

Premier **SENIOR** League Rules Season 2015-2016

Premier Senior League Objectives

Provide a high level of competition for top clubs in the county
Improve the standard of club Netball
Provide Opportunities for umpiring at this level
Assist in breaking down geographical barriers within the county
Provide social contact and friendly competitive competition

Time

Matches to be held monthly. Junior fixtures will be played before or after Senior game, depending on venue availability. see Fixture List and Rule Matches, point 2 and 6a.

Format

1. There shall be a maximum of ten teams in the league.
2. Teams may be composite and players must be playing netball to a reasonable standard.
3. Teams will play each other once in a home and away fixture – This will depend on the number of entries.
4. The teams finishing 1st and 2nd in the league are offered places in the Regional League. If either of these two team do not wish to take up this place then it will be offered to 3rd place and so on (both places do not have to be filled).

Players

1. All players must be affiliated to England Netball. To compete in Cumbria Premier League a player must be 1st or 2nd claim to the Premier League Team they are competing for.
2. All teams and umpires to be affiliated by the October fixture. Affiliations will be checked against the Register by the Results Secretary with the County Affiliation Secretary.
- 3a. No player shall play for more than one team.
- 3b. 3a is void were a club enters more than one Senior team into the league. Players from a Senior Club are allowed to play up or down into teams from that club.
- 3bi. A first team player is only allowed to play down once. If that individual plays down twice they are locked into the second team. This is to be monitored and recorded by the Results Secretary.
- 3bii. A second team players is only allowed to play up twice. If that individual plays up three times they are locked in the first team. This is to be monitored and recorded by the Results Secretary.
- 4a. Senior players (Over 16) are not allowed to play down into a Junior team.
- 4b. Junior players are only allowed to play in a Senior game if the Junior team does not have a fixture on the same day as the Seniors.
- 4bi. Junior players are allowed to move up and play in the Senior team and move down from Senior to Junior teams without being locked in.

Register

1. Each club shall submit a register of a maximum of 20 players from whom the team may be drawn. Only 12 players may be used in any one game.
2. The Register to be sent to the League Secretary and Results Secretary by September 1st (with or without affiliation numbers). The Register will be checked against affiliations with the Results Secretary (& County Affiliations Secretary) after the October fixture. **Failure to do so shall result in the forfeit of points for the first game.** The Results Secretary and League Secretary to monitor this.
3. The Register will be kept by the results secretary for checking of result cards and the registering of players.

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- 3a. The register can be added to at any time throughout the season by informing the Results Secretary.
The name/s of the additional player/s must be submitted to the Results Secretary **before the game/match commences**. If this is not done in time then the player will not be eligible to play in the fixture.
4. A team using unaffiliated and/or player/s not on the submitted register shall forfeit the team's points for the match. The non-offending team will be awarded the game and a win. The non-offending team will receive a maximum of five points. Should both teams offend, the points for this match will be nullified.

Umpires

1. All umpires shall be current affiliated members to EN and shall be qualified to Beginner level or above.
2. Each team is responsible for providing a named umpire for each match date.
- 2a. In the first instance if a team does not provide an umpire they will be fined **£10**.
In the second and subsequent times after this that a team fails to provide an umpire, the team will be **deducted five points**.
3. The umpire is excluded from playing in the match that they are umpiring, but may play on other occasions if not the named umpire.
4. The named umpire must umpire throughout the whole match and except in the case of illness or injury, there is to be no change of umpire within the one match.
5. An umpire may officiate two matches in succession BUT only in exceptional circumstances, when a fixture may have to be cancelled if no other umpires are available.
6. If a club requires the services of an external umpire the minimum charge will be £15.00. Any travel expenses over and above the £15.00 to be paid at the current AENA rate of 40p per mile. The club secretary/captain is responsible for paying the umpire on the day of the fixture.

Matches

- 1 All matches to be played according to EN rules.
- 2 Each match can be either 4 x 15 minutes or 4 x 12 minutes.
This may be because of venue availability or because it is a Junior fixture. Both Senior Team Captains/Managers/Coaches are to discuss and agree the timings before the fixture commences.
- 3 Courts for matches must be booked allowing enough time for teams to warm up.
- 3a. If a team or teams are late arriving then they are allowed an additional 15 minutes before the game must commence.
- 4 A team must take the court if there are at least five (5) players present, one of whom must play centre. All England Rule 4.3. If the team is unable to field at least 5 players then the forfeit the game.
- 5 The home team is responsible for booking the venue and its cost.
6. The home team must contact the away team and provide them with details of the venue, date of fixture and venue.
- 6a. A Senior fixture has priority over a Junior fixture if there are venue booking restrictions. It is the responsibility of the home team to organise a venue for Senior and Junior fixtures. A club must try its utmost to play both Senior and Junior games on the same day.
If this is not possible due to venue availability the Junior fixture may be played on another day. Refer to Rules, Matches Point 2 and Cancellation Point 2.
7. Each Team has to provide a scorer for their match.

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Dates

1. The leagues will run from September to May the following year.
2. Fixtures will be played indoors.
3. There may be an outdoor fixture in May, which will be the end of season Tournament.
4. There will not be any fixtures in December if practicable.

Cancellation

1. Notification of cancellation of matches must be made as soon possible before the fixture to all relevant parties (opposing captains, Umpires and Results Secretary). Results card signed by team representative noting who cancelled to be sent to Results Secretary.
2. Matches are scheduled for particular weekends giving the home team preference over the specific day. The date, time and venue must be advised to the opposing/visiting team at least two weeks in advance. Both teams must try their utmost to play the fixtures. However, matches can be re-arranged if convenient for both teams to a date within that playing month, if practicable.
3. Matches may be re-arranged as a result of unforeseen weather which affects a team's travelling ability or the venue. The fixtures will be re-played within the season at the earliest convenience. It will be the team's responsibility to re-arrange the fixture and they must inform the Results Secretary.
4. Any cancelled matches result in points being awarded to the non-offending team.
- 4a. And 2-point deduction for the offending team.
5. Should the away team cancel, the non offending team will be reimbursed the venue fees by the offending team/club.
6. The Executive Committee shall have the final decision and if both teams are considered equally at fault no points shall be awarded to either team.

First Aid

It is the responsibility of each team to have first aid dressing at the side of the court.

Refer to England Netball Official Netball Rule Book for the clarification of the below rules;

Substitution (Rule 6)

Stoppages (Rule 7)

Injury or Illness (Rule 7.1)

Blood Policy (Rule 7.2)

Emergency (Rule 7.3)

Liability

CCNA nor any venue shall accept liability whatsoever in respect of personal loss or injury which players, officials or spectators may sustain.

Apparel

1. Only those wearing sports shoes will be allowed into the court area.
2. No form of glove may be worn when playing netball.

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Scoring System

Win	5 points
Draw	3 points
Within 5 goals i.e. 16 – 20	2 points
More than 50% of winning score	1 point
Played Loss	0 points
Cancellation of fixture	2-point deduction

Where two teams tie on point's goal average will decide placing.

Where one of the teams involved has its goal average affected by being a recipient of awarded points, then the goals for and against the defaulting team shall be ignored in any calculation of goal average. i.e. Team A=21 points. Team B=21 points. Team A received 5 points for a non-fulfilled fixture. The goals for and against the offending team are not included when team B's goal average is calculated.

Results

To be telephoned or texted to the Results Secretary before 7.00pm of the day of the fixtures and the results card to be received **72 hours later** either by post and/or email. Non receipt of the results card will result in **1 point** being deducted from the relevant team/s point tally. Addressed cards will be provided.

Fees

1. A sum of £20 per team for the season to cover administration fees.
2. The Premier League is non-profit making.
3. When teams are asked to pay fees, they have two weeks from that point to pay the Treasurer. If a team does not pay within **two weeks, 2 points** will be deducted from the relevant team/s points tally. Only in exceptional circumstances will a team avoid deduction of points due to late payment. They should put their case forward to the Treasurer and Chairperson. This will be monitored by the Treasurer and the Results Secretary.

Trophies

1. To be presented at the May Tournament. (If this takes place) or at the Cumbria County Netball AGM.
2. Trophies will be presented to League Winners, League Runners Up and Player of Year.
3. Teams to nominate a member of the opposing team, deemed to be Player of the Match, per match and write that players name on the results card.

Committee

As nominated at the Annual General Meeting:

1. This Committee to be responsible for the day-to-day organisation of the league, but to liaise with and be responsible to the County Committee.

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2. The Premier League Committee to hold an AGM each year and present an annual report and set of accounts at the Cumbria County Netball Association AGM.

Annual General Meeting

1. To take place on a date that is mutually convenient for the members of the Committee. Each team should send one representative. If no representative is sent the non-represented team will agree to all decisions made in their absence.

The Agenda for the season to include:

1. Items of note that have arisen during the season
2. To receive written report for Committee officials and accounts
3. To elect Committee Officers for the forthcoming season

Updated 1 September 2015