



CAMBRIDGE AND DISTRICT NETBALL  
LEAGUE

RULES HANDBOOK 2025

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## VERSION CONTROL

<b>Policy Name:</b>	Cambridgeshire County Netball League Regulations
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Committee Chair
<b>Group Owner:</b>	Cambridgeshire County Netball Association
<b>Current Version:</b>	1.0
<b>Review Date:</b>	At the end of the 2025/26 season & prior to the start of the 2026/27 season
<b>Applicable For:</b>	This policy is mandatory
<b>Summary:</b>	This policy provides the Regulations for the Cambridgeshire County Netball League which all competing teams must comply.

Person responsible	Version	Date of review	Purpose	Date Approved
Chair of CCNA	1.0	August 2025	Closer alignment with the East Region Senior League and compliance with the England Netball gender Eligibility and Participation Policy and Inclusive Kit Guidance	21 <sup>st</sup> August 2025 by Chair of CCNA on behalf of the Committee.
Chair of CCNA	1.1	July 2026		

## **1. PURPOSE OF THE LEAGUE**

The purpose of the Cambridge and District Netball League (CDNL) is to provide a high-quality competition pathway across all geographic areas of the County providing an opportunity for netballers to progress to the CCPL and beyond to the East Region Senior League and ultimately to the national Premier League. All decision made by the County Netball Association will be in the best interest of netball in Cambridgeshire.

## **2. LEAGUE GOVERNANCE**

Cambridge and District Netball League is owned and managed by the Cambridgeshire County Netball Association (CCNA) with operational responsibility delegated to Cambridge and District Netball League Management Committee. The Management Committee reserve the right to revise the contents of the League Handbook including the amendment of competition regulations on a seasonal basis. The aim is to ensure an appropriate alignment of regulations across the competition pathway including the Cambridgeshire County Premier League (CCPL)

CDNL contact information and website link can be viewed on the CCNA website. AGM and committee meeting minutes are available on request via email to [committee@cdnl.org](mailto:committee@cdnl.org)

## **3. KEY CONTACTS**

Chair, Cambridgeshire County Netball Association- Olivia Petherick  
Chair, Cambridgeshire County Premier Netball League - Floria Marshall  
Chair, Cambridge and District Netball League - Melanie Woor

## **4. TERMS AND CONDITION OF PARTICIPATION**

To participate in the CDNL, teams must guarantee that they are able to meet on-court and off-court standards determined by Cambridgeshire County Netball Association

The standards, obligations and responsibilities of all parties are enshrined within the Partnership Agreement attached at Appendix 1f.

Failure to comply with the contents of the Partnership Agreement will be investigated by the Cambridgeshire County Netball Association with breaches being subject to appropriate sanctions as per the Partnership Agreement.

## **5. PROMOTION AND RELEGATION**

The team at the bottom of their division will automatically go down to the division below. The team at the top of their division will automatically go up to the division above. The second from bottom of one division and the second from top of the division below will play a match to decide which team either goes up or remains in the higher division. This will happen in all divisions. There will be an invitation to the second-place team in division one to play off for entry into the CCPL. The winner of Cambridge District Netball League (CDNL) Division 1 will be automatically promoted to CCPL, the winner of Wisbech Netball League (WNL), runner-up CDNL Division 1 and second-bottom CCPL will enter a play-off. The winner of the playoff will win a place in CCPL. If they decline, then the invitation will be extended to the runners up of that play off.

The CDNL committee reserve the right to allocate divisional positions according to winter league team entries. This may include but is not limited to reinstating demoted teams to their previous seasons divisional position.

## CAMBRIDGE AND DISTRICT LEAGUE REGULATIONS

The Cambridge County Netball league is a female netball league in accordance with England Netball Gender Eligibility and Participation Policy as part of a recognised and authorised netball activity.

### 1. ORGANISATION AND ADMINISTRATION

1. The Cambridge and District Netball League (CDNL) is a competition organised by Cambridgeshire County Netball Association (CCNA) to enable senior clubs to compete against each other to determine promotion and relegation through the divisions to gain promotion to the CCPL. CDNL strive to mirror the CCPL competition regulations, where possible, to enable a consistency of match day experience.
- 1.2 Each team participating in CDNL must appoint two (2) League representatives (“League Representative”). Each team participating in the League must then send two (2) League Representatives to each League general meeting and League AGM. For non-compliance, please see Penalties (14.2).
- 1.3 The quorum for a League general meeting shall be 1/3 (one third) of all teams playing in that League at the date of the League general meeting.
- 1.4 A League general meeting shall be convened by the CDNL Chair at any time: a) By order of the CDNL Committee (as appropriate); or b) Upon receiving a written request by at least two (2) clubs with teams playing in the CDNL.
- 1.5 Such a meeting shall be convened within twenty-eight (28) days of the CDNL Secretary receiving such a request.
- 1.6 Entry fee will be determined and shared prior to season start by the committee.
- 1.7 The Regulations set out below outline the Rules and Regulations (“The Regulations which will govern the process and conduct of all matches within the CDNL, herein after referred to as “CDNL” Integral to the Regulations is England Netball’s Codes of Conduct, Disciplinary, Safeguarding Regulations, Gender Eligibility and Participation Policy and Inclusive Kit Guidance. See Appendix 1g.
- 1.8 CDNL seeks safe, fair play and good sportsmanship within a competitive environment and expects all players, coaches, bench officials, team managers and spectators to play the game in the right spirit and respect Regulations and Codes of Conduct.
- 1.9 The decisions of CDNL, or its nominee(s), in respect of these rules and regulations and on any other matter related to the CDNL, which is not provided for below, shall be considered final and binding on all parties, subject to the right of appeal.

### 2. QUALIFICATION AND ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1 Application for entry to the CDNL shall be open to any club, which has a membership to England Netball through CCNA and is located within the boundaries of the East Region Netball Association prior to the commencement of the League, subject to availability of divisional space
- 2.2 By entering a team in the CDNL, clubs/teams agree that: They will abide by rules and regulations.
- 2.3 They are able and willing to fulfil the costs and commitments of participation in the CDNL.
- 2.4 All players must have their membership lodged with England Netball and their membership fees paid, prior to their participation in the CDNL, as detailed below.
  - i. Players registered with England Netball and linked to their Primary Club at least 14 days prior to their first fixture.

- 2.5 Any club who knowingly and deliberately provides false information regarding identity of players when registering players or naming of players on team sheets will forfeit their entry fee and may be expelled from the competition. Disciplinary action will be taken against the club.
- 2.6 All players must be aged 14 or over to be eligible to compete in the CDNL. Teams wishing to register players under 14 may only do so with the approval of the relevant County Performance Lead or equivalent prior to registration. The approval is to be noted on the official Age banding request form (Appendix 1e) which must be completed by the applicant team and approval sought by the applicant team prior to submission to the Competition Organiser for player registration. As a general rule, age banding approval will be granted where a player is within the performance pathway.
- 2.7 **Pregnancy** – England Netball recommends that individuals (player, coach, umpire) if pregnant should only participate with approval from their doctor and in accordance with any guidelines issued by EN.

*Neither England Netball, nor the club will be held liable for any pregnant individual participating in recognised and authorised activity should the expectant mother suffer a miscarriage or permanent damage to herself and / or unborn child as a result of participating. The England Netball Personal Accident cover will not provide any benefit for injury, loss or expense due to pregnancy, childbirth, miscarriage or any consequence thereof. For example, if an 'Insured ... Person' who is pregnant is involved in an accident (not pregnancy related) and suffers a broken leg then, subject to claims validation, England Netball would pay any broken bones benefit, the Hospital Confinement benefit and Temporary Total Disablement benefit due under the Personal Accident Insurance Policy resulting from this injury. However, if the absence or hospital stay is prolonged as a direct result of pregnancy, pregnancy complications or even early childbirth then this would not be covered. The England Netball insurance scheme is provided as a Membership benefit and ensures that EN Members (referred to in the Liability insurance documents as 'Registered Participants') and in the Personal Accident documents as an 'Insured Person' are covered for Liability and Personal Accident Insurance, at the level of cover applicable to their category of membership. This document is intended as a guide only - full terms and conditions apply as detailed in the England Netball insurance policy documents, in association with England Netball's current Memorandum, Articles, Regulations and Policies. These documents are available to individuals on request by email or can be downloaded by every member on the downloadable documents in ENgage.*

Please note this guidance supersedes previous guidance that players, coaches, officials should only participate up until their 12<sup>th</sup> week of pregnancy.

### **3. STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT OF THE LEAGUE**

- 3.1 The structure of the CDNL shall be decided by the CDNL Committee at the start of each season.
- 3.2 The CDNL is considered to be a feeder league to the CCPL. Therefore, no team may enter both the CDNL and a Cambridgeshire County Feeder League concurrently. Players are only permitted to move clubs that are in feeder leagues to CCPL if their current league is still ongoing. It is not permitted to move clubs once their league has finished. Penalty- 4 points deducted for relevant matches
- 3.3 Each team shall name at least 7 (seven) players for the CDNL.
- 3.4 League tables, which will determine the promotion and relegation of the teams involved, shall be drawn up at the end of the season.
- 3.5 "New Team" means a team with less than five (5) original members of a previous team or otherwise at the discretion of the CDNL Committee. The position of a New Team may be

assessed at the discretion of the CDNL Committee utilising a play-off if deemed necessary. A request for assessment may be emailed to the CDNL secretary for consideration by the committee.

- 3.5.1 In the event of an assessment match for entry to CDNL, names and signatures of all players taking part in the assessment will be taken, these players must remain named in the same team at season start.
- 3.5.2 Returning players who played in the team prior to the assessment will not be able to play in the reassessed team in the first half of the season.
- 3.6 Where a club has more than one (1) team, it must name at least seven (7) players to each team.
- 3.7 All players must be named to a team and registered with the CDNL Committee prior to playing.
- 3.8 A named player may play down in the team immediately below one (1) time per season but may not return to her former team for the following two (2) League matches. This may only be utilised if the team the player is named to has 2 (two) league matches remaining. If a player plays down more than once, that player will be deemed a member of the lower team and will not be permitted to play up for the remainder of that season. Penalty 4 points deducted for relevant matches
- 3.9 Only one (1) named player may play in the team immediately below at a time. If more than one player plays down the penalty applied will be the deduction of 10 points with all goals scored by that team removed.
- 3.10 If a player plays up for two (2) full consecutive league games they will be deemed to be a player of that particular team. If a player plays up for any part of more than six (6) league matches in one (1) season, then they will be deemed to be a player of the last team they played up in.
  - 3.10.1 Regional players cannot play in the CDNL League. Cambs Prem players are allowed but are subject to the playing down rules.
  - 3.10.2 A player can only play up to the team immediately above. Penalty applied for this will be the deduction of 10 points with all goals scored by that team removed.
  - 3.10.3 Playing up when two (2) or more teams are playing at the same time. A player may sign more than one scorecard. A player may only move between teams once during the match. Normal playing up/down rules will apply. A maximum of three (3) players may sign both scorecards.
  - 3.10.4 A club may rename their teams once per season, at the discretion of the committee. The must be requested with reasons in writing to the committee.
- 3.11 The CDNL Membership Secretary must be informed, in writing, of a proposed change in the players named to a team before that team's next League fixture. The number of times a team may make such changes will be at the discretion of the League Committee.
  - 3.11.1 Additional players may be added to a team during the season; England Netball membership must be purchased by midnight the day before the fixture. An additional signature form must be placed in the scorecard bin and the membership secretary notified via email with the players membership receipt attached on match day.
- 3.12 Any player may play in CDNL provided that they fulfil the Membership rules laid down by England Netball and the League rules as approved by the CDNL and the Committee.
- 3.13 A maximum of twelve (12) players may operate on each league date ("Squad").

- 3.14 Fixture tables shall be drawn up by the CDNL Committee. Fixture tables will include three (3) reserve dates for match cancellations due to weather or serious injury. Winter league fixtures should be completed before the AGM. Summer league fixtures should be completed by the end of July.

#### **4. RULES**

- 4.1 Netball in CDNL shall be played under the rules of England Netball current at that time.
- 4.2 A member may represent only one club at a time if this club is playing in CDNL or a feeder league. A member may dually claim to a club in a competitive feeder league as a non-playing member. A player can be a member of a second club in an "invitation only" league as long as that club is not in CDNL or a competitive feeder league. A member may move only once during a season and must become a member of the new club. The player may not return to the original club in that season. Penalty – loss of any points gained by the offending team for that specific match.
- 4.3 A player who is not a member of England Netball may play as a guest player once in a season. If they wish to play again within CDNL they must become a member. The name of the player must appear on the scorecard with "GP" marked next to her name. Only one (1) guest player may be used in a team at any one time. See Penalties (13.3).
- 4.4 All matches must start within five (5) minutes of the agreed time.
- 4.5 All teams are expected to provide a ball and two sets of matching bibs to comply with England Netball and/or League rule laid down from time to time.
- 4.5.1 No player may take to court with any adornments that may cause harm to another player including but not limited to safety pins, zips, velcro, hoods.
- 4.5.2 We believe everyone should feel confident, comfortable and empowered in what they wear on court so in accordance with the England Netball kit guidance: -
- Kit should be uniform in colour which means your team should coordinate in colours but not everyone has to wear exactly the same thing
  - You do NOT have to wear a dress
  - You do NOT have to wear identical garments.
- For further details of the Guidelines referring to kit, head covering and hair please connect to the Inclusive Kit link at Appendix 1g.
- 4.6 Clubs must pay the specified entry fee to the CDNL Treasurer by the date laid down by the CDNL Committee.
- 4.7 The signatures of named players must be sent to the CDNL Membership Secretary by the date specified by the CDNL Committee.
- 4.8 Filming requests will only be granted for exam purposes. Requests must be submitted to the Committee via email a week prior to the match.
- 4.9 First aid is provided by the venue (Netherhall School), a committee member and the venue must be contacted in the event of an injury. Contact numbers are posted on the court surround.
- 4.9.1 Teams must provide a suitably stocked first aid kit including ice packs.

#### **5. LEAGUE POSITIONS**

- 5.1 League positions shall be determined by awarding points as follows: -  
6 points for a win 4 points for a draw 3 points if within 5 goals of opponents score 2 points if within 50% or more of opponents score 1 point for less than 50% of opponents score.
- 5.2 Any team conceding a match should be deducted four (4) points.

- 5.3 League tables shall be compiled in descending order of points obtained. Where points are equal, the team with the superior goal difference will assume the higher position. Where points and goal difference are equal, the teams will share equal position.
- 5.3.1 If the teams sharing equal position are in a playoff position, the CDNL committee will arrange an extra playoff match.
- 5.4 In the event of a match being conceded six (6) points to be awarded to the non-conceding team and leave any calculations for goal difference until the end of the season.

In the event of a match being conceded, the average goals against of the conceding team, shall be added to the non-conceding teams' goals for. Similarly, the average goals for of the non-conceding team shall be added to the conceding teams goals against. These are to be calculated after all matches have been completed.

## **6. APPOINTMENT OF OFFICIALS**

- 6.1 The minimum standard for an umpire in division one (1) and two (2) in the CDNL is "C" award or an umpire identified by a relevant committee member (IOA working towards). Divisions three (3), four (4) and five (5) the requirement is IOA or a pre IOA identified as ready for assessment. This is at the discretion of the CDNL committee.

Newly qualified umpires should umpire no more than one (1) CDNL match per day until assessed by a qualified mentor. No umpire should umpire more than two (2) matches per. Extenuating circumstances are at the discretion of the CDNL committee.

Where an assessment is passed outside of Cambridgeshire, umpires will be given a 15-minute assessment.

- 6.1.1 All CDNL umpires will be eligible for mentoring throughout the CDNL, this is arranged by the Officiating Lead.
- 6.1.2 All clubs must have an England Netball Member who is an active umpire qualified to the level required to officiate over matches within the highest division to which a club enters a team. Active club umpires are expected to officiate at least 5 matches per season.

A side without an umpire must withdraw a player, suitably qualified to umpire. If there isn't one available refer to 6.2

- 6.1.3 Clubs will be allowed one (1) season grace in order to place someone on the officiating pathway. Penalty 10-point deduction at season start
- 6.2 If an umpire fails to turn up to a match and no replacement can be found the match will be rearranged within two (2) weeks as per the league rule for abandoned matches. The CDNL Committee will pay travelling expenses of £20.00 to the other umpire. Repeat offenders (more than once) will be removed from the CDNL umpiring pool at the committee's discretion.
- 6.3 Umpires are required to conform to a standard of physical fitness which allows them to keep pace with the speed and variability of the game. If anything is likely to affect an umpire's movement and positioning to the detriment of the game, she/he is required to withdraw from officiating the match.
- 6.4 Neutral Umpires will be allocated by the CDNL Committee for divisions one (1) and two (2). Divisions three (3) four (4) and five (5) are responsible for sourcing their own umpires. An umpire cannot be appointed to a match if they are affiliated to either team. If a match must be rearranged, then both teams are required to appoint their own umpire. Umpires shall be from the existing pool of CDNL Umpires and shall be neutral, unless expressly agreed in advance by the CDNL Committee AND both teams.

6.5 All teams have a responsibility to provide scorers when allocated by CDNL Committee. All scorers must have an umpiring award or have attended a County Lead Scorers course. All scorers must be ready courtside, 10 minutes before the start of the match, failure to do so shall result in a penalty being applied (**as per 13.4**). If a scorer fails to attend a match there will be a fine and a deduction of points. **See Penalties 13.4.**

## 6.6 TEAM OFFICIALS

6.6.1 A team may have up to two (2) Team Officials. These will include a coach and at least one primary care person.

A primary care person:

- Must be qualified to diagnose and treat injury or illness (for example, doctor, physiotherapist or Qualified First Aider)
- It is advised that for CDNL Teams that a qualified First Aider will suffice.
- Is permitted on the court during a stoppage for injury/illness of a Player or blood issues
- Must advise the umpires if a Player is too ill/injured to be removed from the court within 30 seconds and/or if assistance is required.

Before a match starts, a team must identify who is responsible for managing injuries to players in their team, if no suitably qualified primary Carer is present with their team.

6.6.2 Team Officials may be fewer than specified and may therefore undertake several duties. However, primary care person/s must not be a player, and it is preferable that they do not hold any other role.

6.6.3 The Team Officials and up to five (5) players not on court shall constitute the Team Bench.

6.6.4 If a coach has two (2) teams playing at the same time they may move between courts at quarter time only, not during match-play. Teams may be moved to adjacent courts by request to the committee via email no less than three (3) days prior to the matchday

## 7. START TIMES AND RESULTS

7.1 Each match must be timed individually by the relevant timekeepers with injury time being timed and added as per EN rules. Time allowed between quarter & half times are as follows: -  
Quarter time – 3 mins - Half time – 5 mins.

7.2 If a team has at least five (5) players they must take the court at the designated start time. If a team has less than five (5) players at the designated start time they must concede the match. Four (4) points will be deducted from the offending team and the goals scored will be calculated and added according to the non-offending team's averages. If the offending team subsequently wish to appeal, they must put their comments in writing to the CDNL Committee to explain their reasons for the appeal. The CDNL Committee will make the final decision on all appeals.

7.3 If a team has less than five (5) players at the designated start time and the situation is due to unforeseen extenuating circumstances, either a further ten (10) minute delay to the start time or a rearranged match can be agreed. This decision is solely at the discretion of the CDNL Committee members present on that day at the matches.

7.4 Results must be confirmed on an official scorecard provided by CDNL and placed in the scorecard bin. **See Penalties for non-compliance (13.6).**

- (a) Teams are responsible for ensuring that the scorecards are filled in correctly i.e.:
- i) full team name including team number where appropriate and dated
  - ii) that the scores are correct.
  - iii) that each participating player has signed the card, including substitutes, the umpire must sign below the bottom signature

- iv) indicate portion of game play ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{3}{4}$ ), players playing up/down, and guest players. Any amount of a quarter played while utilising a tactical change equates to a full quarter and must be recorded as such
- (v) that the scorers print their name on the scorecard and umpires print and sign the scorecard stating their qualification; along with any sanctions given and why
- (vi) Scorecard placed in the scorecard bin.
- (vii) rearranged match scorecards must be sent via email to the membership committee immediately after the match, ensuring both sides of the card are clearly visible, then placed in the scorecard bin at the next fixtures day.

## **8. SET TIMES AND DATES**

- 8.1 All matches must be played at the set times and dates as laid out in the fixtures list. These cannot be altered or re-arranged except for: - (a) Extenuating Circumstances As there is no precedent for what constitutes an “extenuating circumstance” each request/circumstance will be considered and decided upon individually by the CDNL Committee.

## **9. PROCEDURE FOR POSTPONED MATCHES**

- 9.1 All matches will be moved en masse to the first reserve date provided at season start, if there is a further postponement, the matches will move to the second reserve date. If a team cannot field a team for the reserve date they will concede the match. Penalty as per conceding a match rule 5.2

- 9.2 Each team is responsible for providing a neutral umpire for the rearranged fixture see 6.4.

## **10. ABANDONED MATCHES**

- 10.1 A match can only be abandoned at the discretion of both umpires. If forty (40) minutes of the match have been completed the result will stand. If less than forty (40) minutes of the match have been completed the match will be replayed at a time and venue decided by the CDNL Committee. Teams will have the responsibility to mutually agree on a date, time and venue within four (4) weeks. If no agreement has been decided on, in this time, then the CDNL committee will set a date and venue, if either one or both teams are unable to fulfil this fixture, then they will concede the match, and four (4) points will be deducted as per rule 5.2. If either team is unable to play, they must notify the Secretary immediately

## **11. NO SMOKING OR VAPING ON COURTS**

- 11.1 No smoking or vaping allowed on or around the netball court area. Penalty of a £10.00 fine to go to Cancer Research.

## **12. MISCONDUCT AND DISCIPLINARY**

- 12.1 If a complaint regarding the conduct of a club, player, team, official, coach or other participant is made, this should be sent to the CDNL’s Safeguarding Officer. If the complaint can be managed by the CDNL Committee it will be investigated on receipt of the complaint in writing, accompanied by any relevant evidence.
- 12.2 If the complaint is about an individual player and contravenes EN Code of Conduct the matter will be referred to the County Safeguarding Officer or Resolution Lead for referral forward.
- 12.3 All other complaints/grievances will be managed by the CDNL Committee who shall follow the CDNL Grievance procedure. If misconduct is found to have occurred, then the CDNL Committee shall follow the guidance set out in the Grievance procedure. In some cases, a club may have points deducted or, in exceptional circumstances, may be suspended or expelled from League competition.
- 12.4 Appeals against a decision will incur a fee of £100.00. Appeals can be made to CDNL Committee within seven (7) working days of the date on the disciplinary decision form.

### **13. PENALTIES**

- 13.1 Penalty for Section 1. Loss of any points for matches played before payment of affiliation and no further participation will not be allowed in the CDNL until all outstanding affiliation fees (club, team and/or player affiliation fees) have been paid.
- 13.2 Penalty for Section 2.1– Clubs failing to send two (2) representatives to the CDNL League general meeting and CDNL AGM, each team within such club shall be deducted ten (10) points per team and fined £50.00, which will be payable to the relevant league Treasurer, for the following England Netball year (1st September to 31st August). Each occasion of non-attendance will be judged individually and the eligibility to join the CDNL will be at the discretion of the CDNL Committee. The ultimate penalty will be expulsion from the League.
- 13.3 Penalty for Section 4.3 – Any player playing more than one match as a Guest Player (“GP”) or playing as a non-member player this constitutes as breach of 4.3 – Penalty - 4 point deduction for relevant matches
- 13.4 Penalty for Section 6.5 – Failure to provide scorers, the offending teams will be fined £10.00 and deducted two points.
- 13.5 Penalty for Section 6.6 – Team Officials & Players - All League players, umpires, coaches, and supporters are required to comply at all times to the EN Code of Conduct. Any person not adhering to this the matter will be referred to the Cambridge and District League committee.
- 13.6 Penalty for Section 7.4 – Non-compliance of completing and or returning official scorecard correctly – Penalty four (4) points.

**BREACH OF COMPETITION REGULATIONS**

1. Where the Complaint relates to the playing of a Match, the scoring, and/or its result, the relevant Squad member or Team Official, must do the following:
  - i) Inform their opponents and the Umpires of their complaint.
  - ii) Mark the Score Card with the words "Under Protest".
  - iii) Send both sides of the marked Score Card to the CDNL Committee via email , within seventy-two (72) hours of the match.
  - iv) Attach a letter to the same email to explain the issue in full to the CDNL Committee.
  - v) The CDNL Committee will decide what action should be taken.
2. The CDNL Committee will acknowledge receipt of the query or complaint and decide on the matter within Ten (10) days of receipt of the query or complaint. The Competition Referees decision in relation to decisions taken under clause 10.1 is binding apart from where parties to the complaint have the right to appeal the decision under Section 3 below.
3. Where a Complaint relates to the governance or administration of the Competition by Cambridge and District Netball League such complaints will be dealt with under the Complaints Procedure of Cambridgeshire County Netball Association.
4. All disputes will be dealt with by a Dispute Resolution Panel made up of three (3) neutrally placed members of the Cambridgeshire Netball Association or Cambridge and District Netball League Committee.

## APPEAL OF COMPETITION DECISION

1. The decision of the Competition Referee in relation to a complaint submitted in accordance with section 10 shall be final and binding on all parties save that a party has a right to appeal in the following circumstances:
  - 1.1 If the decision has a potential impact on a match result, a league table, or the outcome of the Competition; or
  - 1.2 If there has been a failure by the Competition Referee to follow or act in accordance with these Regulations and/or the Competition Referee reached a decision on the basis of an error of fact.

These are the only grounds of appeal, and any appeal must be submitted in accordance with the appeals process set out below:

2. An appeal should be forwarded in writing from the Team Manager of the appealing Team to the Competition Referee within 72 hours of receiving the decision, who will refer it to the Chair of the County League.
3. The appeal shall be accompanied by a fee for £100 which shall be returned if the appeal is upheld or if there are any other extenuating circumstances. The County League will appoint a neutrally placed Appeals Panel (AP) one of whom will be appointed as Chair, will decide whether the extenuating circumstance warrant the cheque being returned.
5. The Chair of the AP will send the appeal to the opposing Team and any other Team the AP believe could be affected by the outcome of the appeal. These Teams will be permitted seventy-two (72) hours, from the date the appeal notice is sent from the AP to submit any evidence or submission that they wish the AP to consider.
6. All submissions and evidence must be submitted in writing. The Chair of AP will have the discretion to determine the process, procedure, and direction of the appeal.
7. The AP shall meet and reach a determination within seventy-two (72) hours of receiving all the evidence and submissions.
8. The AP will notify all the parties that made submissions and presented evidence of its decision and any penalties and sanctions imposed within twenty-four (24) hours of it reaching its determination. The AP shall have the discretion to publish the decision through whatever means it considers appropriate.
9. The AP shall have the delegated power of Cambridgeshire County Netball Association to make all decisions and impose and enforce any penalties and sanctions (including but not limited to, reprimands, the deduction of points, fines, suspensions, and expulsions from the Competition) relating to the appeal.
10. The procedures set out in this section shall be governed by the Arbitration Act 1996 (the Act) and amount to a binding arbitration agreement for the purposes of Section 6 of the Act.
11. The parties also waive irrevocably their right to any form of appeal, review or recourse to any court or other judicial authority, or under England Netball's Disciplinary Procedures Manual or otherwise, insofar as such waiver may be validly made.
12. The seat of arbitration shall be England, the language used shall be English and the governing law of the regulations and these proceedings under Section 3 shall be English Law.

13. If the circumstances require a decision to be taken sooner than provided for by this section, and all parties to the appeal consent, the timetable within which an appeal is raised, submissions made, and the decision taken can be shorter than seventy-two (72) hours stated in this Section. In such cases the CAC shall issue a revised directions timetable which shall be binding on all parties.



### SANCTIONS FOR BREACHES OF THE LEAGUE REGULATIONS

1. The League Committee has the authority to impose the following sanctions where it has been proven that a breach in the League Regulations has occurred.
  - a. The use of a Non EN Member excluding guest players (see rule), unregistered player, an illegal player, or a player who is under-age and does not have written permission to play from the County Performance Lead or equivalent will result in a deduction of six (6) league points per player and the goals would be treated as in a conceded game and they would have deemed to have lost the match 20-0.
  - b. All player's warning cautions and suspensions will be recorded on the match scorecard section of the result sheet with the umpire's initials. Any player who receives six (6) warnings during a season will receive an automatic ban and not be able take any further part in the league for the rest of that season.
  - c. Any player who receives two (2) suspensions during a season will receive an automatic two match ban and not be able take any further part in the league for the rest of that season, in addition to any further reprimand as a result of further consideration of the incident(s). All associated paperwork to be completed by the umpires and returned to League Committee/Competition organiser.
  - d. A record will be maintained of player suspension throughout the season in order to track suspensions.
  - e. Any player, coach or team bench sent off during or after a match will receive an automatic one match ban in addition to any further reprimand as a result of further consideration of the incident(s). All associated paperwork to be completed by the umpires and returned to League/Competition organiser.
  - f. Failure to play on more than three occasions, unless extenuating circumstances prevail, result in expulsion from the League. The final decision will rest with the Cambridge and District Netball League Committee.
  - g. A two (2) point deduction for incomplete score sheet or late score sheet/notification of result.
  - h. A two (2) point deduction for not providing a scorer for a CDNL match.



### OFFICIAL GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

1. To report a grievance a committee member or team captain must complete this form ([Link to Microsoft form](#)), which will be sent to the Cambridgeshire County Premier League Safeguarding Officer.
2. The safeguarding officer will raise this with the full Committee within 48 hours, and the complaint will be logged.
3. The league will acknowledge the grievance in writing to the person/people or where appropriate, the club secretary. (see Attachment No. 1).
4. If deemed appropriate, after initial committee review, the League Secretary will request reports (see attachment No.2) on the related incident/s from all parties concerned in the matter. A match report form (link to Microsoft form) will be sent to all parties to complete within 7 days. The link and date of completion will be stated in the email.
5. The Committee will then review the reports, and a decision will be made within 10 days, with any relevant action needed.
6. The outcome will be communicated in writing to the complainant/person(s) complaint made about.

NB: Please note the Committee will only address complaints received through the official channels. In extenuating circumstances, if the Committee repeatedly hear of complaints against a specific person/people or representative of a club and the matter is deemed urgent, the Committee reserve the right to issue a letter (see Attachment No 3) to that person/people or representative of a club inviting them to attend an informal meeting with the committee to discuss the comments.

For any matters which refer to an individual and are deemed serious enough that they cannot be handled by the Cambridge and District League Committee, these should be directed to County Disciplinary Secretary and will be handled through the EN Disciplinary Regulations. Please check the County website for full details of the current County Disciplinary Secretary, the EN Disciplinary Regulations & the Code of Conduct. Link to the County website as below

<https://www.cambscna.org>

Last updated October 2024

## Attachment No. 1 – Acknowledgment of Grievance



Dear (name of person/s who submitted grievance form)

We have received and acknowledge your completed Grievance Form submitted on (date).

This will now go through our Grievance Procedure for the committee to review and if considered appropriate, we will request match reports from all relevant parties concerned.

The league will be in contact within 48hours.

Kind regards,

**Isabelle Pettifor**  
**Cambridge and District Netball League - Safeguarding Lead**

Copy to:	Melanie Woor	CDNL Chairperson
	Janette Hatton	CDNL Vice Chairperson
	Toni Race	CDNL Secretary

**Attachment No. 2 – Request for match report**



**Subject title of email – Grievance Procedure match report request**

Dear (name of parties to whom we require to complete a match report form)

Please note the Committee has received an official complaint from (person/people) regarding (details of grievance) on (date). As part of our Grievance Policy, we now request reports from all parties involved, which will help us assist in resolving any issues from this match.

As a party involved in this game, please could you complete this form ([link to Microsoft form](#)) by (date 7 days of the email being sent).

Kind Regards,

**Isabelle Pettifor**  
**Cambridge and District Netball League - Safeguarding Lead**

Copy to:   Melanie Woor     CDNL Chairperson  
              Janette Hatton   CDNL Vice Chairperson  
              Toni Race        CDNL Secretary

**Attachment No.3 – attendance of an informal meeting**



**Subject title of email - Invitation to meeting following Grievance Procedure**

Dear

The Committee has received several unofficial complaints/comments reference (person/people). It is now felt that the situation should be addressed, and the Committee invite (person/people) to an informal meeting to discuss this matter.

Please contact the Committee Secretary Toni Race by (date) to arrange a date and time suitable to all parties.

Yours sincerely,

**Isabelle Pettifor**  
**Cambridge and District Netball League - Safeguarding Lead**

Copy to:	Melanie Woor	CDNL Chairperson
	Janette Hatton	CDNL Vice Chairperson
	Toni Race	CDNL Secretary

**APPENDIX 1e**

Name of Player	_____	Club/School	_____
County	_____	Region	_____
Date of Birth	_____	Today's Date	_____
Requesting to Play in Age Group	_____	Competition	_____

Contact details of person completing form:

Name:		Address:	
		Post Code:	
Home Telephone:		Mobile:	
Email:			

The following must be completed and returned to the Competition Organiser of the competition the player is being considered to play in before the player is eligible to play out of their age band. By completing this form, you are determining that this player is suitable to play above their current age band. Please refer to the Age Banding Guidance and Support document before completing this form.

1 )	Is the player currently in the England Performance Pathway (e.g. Satellite, County, Regional Academy)?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> Please proceed to question 2	
		NO <input type="checkbox"/> Please proceed to question 3	
2 )	Please state the level of the Performance Pathway the player is currently in, and the venue of the Academy		
3 )	What level of competition is the player currently involved in?		
4 )	What is the reason for the age band request?		
5 )	Who will support/mentor the player during the process for her feeling of 'ease' with the transition?	Name	Position
6 )	What monitoring strategy has been agreed by all interested parties?		

Please complete and tick the appropriate box

The player:-

- has shown the physical ability to compete at a higher level
- has shown the emotional ability to transition to a higher age band
- has the technical and tactical ability to take part the level of the higher age band
- progress will be regularly monitored
- The Team Coach has discussed this application with the player, the Club/School

Y		NO	
E		NO	
S		NO	
Y		NO	
E		NO	
S		NO	
Y		NO	
E		NO	
S		NO	

Safeguarding Officer and the players' parent(s)/guardian(s) (if the player is Under 18 years of age)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Coach  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Club/School Safeguarding Officer  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Parent

NB: Please note that approval is not needed for this process. Completion and submission of this form will act as approval for the player to play out of their age band, providing it is completed in full and received by the competition organiser within the timescales they permit. Please refer to the competition regulations before submitting this form.

For queries relating to age banding please contact:  
England Netball | SportPark | 3 Oakwood Drive | Loughborough | LE11 3QF T: 01509 277850

## CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY LEAGUE TERMS AND CONDITIONS

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY NETBALL ASSOCIATION AND CAMBRIDGE AND DISTRICT NETBALL LEAGUE FOR PARTICIPATION AS A FEEDER LEAGUE IN THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY NETBALL LEAGUE (September 2023 – August 2024)

#### INTRODUCTION

Cambridgeshire County Netball Association have established a competition pathway within the county that enables progression from two geographically located local Feeder leagues to the Cambs County Premier League with an opportunity from there to progress to the East Region Senior League. Feeder League status is by invitation only (by the Cambs County Netball Association) and this Agreement manages the terms of that engagement.

#### TERM OF ENGAGEMENT

This Agreement is valid for three years from the date of signing subject to an annual review (The Chair of the County Netball Association, the Chair of the County Premier League, and the Chair of the Feeder Leagues) and/or any serious breaches of the Agreement or the Competition Regulations. A season's notice of withdrawal must be given by either party.

#### CAMBRIDGE AND DISTRICT NETBALL LEAGUE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR:

1. Managing the League in accordance with their Constitution, League Regulations and Regulations imposed by the County Netball Premier League as a pre-requisite of becoming a Feeder League.
2. Ensuring their Feeder League Regulations are communicated to each club and are applied fairly and consistently.
3. Ensuring the best standards of `Fair Play` are adhered to in all League matches in accordance with England Netball's Code of Conduct.
4. Enabling a more inclusive environment that provides all players a greater opportunity to get involved.
5. Ensuring good standards of governance including sending a copy of League Committee minutes to the County League Chair.
6. Ensuring regular, appropriate, and effective communication with the Chair of the County Netball League including the provision of League results and stories.
7. Establishing a longer-term vision (three years) for the League to improve standards, increase participation and support the development of officials, coaches, and volunteers.
8. Attending regular CCNA Committee Meetings throughout the year with the Chair of the County League to review the season and look forward to the opportunity and challenges of the forthcoming season.

**CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY NETBALL LEAGUE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR:**

1. The Management of the County Netball League to in accordance with its Constitution and the Competition Regulations.
2. Ensuring Competition Regulations are communicated to the Chair of each Feeder League and are applied fairly and consistently.
3. Ensuring regular, appropriate, and effective communication with the Chair of each Feeder League including attendance at League meetings as and when requested by the League and sending a copy of County League minutes to the Chair of each Feeder League.
4. Supporting the Feeder Leagues to establish good standards of governance and develop their officials, coaches, and volunteers.
5. Supporting & advising the League on any disciplinary or safeguarding issues that may arise during the season.
6. Promoting the Feeder Leagues, their results and their stories through the League website and other communications.
7. Organising an annual end of season review meeting with the Chair of the Feeder League to review the season and look forward to the opportunity and challenges of the forthcoming season.

**DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

Any perceived breach of this Agreement must be dealt with as follows:

1. A meeting is established between the Chair of the Cambridgeshire County Premier League and the Chair of the Feeder League to identify and discuss the issue and agree an agreed course of corrective action and timeline.
2. If either party fails to meet their agreed actions within the agreed timelines that matter will be referred to the Chair of the Cambridgeshire County Netball Association for mediation.
3. Feeder Leagues who consistently (3 or more times within the life of this Agreement) breach this Agreement could have their Feeder League status withdrawn.

**AGREEMENT AND ACCEPTANCE OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS:**

**Cambridge and District Netball League -Chair**

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Signed & Dated

**Cambridgeshire County Netball Association - Chair**

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Signed & Dated

## Sources of information

Safeguarding policies

<https://help.centre.englandnetball.co.uk/wiki/spaces/EKC/pages/120815824/Safeguarding+GDPR+Knowledge+Centre>

Codes of Conduct for players, coaches & officials

<https://englandnetball.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/EKC/pages/128745490/Governance+Policies+and+Documents>

Gender Eligibility and Participation Policy and Documents

<https://help.centre.englandnetball.co.uk/wiki/spaces/EKC/pages/370802697/Gender+Eligibility+and+Participation+Policy+and+Documents>

Inclusion Kit

<https://help.centre.englandnetball.co.uk/wiki/spaces/EKC/pages/367067180/Equality+Diversity+and+Inclusion+Policies+and+Guidance>