# ORGANISATION AND ADMINISTRATION

## The **competition shall be known as Berkshire Junior Netball League (BJNL).**

## The competition and all rights and properties associated with it shall be owned, controlled and managed by the **Berkshire Netball Management Board (BNMB)**; which may delegate its powers and authority in this respect to the **Competitions Secretary (CS)** who chairs the **Competitions Sub-Group (CSG)** or other nominee(s) administering the BJNL.

## The decisions of **the BNMB**, **CSG** or nominee(s) in respect of these rules and regulations, and on any other matter related to the **BJNL** which is not provided for below, shall be considered final and binding on all parties.

## All clubs will be responsible for the overall conduct of their players, officials and spectators.

## Matches will be 7 a-side and teams must consist of girls only.

# QUALIFICATIONS AND ELIGIBILITY

## Entry into the BJNL will be determined by the CSG subject to rules and regulations at its absolute discretion. Teams entering the league must be affiliated, either first or second claim, to **England Netball (EN)**, **Netball South (NS)** and **Berkshire Netball (BN)**.

## In order to participate in the **BJNL** teams shall either be accredited under the **EN** CAPS scheme, or working towards the same.

## By entering a team in the **BJNL**, all 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 **BJNL**

## Players in the U14 League may be in Yr 8 (U13) or Yr 9 (U14) from 1st September. Players in the U16 League may be in Yr 9 (U14), Yr 10 (U15) or Yr 11 (U16) from 1st September. Any U14 player playing in the BJNL U16 league must have completed and submitted an age-banding consent form to the Competition Secretary prior to participating in an U16 fixture.

## A player may play for a club which is not her 1st claim affiliated club provided both clubs have agreed and her 1st claim club has not entered the league.

## Players who are registered to play for a team within the South Region U14 or U16 leagues are only eligible to play in the **BJNL** as long as they have not played more than **16** Quarters in the South Region Division one League. Once a player has played more than **16 quarters** in the South Region League she will not be eligible to play in the **BJNL.** Exceptions to this will be considered on an individual basis and should be addressed to the Competition Secretary 7 days prior to the BJNL match.

## Players registered to play in the U19 South Region League **may not** play in the **BJNL**.

# REGISTRATION OF SQUAD MEMBERS

## Squad registration sheets for each participating team must be fully completed for each player and lodged with the **CS** at least seven (7) days prior to the commencement of the **BJNL** playing season (first fixture).

## There is no limit to the number of players that can be registered on the sheet for a team.

## Any additions to the squad registration sheets must be lodged with the **CS** berkshireleagueresults@gmail.com by 17.00 hours on the Friday prior to the fixture weekend. Email additions will be accepted.

## Teams may only use players whose names appear on their squad registration list held by the **CSG**.

## Each team may declare up to twelve (12) players on the **BJNL** results sheet prior to the start of each match.

## Players can play up an age group for their club, e.g. U13 player can play in the U14 team; or they can play up a division within the same age group, e.g. U14 Div 2 player can play up for U14 Div 1 team. **This must be indicated on the results sheet**. This can be on a maximum of *two* occasions. On the third occasion that player must be de-registered and re-registered with the higher team. Players **cannot** play down an age group or division.

## The **CSG** may, at its absolute discretion, agree for players to transfer between two clubs during the course of the playing season. Such requests must be made in writing for consideration by the **CSG**, and must outline the reason for the transfer request.

## From 16th December 2017 to 1st January 2018 clubs may de-register a maximum of two (2) players from each squad and re-register with an alternative squad within the same age group E.g. only two (2) players could be de-registered from the A team and re-registered with the B team and vice versa.

## Any team who knowingly and deliberately provides false information regarding the identity of players when registering or naming players on team sheets will forfeit their deposit and will be expelled from the competition with immediate effect. All results will then be treated as null and void. Disciplinary action will be taken against the club in accordance with **EN** guidelines.

## Once fixtures have been circulated any club that withdraws a team from the **BJNL** at any time in the season **will** **not** be eligible for automatic entry to the **BJNL** for season 2018. There will be no refund of monies due.

# STRUCTURE OF THE LEAGUE

## The **BJNL** will be contested between as many teams and divisions as shall be determined by the **CSG** in consultation with the **BNMB.**

## Teams will be awarded league points as follows:

* 5 points for a win
* 3 points for a draw
* 2 points if within 5 goals of the winner’s score – i.e. 50-46 = 2 points, 50-45 = 1 point
* 1 point for more than 50 per cent of the winner’s score
* 0 points for a loss

## Where two teams are level on points:

* Goal difference shall be used to determine their relative positions In i.e. precedence shall be given to the team with the greater difference between goals scored and goals conceded.
* In the event that goal difference does not differentiate between the teams then the team with the greater number of goals scored shall take precedence.
* In the event that neither goal average, nor goal difference, nor goals scored can differentiate between the teams, the aggregate score in the match or matches played between them over the course of the season shall be calculated and precedence given to the winning team.
* Where one team has its goal average, goal difference or total number of goals scored affected by cancellations, then all goals scored by and against defaulting team(s) in all fixtures shall be omitted from the calculations of both teams level on points. For example, in the event that one team received 5 points for a cancelled fixture then the goals scored by and against both teams level on points, in all games against the offending team will not be included when its goal average, goal difference or total number of goals is calculated.

# FIXTURE ARRANGEMENTS

## Matches will be played at various venues allocated by the **CSG**.

## Matches that are postponed by the **CSG** due to extreme and unforeseen circumstances e.g. flash floods, heavy snowfall, will be played on a mutually agreed date or as determined by the **CSG.**

## No team may postpone or cancel a fixture without agreement of the **CSG**.

## In the event that a match is abandoned for any reason (because of serious injury etc), the result of that match will be determined by the **CS** in consultation with the **CSG**; giving regard to the score at the time which play was suspended.

# MATCH REGULATIONS

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

## Each fixture is allocated 90 minutes court time to allow for warm up, match play and cool down.

## All matches shall be one hour (i.e. four quarters of 15 minutes each) with two minutes (2) between 1st and 2nd quarters and 3rd and 4th quarters, and five minutes (5) at half time.

## Post height will be 10ft for all matches and a size 5 ball will be used.

## Teams must vacate the courts promptly after their match to allow the next round of matches to start on time.

## Match officials must abide by the rules of the team bench.

## The **first** named team (named on the left of the fixtures) are responsible for providing a timekeeper. A 2 minute warning for the start of the game must be given to the umpire and at the umpires request a 30 second warning prior to the whistle/horn ,(do not walk up and down following them). The timekeeper is also responsible for timing the breaks between quarters.

## Both teams must provide a scorer. The scorers must agree the score at the end of each quarter. Match officials do not have to sit with each other.

## In the event of a clash of colours of bibs, a toss of a coin between the two captains will decide which team retains their original coloured bibs. All teams must have alternative bibs for all fixtures.

# MATCH OFFICIALS

## Each team is responsible for providing and paying for their own umpire who should be a minimum qualified C umpire. If in doubt please contact the **CS** berkshireleagueresults@gmail.com.

## 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 appropriately qualified umpire is available then she/he will umpire the match. Failing that the next best qualified umpire should be used

* The first named team must inform the **CS** immediately after the match

## Umpires must not officiate more than two consecutive matches at U14 or U16 level.

## 7.4 Each team will provide a competent scorer and timekeeper. **This cannot be a player named on the result sheet**.

# RESULTS

## The completed results sheet must be checked and signed by both team coaches and both umpires **at the end of each game.** Copies of both score sheets must be emailed to the berkshireleagueresults@gmail.com on the day of the fixture so that players names can be checked against registration sheets held on file. Each team should retain their original score sheet in case of any queries.

## Results along with copies of both score sheets must be sent by the winning team only by email to the berkshireleagueresults@gmail.com by 18.00 hours (6pm) on the day of the fixture, please ensure the results title email clearly state the fixture date for example **BJNL Results 15-09-16**. In the body of the email the score should be included: Chelsea 10 Bishop Stortford 9.

# QUERIES, COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS

## The **CSG** will 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 **BJNL** and the notification of results.

### The use of an unaffiliated, unregistered or ineligible player will result in a deduction of 3 points.

### The incorrect level of umpire without the permission of the CSG will result in the deduction of 3 points.

### A team not providing a competent scorer/timekeeper will result in the offending team receiving a 3 point deduction.

### Incomplete and/or late score sheets will result in a deduction of 3 points.

### Late email, incomplete information on more than 2 occasions will result in a deduction of 3 points.

## If a team cancels a match without the agreement of the **CSG**:

### The non-offending team will be awarded five (5) league points for the match plus 20 goals.

### The team which cancels will be liable to a 3 point deduction of league points for the match and will be liable to pay any costs which the non- offending team has incurred, subject to the determination of the **CSG**.

### **EACH** conceded game will result in the non-offending team receiving 5 points and a score of 20-0 goals. Conceding three (3) games will result in all games being forfeited and the offending team will take no further part in the **BJNL**.

## 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.***

## Any queries or complaints regarding the playing of a match and/or its result must be submitted in writing to the **CSG** via email to berkshireleagueresults@gmail.com within seven (7) working days. Advance notice of such query or dispute should also be provided by telephone within 48 hours of the fixture date.

## All queries, complaints and disputes regarding the playing of a match and/or its result will be determined in the first instance by the **CSG***,* which will use best endeavours to determine the course of action within ten (10) days of the receiving the query, complaint or dispute.

## In the event that any team wishes to appeal against the decision of the **CSG**, it must notify **BNMB’s** Disciplinary Secretary within seven (7) working days of receipt of the decision. In this event, the matter will be considered in line with the **EN** Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures Manuals.

##  Any team which wishes to appeal against the governance and management of the **BJNL** by the **BNMB** or the **CSG**, or against specific decisions made by it, must follow the procedures laid out in **EN’s** Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures Manual.

## Any team which fails to observe the procedures laid out in the preceding clauses will invalidate its right to raise a query, complaint or appeal.

## Any complaint which does not concern the playing of a match and/or its result, but which is made in respect of a disciplinary offence, will be dealt with according to the procedures laid out in **EN’s** Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures Manual.

# CONDUCT

All players, coaches, officials, volunteers, spectators and parents must adhere to the appropriate code of conduct as set out on the Berkshire Netball Website and also on the England Netball Website.

# TEAM BENCH AND SPECTATORS

## When possible at the start of the game the team bench will be at their team’s defending end, to the right of the netball posts. Do not change ends at half time.

## Team officials and players must not move up and down the sidelines or along the goal line, and should remain in the “bench area”.

## A representative from each team must sit in a central position courtside in order to score/timekeep (this may not be a player) and be available to the umpires.

## **For safety reasons, spectators are requested to watch whenever possible from the viewing gallery. In the event that there is no viewing gallery each team is responsible for ensuring that any spectators courtside behave in a sportsmanlike manner. Spectators should be positioned at their team’s defending end. Umpires may ask spectators to move if they consider that the safety of players and umpires has been compromised.**

## **Anyone wishing to take photographs must request permission from each team.**

## Zoom or video photography is not permitted (to abide by **EN** Duty of Care Guidelines).

# RESPONSIBILITIES AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISOS

## A minimum of UKCC Level 2 Netball coach is required to be in attendance at all fixtures**.** This ensures the attendance of a adequate first aid cover for its athletes and officials.

## BNMB and the CSG accept no liability whatsoever in respect of personal loss or injury which athletes, officials or spectators may sustain.

## No form of glove may be worn when playing netball. If gloves are required for medical reasons, the umpires may allow seamless leather or cotton gloves to be worn on production of an appropriate medical certificate, provided that they are satisfied that any gloves worn do not present an obvious hazard to other players.

## If scarves need to be worn because of religious practices or medical reasons, the players and the coach must ensure that the material used for the head covering is soft, without embellishments which might constitute a danger, and with potential flowing/flapping edges held securely around the neck and securely as possible.

## No jewellery of any kind may be worn. No taping is permitted. A medical alert bracelet may be worn providing

that it is secured and taped/covered in a suitable manner that will not constitute a danger to an opponent. Sharp

adornments e.g. knee of arm braces, must also be suitably taped.