

# LIVERPOOL NETBALL LEAGUE RULES AND REGULATIONS - SEASON 2010/11.

## **Management**

The management of the League will be vested in a committee consisting of the Chairman, Vice Chairman, League Secretary, Treasurer, Umpiring Secretary and Divisional Secretaries for each division together with four representatives from the constituent clubs in the League and a Merseyside County representative. The officials and members of the Committee will be determined at the Annual General Meeting which will be held in the close season to which all clubs in the League must send a representative and clubs failing to comply will be fined **£20.00**. Regular meetings of the League Committee will be held during the season to deal with current items of business.

## **2. The League**

The League shall be for players of open age and will be divided into the Divisions decided at the Annual General Meeting.

## **3. Applications**

Applications for entry into the League must be received by the Secretary by the appointed date and must be accompanied by the fee nominated for the season and the appropriate forms i.e. Entry Form, Players registration form which must include each player's individual affiliation number. Failure to do so may result in a player not being eligible to play. Court fees, insurance fee, outstanding fines, other fees and any outstanding debts must be paid **prior to the AGM**. The Committee reserves the right to accept or reject applications for entry into the League, including teams defaulting on the payment of fees or fines. Failure to comply will result in rejection of application.

## **4. Registration of Players**

Players must be registered annually and cannot take part in matches organised by the League unless 7 days have elapsed from one Sunday to the next e.g. player registered Sunday 11th is eligible to play Sunday 18th. At the least, seven players must be registered for each team. In the event of more than 12 players being registered a £2.50 charge per player will be levied on the team. In the event of a player being transferred from one club to another in the League, the Secretary of the club requesting the transfer must obtain consent of the players original club by the completion of a transfer form and a copy sent to each of the Divisional Secretaries concerned. The player will become eligible for the new team 14 days after the new date of registration.

Clubs with two or more teams in the League will be allowed to include players from their team(s) in lower Divisions in their Senior sides for three League matches without an official transfer being effected. If the player is required for more than three League matches, an official transfer must be made. However, in one match, a maximum of two players only may be used in this way. An official transfer within the same club can only be made prior to 56 days of the last league fixture. Any player transferring down within the same club will not be eligible to play up for the remainder of the season. (For cup matches See Rule 11)

Clubs will not be allowed to use players from a Senior side in teams in a lower Division without an official transfer. In the event of a Club having more than one team in the same Division, interchange of players will not be allowed without an official transfer. No players may be transferred to a different club prior to 28 days of the last league fixture.

Registration lists must be kept up to date as the number of players registered will be taken into account when application for rearranged games are considered.

## **5. Fixtures**

All games must be played at the appointed venue - no exceptions to this rule. Each club will play the other teams in their Division twice in a season on the dates arranged in the Season's Fixture list. Matches must be played on the dates and appointed times given. Any team more than 5 minutes late taking the court will lose the points. All games must start at the appointed time the only exception being if umpires are delayed. If both umpires are ready to start, the timing of the game will commence. If one team is on court at the appropriate time 2 goals will be awarded to them for every complete minute the opposition then fail to take the course.

In the event of a match being postponed due to severe weather conditions, and both teams are present at the appointed time, the match will be re-arranged by the Divisional Secretary and both secretaries notified of the time and date. If only one team attends, the points for the fixture will be awarded to that team and postponement of the match shall not be valid, (a minimum of 3 points - maximum 6 points may be deducted from the offending team, at the discretion of the Committee). In special cases when a fixture clashes with an important Club event (this does not include christening/social events for which case apply to Divisional Secretary for fixture time change). Application must be made to the Divisional Secretary for permission to postpone the fixture at least twenty eight days prior to the original date on the fixture list. In this case the club applying for the postponement must inform the opposing club secretary immediately confirmation is received from the League.

Games cannot be rearranged between clubs under any circumstances. In the event of a Club being unable to field a team for the given fixture, the Secretary must advise the opposing Club and the Divisional Secretary giving five days clear notice. Failure to take this action resulting in the opposing club unnecessarily attending a venue may result in the offending Club having to pay travel expenses. (Maximum travel/umpires fee £10). Points will be forfeited by clubs not completing fixtures without due reason. Any team failing to fulfil four League matches, will be addressed by Committee and may be withdrawn from the League and all that clubs fixtures be expunged. All clubs fixtures must be played.

For whatever reason a game is postponed, once a new date has been set by the Divisional Secretary it is deemed to be a fixture. This does not extend the last official League fixture date.

Both teams in a match must forward a card to the Divisional Secretary **within five days of the fixture** giving the result, date, names and positions of the players. The players should also sign the card which is then to be counter-signed by the umpire. **Clubs failing to provide a result card in the due time may be fined.**

All courts must be correctly marked and equipped in accordance with AENA rules. Complaints about the venue and/or equipment must be made to the umpires before the match and officials will, if considered appropriate, instruct the offending club to rectify the defects before the match commences. When a match has been commenced and/or played, Clubs have not taken this action cannot use defects as a cause for complaint.

## **6. Ineligible Players**

In the event of a Club playing an ineligible player, the points for the match will be awarded to the opposing Club and the offence will be dealt with by the League Committee. A Club shall have the right to demand signatures of players in the opposing team.

Any club including in their team a player under an assumed name is liable to suspension and any further action considered necessary by the League Committee.

## **7. Discipline**

Umpires (Qualified/unqualified) must report to the League Committee any disciplinary action taken before, during or after a match and offences will be dealt with by the League Committee.

When an unqualified umpire is umpiring with a qualified umpire the unqualified umpire must consult with the qualified umpire before any disciplinary action is taken. When two unqualified umpires are umpiring a match disciplinary action can still be taken after joint consultation. The umpire must advise the player that her name and details of the offence will be forwarded to the League Secretary for action at the next Committee meeting.

## **8. Umpires**

Matches will be played in accordance with AENA Rules, and each team must have an umpire capable of taking the game in conjunction with the umpire of the opposing club. Games will not take place unless there are 2 umpires to officiate. Games not played must be reported to the Committee.

Teams in all Divisions will be responsible for arranging a League Approved umpire for their game. It is the team's responsibility to provide a reliable umpire. All Division 1 teams must provide a qualified umpire for their matches.

All teams must forward to the League at least one name of a person able to umpire so a comprehensive list can be drawn up i.e. 50 teams in the League - at least 50 names on list.

Teams in all Divisions desiring neutral umpires for a particular match must submit a written request to the Umpiring Secretary at least 28 days beforehand and if approved will pay both umpires appointed by the Umpiring Secretary.

## **9. Colours**

The proper netball attire must be worn at all times - skirt/blouse/bibs/tracksuit. If tracksuit worn skirts must be worn over. Cycling shorts must not be worn.

All teams must register their colours with the League Secretary. In the event of the teams in a match having similar colours, the second named team must provide another set of different coloured bibs. Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action being taken against the offending team.

## **10. Championships**

Points for matches will be apportioned as follows:

5 points for a win	3 points for a draw
2 points for losing within 5 goal	1 if <u>more than</u> 50% of winning score is achieved

At the end of the season, awards determined by the League Committee will be presented to the first and second team in each Division. In the event of more than one Club being eligible for either of the awards, the League Committee will arrange play-off matches to decide the Clubs entitled to the awards. No player shall be allowed to take part in play-off matches unless she has played for the Club on at least three occasions during the current season. In the event of a club resigning from the League, all the Club's points will be expunged. Winners and Runners up of any competition, League or Cup will receive 8 trophies.

## **11. Knock-Out Competitions**

Teams in Division 1 and 2 will automatically be entered for the "Bill Williams" Shield Competition and a separate "Jim Harrison" Shield Competition will be held for teams in Division 3, 4. A player will only be allowed to play in one of these competitions and for one team only, including clubs with more than one team. Where applicable, the League Rules will apply to the Knock-Out Competitions except that players must have played one League Match before they can compete in the opening rounds and three matches before they can compete in Semi-finals or the Final.

If match is a draw 5 minutes each way extra time will be played (first centre decided by toss of coin). If result still a draw after extra time sudden death (first to score wins) comes into play. (Centre again decided by toss of coin).

**12. Change of Officials**

Changes of name and/or address of Club Secretaries and Umpires must be notified to the League and Divisional Secretaries immediately they occur.

**13. Insurance**

Teams are automatically insured by being affiliated to ANEA. Any new teams joining the League must ensure their affiliation application is lodged with AENA before the start of the season for insurance purposes.

**14. Pregnancy**

AENA state that a player who is pregnant shall be allowed to play up to and including the 12th week of pregnancy. Umpires can umpire up to and including the 20th week of pregnancy.

**15. Funds**

In the event of the League being dissolved, funds standing to the credit of the League shall be disposed of by refunding monies received in sponsorship and entry fees that season, the balance being dealt with at a special General Meeting convened for this purpose.

**16. Affiliation**

**ALL** players including those applying for re-entry to the League to be affiliated to AENA .

17. All cups and trophies to be returned on last Sunday of League fixtures in good condition. Fines will be applicable for any damage to same.

**18. First Aid**

All teams must have a suitable first aid kit for use in any emergency during matches. Responsibility for First Aid rests with each individual team and not the League or the owners of the Premises.

19. Any matter not specifically dealt with in the Rules and Regulations shall be decided by the Committee.