

Procedures for Adult Indoor Netball Matches – Tyne and Wear County – Winter 2021-22

The following procedures **MUST** be followed by all participants taking part in the Adult Indoor League in any capacity. Any players, official or team personnel who fail to adhere to these procedures may be subject to disciplinary action.

All participants have a duty of care to each other to ensure that they minimise any risk of transmission of the Covid-19 virus. The following procedures if followed by ALL will help to reduce the risks of transmission and keep us safe on court.

Anyone who has tested positive for Covid-19, feels unwell with Covid-19 type symptoms or who has a close contact who has tested positive for Covid-19 (and they haven't received a negative test result themselves) should not attend any netball event. A further document outlining the process to follow should someone test positive following attendance at a netball event will be circulated.

The following **pre match procedure** is recommended:

1. Players should arrive ready to play (in kit, jewellery off, etc.) and proceed straight to their court **ONCE THE MATCH BEFORE HAS FINISHED and the players are leaving the court. Players should not assemble in large groups in the reception area or on the sides of the courts whilst other matches are in play.** Reception area should only be used by those who travel by public transport and don't have cars to wait in until an appropriate time.
2. The fixtures designate the home and away teams so players can go straight to their bench area.
3. A **maximum of 30 people on any one court** will be in place for all matches. Deducting 2 Umpires means each team may have **14 personnel in total**. Aside from the players on court all these people must remain in the bench area for the duration of the match. All their names must also be confirmed to the County via the Team Sheet. It is recommended that anyone in the bench area should wear a mask or social distance. **Please note** – as we will be playing standard and not modified netball, if one person involved in a match tests positive for Covid-19, everyone else involved in the match will be required to take a test before they can attend any further netball event. Further information will be circulated on how to proceed following a positive test in a match.
4. There will be no specific ban on spectators attending matches, however any spectator who attends will form part of a team's 14 person maximum group and must remain in the bench area at all times. It is up to Club's to decide on how they wish to administer their spectators.
5. Please follow all directions given by Blue Flames staff.

The Home Team will:

- Occupy the bench area at the entry end of the court – same end as the doorway;
- Take the first centre pass and provide the ball for the first quarter.
- In Division 1 and 2, the scorer of the home team will operate the flip over scoreboard.

The Away Team will:

- Occupy the bench area at the opposite end of the court to the home team;

Play Safe:

- Players **must sanitise their hands** at the **start** and **end** of the match and **during** each quarter break.
- Each team **must have a sanitized match ball and the ball MUST be sanitised between quarters**. It is recommended that the ball is also sanitised if it comes into contact with anyone not on your court.
- It is recommended that kit is not shared between players and that sharing of overhead bibs is limited to two players.
- It is recommended that anyone administering first aid to a team mate should sanitise their hands before and after assisting, wear a mask and surgical gloves. All waste must be disposed of safely.
- Players should **remain on their own court for the duration of their match and then leave promptly**. Any other team personnel should remain in the bench area of their team at all times. There should be no one in any other areas around the court except the bench areas.

Get Out

- **Teams will have under 5 minutes to vacate the court** when the match ends – teams **MUST** vacate the court swiftly so that they do not cause issues for the next teams on court. Any post-match chat should take place outside the venue.
- Place all litter and rubbish in the bins at the venue, do not leave for someone else to tidy up.

- Any attendee who develops COVID-19 symptoms and tests positive up to 48 hours after any netball activity MUST:
 - follow any instructions given by NHS Test and Trace
 - notify the COVID Officer of their Club
 - notify the County Covid Officer.

Further guidance on how to proceed in the event of a netball participant testing positive will be produced and circulated to all Club Secretaries.

If anyone is concerned about the behaviour of an individual or a team they should raise these concerns with the individuals immediately if that is possible. If that isn't possible then they should raise the issues with the County's Covid Officer, Cat Witty, on tandwnetballcompetition@gmail.com as soon as possible after the event.

Further clarifications:

Entry and Exit from Court

Please do not enter the venue significantly before half past the hour. Ideally one player should check to see if the matches have finished and then signal to others to enter. Upon entering your court if the previous teams have not yet vacated, please gather in a different area on court.

Away teams for example could go to the opposite corner at the bottom end of the court and then move across once to the bench area once vacant.

Home teams could gather in the middle of the court and then move to the bench area once vacated.

As there will be more users in the venue than over the summer there will be the potential for hold ups but if teams are prepared when they enter we should still be able to keep to time. If significant issues arise we will have to review and reduce the playing time.

Duty Teams and Timing:

Duty teams have been advised to start each match no later than 25 minutes to the hour and to keep the time running, starting the quarters promptly and not waiting for teams to get back on the court. A match takes 55 minutes in total leaving 5 minutes for teams to vacate and get ready. This should be achievable IF everyone puts in the effort.

Team Sheets

Each team will need to submit a team sheet after each match. You will need the names of everyone in attendance from your club on the night, as well as the final score, winning team and the name of the umpires you have provided on that night – not the name of the umpire who umpired your match! Late arrival of team sheets will incur a £2 fine.