



MKINL 2019/20 League Rules

Milton Keynes Indoor Netball League Rules (supplementary to England Netball rules).

1. REGISTRATION TO MKINL

1.1 All Club Registrations

Every CLUB must nominate at least seven players for their team(s) and the MKINL Affiliation Officer should receive this information no later than 5pm on the Friday prior to the first match of the season, along with the England Netball confirmation affiliation email and in line with the Affiliations Process. Failure to comply with this rule will result in a 1 point penalty deduction.

1.2 Multi-team Club Registration

Every multi-team CLUB must seed their teams and the MKINL Affiliation Officer should receive this information no later **than 5pm** on the Monday prior to the first match of the season. Failure to comply with this rule will result in a 1 point penalty deduction, with the team seeded highest to receive the penalty.

1.3 Master Player Registration Forms

All Teams registered to play in MKINL must have sent their Master Player Registration form to the MKINL Affiliations Officer by 30th September 2019. Failure to do so will result in a 1 point deduction. Any team that fails to provide this information by 30th September 2019 will have a 1 point deduction applied for every month or part thereof, until the MKINL Affiliations Officer is in receipt of this document.

1.4 Code of Conduct

All players registered to the MKINL must sign the code of conduct and send to the MKINL Affiliations Officer by 30th September 2019. Failure to do so will result in a 1 point deduction

1.5 Teams without Umpires

MKINL reserves the right to refuse entry to teams registering or re-registering, without a suitably qualified umpire.

2. ENGLAND NETBALL AFFILIATION

All Clubs and players must be affiliated to both England Netball (EN) and North Bucks Netball Association (NBNA) prior to taking court. Clubs that do not play in North Bucks as their first county must be second-claim affiliated to NBNA.

Failure to comply with this rule will result a 1 point penalty deduction per match *per* unaffiliated player. Any points won by the offending team will not stand, goals for and against will stand.

The offending player(s) will be unable to participate in MKINL until adequate proof has been supplied and received by the MKINL Affiliation Officer.

3. PLAYERS

3.1 Age of Players

All players must be at least 14 years of age to be eligible to play in the MKINL. However, if a player has been talent identified and MKINL receives an Age Banding application form, completed in line with the EN Age Banding process (found on MKINL website), then permission may be given for a younger player to participate. If a player is found to be under 14 years old and not talent-identified, then a 1 point penalty deduction per player per match in which that player(s) played, will occur. Any points won by the offending team will not stand, goals for and against will stand.

The offending player/s will be unable to play in MKINL until they reach 14 years of age or talent identification documentation is received and accepted by the MKINL Chairman.

3.2 Transfers during the season (including transfers within multi-team clubs)

Players may transfer between clubs and between teams during the season but cannot return to their original club or team during the same season. If a player leaves one club and joins another, then an administration fee of £5.00 will apply on each occasion.



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Transfers can take place on the night of matches, as long as payment is made and the MKINL Affiliations Officer is informed as soon as possible by email on match days. Payment must be made by bank transfer before the match or a cheque on the night (cash is not acceptable for security reasons). A copy of the email must also be handed in to the Duty team at the venue, prior to the player taking court.

3.2.1 Playing up / Transferring

Within multi-team CLUBS players are allowed to play up twice to the team directly seeded above their own. If a player then transfers up to this team, she must play there at least twice before playing up or transferring again. Playing up for a third time will mean that the player has transferred to the higher seeded team and must play there at least twice before playing up or transferring again. Failure to comply with this rule will result in a 1 point penalty deduction per match per offending player. Any points won by the offending team will not stand, goals for and against will stand.

3.2.2 Playing down / Transferring

Within multi-team CLUBS players are not allowed to play down. However, transfers downwards (within multi team clubs) is both allowed and irrevocable. This movement must take place before the lower seeded team's last four fixtures. Once a player has transferred downwards, they cannot return to any higher seeded team for the remainder of the season.

Failure to comply with this rule will result in a 1 point penalty deduction per player, per match. Any points won by the offending team will not stand, goals for and against will stand.

3.3 Player affiliation

If a team plays an unaffiliated player(s) then a penalty of 1 point deducted per match, per offending player, will occur. Any points won by the offending team will not stand, goals for and against will stand.

Teams can affiliate new players throughout the season including on match days, up to 5pm with confirmation of their affiliation number being emailed to the MKINL Affiliations Officer. Payment must be made to EN before the player takes court. A copy of the confirmation email from EN must be given to the team on duty on the night that the player plays for the first time.

4. RULES OF PLAY

4.1 Miscellaneous

All payments due must be paid on the night or in advance by cheque or by bank transfer. CASH IS NOT ACCEPTED.

Fixtures appearing on the fixtures list are compulsory and must be played. The MKINL Committee may make changes to these fixtures at any point during the season where necessary.

All teams will play other teams in their division twice, according to the fixture list issued by the MKINL Committee (this format may be altered by the Committee if required).

All matches will consist of four quarters of 13 minutes, with a 1 minute break at quarter times and up to 2 minutes break at half time. If matches start late, then breaks only should be reduced. Under no circumstances should the four quarters be reduced. If this occurs, then matches will be deemed void and there will be no automatic right for a replay.

Captains will toss a coin to decide who will take the first centre pass / ends prior to the beginning of the match.

A player arriving late and filling a vacant position may only take court after a goal has been scored, a stoppage for injury, illness or blood or an interval.

Any team who has a query about the match score MUST NOT sign the score-cards and clear notes must be made by the team on duty on the duty sheet for that evening. Disputing teams should contact the MKINL Committee by email (mkinklcontact@gmail.com) within 7 days, with umpires and scorers identified in their email. It will be up to the MKINL Committee to adjudicate on such matters. Umpires must still sign the score cards.

Score-cards, once signed by captains and umpires, are final.

4.2 Points awarded & final positions

Points will be awarded as follows:

3 points – for a win

2 points – for a draw



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1 point – for a losing team who score more than 50% of the opponents score

In the event of a tie (points) at the end of the season, goal difference will decide the final positions. Should goal difference be the same, the team with the most wins and 'who beat who' will decide who is placed in the higher position.

4.3 Delayed Matches

Teams must be on court and in position ready to play their matches at the appointed times. Should one team not be on court at the appointed time, the non-offending team will be awarded one goal per minute up to the start of the second quarter of the match, provided this team are all on court, in their correct thirds and ready to play.

If a team does not arrive by the start of the second quarter of a match, the non-offending team will be awarded the equivalent points due for a win. At the end of the season, the non-offending team will receive goals equivalent to their average score for matches played and the same for goals against. The offending team will gain no points but will have goals averaged for and against. The offending team will be liable to pay court fees for both teams and the fee to both umpires.

4.4 Disrupted Matches

If a match at any venue is interrupted for any reason that is not due to injury (i.e. fire alarm etc.), the match will be deemed a draw, unless it has reached the end of the second quarter or beyond. In this instance the score will stand.

The match will be replayed (at the cost of the League) if the outcome of the match affects final standings.

4.5 Conceding Matches

To concede a league match before taking court, the conceding team must inform the MKINL Results Secretary, MKINL Treasurer and MKINL Duty Secretary.

The conceding Team must also inform the opposing team, the teams that will be umpiring the conceded match and the duty team. The team conceding a match must still provide an umpire, as per normal rules. The Team Contact details should be used to find the contact details of the other teams. The team conceding the match should request confirmation of receipt of all emails that they send, to ensure all parties are aware of the cancellation.

The non-offending team will be awarded the match. At the end of the season, they will receive goals equivalent to their averaged goals scored for and against, for the matches played. The offending team will gain no points, but at the end of the season they will receive goals equivalent to their averaged goals scored for and against, for the matches played.

The offending team will be liable to pay court fees for both teams - this should be received no later than the offending team's next match.

Once a match has been conceded, the remaining match start times may be adjusted for the mutual convenience of the remaining teams but full agreement must be reached by all parties. No variation of full match conditions is permitted. It is the sole responsibility of the team conceding to authorise and manage this process. Should full agreement not be received by all remaining parties, then the original match timings must be adhered to.

4.6 Replaying Matches

Matches will only be replayed whereby it is not the fault of the teams taking court.

The final decision on whether to replay these matches will be made in November and April, by the MKINL Committee, and once all the facts have been gathered; teams will then be informed accordingly.

4.7 Injury Time / Injuries

An umpire must stop play for blood/injury/illness, when requested by an on court player. Umpires must stop play without being requested to do so by an on-court player if they feel it is in the player's best interest or if blood has been noticed.

If injury time has been called, the player concerned must leave court AND must do so within 30 seconds. The Duty Team must manage the 30 seconds of injury time and advise the umpires when there is 10 seconds remaining. The main clock will not be stopped; injuries will be timed on a second stopwatch. The umpire, at their discretion may extend the injury time but the main clock will still not be stopped.

During the injury time, teams may make substitutions and/or team changes, provided these are completed within the stoppage time (30 seconds).



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If no substitution is made for an injury/illness or blood, then play may resume with that position left vacant (if this position is Centre and no substitutions have been made, one player must move into the Centre role). If the position is left vacant, the player concerned or a substitute may take court after advising the umpire and after one of the following: a goal, a stoppage for blood, injury, illness or sanction or an interval.

If an injury is so severe that play cannot continue, the match will be deemed void, unless it has reached the end of the second quarter or beyond, when the score will stand. The match will be replayed (at the cost of the League) if the outcome of the match affects final standings.

All injuries must be recorded on an accident form (which can be found on the MKINL website), as soon as possible after the injury occurs and a copy of this form should be sent to the MKINL Secretary (mkinlcontact@gmail.com), within 7 days.

5. UMPIRING AND DUTY

5.1 Umpiring

Umpires are expected to be fully focused on their duties at all times.

There will be central time keeping and matches will start and end on the umpire's whistle. It is the sole responsibility of the umpire nearest the time keeper, to inform the time keeper when to start the clock at the beginning of all quarters and they should instruct this person accordingly.

Either umpire may blow the whistle for quarter, half and full time, regardless of whether play is in their half of the court.

No league fixture will be played with less than two suitably qualified umpires.

5.2 Umpires

5.2.1 Umpiring Housekeeping

Umpires are to wear white tops whilst umpiring.

The Committee will provide all teams with an Umpiring Contact List. Should any of the umpiring details change after publication, umpires must advise the MKINL Secretary, by email, within 7 days.

All umpires MUST be affiliated to England Netball. All umpires officiating for MKINL must be named on the Umpire Contact List. Should any other umpire be used, prior authorisation is required from the Umpiring Secretary. This umpire must register with MKINL and be provided with an "umpiring number", which must be subsequently used by that umpire. If an unauthorised umpire is used, the team supplying that umpire will be deducted 2 points.

All umpires must be over 16 years old. Umpires between 16 and 18 years old will only be given permission to umpire if they have a mentor who will always be present on the side line, during any particular fixture. The MKINL Umpiring Secretary must assess the umpire before authorisation can be given. Clubs using umpires between the ages of 16 and 18 years old, must provide the MKINL Umpiring Secretary with their names. The Umpiring Secretary should be advised when and where these umpires are officiating, on a weekly basis. MKINL reserves the right to withdraw permission to officiate from any umpire between 16 and 18, should it be felt that it is not in the younger umpire's best interests. The MKINL Umpiring Secretary will determine which division(s) the young umpire may officiate; this may change throughout the season should the MKINL Umpiring Secretary feel that this is appropriate and dependent upon the qualification level of the umpire.

All umpires will be allocated a number, which must accompany their signature and printed name on the back of all scorecards and used in all correspondence.

Teams without their own qualified umpire must use the Umpire Contact list to find officials to umpire on their behalf. Teams without qualified umpires must also contact the Umpiring Secretary with regards to putting some of their members on a suitable umpiring course at the earliest available opportunity and, by the end of their first year playing in the MKINL, should aim to have a qualified umpire.

Umpires wishing to have the scores called out during a match, should make this request directly to the scorers, who should comply.

Umpires may officiate a maximum of twice in one evening according to the following: if an umpire is playing as well as umpiring on a particular evening, umpires may only umpire once. If an umpire is not playing on a particular evening, an umpire may umpire a maximum of twice. Should further umpiring be required on a particular evening, permission MUST be obtained from the MKINL Umpiring Secretary in advance.

All umpires must attend umpiring forums that are held by the MKINL League. Failure to do so may result in not being able to umpire in the League.



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5.2.2 Umpiring Matches

Teams must supply an umpire as follows:

Match 1 – supplies umpires for match 3

Match 2 – supplies umpires for match 1

Match 3 – supplies umpires for match 2

When there are only two scheduled matches at a venue, teams will be required to umpire the other match.

5.2.3 Payment of Umpires

The teams will each pay an umpire (for their own match) a sum specified at the start of the season, and this must be paid on the night. This payment should be made before the start of the match.

5.2.4 Umpiring Qualifications

Umpires must be of 'C' Award qualification for Championship, Division 1 and Division 2 for matches during the Winter Season.

Into qualified umpires can umpire Division 3 AND if they have been on a C Award course, been allocated a pre-assessment and this has been approved by the MKINL Umpiring Secretary in a division 2 match, permission may be granted for an Into-qualified umpire to umpire Division 2.

Beginner qualified umpires, whose award is still in-date and who have been on a 'C' Award course within the last 2 years can umpire division 3.

For the Premier Division, all umpires must be a 'C' Award umpire or above AND have been approved, through assessment, to umpire this division.

Training umpires will be permitted to umpire the appropriate division to prepare for their qualification once they have been allocated a pre-assessment date. This needs to be approved by the MKINL Umpiring Secretary and Umpires must have this approval BEFORE they umpire to a higher level.

Teams supplying these umpires who are found to be in breach of this rule, will be deducted 2 points per match and further sanctions may follow, should a repeat occur. If the match is played with an unsuitably qualified umpire, then this match will be deemed to be a friendly and the result will not stand. Court fees and umpiring fees will still be payable if the match is played.

5.2.5 Non Attendance of Umpires

The penalty for not supplying a suitably qualified umpire will be a deduction of 2 points and the match fees to be covered by the team responsible for supplying the umpire.

If on the night, a suitably qualified umpire stands in so that the match can proceed, the team failing to supply the original umpire will still be deducted 2 points and the match fees will still be covered by the team responsible for supplying the umpire.

If only one umpire is available then the match will not be under full match conditions and should not be played.

If a match does not go ahead due to an Umpire failing to turn up, and a suitably qualified umpire does not stand in on the night, the match will be eligible for a replay at the end of the season, as per rule 4.6. The team responsible for providing the umpire will be deducted 2 points.

All teams providing / booking umpires should re-confirm the umpire's continued availability.

Any team that is deducted 2 points for not supplying an umpire more than twice in a season, will be further penalised with a 2 point deduction AND a fine of £25.00 payable to MKINL.

Teams should note that if the match does not go ahead due to non attendance of an umpire and there is no substitute umpire, they should not take court. If they decide to play a friendly then they will be charged match fees (and umpire fees) for the friendly they play AND the cost of the replayed match later in the season.

5.2.6 Testing Umpires

Any match played in MKINL may be used to assess or pre-assess (test) umpires relevant to the qualification they are taking. Matches used on test nights will be authorised by the MKINL Umpiring Secretary. Wherever possible, the teams playing will be advised in advance by the MKINL Umpiring Secretary. All due care will be given to the selection of these assessment matches.



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All those taking the Into Officiating Award Assessment may only be tested on division 3 matches.

All those taking the 'C' Award Assessment will be tested on Championship matches following the successful completion of a pre-assessment which should also take place on Championship matches, designed to confirm that they are ready to be assessed.

5.3 Duty

Duty members are expected to be fully focused on their duties at all times

The duration of duty is defined as all three duty members (from the specified team/club and their associates) turning up at least 10 minutes before the start of the first match and all three members leaving after the end of the last match.

There must be at least three people from a team/club (including associates) undertaking the role of duty at any time: two duty members will score / time and all other(s) must manage the other requirements of duty, as set out in the Duty Procedure.

Should any team seek any variation in the above rule, on any occasion, then a formal request must be made in writing to the MKINL committee at least 7 days in advance.

Failure to comply with this rule will result in 1 point deducted for each person from the duty team who is late. "Late" is defined as any time after the first match starts.

6 PROMOTION & RELEGATION OF TEAMS

At the end of each season, the top team in each division will be promoted to the higher division and the bottom team in each division will be demoted to the lower division for the following season.

There will be playoffs each season to determine the second promoted and demoted teams for each division, i.e. second from bottom teams will play second from top teams (e.g. div 1 second bottom will play div 2 second top).

This format may be altered by the MKINL Committee if required and will be advised to all teams as soon as possible.

New teams entering the League will normally be placed in the last division.

If a new team entering the League is of a higher standard than the last division, the Committee will assess the team to decide on their seeding.

7 WITHDRAWAL FROM THE LEAGUE

Should any team drop out of MKINL Winter League mid-season, they will be liable to a fine, the amount of which will not exceed the amount necessary to cover ALL court fees for ALL matches not played by that team, plus any outstanding monies owed to MKINL. The exact amount will be determined by the MKINL Committee.

Should a team drop out having played all other teams in their division exactly once, then the results table will remain unaffected, but should a team drop out part way through the first or second half of the season, then points awarded in that half of the season will be removed.

8 MISCELLANEOUS

8.1 Change of Team Contacts

Each team is responsible for notifying the MKINL Secretary (mkinlcontact@gmail.com) of any changes to team contacts, within 7 days of these changes taking place.

8.2 Attendance at MKINL and North Bucks Netball Association (NBNA) AGM's

All clubs must be represented at the MKINL AGM by at least one member, who will affiliate to that club for the coming season. Failure to send a suitable representative will result in a 1 point deduction (in multi team clubs this means a 1 point deduction per team).

All clubs must be represented at the NBNA AGM each year by a member, who will affiliate to that club for the forthcoming season. Failure to comply will result in a 1 point deduction to each team (in multi team clubs this means 1 point per team).

Any extra points deductions that NBNA sanction will be upheld by MKINL.



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8.3 Cause for Concern / Complaints / Disciplinary Regulations

8.3.1 Cause for Concern

Cause for Concern forms need to be completed by an Individual or Team and emailed to the Vice Chairman (mkinvicechairman@gmail.com). They must be completed on match nights

The Committee will analyse the concern whereby it will be deemed either Informal or Formal. If the concern is found to be informal a warning will be sent & will be put into the next meetings minutes. If the complaint is deemed formal, it will go through the formal Disciplinary regulation procedure.

8.3.2 Complaints

Complaints must be sent in writing to the MKINL Secretary only within 7 days of the issue/event giving rise to the complaint. All evidence will be gathered.

Complaints will be analysed at the next Committee meeting (along with any supporting evidence) whereby a decision will be made to what the outcome of the complaint will be (i.e. warning, disciplinary procedure etc).

MKINL members have the right to appeal a decision made by the MKINL Committee. An appeal can only be heard once and the MKINL Committee's decision will be final. Any further appeals must be sent to North Bucks Netball Association.

8.3.3 Disciplinary Regulations

MKINL follow EN Disciplinary Regulations. For more information regarding the complaints process, please refer to these.

8.4 Additional Sanctions - relating to behaviour deemed unacceptable

MKINL will put into force the following sanctions for Clubs / Teams / Players that do not follow MKINL rules / persistently break MKINL rules / displays behaviour that is unsportsmanlike and against MKINL Code of Conduct. These sanctions will be used in place of or in addition to any of the MKINL rules or England Netball rules.

The Committee will at its discretion and depending on the gravity of the situation have the power to implement any of these stages where it deems necessary.

First offence- formal warning and 5 point deduction plus £50 fine.

Second Offence – final warning and 5 point deduction plus £75 fine.

Third offence – expulsion from the league with barring for a whole season and any repeat offences by that club within 12 months of re-entry resulting in a permanent ban.

8.5 Money relating to fines / court fees

Any monies that MKINL receive during the season from fines or court fees that are over and above the cost of expenses will be donated to charity at the end of the season. The charity will be decided on a yearly basis by a format decided by the Committee.