



GRIMSBY AND DISTRICT SENIOR NETBALL LEAGUE - GDSNL

RULES AND REGULATIONS

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1. Membership

All members of the league whether players, umpires, officials, coaches or committee members must be affiliated to England Netball and the league will run by their rules. All teams will have in their possession the latest edition of the Rules of Netball produced by the World Netball.

All games shall be played to the World Netball Rules of the Game currently in force in England at the time, except where specifically stated in these regulations.

It is the responsibility of all Team Managers, Coaches and Captains to ensure that all players are in accordance with the following rules and regulations and also the World Netball Rules of the Game.

All clubs will be held responsible for the Overall Conduct (behaviour, demeanor, and actions) of all members associated with the club (players, officials, and spectators).

Integrity Clause : Any team who knowingly and deliberately provides false information regarding identity of players at registration and the naming of players on team sheets may be expelled from the competition. Disciplinary action may be taken against the club.

2. Player Registration

2.1. Registration Requirements

All players must be registered to teams before they take the court. The Memberships Secretary must be contacted by 6:30pm on the date of the game (extenuating circumstances will be considered by the Committee).

Team Secretaries must manage player memberships via ENGage before the start of the Winter and summer Season, any amendments during the season must be provided to the membership secretary prior to the player taking the court. All players must complete the GDSNL Team Registration data capture forms prior to participation.

Any updates made to a team's ENGage account must be reported to the Memberships Secretary. Registration forms must be retained by the Team Secretary for a minimum of 3 years.

2.2. Guest Players

Guest players may play a maximum of 3 games across any team within the netball year (1st September to 31st August) before they must affiliate with England Netball.

Players who are already affiliated as full (adult) EN members in the current year may not guest but may register with another team via ENGage. All EN players must register to one Club only during the playing season.

Junior EN members not regularly competing in the league may use the guesting system. Teams must inform guest players that without EN membership, they are not covered by EN insurance.

For persons that have taken Full EN Membership purely to forefill a voluntary Role, can with the Committee's approval use the guesting rule.

2.3. U18 and Age Banding

When registering players under 18 (including guests), an Age Banding Form must be submitted to both the League Secretary and Memberships Secretary.

Failure to submit this form will result in the player being classed as unregistered.

2.4. Player Limits and Replacements

Teams may register/affiliate up to 25 players per netball year, including second memberships and guests. (Including Playing-Up of Club players)

If a player becomes pregnant, she may be replaced after the 12th week of pregnancy but cannot be unregistered from EN.

In cases of serious illness or injury, a formal request must be submitted to the Chairperson to approve a replacement.

2.5. Membership Timing and Transfers

Membership must be completed before a player participates in any GDSNL match.

Players may only transfer teams at the end of the Winter/Summer Season—unless written mutual consent is provided to the Memberships Secretary.

Should Clubs have paid membership fees of individuals wishing to Transfer, then the Transfer can only occur once pro-rated remuneration for membership is repaid to the Club.

2.6. Unregistered Players – Penalty and Compliance

A penalty will be applied to any club or team fielding unregistered players. This includes the loss of match points and may result in a forfeiture of the match score (30–0 for 1-hour games, 20–0 for 40-minute games).

This enforcement ensures compliance with England Netball's membership and insurance requirements.

Playing individuals who are not properly registered compromises both safety and fairness and may invalidate insurance coverage for all participants involved.

3. England Netball Insurance

All EN Member teams/clubs who are members of EN Netball and registered participants benefit from the Civil Liability Insurance and Personal Accident Insurance held by England Netball. This includes umpires who are EN members through teams/clubs. In the event of a claim or an incident that may give rise to a claim please contact England Netball. Full terms and policy conditions are available on the above and a link is provided on the Grimsby & District Senior Netball League Website.

Please contact the Regional office on 01509 226753 or email eastmidlands@englandnetball.co.uk regarding any medical or physical conditions. If you are diagnosed with a condition which is new to you it may affect the insurance of yourself and other members of the league (please see members of the league definition in section 1). It is your responsibility to make the Chairperson of the Grimsby & District Senior Netball League aware in confidence. Before commencing any further activity within

the Grimsby & District Senior Netball League you should have clear written instruction from East Midlands Regional Office on further involvement in the league.

4. League Meetings

Each individual team (not club representative) must be represented at league meetings. It is not acceptable as a result of the 1994 AGM (Annual General Meeting) for a representative from another team to attend for more than one team. Apologies for Absence are still accepted, but another representative must be present. Two points shall be deducted as a result of non-attendance at a League meeting. Only one vote per team at league meetings however each member of the Grimsby & District Senior Netball League has a vote in their own right at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) or an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM). All EN Member GDSNL teams must send at least one member per team to represent them (no other team can represent on their behalf) at an AGM or EGM. 3 Points will be deducted for an AGM/EGM and 2 points will be deducted for League Meeting. Please inform the committee of your arrival if late.

League meetings shall usually be held on a Thursday evening, and the Annual General Meeting is held during the first week in September each year. The day, date and time shall be at the discretion of the Grimsby & District Senior Netball League Committee.

5. Registration

5.1. Team Registration Requirement

Each club or team must complete registration using the official GDSNL Registration Form and submit the form by the deadline set by the GDSNL Committee. Failure to register by the required date will result in refusal of entry into the league.

5.2. Distribution of Registration Pack

Each team will receive a Registration Pack issued by the League Secretary at least one week prior to the first scheduled fixture of the season.

This pack will include as a minimum:

- Fixtures
- Rules and Regulations
- Constitution
- Umpires' Contact List
- Team Secretaries' Contact List
- Committee Contact List

5.3. Score Cards

Score cards will be distributed to all teams during the first week of the season.

6. League Fees

6.1. Winter League Membership

League fees for the Winter Season are paid directly to England Netball by Club/Team Secretaries or individual members via the ENgage platform. This payment includes national and regional affiliation fees (e.g., LCNA, EMNA).

6.2. Summer League Fees

Fees for the Summer League are payable directly to GDSNL. These payments must be completed before any team can participate in the league.

6.3. Proof of Payment

A receipt or confirmation of payment must be submitted to the Membership Secretary as proof of registration.

7. Court Fees

Fees will be £15.00 per team (subject to increases). Monies shall be paid by Bank Transfer per Club/Team to GDSNL and must be fully paid by the end of each playing season. Cheques payable to G.D.S.N.L. are acceptable. None and late payment shall be dealt with at the discretion of the Committee. A deduction of 2 points will be adhered to if non-payment at the end of the playing season.

8. Venues

All matches shall be played at the Oasis Wintringham Academy on Monday and Tuesday evenings between 6.45pm. and 9.20 p.m.

9. Match Times

Games will be centrally timed by the umpires on Court One. Start times of games must start at the time stated on the fixtures. Games shall be played as quarters, 2 minutes at half time and 1 minute between quarters. Umpires on Court One must adhere to start times irrespective of teams' readiness to start. If Court One is not playing the responsibility falls to Court 2.

10. Injuries

No injury time allowed. Match results will be decided at the discretion of the Committee if the game cannot be recommenced.

11. Game Cancellation

Failure to notify the opposing team, both designated umpires & Scorer's Team Secretary and the fixtures Secretary shall result in 5 points being deducted from the league tables. You are still liable for your allocated umpiring slot. Game cancellation shall result in your team becoming liable to pay the opposing teams' court fees as well as your own. "30-0" or "20-0" will be awarded to the opposing team depending on the duration of the match – see rule 2. Please ensure that the Fixtures Secretary, Treasurer and Memberships Secretary (this may affect guests) are aware of cancellations along with the team you are due to play and the two teams who have the umpiring responsibility for that game. You should endeavour These matches should be cancelled by 17:00 on match day, to ensure all parties involved don't have to make unnecessary travel plans.

12. Inclement Weather

Games may be subject to cancellation due to weather conditions unless the Oasis Wintringham has already cancelled for severe weather. If the whole night's play is cancelled teams will be texted as soon as possible, the cancellation will also go on the Grimsby & District Senior Netball League Facebook page. In this event all the evening's games will be replayed, and new dates will be set by the Fixtures Secretary.

If at any time during the evening the weather becomes inclement play may be suspended. If the first game has taken place and finished and then the rest of the night is cancelled due to bad weather unfinished games will be replayed later in the season as far as possible and the results of games already completed will stand. If you have played, court fees will be charged. If a team had cancelled their game that result would stand. If the game has to be abandoned providing at least two full quarters (half time if 40-minute match) have been played the game results will stand. This can be due to bad weather, injury where a player cannot be moved from court or for any other reason at the discretion of the Grimsby & District Senior Netball League Committee with guidance from England Netball.

If at any time during a game Lightning is experienced all teams must stop play and take shelter.

13. Umpiring & Scoring

13.1. Umpire Qualification Requirements

Each team must provide an England Netball qualified umpire and who has full active EN membership, or a person who is proven to be working towards an England Netball Officiating qualification or a Grimsby & District Senior Netball.

13.2. Availability of Qualified umpires

A list of qualified umpires is available in your league pack who are willing to cover extra games (gratuities are at the discretion of individuals and the Grimsby & District Senior Netball League will not concern themselves or become involved with any outside monetary matters).

13.3. Umpire Competency and Training

Umpires are encouraged complete any game management courses offered by the league, be fully conversant with the World Netball Rules, and ensure they are competent to officiate any match they are assigned to. Additionally, umpires must avoid any conflicts of interest when covering fixtures.

13.4. Scorer Provision and Responsibilities

In line with England Netball Umpiring qualification process each team must provide a scorer. Umpires and Team captain must ensure scorers of each team to be stood together to ensure that correct tallying is consistent. The score should be called after a goal is scored.

13.5. Pre-Match Umpire Readiness

All umpires must arrive before umpiring time commences and be ready on court with nails, jewellery and clothing checked and centre pass determined.

13.6. Penalties for Non-Attendance

If an umpire and/or a scorer does not attend at the scheduled fixture time, 5 points per non-attendance in total will be deducted from the league tables from the team responsible for providing the umpire and/or scorer. The umpire's/scorer's team will be liable for the court fees of both teams due to play if the game does not go ahead. 'In extenuating circumstances, the committee can consider whether points deduction will stand.

13.7. Umpire Substitution Protocol

Umpires MUST NOT take over a game when another umpire has started to officiate unless of injury/illness, unless extenuating circumstances

13.8. Compliance with EN Equipment and Appearance Rules

England Netball's ruling on jewellery nails, accessories, medical and Religious apply.

Pregnancy, Gloves, Head Coverings, Eyewear, Jewellery and Medic Alerts, Hair and Medical Aids
England Netball Domestic Guidance must be followed

13.9. One -Umpire Match Rule

Matches with only one umpire cannot be played (England Netball World Netball Ruling) and will result in a draw unless sufficient time to replay during season at the discretion of the Committee. Please see section 13(b) for further information on games with only one umpire

13.10. Club Affiliation Restrictions for Umpires

EN Member umpires will not officiate games involving the club that they are members to. In extenuating circumstances this would have to be agreed by both teams involved in the match.

13.11. Match Limit for Umpires

As a result of the Annual General Meeting dated 3rd September 2018, Individual umpires will not officiate on more than 2 matches per evening, unless there are extenuating circumstances which will need to be reported to the Committee. The penalty for Umpiring over the maximum will be discussed by the Committee.

13.12. Maintaining Umpire Standards

All umpires should familiarise themselves with the current competencies of their award and maintain them at all times. The officiating Secretary reserves the right to have World Netball qualified assessors observe an umpire at any time to ensure that award standards are being maintained.

14. Pregnancy

Players are prohibited to play netball beyond the 12th week of gestation. Umpires are prohibited to umpire beyond the 16th week of gestation. Please refer to englandnetball.com for confirmation.

15. New Clubs / Teams

All Clubs/Teams entering the league shall start in the lowest tier. If more than one team enter from a Club and start in the lowest Division at the same time, players are not permitted to play up for the other team until the end of the round unless the Club tell the league which is ranked higher before the league starts. The Committee has the right to refuse entry to any team to the Grimsby and District Senior Netball League.

15.1. Minimum Player Requirement and Club Player Movement

Each team must have 5 players to commence play (no players may be borrowed) except for "Clubs" who can play a player from one of their other teams on two occasions but on the third occasion the player must transfer to the higher team this is per season.

15.2. End of Season Team Seeding and Restrictions

No player from a higher ranked team may play in a lower ranked team. A "Club" player may play only one game per match night. At the end of the Season or Transfer Window, the teams are set as A, B, C Clubs of where they have seeded at the end of the previous season or Transfer Window – this includes the Winter handicap tournament. If more than one team enter from a Club and start in the lowest Division at the same time, players are not permitted to play up for the other team.

15.3. Team Disbandment and Reformation Criteria

If a team disbands and only has 3 original players, (Original Player must have played a minimum of 12 quarters in either the previous or current season for said Team) they must start in the lowest division in the league if they reform. You must have a minimum of 4 original players as continuous paid membership to continue in the divisional standings at the end of the season.

15.4. Impact of Mid-Season Disbandment

If a team disbands during a season the results will be classed as a cancellation to the remaining games to be played. The disbanded team secretary is liable to pay all court fees for the remainder of the season and provide umpire/scorer cover for fixtured games, however all previous results will remain as gained.

15.5. Club Team Registration Limit

A maximum of four teams may be registered under a single club within the league. This limit is set to ensure fair competition and balanced representation across all divisions.

15.6. Team Name Change Procedure

Should you wish to change your Club/Team Name during the current membership year, a written request needs to be submitted with proof that no remuneration (i.e. sponsorship of membership/Kit) has been provided from Sponsor.

15.7. Club Slot & Team Devolvment

If a Club registers more than one Team into the League, then this will be deemed the Club Slot for the Season provided Rule 16, 4 original members can be met.

Should a team within the Club wish to devolve from the Club during the season, then should there not be 4 members to continue with the slot, then that Team will be classed as disbanded, and it will be the Team, not the Club that will be liable for Court Fees.

16. Discipline

Any team or match official who intends to raise a query or complaint regarding the playing of a match must inform their opponents and the umpires within 2 working days of the match held.

Any queries or complaints regarding the playing of a match must be submitted in writing to the Grimsby & District Senior Netball League within 2 working days to the Chairperson and Secretary. It is advised that this be sent via email asking for confirmation of receipt. Advance notice of such query or dispute should also be provided by telephone within 2 working days.

All queries, complaints and disputes regarding the playing of a match and/or its result will be determined by the Grimsby & District Senior Netball Committee which will use best endeavours to determine the course of action within 10 days of receiving the query, complaint or dispute.

17. Match Results

Score cards and team sheets to be WhatsApp'd, texted or e-mailed (WhatsApp preferred) to The Fixtures Secretary by 1pm on a Wednesday.

17.1. League Points System

5 points for a Win, 2 Points for losing by one goal, 3 points for a Draw and 1 point for gaining half the score.

18. Tournaments

All Tournament information will be distributed prior to tournament dates by the Fixtures Secretary. All Club/Team Secretaries must advise any non-EN Members that insurance is not covered, and they play at their own risk.

18.1. Winter Handicap Tournament Entry and Eligibility

Participating teams must consist exclusively of players that have been registered to that team during the winter Season, this includes Guests/Playing Up. Guests/Playing up can only play for said Team throughout the whole tournament.

Players must represent the team they are registered with at the conclusion of the Winter Season, and all participants must be listed on the team's official GDSNL registration form.

18.2. Winter Handicap - Guest Player Participation

Guest players who are not affiliated with England Netball may be used, but each team must field a minimum of four registered members. Guesting is defined as a single occurrence for the entire duration of the Handicap Tournament, regardless of whether the tournament is played over multiple weeks. A guest player may only be used once per team for the full tournament period. Advise any non-EN Members that insurance is not covered, and they play at their own risk.

Each team is responsible for providing both an umpire and a scorer for every match they participate in.

18.3. Jo Laird Memorial Tournament

Entry forms must be completed and sent to the Fixtures Secretary in advance of the tournament. Players are expected to be EN Members, playing up and guesting rules do not apply, and players can mix with other league team players for this tournament. Advise any non-EN Members that insurance is not covered, and they play at their own risk.

18.4. Kristal Jackson Mixed Memorial Tournament

Entry forms must be completed and sent to the Fixtures Secretary in advance of the tournament. Players are encouraged to be EN Members, guesting and playing up rules do not apply, and players can mix with other league team players for this tournament. Advise any non-EN Members that insurance is not covered, and they play at their own risk.

19. Youth Player Eligibility

School girls who are in Year 11 (aged 15-16) can participate in the Grimsby & District Senior Netball League, providing that safeguarding protocols are followed. In addition, each team may include a

maximum of 2 year 10's (aged 14-15) to play on court at one time. When registering players U18's an Age Banding form is required to be sent to the League Membership Secretary and Safeguarding Officers.

Clarification of Year 10 is School year beginning September (if you are going to reach 15 from term time 1st September to 31st August of said year). The England Netball Child Protection Policy Statement (See England Netball website) will be followed by the League.

20. League Structure

As a result of the Annual General Meeting dated 3rd September 2002 the Committee reserves the right, subject to the members approval, to alter the structure of the League to enable hour matches to be played. See also section 9.

21. Promotion/Demotion

21.1. Promotion:

The top 2 teams from each division to be promoted (if one of these teams cancels their Membership then the next team will take that place). In the event of restructuring the league to incorporate more or less teams there may be the requirement to promote or demote further teams to or from corresponding divisions.

21.2. Demotion:

The bottom 2 teams from each league will be demoted (if any teams cancel their Membership, then further teams will be promoted in accordance with their standing in the league). In the event of restructuring the league to incorporate more or less teams there may be the requirement to promote or demote further teams to or from corresponding divisions.

22. Late Arrivals – Players and Umpires

Each team must have at least five players to take the court, if due to the late arrival of a player(s) this cannot be done teams are allowed 5 minutes in which to do so. As soon as 5 players are available that team must take the court, and any further late arrivals can then join the game after a goal has been scored in the vacant position(s).

Each umpire must arrive and adhere to the rulings of section 13.

If either 5 players or a designated umpire are not on court by 5 minutes after central timing has started, then the game will not commence. Normal circumstances of liability of court fees and awarding game to opponents will come into effect re player/team unable to take court. Normal circumstances on points deduction from team of umpire along with court fees if game not able to go ahead due to non-attendance of umpire.

23. Digital Communications and Social Media

Any member of the league found by the Committee of the Grimsby & District Senior Netball League to be using any form of digital communication—including social media platforms, messaging services, email, text messages, or online chat forums—in a manner deemed offensive, abusive, or inappropriate towards another member will be subject to disciplinary action. This may include

permanent exclusion from the Grimsby & District Senior Netball League, in line with England Netball's Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures. This can include match bans, suspension and permanent exclusions.

24. Accident Reporting

An England Netball Accident form must be completed for all accidents and sent to the League Secretary. A copy of the Accident form and the results sheet will be sent England Netball where they will be stored for insurance purposes.

If an accident occurs at a Netball match where a player, coach, spectator or staff member is injured, the accident reporting procedure should be followed as detailed below: This procedure should be followed for ALL injuries and accidents, regardless of whether or not medical treatment is given.

A team official - i.e., coach, team manager or other team representative - should complete the Accident Report Form, making sure to include as much information as possible. This may include a diagram or further explanation which may be completed on a separate piece of paper or on the back of the form. Additional pages should be stapled or clipped securely to the original form.

The names, addresses and contact details of any witness present should be recorded. It may also be necessary, in some circumstances, to obtain an Umpires Report as evidence. This is essential for any follow up queries England Netball, or its insurers may have.

The form should be sent to the League Secretary within 3 (three) days of the incident taking place who will retain a copy and forward to England Netball. A copy should be kept by each team and filed for future reference. All participants acknowledge that participating in the sport of netball involves a risk of personal injury and by taking part in the Grimsby & District Senior Netball League whether as a player, team member, team official, other official or spectator, each participant does so at their own risk.

The League Secretary will forward the completed form to England Netball's designated insurance contact or safeguarding officer as required. Timely submission of the accident form is essential for insurance coverage to be considered.

25. Safeguarding

The Grimsby & District Senior Netball League (GDSNL) is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all participants, particularly children and vulnerable adults. GDSNL adopts and adheres to the England Netball Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Netball Policy. If a safeguarding concern arises, it must be reported immediately to the GDSNL Safeguarding Officer. Concerns can also be reported directly to England Netball via their official safeguarding portal:

<https://www.englandnetball.co.uk/safeguarding/> All reports will be treated confidentially and in accordance with England Netball's Safeguarding Policy. In cases of serious risk or harm, the League will escalate the matter to England Netball and relevant authorities without delay.

25.1. DBS Checks

Any person working directly with players under 18 must hold a valid Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check. Clubs are responsible for ensuring compliance and maintaining records.

25.2. Safe Participation

Teams must ensure that players under 18 are supervised appropriately at all times. No player under the age of 18 should be left unattended at venues. Age Banding Forms must be submitted for all U18 players, as outlined in Section 2.

26. Miscellaneous Provisos

No first aid will be provided by the league or venue.

It is the responsibility of each team to provide adequate first aid kit for its players and officials, which shall also be made available to the match officials on request.

27. Disclaimers

GDSNL will not be liable to any person, whether in contract, to (including negligence) or otherwise for any direct or indirect loss or injury of any nature, howsoever caused and howsoever arising from the matters covered by these Regulations, provided that nothing in these Regulations excludes or restricts GDSNL's liability for any personal loss or injury caused by GDSNL's own negligence, the negligence of its volunteers, or for fraud.

By entering a team in the Grimsby & District Senior Netball League, clubs/teams agree that:

- They will abide by these rules and regulations or may face disciplinary action.
- They are able and willing to forefill the costs and commitments of participation in the Grimsby & District Senior Netball League including attendance at meetings and umpiring/scoring.
- They will participate in a sporting manner and play within the spirit of the game.
- They are bound by all the rules, policies, regulations, and by-laws of EN, including the EN Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Regulations. This is extended to all current Covid Government and EN guidelines.

LAST UPDATED & AGREED AGM - September 2025

28. Glossary of Terms

Term / Acronym	Definition
AGM	Annual General Meeting – a yearly meeting where league matters are discussed and voted on.
EGM	Extraordinary General Meeting – a special meeting called outside the regular AGM schedule to address urgent or significant matters.
EN	England Netball – the national governing body for netball in England.
GDSNL	Grimsby & District Senior Netball League – the local league governed by these rules.
LCNA	Lincolnshire County Netball Association – County netball authority.
EMNA	East Midlands Netball Association – Regional netball authority.
Engage	England Netball's official membership and registration platform.
DBS Check	Disclosure and Barring Service Check – a background check required for those working with under-18s.
Age Banding Form	A form required for registering under-18 players, ensuring appropriate age-related participation.
Handicap Tournament	A tournament format where teams are given scoring advantages or disadvantages based on their placing at the end of the Winter Season.
Guest Player	A player who is not officially registered with a team and England Netball but may play a limited number of games under specific conditions.
Score Card	Official document used to record match scores and other relevant details.

