



ASHFORD NETBALL SENIOR LEAGUE

CONSTITUTION

2020 - 21

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1. NAME

1.1 The league shall be called **ASHFORD NETBALL SENIOR LEAGUE** (hereafter called The League).

2. AFFILIATION

2.1 The League will be affiliated to England Netball (EN) and Kent Netball (KN).

3. OBJECTIVES

The League is established to:

- 3.1 Adopt the rules and regulations laid down by England Netball.
- 3.2 Promote and develop the game of netball in the local community.
- 3.3 Establish opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to play netball.
- 3.4 Manage the accounts and uphold League principles in the best interest of the game of netball.
- 3.5 Ensure the duty of care to all members.

4. MEMBERSHIP

- 4.1 Membership is open to all on a non-discriminatory basis. This membership is to ensure that all present and future members receive fair and equal opportunity.
- 4.2 Members shall consist of players, coaches, umpires or anyone who organises netball or who is in any way concerned or has a connection with The League.
- 4.3 Although considered an adult competition, The League welcomes those under the age of 18 who by ability are able to participate.
- 4.4 The League is bound to limit its membership to those who affiliate to England Netball and Kent Netball.
- 4.5 All League Management Committee personnel, players and non-playing umpires shall be affiliated to England Netball and Kent Netball.
- 4.6 The League may offer life membership to a person who has given outstanding service to The League.
- 4.7 All members shall be bound by this constitution and any other ruling of the League Management Committee and by the current rules of the game.

5. MEMBERSHIP FEES

- 5.1 The League is entitled to charge an annual subscription.
- 5.2 New members may be accepted at any time on payment of the annual subscription.
- 5.3 The annual subscription shall be set by the League Management Committee and agreed annually and adopted at the AGM.

6. HONORARY OFFICERS

- 6.1 The Honorary Officers of The League shall be:
Chair
Vice Chair
Secretary
Treasurer

7. LEAGUE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

- 7.1 The League shall be managed by the League Management Committee (The Committee) consisting of:
The Honorary Officers and the following Officers:
Affiliation/Registration Representative
Coaching Representative
Division Representatives - one per division
Events Representative
Fixtures Representative
League Representatives (maximum of 4 without defined role)
Media Representative
Safeguarding Officer
Umpiring Fixtures Representative
Umpiring Testing Representative
Youth/Development Representative
- 7.2 At no time, shall more than 4 officers be registered members of the same club in The League.
- 7.3 The management of The League shall be vested in The Committee who shall be elected annually at the AGM.
- 7.4 The Committee shall be responsible for adopting new policies, codes of practice and rules that affect the organisation of The League.
- 7.5 The Committee shall establish technical working parties to handle the requirement of the members where deemed necessary.
- 7.6 The Committee shall meet a minimum of 4 times a year.
- 7.7 Minutes shall be kept of all meetings of The Committee for a minimum of 7 years. A copy shall be circulated to each committee member.
- 7.8 The Committee members are expected to attend all relevant committee meetings. Any member absent for three consecutive meetings may forfeit her/his place on The Committee.
- 7.9 In the event of a vacancy The Committee may appoint another eligible person to act for an appropriate period, but not beyond the next Annual General Meeting.
- 7.10 The Committee has the power to co-opt one further member in a non-voting capacity.
- 7.11 It is the duty of The Committee and members of The League to enforce the rules without interpretation.
- 7.12 No member of The Committee who is also a member of a club shall be present for discussions or vote on any matter directly concerning that club.
- 7.13 A Quorum shall consist of 5 committee members. Should a committee member need to leave the meeting for matters set out in 7.12 then the remaining committee members shall be able to vote.
- 7.14 After consultation with the Chairperson, The Committee may invite any person having specialised knowledge to attend any meeting of The Committee in an advisory capacity without the power to vote.
- 7.15 Each member of The Committee shall have one vote; the Chairman shall have an additional casting

vote if required.

- 7.16 Decisions of The Committee shall be binding and where necessary the person(s) concerned will be notified of such decisions in writing. The Committee shall have the power to apply, act upon and enforce the rules of the League and shall have the jurisdiction over all matters not provided for in the Constitution and Rules & Regulations.
- 7.17 The Committee reserves the right to organise competitions and introduce new rules, or amend existing rules, as they consider appropriate, for any individual competition.

8. FINANCE

- 8.1 All monies raised by or on behalf of The League shall be applied to further the objects of The League and for no other purpose.
- 8.2 All League monies shall be banked in accounts held in the name of The League.
- 8.3 The Treasurer will be responsible for the finances of The League.
- 8.4 The financial year of The League will end on 31st August.
- 8.5 An audited statement of annual accounts will be presented by the Treasurer at the Annual General Meeting.
- 8.6 Any transfers or cheques drawn against league funds will hold the signatures of the Treasurer plus up to two other committee members.
- 8.7 If it becomes necessary for The League to enter into any financial agreement with any outside bodies for the benefit of The League it shall be brought before an EGM.

9. GENERAL MEETINGS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- 9.1 The League shall hold a General Meeting in every calendar year as its Annual General Meeting (AGM). The AGM shall be held in the first quarter of each year at such a time and place as may be determined by The Committee.
- 9.2 A minimum of 28 days' notice in writing of every AGM specifying the place, day and hour of the meeting, together with a copy of the agenda, shall be dispatched to those entitled to receive such notice from The League. The accidental omission to give notice of such a meeting or non-receipt of such notice shall not invalidate any resolution passed or any proceeding held at the meeting.
- 9.3 Business to be transacted shall be:
- 9.3.1 To receive reports and accounts over the past year.
 - 9.3.2 To elect the League Management Committee.
 - 9.3.3 To consider any proposed resolution submitted in writing 21 days before the date of the meeting, which has been proposed and seconded by two members entitled to vote.
 - 9.3.4 To appoint a person to examine the accounts of The League.
 - 9.3.5 Any other relevant business notified in advance.
- 9.4 Nominations for the election of Honorary Officers and Committee Members may be proposed and seconded by two members entitled to vote at such meeting.
- 9.4.1 Written notice of such nomination, stating the name and address of each nominee and of the proposer and seconder must reach the Secretary 28 days prior to the meeting.
 - 9.4.2 Should there be no written nominations by the notice period, nominations for vacant positions can be taken from the floor.

In the event of there being more than one candidate for any of the said Officers, an election shall be held at the Annual General Meeting.

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

- 9.5 An extraordinary General Meeting may be convened by order of the Committee or upon written request to the Secretary from one third or more of those entitled to vote at a General Meeting.
- 9.6 Each written request shall state the purpose for which a meeting is required and clearly set out any resolution which it is desired to propose.
- 9.7 The meeting shall be held within 28 days of receipt of the written request by the Secretary 14 days' notice of the meeting and all proposals shall be given to every League member entitled to vote.

VOTING PROCEDURES

- 9.9 At any General Meeting a resolution put to the vote at the meeting shall be decided on a show of hands. In the case of an equal number of votes the Chairperson shall be entitled to a casting vote, where applicable.
- 9.10 Members eligible to vote at General Meetings shall be:
- 9.10.1 Life Members - 1 vote each
 - 9.10.2 Teams - 1 vote each
 - 9.10.3 Clubs - 1 vote per individual representative from each team
 - 9.10.4 Committee Members - 1 vote each
- Members may vote in one capacity only.

10. PROPERTY AND STAFF

- 10.1 Responsibility for all property owned by the League for the employment of any paid staff and volunteers rests with the Committee.

11. DISCIPLINARY POWERS, PROCEDURES AND APPEALS

DISCIPLINE

- 11.1 A Member or Registered Participant shall be liable to disciplinary action in accordance with this Constitution, and also The League Rules & Regulations.
- 11.2 The discipline procedure to be followed is outlined in England Netball's policy document which can be downloaded via a link from the Ashford Netball website or here:
https://www.Englandnetball.co.uk/Conduct_and_Disciplinary_Regulations

APPEALS

- 11.3 The process to be followed is outlined in England netball's 'Appeals Section for Leagues' document which can be downloaded via a link from the Ashford Netball website or here:
<https://www.Englandnetball.co.uk/competitions/administration/>

12. REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION AND RULES & REGULATIONS

- 12.1 The Constitution and Rules & Regulations shall be reviewed on a yearly basis.
- 12.2 The Constitution and Rules & Regulations will only be changed through agreement by majority vote at an AGM or EGM.
- 12.3 Additions to, or alterations of the Constitution and Rules & Regulations shall be submitted to the Secretary not less than 21 days before the date of the AGM or EGM, or with a request for a special meeting of Club members. No resolution involving an amendment to the Constitution and Rules & Regulations may be proposed or amended from the floor of a meeting.
- 12.4 In the event of a proposal for amending the Constitution and Rules & Regulations being submitted, the Secretary shall inform the membership of the proposed motion not less than 14 days before the AGM.

15. DEMNITY

15.1 Any Honorary Officer and any Member of The Committee shall be indemnified by The League against all costs and losses which she/he may incur or sustain in relation to the execution of the duties of her/his office, or by reason of any duty performed for or with the authority of the Committee, only up to the limit of the bank balances of The League.

16. LIABILITY

16.1 The League accepts no responsibility for injury to any member, any loss or damage of equipment or property belonging to its members. Members must arrange their own insurances at their discretion.

16.2 The Officers of The Committee shall be trustees of the property, including funds & equipment of The League and shall deal with the same according to the instruction of the Committee.

17. INSURANCES

17.1 Members holding trophies owned by the League shall arrange to include the full value of such trophies in their own household insurance, to cover loss or damage by fire, burglary or accident. Should any trophy be lost or damaged the club or individual holding such trophy shall be responsible for replacement at full value.

18. DISSOLUTION PROCEDURES

18.1 If at any General Meeting of the League, a resolution was passed calling for the dissolution of the League, the Secretary shall immediately convene a Special General Meeting of the Association to be held not less than one month thereafter to discuss and vote on the resolution.

18.2 If at that Special General Meeting, the resolution is carried by a least two thirds of the Members present at the meeting, Committee shall thereupon, or at such date as shall have been specified in the resolution, proceed to realise the assets of the League and discharge all debts and liabilities of The League.

18.3 After discharging all debts and liabilities of the League, the remaining assets shall not be paid or distributed amongst members of The League, but shall be given or transferred to some other voluntary organisation having objects similar to those of The League.

19. DECLARATION

Ashford Netball Senior League hereby adopts and accepts this constitution as a current operating guide regulating the actions of members.

Signed:

Date:

Name: Miss Gemma - Louise Wilkins

Chair

Signed:

Date:

Name: Mrs Isobel Button

Secretary