secretary.

4.4 Any additions to the Registration Sheet must be lodged with the League Secretary (07811 037147) prior to the start of your match –email or text only accepted.

4.5 Each team may declare up to twelve (12) players prior to the start of each match by completing a team sheet/result card.

4.6 Only players named on the Team Sheet at the beginning of the game will be allowed to play or sit on the team bench. If players arrive late and are not named at the start they cannot be added during the game.

**5. STRUCTURE OF THE LEAGUE**

5.1 The Lincolnshire League will be contested between as many teams as enter or as can be accommodated and within the 2 divisions – ONLY teams in division 1 will contest for a place at regional playoffs. A qualifying tournament may be used if numbers exceed what can be accommodated.

5.2 Each team in the Lincolnshire League will play the others in their division/league at a venue to be determined by the LCMB

5.3 Teams will be awarded league points as follows:

* 5 points for a win
* 3 points for a draw
* 2 Points if within 4 goals eg. 50-46 = 2 points
* 1 point if scoring 50% or more eg. 50-45 = 1 point
	1. A Lincolnshire League table will be compiled on the basis of the points awarded to each team.

 Where two teams are level on points, goal difference will determine the position of each team.

5.5 Any new teams entering the League will enter into a division at the Committee’s discretion.

**6. FIXTURE ARRANGEMENTS**

* 1. Senior, U16 and where possible Back to Netball Matches will be played on an indoor court with U14, U12 and High 5 played on outdoor courts.

6.2 All matches must be played on/by the date and at the time and venue specified by the fixture schedule, otherwise the match will be deemed null and void.

6.3 Teams are responsible for arranging their own travel and for the costs of this and should allow sufficient travelling time to cover any unexpected delays. No allowance for late arrival can be accommodated on Hi 5, U12, and U14 as it’s central timing fixtures. Any U16/ senior team which fails to take the court within 10 minutes of the start time will forfeit the match and the non-offending team will be awarded the points as winners by default (this does not apply at central timing venue – any team failing to take the court at the start time – will forfeit the match). The match can still be played as a friendly but with reduced playing time. If the match does not go ahead the offending team will have deemed to have conceded and usual penalties apply.

6.4 No team may postpone or cancel a fixture without the agreement of the Competition TSG - contact Sue Kemp (sukijane128@gmail.com) who will relay the group’s response to you.

6.5 Matches which are postponed due to extreme and unforeseen circumstances, e.g., flash flood, heavy snowfall, will only be re-arranged by the Fixtures Secretary.

6.6 If a team cancels a match:

* The non-offending team will be awarded five (5) league points for the match, and the team which cancels will have five (5) league points deducted from their total
* The team which cancels will be liable to pay both teams court costs and provide both umpires (senior league only).

NB – *Where one of the teams has its goal difference, goal average or total number of goals scored affected by conceded fixtures, then all goals scored by and against conceding team(s) in all fixtures shall be omitted from the calculations of those teams level on points. Except where one of the teams level on points is the conceding team at which point they assume the goal average of 0 and will be the lowest ranked team of those level on points.*

6.7 If a fixture is cancelled due to any circumstances it is the responsibility of the offending team to ensure that the Fixtures Secretary is informed immediately the postponement or cancellation is known. The correct protocol is as follows:

1. Notify the opposition
2. Notify both Sue Kemp and Carolyn Blackburn
3. Notify the admin team for the specific day
4. Request acknowledgement of cancellation from all above parties.

6.8 In the event that a match is abandoned for any reason, e.g., because of serious injury, the result of that match will be determined by the LCMB, having regard to the score at the time at which play was suspended.

* 1. Any team that withdraws from the league will be liable to pay the cost of all remaining court fees.
	2. Teams may reschedule a match (via the Fixtures Secretary) if 2 or more of their players are involved in

LINCOLNSHIRE, FRANCHISE, REGIONAL or REGIONAL SCHOOLS netball activities but not if their players are involved in the East Midlands or other / Franchise training sessions (if on a weekend). The rearranged fixture will be allocated by the Fixtures Secretary if space allows within the fixtures. If space isn’t available the non offending team will offer 3 alternatives (not within the same week) via email for the offending team to choose from. The Fixtures Secretary must be copied in to ALL communications.

6.10.1 Court costs – if the Fixtures Secretary cannot reallocate the court relating to a postponed match (as above) to another fixture the offending team will be liable for both court fees.

**7. MATCH REGULATIONS**

7.1 All games shall be played to the IFNA Rules of the Game currently in force in England at the time, except where specific regulations may apply.

* 1. All match timings will be determined by the number of entries received.

7.3 The half time interval will be no more than 3 minutes duration. The first and third quarter-time intervals will be up to 2 minutes.

**8. MATCH OFFICIALS**

8.1 Senior teams must provide an umpire of C award or above to officiate their allocated match. U16 matches will be umpired by their own umpires but these must also be of C award or above. Qualified umpires must officiate U14, U12 and High 5 games – however if your umpire in these age groups is not a C award but has attended a C course and will expect to take their test within the season you may ask the LCMB umpiring secretary if she will permit this person to umpire in the Lincolnshire League – Robyn Rogers 07773 284717. A list of umpires who will be officiating in regional netball but may be available on occasions to umpire in the Lincs League will be sent to all clubs.

8.1.1 Senior match umpires – in the event that an umpire fails to arrive or is injured or taken ill during a match the following procedure will be applied:

* If another umpire of the appropriate standard is available then she/he will umpire the match
* Failing that, the next best qualified umpire should be used
* The League Secretary must be informed immediately after the match
* In the event an umpire fails to arrive the fine will be a loss of 3 points (Senior League only – points deducted from the team who should be providing the umpire)

8.2 Each team is responsible for the travel expenses and honorarium of their own umpires.

8.3 For Seniors and U16s scorers and time-keepers will be required for all fixtures. Each team must provide a time-keeper and a scorer (may be the same person). Time keepers and scorers MUST sit/stand together and away from the umpires and team benches. ***Teams failing to provide a scorer/timekeeper will be deducted one point.* U14, 12 and High 5 umpires are permitted to score should a scorer not be available. Scorers MUST check the score at the end of each quarter – it is recommended Scorers stand together**

**9. REGISTRATION OF RESULTS**

* 1. Both teams are required to complete an official Team/Score Sheet during each match, entering the names of each player and indicating which players have played/not played. Teams must also indicate any of their players who are “playing up” on the same score sheet.
	2. The two official Team/Score Sheets must be checked and signed by both scorers, and the team captains.

 Once the whole score sheet is completed then both umpires must sign.

* 1. Following each match:
* **Senior and U16 teams must text their scores to the League Secretary** 07811 037147 **ON MATCH DAY**
* **Senior** teams must place their score sheets in the envelope in the admin box to be posted to the League Secretary at the end of the day by the **designated “end” duty team**.
* **U16, U14 and U12** score cards should be **taken to** the administration team (based on the outside courts) who will post the score cards in the envelope provided to the League Secretary ON THE DAY OF THE MATCH. Any score sheets not handed in to the admin desk should be posted on match day to the league secretary.
* **PDF / scanned copies are acceptable to the League Secretary but must be emailed (sukijane128@gmail.com).**
	1. Failure to inform the score or to send in the score sheet late (after one week of the match date) will

 result in the loss of one point. Two such infringements will also mean an additional fine of £5.

* 1. Scores will be added to the Lincolnshire Netball website www.lincolnshirenetball.co.uk

**10**. **QUERIES, COMPLAINTS & APPEALS**

10.1 Any team or match official who intends to raise a query or complaint regarding the playing of a match

 and/or its result must inform their opponents and the umpires on the day of the match.

10.2 Any queries or complaints regarding the playing of a match and/or its result must be submitted in writing

to the LCMB within 2 working days. It is advised that this be sent by recorded delivery or via email asking for confirmation of receipt. Advance notice of such query or dispute should also be provided by telephone within 48 hours.

10.3 All queries, complaints and disputes regarding the playing of a match and/or its result will be determined

in the first instance by the Competition Core Group convened by the LCMB which will use best endeavours to determine the course of action within ten (10) days of the receiving the query, complaint or

 dispute.

10.4 LCMB will have the power to determine the penalty to be imposed on teams and players who are in

 breach of these rules and regulations regarding the playing of matches in the Lincolnshire League. Such

 penalties will include reprimands, the deduction of league points, fines, suspensions, and expulsion from

 the competition, except as specified below:

* The use of an unaffiliated player will result in a deduction of 5 league points, the result of the fixture will still stand.
* The use of an unregistered player or a player, who is under age without written permission from the LCMB, will result in a deduction of 2 league points, the result of the fixture will still stand.
* In the event that a team fails to play the non-offending team will be awarded 5 points for the match and the offending team will have 5 points deducted from their total (Failure to play is defined as not playing in a game, without prior consent from the LCMB and with the opposition and officials expecting that the game would be played).

**11. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISOS**

 It is the responsibility of each team to provide adequate first aid cover for its players and officials,

which shall also be made available to the match officials on request.

**12. CLOSE RANGE PHOTOGRAPHY**

 Photography may take place any week. If there are any members of your club who do not wish to have their photograph taken, please notify the League Secretary.

**13. HEALTH & SAFETY**

13.1 **Umpires and bleeding**

Play may be stopped for injury or illness or any other cause. This would allow the Umpires to stop the game if she/he sustained and injury herself/himself.

#### 13.2 **Pregnancy**

EN recommends that individuals (player, coach, umpire) if pregnant should only participate with approval from their doctor and in accordance with any guidelines issued by EN. Neither EN, nor the club 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. The EN Personal Accident cover will not provide any benefit for injury, loss or expense due to pregnancy, childbirth, miscarriage or any consequence thereof. For example, if an ‘Insured Person’ who is pregnant is involved in an accident (not pregnancy related) and suffers a broken leg then, subject to claims validation, EN would pay any broken bones benefit, the Hospital Confinement benefit and Temporary Total Disablement benefit due under the Personal Accident Insurance Policy resulting from this injury. However, if the absence or hospital stay is prolonged as a direct result of pregnancy, pregnancy complications or even early childbirth then this would not be covered. The EN insurance scheme is provided as a Membership benefit and ensures that Affiliated Members (referred to in the Liability insurance documents as ‘Registered Participants’) and in the Personal Accident documents as an 'Insured Person' are covered for Liability and Personal Accident Insurance, at the level of cover applicable to their category of membership. This document 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. These documents are available to individuals on request by email, or can be downloaded by every member on the downloadable documents in MyNet. Please note this guidance supersedes previous guidance that players, coaches, officials should only participate up until their 12th week of pregnancy.

#### 13.3 **Umpires fitness, Gloves, Jewellery, Headscarves Leg Braces, Uniform**

England Netball Domestic Guidance must be followed and can be found

<http://www.englandnetball.co.uk/officiating/Rules_Directives.php>

13.4 **Accident Reporting**

An England Netball Accident form must be completed for **all** accidents and sent to the League Secretary. A copy of the Accident form and the results sheet will be sent England Netball where they will be stored for insurance purposes.

If an accident occurs at a Netball match where a player, coach, spectator or staff member 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.

A team official - i.e. coach, team manager or other team representative - should complete the Accident Report Form, 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 or on the back of the form.  Additional pages should be stapled or clipped securely to the original form.

The names, addresses and contact details of any witness present should be recorded.  It may also be necessary, in some circumstances, to obtain an Umpires Report as evidence.  This is essential for any follow up queries England Netball or its insurers may have.

The form should be sent to the League Secretary within 3 (three) days of the incident taking place who will retain a copy and forward to England Netball.  A copy should be kept by each team and filed for future reference. All participants acknowledge that participating in the sport of netball involves a risk of personal injury and by taking part in the Lincolnshire League whether as a player, team member, team official, other official or spectator, each participant does so at their own risk.

**14. PAYMENT**

14.1 Teams will pay a fee to enter the Lincolnshire Netball League.

14.2 Invoices for court fees will be sent regularly. Invoices must be paid within 21 days. If not paid then any matches they play in will be awarded to the other team despite the score until payment is received in FULL. Then results from that date will again stand. Any outstanding payments when league finished – will mean the team(s) involved WILL NOT be able to go forward to represent the county at any regional playoffs etc.

**15. DISCLAIMER**

 Lincolnshire Netball will not be liable to any person, whether in contract, to (including negligence) or otherwise for any direct or indirect loss or injury of any nature, howsoever caused and howsoever arising from the matters covered by these Regulations, provided that nothing in these Regulations excludes or restricts Lincolnshire Netball’s liability for any personal loss or injury caused by Lincolnshire Netball’s own negligence, the negligence of its employees, or for fraud

 **Please complete the form below and post to**

**Sue Kemp, The Haven, New End, Hemingby LN9 5QQ by Monday, 9th July 2018 (together with your entry form(s) and payment)**

**Declaration**

I declare that every coach, team manager and umpire from my club/team have read the LCMB Lincolnshire Netball League Rules and Regulations, that my club/team will be informed of these rules and I agree that

NAME OF NETBALL CLUB/TEAM

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

will abide by these for the 2018-19 season.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PRINT SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_