

WINTER LEAGUE RULES & REGULATIONS

UPDATED SEPTEMBER 2024

League Rules

1. All players must be registered with the Jersey Netball Association (JNA).
2. All players must be affiliated to England Netball (EN) and to Netball South West (NSW).
3. All matches will be played in accordance with the Official Rules of the International Federation of Netball Associations (IFNA).
4. All Clubs must pay an affiliation fee to JNA, such fee to be decided at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).
5. All independent/non players must pay a yearly registration fee to the JNA, such fee to be decided at the AGM.
6. All non-playing members must register stating which club they wish to play for.
7. Any non-playing member who does not wish to sign for a club may register as an Independent Registered Person and complete the appropriate form.
8. Clubs with more than one team must provide a list of players playing in the higher teams to the Assistant Registration Secretary. The Club Secretary must inform the Assistant Registration Secretary when they register a new player with EN. A club playing an unregistered player will have the points gained in that match cancelled and lose any goals scored. The non-offending team will be awarded five points for a win. If said team lost the match but gained one or two points, these will be cancelled. Goals scored will be kept.
9. In exceptional circumstances, revisions to named players may be requested to the Executive Committee (in writing) stating the reason for the revision (i.e. a player not being able to play for the rest of the season). The Executive Committee will review the request and reply granting or denying permission to make such a change.
10. All applications for transfer of players or non-players from one club to another or from one team to another shall be submitted in writing by the applicant and the club of which they are now a member to the Council of the JNA for approval.
11. All players shall be 14 years of age or over (as of 1 September in the year of registration) to play in the Winter League however, if there is an exceptionally talented Youth player, permission may be sought from the Council.
12. Any club with registered non-players should ensure that the Assistant Registration Secretary is advised in advance of a match if their status has changed to a playing member.
13. If due to extreme and exceptional/unforeseen circumstances, such as a serious injury on court and a Club has a registered non-player in attendance, then the club will be able to utilise the player subject to the Club Secretary providing details to the Assistant Registration Secretary immediately following the conclusion of the match.

14. All clubs must submit club colours, position bib colours and type of uniform – dresses or skirts and tops which have to be approved by Council. Any change in uniform colours must receive the approval of the Council.
15. Players must wear club colours and place bibs when playing. Sports pants shall be the same colour as the skirt. Trousers/cycling shorts to be the colour decided beforehand by the club and shall match either their shirt or skirt. If the club does not have the same colour tracksuit bottoms/leggings, black is the colour approved by the Council. Any jumper or sweatshirt shall be the same colour as the uniform top. In the event of a clash of colours, the Home team shall change colours. In the event of an inter-club fixture where the players wear positional patch bibs, the home team must wear the normal positional bibs in a neutral colour. Any player not wearing the correct uniform or colours will be fined an amount as decided annually at the AGM.
16. All clubs, players, umpires and coaches must abide by the JNA Code of Conduct. The JNA will also take guidance and refer to the EN Code of Conduct for players, umpires, coaches, managers, officials, volunteers and parents. All clubs must support the implementation of the JNA Code of Conduct.
17. The structure of the divisions and future growth of the JNA Winter League to be discussed on an annual basis. New clubs and teams will join the Winter League in the lowest division, unless the Council uses its discretion to place them in a higher division.
18. Prior to the commencement of the league, all clubs will be provided with a list of fixtures on which their umpiring responsibilities will also be listed. Any re-arranged fixtures to be arranged by the Fixtures Secretary and advised accordingly at the monthly Council meeting.
19. All clubs will be required to pay court fees to the JNA for the hire of the courts at Les Ormes. The clubs will be invoiced by the Honorary Treasurer twice a year.
20. All umpires deemed to be neutral for all matches.
21. All matches shall be of one hour, divided into four quarters of fifteen minutes each, with an interval of three (3) minutes between the first and second, and third and fourth quarters, and a five (5) minute interval at half-time, unless decided otherwise by the Council.
22. Awarding of league points;
23. Five points for a win
24. Three points for a draw
25. Two points if within five goals i.e. if the result differs by four or less goals
26. One point for the losing team if their score is more than 50% of their opponent's
27. In the event of a tie for any final positions goal average (goals scored divided by goals against) will be used. In determining league positions the results of any 'awarded' games will be excluded from the calculation of goal average for both teams.
28. Once all the league fixtures are completed, the first and second placed teams of all divisions, except those of the first division will be promoted. Teams finishing in last and second to last place, except those in the lowest division, will be relegated. Any club wishing to contest this ruling must submit their request in writing to the July Council meeting. Requests will be reviewed on merit. Applications from clubs to stay up or down need to be supported with the names of the players who will no longer be in the team and those players who are joining the team. Without this information, applications will not be considered. The divisions will be adjusted by the Council according to the circumstances caused by team(s) withdrawing or joining the league.

29. Any team who wishes to apply to play in a higher division due to changes in circumstances i.e. attracting players of a higher standard of ability should submit their request with the information regarding their changed circumstances, in writing, to the July Council meeting.
30. If a club wishes to withdraw a team from the league, it must be their 'lowest' team. They will not be able to withdraw their 'highest' team unless they disband their club and re-apply for entry in the lowest division with one team only.
31. If a team withdraws from the Winter League all points and goals gained from matches already played will be totally discounted.
32. Any team unable to fulfil a fixture must contact an Executive Member for confirmation before scratching a match. This team will pay whole cost of the court fee as agreed at the AGM – June 2012. The opposing team will be awarded the points and reimbursed their share of the court fee at the end of the season (AGM 2000). The team scratching must immediately inform the Results Secretary, the Secretary of the opposing team and the umpires.
33. Any team with less than five players at the scheduled start time of the match will automatically forfeit the match and the points awarded to the opposing team. The team forfeiting the match will pay the whole cost of the court fee and the opposing team will be reimbursed their share of the court fees at the end of the season (AGM 2012). The umpires to inform the Results Secretary of any forfeited match. A scorecard must be completed with names of players in attendance.
34. If both opposing teams turn out with less than five players, the match will be declared null and void. Each team will share the cost of the court and be fined an amount to be decided annually at the AGM. Neither team to receive points. One of the umpires to inform the Results Secretary of the voided match. A score card must be completed with names of players in attendance.
35. If a Club is to concede a match this must be their lowest divisional team, and it is a club's responsibility to abide by this rule.
36. A team who has conceded more than three league matches in a season may be refused re-entry to the league the following season. The Executive Committee reserves the right to make the final decision on such matters.
37. Any player who plays in a lower team, cannot play in a higher team on more than three occasions without automatically becoming a registered player of that team.
38. A club with more than one team must not use a player registered in a higher team in a lower team.
39. On nights where there are double headers a lower team player who plays in a higher team in the early match is allowed to compete in a lower team on the later match. Subject to that player not having played more than three times for a higher team (point 32). However, a player may not play in a higher team and move down to a lower team in the same time slot.
40. Scorers will be required for all matches. All scorers to adopt the 'Scorer's Guidelines'. It is each team's responsibility to nominate a scorer and provide them with an official JNA scorecard. There must be two scorers per match, one provided by each playing team.
41. It is the responsibility of the umpires at the end of the match to give the completed scorecards to the Fixtures Secretary and or the Results Secretary. If neither are in attendance the cards should be put in the black box in the hallway.

42. The Results Secretary will receive the completed result scorecards and will check to ensure that all players named are registered and playing in their respective teams. This is mandatory to ensure that a player who has played on three occasions for the higher team is no longer allowed to play in the lower team.
43. Any player who needs to wear gloves on medical grounds must take out Personal Liability Insurance and notify the JNA. They will have to produce a copy to an umpire if requested.
44. Coaching from the side line is permitted but team officials may not move up and down the side lines or along the goal lines outside the court during play. Each team must remain in their designated team bench area.