**2022 Junior Match Regulations**

The Junior matches being organized by TWCNA are primarily for recreational netball and to provide the opportunity for players to gain match experience. **It is the responsibility of Team Managers, Coaches and Captains to ensure that all players and club officials are conversant with all the regulations and procedures around these matches. All clubs will be held responsible for the actions and behaviour of their players and officials.** The regulations are shown below and are very much pared down and purely in place to clarify the administration on the afternoon.

**Playing Eligibility**

**All those taking part MUST:**

* **be members of England Netball;**
* adhere to all the Covid-19 playing regulations that the County issue;
* all players must primarily play in their age group unless they are filling in last minute gaps to allow a match to go ahead – which will be allowed. The age of a player is calculated as at 1st September prior to the commencement of the matches;
* Players may also play in the age group above their own with the permission of the Club Head Coach. It is the responsibility of the Head Coach to ensure that the player concerned is strong enough to play in that higher age group. It is not permitted for an older player to play down in lower age groups.
* Players may play for more than one team on the same day with the permission of their Club Head Coach. It is the responsibility of the Club Head Coach to ensure the health and welfare of the player concerned.

**All Clubs taking part MUST:**

* have a Covid Officer registered on Engage;
* ensure that their Covid Officer holds up to date contact information for all participants,
* have undertaken the appropriate communication with all their players so that they understand the risks of playing netball at this time;
* have the appropriate safeguarding and personnel in place at all matches;

**Fixtures**

* **U13 and above:** Matches will consist of four x **8** minute quarters with 3 minutes at half time and 2 minutes between quarters.
* **U11 & U12** matches will consist of four x **6** minute quarters with 3 minutes at half time and 2 minutes between quarters.
* Teams should take the court in similar kit and bibs
* **Please read all the Covid Match Procedures** very carefully and share with all participants. Teams who do not follow these procedures and do not respect the safety of everyone may be asked to leave the competition or in extreme circumstances may be subject to disciplinary action.

**For Covid-19 purposes each Team MUST submit a Team Sheet listing EVERYONE in attendance on the day associated with that team – this must include all those on court and all those in the bench area.** A link to the sheet along with guidance on how to complete the sheet will be posted on the Junior Facebook page. Clubs with multiple teams must submit multiple team sheets. Team sheets **MUST** be submitted within 24 hours of the matches (by Monday Evening).

Spectators may be allowed to watch from the corridor windows or spectator areas, however we do need to consider the COVID risks at this time. All spectators should be encouraged to wear masks and keep clear of the playing areas.

**Officials**

Each of the teams playing will be required to provide an umpire. The Umpires will follow their selected team and officiate all their team’s matches that day. Umpires should be qualified or training toward their C Award and virtually ready for their assessment. Any teams who wish to use an unqualified umpire, not currently training (or who might need a mentor ) should notify Peggy Osborn as soon as possible and before the match day. Payment to umpires, where required, is the responsibility of the individual netball club.

**TIMER**: before the match the teams involved need to jointly appoint an agreed timer for the match duration.

No refunds will be offered for cancelled matches so please try to fulfil all matches.

The decisions of the Tyne and Wear County Netball Association (TWCNA), or its nominee(s), in respect of these rules, regulations and match procedures or any other matter related to these matches not provided for below, shall be considered final and binding on all parties (subject to the right of appeal). A copy of the queries, complaints and appeals procedure is available on the TWCNA website under competition or on the England Netball website.

**Please now read the Covid Match Protocols and share with all your participants.**