

Procedures for Match Nights - Outdoor

The following **MUST** be followed by all participants taking part in the Outdoor League in any capacity. These procedures are in line with the agreement reached between England Netball and the government under which we are allowed to return to playing competitive netball. Failure to follow these may result in us having to suspend the matches for a period of time.

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.

If anyone is concerned about the behaviour of an individual or a team on a match night they should raise these concerns with the individuals immediately if that is possible. If not they should raise the issues with the County's Covid Officer, Jade Keepin, on tandwnetballsafeguarding@gmail.com as soon as possible after the event.

Venue Specifics:

- Please follow any directions given by John Spence staff and also any movement flows and instructions marked in the venue – also see the diagram on the facebook page.
- Please take all your litter and rubbish with you when you leave.
- The floodlights are switched off at 9 sharp so please ensure you exit before this time.

Things you will need in your kit bag – you will need to bring with you everything you need, no reception or Duty Box at John Spence.

- At least 1 match ball or more, sanitised, pumped up and ready to play, at least 2 sets of bibs or more;
- A copy of the England Netball personal Health Checker document.
- Sanitizer hand gel – either one for the team or each individual
- Cleansing wipes – to sanitize your match ball between quarters.
- Something to time matches with – there will be no central timing.
- First Aid equipment, there will be nowhere to get supplies at the outdoor venue.

First Aid

It is recommended that each Club's designated first aider checks the St John Ambulance website to obtain guidance on how to administer first aid within a Covid-19 environment. Briefly, if assistance is required then the person(s) assisting must sanitise their hands before **and** after assisting – even if all they are doing is helping a player from the court. If they are required to administer any first aid they must wear surgical gloves and a mask at all times. Again all waste must be disposed of safely and hands sanitised after disposal and before anyone returns to court.

Get In:

The following pre match procedure is recommended:

1. Players and Umpires should arrive changed and ready to go (having removed all jewellery) – there will be no changing facilities available at the venue. Toilets are available but they are some distance from the courts in the Sports Hall. Please bring with you as little as possible – if it rains anything on the side will get very wet so maybe pack a black bin bag! Remember to follow the government guidance on travel and public transport.
2. Teams should assemble in the car park and organise teams, bibs, scorers, timers, and complete their health screening before they go through to the courts. Sanitize match balls if necessary though ideally this should be done before arrival.
3. Remember that there is no sharing of water bottles or drinks or food! It is recommended that water bottles and kit is clearly labelled to avoid accidental use by the wrong person.
4. Proceed to the courts in a timely and socially distanced manner – not too early to avoid large groups gathering. Remain in the area outside the courts – socially distanced and only enter once your court has been vacated. Home Team timer starts the match on time.
5. Finally anyone who has any symptoms at all should not attend the venue and should they experience symptoms on arrival they should return home and not mix with other attenders.

The published fixtures designate a home and an away team this year.

The Home Team will:

- Occupy the bench area at the entry end of the court – same end as the doorway;
- Time the match unless otherwise agreed with an umpire or the away team;
- Take the first centre pass.

The Away Team will:

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

Timing

We must vacate the courts at 9 sharp so the timing has been cut down to allow as much court time as possible. 50 minutes is allowed per match as follows: 4 quarters of 10 minutes; 2 minute breaks between quarters – enough time to sanitise your hands and the ball; 4 minutes to vacate the court and allow the next teams on court.

Bench areas and personnel:

- There will be no spectators at matches, anyone in the bench areas must be a participant in the match – player, coach, safeguarding officer, primary carer, scorer. All bench personnel must be members of England Netball;
- Anyone in the bench area **is recommended to wear a mask and socially distance from others in the area;**
- Teams will be limited to a **maximum of 7 players on court and 5 participants in the bench area.**
- No bench personnel must stand behind the movement area of the Umpire.

Play Safe:

- Clubs **MUST** submit a record of **ALL** attendees at a match. This includes players on court and everyone in the bench area to support NHS Track and Trace. This record will be submitted via an electronic google form and must be submitted within 12 hours of the match ending. Teams **MUST ADHERE** to this requirement. Teams who fail to submit their sheets may be asked to leave or face disciplinary action. It is recommended that clubs keep their own record of attenders too.
- Players must sanitise their hands at the start and end of the match and during each quarter break.
- Players may only play one match on any one day.
- Each team must have a **sanitized match ball and the ball MUST be sanitised between quarters.** If the ball should come into contact with someone not on your court then it must be sanitised before it is used on court again.
- **Kit** and Bibs cannot be shared between players and must be washed between matches.
- There is an additional risk of infection in close proximity situations where people are **shouting or conversing loudly.** The modified guidance prohibits shouting by players on court and general discussion between players on court should be kept to an absolute minimum and only conducted at a distance of 4 feet or more.
- Team talks should be conducted in socially distant circles on the court to avoid congesting the bench area. This will probably result in talks on court.
- Players are actively discouraged from touching the post. **If a player makes significant contact with a post the match will have to be stopped and the post wiped down.**

Get Out

- **Teams will have around 4 minutes maximum 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.** So no handshaking, three cheers or post-match discussions at the end of the matches – just straight to the car park.
- Each team will be responsible for wiping down the post at their bench end at the end of each match and hands should be sanitised by everyone as they leave.
- Players staying to umpire may remain on the court but should observe social distancing from new players entering the court.
- Players or umpires staying to umpire on a different court should move to the new court once it has been vacated observing social distancing.
- **Any attendee who develops COVID-19 symptoms up to 48 hours after any netball activity must report to NHS Test and Trace and notify the COVID Officer of their Club and the County Covid Officer if the test is positive**