

2023/24 Junior League- Rules

The Junior League organised by TWCNA is primarily for recreational netball to provide the opportunity for young players to gain match experience. It is the responsibility of the Club to ensure that **all** their participants, including spectators are conversant with the rules and the behaviour expected at these matches. Clubs will be held responsible for the actions and behaviour of all of their participants. The rules which follow are minimal but clarify the main areas. The decisions of the Tyne and Wear County Netball Association (TWCNA), or its nominee(s), in respect of these rules 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.

Players

ALL players must be fully members of England Netball. This is to protect the player and the Club officials. The task of checking all the players is too onerous for a volunteer to undertake so instead an analysis of numbers of players in each club will be undertaken and where numbers don't add up Clubs will be contacted. It is therefore important that you ensure all your players are attached to your Club so you can see them and check they are members before they play.

Players must play in their age group. Where a player of a higher age plays down to fill a gap last minute the opposition Coach should be made aware **BEFORE** the match commences and the match must be conceded. Players can play up if their Coach has deemed them capable but Clubs must ensure they have the relevant permissions in place to support this. This permission is to ensure the Club and Coach is covered in the event of any issue arising. TWCNA does not need copies of the permission this is purely a Club matter and all responsibility rests with the Club.

Match results should be entered on the Whatsapp group, clearly stating the score and winning team. Updated league tables should be available within a few days of the matches. Note: The online League system lists all the fixtures with dates **BUT the fixtures distributed at the start of the season are ALWAYS the MASTER version.**

Team Sheets/Squad Lists – as with membership, checking hundreds of team sheets is too onerous for our small group of volunteers. Therefore, we are trusting that all Clubs will ensure their players are members of England Netball before they take the court and that they will play them according to the age rules. So team sheets do not need to be submitted for any matches.

Fixtures

- U11/12/13/14 Matches will consist of four 8 minute quarters with 2 min quarter time intervals. In total 45 minutes will be provided to complete the match.
- U15/16 Matches will consist of four 12 minute quarters with 2 minutes at quarter time and 3 at half time. In total one hour will be provided to complete the match.
- U10 matches- this will be clarified when the fixtures/entries are confirmed.
- Teams should take the court in similar kit and bibs. It is the responsibility of the individual clubs to provide their own balls/bibs and first aid supplies.
- No refunds will be offered for cancelled matches so please try to fulfil all matches.

Officials- Umpires qualified to Into award or above will be provided for each match, the cost of these are included in the league fees. Clubs will provide their own scorers.

Timers- Each club will be responsible for timing matches over the court of the season. Please see fixture list for allocations.