RULES AND REGULATIONS OF SURREY NETBALL LEAGUE 2026/2027

1. HONORARY OFFICERS:

The Honorary Officers shall be: The Chairman, the Vice Chairman, the Secretary, the Treasurer, as elected at the AGM.

2. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee shall consist of a) The Honorary Officers b) Divisional Representative. The Executive Committee shall be elected at the AGM by the Club representatives present at the meeting. No Club can be represented on the Executive Committee by more than one person. The Secretary shall convene a meeting of the Executive Committee as and when required; eight members present shall form a quorum. Their terms of reference are to decide on any matters.

3. GENERAL MEETINGS

3.1. The Annual General Meeting shall be held once every calendar year on the second Monday in June. Notice of the AGM and a copy of the agenda shall be sent to every Club not less than 14 days prior to the date of the meeting.

3.2. Business to be transacted: i) To receive the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts. ii) To elect the Executive Committee. iii) To consider any proposals received from member Clubs. Twenty-four members present shall form a quorum.

3.3. No Rule or Regulation shall be amended, and no resolution passed at a previous General Meeting shall be rescinded, unless notice to this effect is given on the agenda.

3.4. Items for the agenda must be sent to the Secretary not less than 35 days prior to the AGM date.

3.5. All Clubs playing in the SNL must be represented at the AGM by one of their Club members. Failure to comply with this rule may lead to exclusion from the League.

3.6. If required, the Executive Committee may convene an Extraordinary General Meeting. Twenty members present shall form a quorum and are entitled to vote.

3.7. Voting Procedure: All matters at a General Meeting shall be decided by a simple majority vote. Persons eligible to vote at General Meetings: 1. Each Club: one vote. 2. Each Honorary Officer: one vote. The Chairman shall have a second and casting vote in the case of an equality of votes.

4. MEMBERSHIP OF THE LEAGUE

When applying for membership to the Surrey Netball League ("SNL"), Clubs must state the location of the home ground and the name, telephone number and email address of the Club Secretary. If any of this information subsequently changes, the SNL Secretary must be informed of those changes in writing.

4.1. Application for membership of the SNL shall be considered each year by the Executive Committee.

4.2. All current Clubs must apply online by 30th April (or a date set by the league). Failure to do so may result in exclusion from the SNL for the coming season.

4.3. All Clubs must have their home ground within the defined Surrey County boundaries unless approved by the Executive Committee.
Any club wishing to change their current home ground must seek approval from the committee prior to any change to ensure it complies with the Surrey Boundaries.4.4. Should a Club/team persistently fail to comply with a SNL rule/rule the Executive Committee, at their discretion, may apply an

additional penalty and/or exclude the Club/team from the SNL.

4.5. New clubs may apply in writing to the SNL at any time and may be accommodated in the SNL at any time during the season. (See 7.4)

4.6. Entry to a specific division may be determined by a play-off between teams of an appropriate standard arranged by the Executive Committee.

5. **PLAYERS**

5.1. **AFFILIATIONS - MEMBERSHIPS**

To participate in the SNL, a player must have a membership with EN and SCNA. All players must have their membership lodged with EN head office and it must be paid prior to participation in the SNL. Failure to do so will result in any points gained for any match(es) plus an additional penalty of 5 points, will be deducted. Player(s) will be excluded from further participation until they have a membership.

5.2. **REGISTRATION**

1) A full list of all players (Registered Player), with complete names, must be submitted using the online registration form on the SNL Website by the 17.00 pm, the Friday before the first fixture of the season. A Club must complete separate online forms for each team they have in the SNL, with each player registered to one team only i.e. team A, B, C, etc. Failure to comply with this rule will result in the offending team being penalised any points gained for the match(es) concerned being deducted; together with the additional penalty of one-point deduction.

2) No player registered to a Super league team may play in the SNL. Players who play in NPL, Premier, London Polytechnic, County/and or Regional teams or ex Super League players must be registered in a Club's highest placed SNL team but may not play for a team lower than Premier D, except under rule 5.2 vii). Failure to comply with this rule will result in the offending team being penalised any points gained in the match(es) concerned being deducted, together with the additional penalty of one-point deduction.

3) Where a club has more than one team, if a registered player has not played in one of three consecutive matches for the team they are registered to, this must be explained to the league Secretary and divisional rep. Failure to do so may result in a 1-point deduction per player**. For clubs that have multiple teams, this rule does not apply to their lowest placed team.**

4) Clubs must have a minimum 0f 7 players always registered to their teams during the season.

5) Any team who knowingly and deliberately provides false information regarding identity of players when registering or naming players on result sheets may be subject to disciplinary action and may be expelled from the SNL. Disciplinary action may be taken against the Club.

6) Clubs must re-register their players after the last match of the first half of the season and before the commencement of the second half. Failure to comply with this rule will result in the offending team being penalised any points gained for the match(es) concerned being deducted together with the additional penalty of a one-point deduction.

7) Additional players can be registered at any time during the season either online or by notifying the appropriate Division Representative(s) before the player participates in any match. Any telephone/texted registrations must be confirmed using the online registration form within three days. Failure to comply with this rule will result in the offending team being penalised any points gained for the match(es) concerned being deducted together with the additional penalty of one-point deduction

8) If a player registered for a higher team is required by her Club to play permanently for a lower team, a request must be sent via the Divisional Representative to the Executive Committee for consideration. That

player must not play down until permission has been granted. Failure to comply with this rule will result in the offending team forfeiting the match and the non-offending team being awarded 5 points for the match.

9) Players registered for teams lower than SNL Premier D can participate in higher team matches in the SNL (including NPL, Premier, London Polytechnic, County/and or Regional team) on a maximum of 2 occasions in any one half-season (see re-registering requirements in Rule 5.2 (iv) above). Should a player registered for a lower team participate in a higher team match (including NPL, Premier, London Polytechnic and/or Regional teams) on more than two occasions, that player will be deemed to be a permanent member of, and registered to, the higher team and will be ineligible for lower team matches (see rule 5.2 (ii) above). Failure to comply with this rule will result in the offending team being penalised any points gained for the match(es) concerned being deducted together with the additional penalty of a one-point deduction.

10) A player may not play for more than one Club in the SNL during the season. If a player wishes to transfer, the new Club must notify the appropriate Division Representative(s) before the player plays for her new Club. Failure to register the transfer by the new Club will result in any points gained for the match(es) concerned being deducted together with the additional penalty of a one-point deduction.

11) All Players must be 14 years old or over.

12) Pregnant players: In line with the EN advice and guidance there should be no barriers to pregnant women playing. Under EN rules the following should be taken into consideration by clubs when choosing players who are pregnant. EN recommends that pregnant individuals (player, coach, umpire) should only participate with approval from their doctor and in accordance with guidelines issued by England Netball. In selecting players for the SN league, clubs and individuals to be aware that EN insurance does not cover pregnant players (for further advice see the secretary guidelines).

13) The Surrey league competition is in the female category as per the EN Gender Eligibility & Participation Policy. Only individuals who meet the eligibility criteria can be included on the team registration sheet as a player. For information on eligibility based on gender, please review England Netball Gender Eligibility and Participation Policy. Any player who takes to the court without meeting the eligibility criteria will be defined as an ineligible player and the club will be sanctioned in line with regulation. It is the responsibility of the individual and club to ensure that all players on the team sheet are eligible to play before entering them into the competition.

14) All players, coaches and spectators aligned to a club registered to the Surrey Netball League are understood to have read and agree to abide by the league's code of conduct.

15) If any match is postponed from the first half of the season and is re-scheduled to be played in the second half, the registrations for the first half shall be used. Failure to comply with this rule will result in the offending team being penalised any points gained for the match(es) concerned being deducted together with the additional penalty of a one-point deduction.

6. FIXTURES

6.1. The home team must confirm the fixture, including details of the venue and whether the courts are indoors or outdoors to the away team in writing at least 28 days before the fixture date. Failure to comply with this rule may result in the offending team being penalised by the deduction of one point. For clubs with indoor courts, as long as both teams agree, the home/away dates may be swapped to utilize indoor courts in the colder weather. Teams must use all means at their disposal to ensure the opposition has received such notification and that confirmation is received. Two emergency emails and telephone numbers should be supplied by Clubs; any difficulty in communication should be reported to Divisional Rep as soon as possible. If a team faces extraordinary circumstances affecting the game on or close to the

match day, they must use every means available to them to contact the opposition and the DR must be advised. Please note that it is not sufficient just to send an email or text, confirmation from the opposition must be received. Failing to do so may incur a 1-point penalty deduction.

6.2. All matches must be played on the scheduled date and must start within 15 minutes of the appointed time. Matches must commence between the hours of 09.30 and 14.30 (14.45 to allow for the 15 minutes). All matches should be 4x15minutes.If for any reason the match is stopped before the end of the third quarter, the match will be required to be replayed. If the match is stopped in the last quarter the committee will decide if the result stands or needs to be replayed.

6.3. A match may only be postponed prior to the fixture date when team players are in national or regional organised events. Such postponements require the prior consent of the Executive Committee. The request should be made through the Divisional Rep at least 28 days prior to the fixture date. Failure to comply with this rule will result in the offending team being deducted one point. Once the Executive Committee's agreement to the postponement has been obtained, it is the responsibility of the team requesting the postponement to contact the opposing Club Secretary at least 21 days prior to the fixture date for the teams to agree the date on which to play the match. The rearranged fixture must take place before the end of the half season in which the postponed fixture was scheduled unless agreed by the Executive Committee.

6.4. Matches may be postponed on the day if the ground is unexpectedly unplayable and by agreement between a representative from each Club and/or the umpires. It is the responsibility of all Clubs to ensure that their courts are in a safe condition and are fit for play. In the event of a disagreement as to the condition of the court the decision of the umpires will be final and binding. It is the responsibility of the home team to contact the opposing Club Secretary by email within 7 days of the postponed fixture to propose a date(s) to play the match, failure to do so may lead to a 1(one) point deduction. Within 14 days of the postponed fixture, both teams, via email, should agree a rearranged date, failure to do so may lead to a 1(one) point deduction. The rearranged fixture must take place before the end of the half season in which the postponed fixture was scheduled. The Divisional Rep must be advised of this date. In extreme weather conditions that would make travelling hazardous and/or a ground unplayable the home team must contact the opposition and the Division Rep to discuss whether to postpone the match. Failure to comply with the above may result in one point being deducted by the Executive Committee.

6.5 Should a Club be unable to field a team on the fixture date a point will be deducted from that team's total score for the season and 5 points plus 30 goals awarded to the other team for the match.

6.6. Should a team be unable to provide a qualified umpire that's holds current membership on the fixture date a point will be deducted from that team's total score for the season and 5 points awarded to the other team for the match and the game result shall be null and void.

6.7 All SNL matches must comply with the Official Netball Rules of England Netball. Each team should have in their possession a copy of the current EN Rules and a copy of the SNL Rules and Regulations.

6.8. All Premier A, B, C & D and Division 1-6 teams must provide a competent scorer for the duration of each match; the scorer may be changed if necessary, during the course of the match. For the avoidance of doubt the scorer may be a player in the match who can be subbed on/off while scoring. In the event that either team does not provide a scorer the match must still be played to a conclusion, however failure to do so may result in the team without a scorer being deducted one point.

6.9 All SNL fixtures must be completed by the last fixture date for the season or they will be declared void, unless there is a directive from the Executive Committee.

6.10 Should a team cancel more than 3 of their games in any one half of the season that team may not be accepted into the SNL the following year.

7. STRUCTURE OF THE LEAGUE

7.1 All Divisions will normally comprise 8 teams.

7.2 The 2 teams finishing at the bottom of all divisions, other than the bottom Division, will normally be relegated to the next Division.

7.3 The 2 teams finishing at the top of all Divisions will normally be promoted to the next highest Division.

7.4 When a vacancy arises in any Division, the Executive Committee may invite teams to play in the Division most appropriate to their standard. (See also Rule 4.5)

8. UMPIRES

8.1. No game in the Premier Divisions and Divisions 1, 2, 3, 4, shall be counted as a League match unless a(minimum 'C'), qualified umpire, that holds a current EN membership, is provided by both teams. With the permission of the Executive Committee some of these matches may occasionally be used to test umpires. An Umpire can umpire in divisions 5-9 if:

They hold an EN membership have attended the England Netball 'C' Award virtual course and are actively working towards attaining the C Award qualification, they must have passed the online written assessment and have at least started receiving mentoring from a county endorsed assessor/mentor

8.2 No game in any divisions shall be counted as a League match unless both teams provide an umpire, qualified as per 8.1. All umpires must hold current membership to EN. Failure to provide an umpire will result in a point being deducted from that team's total score for the season and 5 points awarded to the other team. A competent umpire means a person that has attended a C award course within the last 2 years.

8.3 Pregnant umpires are allowed to umpire until the 20th week of their pregnancy

8.4 If an umpire umpires a match but does not fulfil the criteria required above, the team whose umpire it is will be penalised any points gained for the match(es) concerned being deducted together with the additional penalty of one-point deduction.

8.5 The umpires who start the match must complete the match unless an umpire is injured when they may be replaced by an umpire who is qualified for that division.

8.6 Play-offs will have 2 neutral, qualified umpires who will be appointed by the League.

9. DURATION OF MATCHES

9.1 In all divisions, the duration of the game shall be 4 (periods) of 15 minutes each.

10. RESULTS

10.1 Each team must send a fully completed results sheet to the Divisional Representative and their opposition by 23.59hrs on the 3rd day following the match, listing all the players names in PRINT Scanned or faxed results will be accepted. Failure to comply with this rule will result in the loss of one point for the match in question.

10.2 Umpire details must be recorded in PRINT their club, EN ID number and qualification help. Failure to comply with this rule will result in the loss of one point for the match in question.

10.3 If a match is conceded the non-offending team must submit a claim for points in writing to their Divisional Representative by the Tuesday following the match. This can be done via email.

10.4 Any team who persistently fails to send their results to the Divisional Representative within the time limit specified in 10.1 will be fined £5.00 and if the fine is not paid by the AGM will be excluded from further participation in the League.

10.5 Teams will be awarded points as follows: 5 points WIN 3 points DRAW 2 points for a score which is 4,3,2,1 goals from the winning team's score or 1 point for scoring more than 50% of the winning score

10.6 Where teams have equal points, positioning will be decided by goal average, which shall be calculated based on goals for DIVIDED by goals against. If one of the teams concerned has been given a walkover, the score of the corresponding match, i.e. against the same opponents of the other team(s) involved shall not be included in the goal average calculations.

11. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

11.1 SNL has a constituted Disciplinary Committee, comprising 3 or 5 people, which is empowered to determine such disciplinary sanctions it considers appropriate in response to complaints received.

12. COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

12.1 All Clubs and players have a duty to respect umpires and a duty to behave responsibly towards other players and teams. They have a duty to play within the SNL Rules and within the spirit of the game of netball. It is in the nature of competitive sport that players often disagree with the decisions of match officials. However, they must respect and abide by those decisions. In the event of a complaint against an umpire, or about a player or team, the following procedures must be followed.

12.2 All complaints about an umpire must be sent to your Divisional Rep within 48 hours of the in question. You must include an outline of the complaint; the name of the umpire who is the subject of the complaint; a report from your Captain including his/her full name and their contact details; the name of the other umpire and his/her contact details. Umpiring complaints will be held on file by SCNA for three years.

12.3 The Executive Committee will request reports from the other parties involved and these must be received within 14 days of this request. The complaint will be fully investigated in accordance with SNL's Disciplinary Procedures and following receipt of all the required information you will be informed in writing of the Executive Committee's decision within 28 days. The Executive Committee's decision, together with all the reports, will be forwarded to SCNA for their records.

12.4 Complaints about Players or a Team. All complaints must be in writing and sent to your Divisional Rep within 48 hours of the match in question. You must include an outline of the complaint and, if appropriate, the name of the player or team who is the subject of the complaint; a report from your Captain including her full name and contact details; the names and contact details of both umpires.

12.5 Matters relating to complaints about players or a team will be fully investigated in accordance with the SNL's Disciplinary Procedures and following receipt of all the required information you will be informed in writing of the Executive Committee's decision within 28 days THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE' S DECISION SHALL BE FINAL.

The latest EN rules shall apply unless otherwise instructed by SNL.