



**East Regional Youth League
U16 & U14
2021-2022**

**COMPETITION REGULATIONS
Entry Tournament**

**East Regional Youth League
League Personnel**

POSITION	NAME	CONTACT DETAILS
Chair of the East Competition Group	June Griffith	june.griffith.jg@gmail.com
Competition Organiser	Claire Southam	Email: clairessco@hotmail.com
Results Co-ordinator	Cathie Carter	Email: cathiecarter10@hotmail.com
Umpire Deployment	Carolyn Davies	Email: carolynd5984@gmail.com

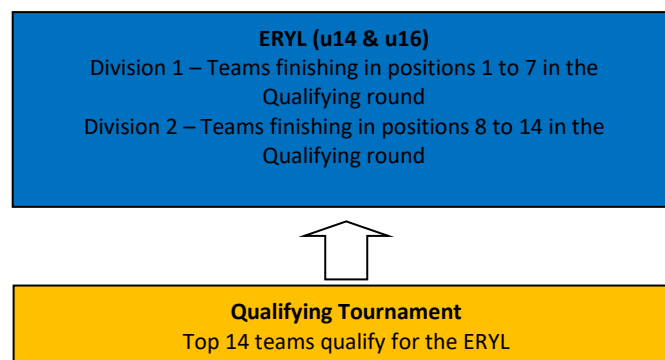
GENERAL REGULATIONS

Overview

- G1 The Netball East Youth League is a regional u14 and u16 competition organised by the East Regional Netball Association (Netball East) to enable clubs to compete against each other to determine qualification for the England Netball National Clubs Finals. The aim is to support the performance pathway through the development and delivery of a competitive competition that is open, fair and progressive providing an opportunity for the skill and `game sense` development of athletes and officials.
- G2 The Regulations set out below outline the Rules and Regulations ("The Regulations) which will govern the process and conduct of all matches within the East Regional ERYL League, herein after referred to as "ERYL." Integral to the Regulations is England Netball's Codes of Conduct and Disciplinary Regulations.
- G3 Netball East seeks to promote fair play and 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. Netball East will present an annual Fair Play Award to the Club in each Division with the best disciplinary record
- G4 The Regional Management Board (RMB) shall be entitled to charge an entry fee (for both the Tournament and the League); the fee for the Tournament is £40 and the entry fee for the League will be approximately £100.
- G5 The decisions of the Netball East RMB, or its nominee(s), in respect of these rules and regulations and on any other matter related to the ERYL which is not provided for below, shall be considered final and binding on all parties, subject to the right of appeal.
- G6 These rules and regulations shall be subject and secondary to the application of England Netball's rules and regulations.
- G7 The Regulations must be followed by all teams, players, officials, spectators and administrators involved in the management, administration and operation of all stages of the Competition and are presented in three parts:

Competition Structure

- G8 The Competition shall comprise a qualifying Tournament to determine the top 14 teams to progress to the two divisions of the ERYL as illustrated below:



G9 Clubs finishing in positions 1 -7 in the Qualifying Tournament will progress to Division 1 and teams finishing in positions 8 -14 will progress to Division 2 of the Regional Junior League.

Pre-competition Management and Administration

Team Entry & Eligibility

G10 Entry to the ERYL shall be subject to the following conditions:

- a. Netball East is entitled to charge an entry fee for both phases of the ERYL. This must be paid in full within the permitted timescales for a team to compete.
- b. The Club shall either be accredited under England Netball's CAPS scheme, or registered and actively working towards the same, prior to submitting the Squad Registration Sheet for the Qualifying round of the competition.
- c. All eligible clubs must be based within the geographical boundaries of the East Region and affiliated to the East Region and a County within the Regional boundaries. All clubs must play in one of their county's representative league prior to the entry tournament.
- d. To be eligible the league must be England Netball registered, have at least 7 clubs taking part. At least 75% of these clubs should be registered to the county in which the league is registered. If a county has fewer than 7 teams due to their small size, this will be looked at on an individual basis.
- e. The Club provides a Primary Care Person.
- f. All participating clubs are able to provide a scorer and a suitably qualified umpire for both the Qualifying Tournament and the League (if qualified) phases of the competition.
- g. Only one team per club, per age group, may enter the competition.
- h. All players must have their membership lodged with the England Netball and their membership fees paid, prior to their participation in the ERYL, as detailed below;
 - i. Players registered with England Netball and linked to their Primary Club at least four days prior to their first fixture.

G11 If a player is not named on the Squad Registration Sheet for the Qualifying Tournament prior to the League phase, the club must provide evidence that the player has played for the club prior to the date of the Qualifying competition. Failure to provide evidence will result in the player being ineligible. If the player appeared on the Squad Registration Sheet for another club in the Qualifying Tournament the player will also be ineligible. If a player played for the same club or a different club in a Regional Tournament or League outside of the East Region, they will also be ineligible.

G12 By entering a team in the ERYL each Club agrees that they:

- a. will fulfil the costs and commitments of participation in the competition.
- b. will fulfil their obligations and responsibilities set out in the Regulations.
- c. will be bound by the Competition Regulations and;
- d. will be bound by the rules, policies and regulations of England Netball and Netball East, including the England Netball Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Regulations, as may from time to time be in force.

G13 Failure to meet the conditions of eligibility set out above will result in a team not being permitted to

participate in the ERYL. 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 may be taken against the club.

- G14 **u14 Age Group** – all players must be over 11 years old and under 14 years old as at 11.59pm on 31st August prior to the commencement of the playing season in which the ERYL takes place, unless they have completed the Age Banding Consent Form and submitted alongside the Squad Registration Forms for the competition. The Age Banding Form is attached to the General Regulations at Appendix 2.
- G15 **u16 Age Group** – all players must be over 14 years old and under 16 years old as at 11.59pm on 31st August prior to the commencement of the playing season in which the ERYL takes place, unless they have completed the Age Banding Consent Form and submitted alongside the Squad Registration Forms for the competition. The Age Banding Form is attached to the General Regulations at Appendix 2.
- G16 All Team Managers must be over the age of 18 years old prior to the start of the Qualifying Tournament.
- G17 During all rounds of the ERYL, Team Managers/Coaches must at all times carry proof of age of all players and a copy of the Age Banding Consent Forms applicable to the players listed in the Squad Registration Sheet and have responsibility of checking with the opposition prior to each match. Proof of age comprises of one or more of the following:
- a. Copy of birth certificate
 - b. Copy of passport
 - c. Copy of medical card.

Competition Complaints Procedure

- G18 All queries and complaints (‘A Complaint’) should be directed at the Competition Referee in the first instance and these will be dealt with as follows:

The Competition Referee will determine if the nature of the complaint represents a potential breach of:

- a. The Competition Regulations, if so, it will be dealt with in accordance with the process set out at appendix 1a – Complaints procedure; appendix 1b – Appeals process and; appendix 1c – Sanctions available to the Competition Referee or;
- b. England Netball’s Code of Conduct, if so, it the matter will be referred to the Netball East’s Disciplinary Secretary to progress in accordance with England Netball’s Disciplinary Regulations.

Miscellaneous Provisions

- G19 It is the responsibility of Competition Organiser (for the Tournament) and each team to provide adequate first aid cover for its players and officials.
- G20 Netball East will not be liable to any person, whether in contract, tort (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 Netball East’s liability for any personal loss or injury caused by Netball East’s own negligence, the negligence of its volunteers, or for fraud.
- G21 All participants acknowledge that participating in the sport of netball involves a risk of personal injury and by taking part in ERYL, whether as a player, team member, team official, other official or spectator, each participant does so at their own risk.

- G22 Netball East will be entitled to amend these Regulations each year in advance of the Competition and such amendments will take effect from the first date of publication of the completed amended procedure on the Netball East website.
- G23 No form of glove may be worn when playing netball. If gloves are required for medical reasons, the umpires may allow seamless leather gloves to be worn on production of an appropriate medical certificate, and provided that they are satisfied that any gloves worn do not present an obvious hazard to other players
- G24 All jewellery must be removed when playing netball, and players wearing jewellery (including body piercing) will not be allowed on court. The following exceptions will apply:
- Medic alert bracelets may be worn, but must be secured in such a manner that they will not constitute a danger to an opponent, i.e., with clear tape, and in such a way that it cannot be removed/lifted off by any accidental contact
- G25 If scarves need to be worn because of religious practices, the player and the coach must ensure that the material used for the head covering is soft, without embellishments which might constitute a danger, and with potential flowing/flapping edges held securely around the neck or tucked into the shirt collar as neatly and securely as possible
- G26 Any team wishing to video record an ERYL match must give the opposing side at least three clear days` notice prior to the game to allow them to seek any parental permissions required under the duty of care. In addition, prior to the start of the game the team must obtain the written permission of the match officials, the relevant coaches or managers and the captains of the teams. All teams must be aware that any video recordings may be used in the event of any dispute or hearing required to be decided by the league.
- G27 If any of these Regulations are held by any competent authority to be invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of the Regulations shall not be affected thereby.
- G28 These Regulations shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with English law.
- G29 Any questions regarding these Regulations can be addressed to; Netball East Regional Youth League Organiser as detailed in the table of personnel

QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

These Regulations apply to the Qualifying Tournament only

TOURNAMENT FORMAT

- T1 The Qualifying Tournament will take place on a single day at a suitable venue, to be determined annually by the Competition Organiser and based on a round robin format with final placing matches to determine the overall standings in the Tournament and progression to the ERYL.

REGISTRATION OF ENTRY

- T2 The closing date for entries for the 2021 Tournament is 25th August 2021 and entries will not be confirmed until the agreed entry fee has been paid. Entry fees will be non-refundable even if a Club withdraws from the Tournament.

REGISTRATION OF SQUADS

- T3. Participating teams must complete the Squad Registration Sheet, which will be sent to all teams entering the Competition fully listing each player and their affiliation numbers. This needs to be lodged with the Competition Manager by:

- a. Qualifying Tournament by 24th/25th September 2021
- b. Players need to be affiliated for the 2021/22

- T4 Teams may only use up to twelve (12) players whose names appear on their Squad Registration Sheet held by Netball East. A copy of this form can be found at appendix 3

- T5 Any amendments to the Squad Registration Sheet prior to the commencement of each round must be lodged with Netball East a minimum of 24 hours prior to the start of each round.

- T6 Squad Registration Sheets will be made available on the competition day for the Team Manager to sign and return to the Competition Referees during the Registration period.

- T7 Changes to the Squad Registration Sheet can be made by the Team Manager during the Registration period on the competition day. Proof of affiliation and age must be provided, along with evidence that the player has played for the club/team prior to the date of the Qualifying Round of the competition. No changes may be made to the Squad Registration Sheet once the Team Manager has signed it during the Registration period of the competition day, even if the Registration period as not closed.

COMPETITION VENUE

- T8 The tournament will be played at a central venue, determined annually, with sufficient outdoor courts that meet England Netball standards with ancillary facilities for participants including changing and showering facilities, unless otherwise agreed by the Competition Organiser. Where a full range of facilities are not available, this will be communicated to all Officials and Teams prior to the competition day, however toilet facilities must be provided.

- T9 The Competition Organiser will hire the venue and conduct a full risk assessment and take all reasonable steps to mitigate any risk identified. Netball East or its County Netball Association partners will not be liable to a person for any direct or indirect loss or injury resulting from the venue.

COMPETITION REFEREES

- T10 Competition Referees will be appointed by Netball East for the Qualifying round of the ERYL. There will usually be up to three Competition Referees who will have the authority and jurisdiction to make decisions on all matters arising throughout the competition including, but not limited to:

- a. Altering or amending the playing schedule as necessary.
- b. Determining if there has been a breach of the Regulations and imposing an appropriate sanction (including but not limited to disqualification of any individual player, coach or team).

- c. Identifying and adjudicating instances of unsportsmanlike behaviour or behaviour that brings the sport into disrepute, including but not limited to instances of teams predetermining or, attempting to predetermine, the outcome of matches.
- d. Upholding and enforcing the decision of the medical advisor, including but not limited to a player's ability to start a match or continue to play in a match.
- e. Determining the result and score should any Match not be concluded due to unforeseen circumstances.
- f. Altering the length of matches.
- g. Determining any matters not covered specifically within these Regulations.

T11 The Competition Referees may call upon, or delegate to, additional persons to assist with the Competition or consult with other persons prior to making any decision. However, the final decision and accountability for the decision rests with the Competition Referees.

T12 If a player is suspended from a match or ordered to leave the court and take no further part in the match, that Player and a Team Official (normally the Coach), may be required to attend a hearing before the Competition Referees immediately after the end of the match. After the hearing the Competition Referees will determine what action to take.

T13 Netball East will provide qualified First Aiders for the Tournament, who has the authority to determine the participation of a player based on injury and/or illness and will refer the decision to the Competition Referees.

T14 The Competition Referees will maintain and be responsible for a confidential Competition Referees Logbook, where appropriate.

COMPETITION SCHEDULING

T15 All matches must be played in accordance with the schedule published by Netball East unless otherwise agreed by the Competition Referees.

T16 Clubs will be responsible for arranging their own travel and the costs of this. All teams should allow sufficient time for travel to cover unexpected delays.

PLAYING & COMPETITION

Match Rules & Format

T17 All matches shall be played to the International Federation Rules of the Game and England Netball's Domestic Guidance currently in force in England at the time, except where specifically stated in the Regulations.

T18 The Competition shall be played in the format as determined by Netball East.

Match Officials (Umpires)

T19 Clubs are required to provide a minimum of one umpire for the duration of the Tournament who must hold Netball Europe Award at `C` or above and will be allocated neutrally by the Umpire Deployment lead.

T20 In the event that an Umpire fails to arrive, or is injured during a match, the following procedure will apply:

- a. The Competition Referees must be informed immediately;

Technical Officials

T21 The Technical Officials are the Scorers; two scorers are required for each match (1 provided by each team).

T22 Scorers are required for all matches. Each team must provide a competent scorer who must be either an Umpire, Match Bench Official or a person who has attended a Match Bench Officials Course or has a working knowledge of netball scoring.

Team Officials

T23 Each team may have up to 5 Team Officials. These include a Coach, Team Manager and at least one Primary Care Person.

T24 Team Officials may be fewer than specified and therefore undertake several duties. However, the Primary Care Person/s must not also be players and it is preferable they do not hold any other role.

T25 The Team Officials and up to 5 Players, not on the court, will constitute a Team Bench.

T26 The Team Bench will be situated in the half of the court that the Team is defending at the start of the match, to the right of the netball posts unless otherwise agreed with the Competition Manager. The Team Bench does not change ends at the end of any intervals.

Kit and equipment

T27 Teams must carry an alternative set of playing kit and bibs for use where a clash of colours is identified. Team Captains shall arrange to toss a coin to decide who shall wear the alternative kit.

T28 Spare kit must be provided by each team and readily available during the Match, for example to replace blood stained clothing.

T29 A match ball must be provided by each team.

Match Timings

T30 The duration of all matches will be indicated in the Playing Schedule.

T31 Central timing will be used and will normally be sounded by a hooter, but Matches will start and finish on the Umpires whistle.

- a. The Central Timekeeper will commence timing when the Match is started by the hooter.
- b. The Central Timekeeper will signal (either by hooter or by electronic Umpire device) to the Umpire whose whistle will end each quarter.
- c. Play will be stopped when instructed by the Umpire who shall blow the whistle to stop play.
- d. To restart play the Umpire shall signal and signal for play to be resumed.
- e. The hooter will sound at the beginning and end of each interval.

T32 Umpires must ensure that:

- a. Before the start of each Match the two Captains have tossed for centre pass and informed the Umpires and the Match Bench Officials of the result.
- b. Both Teams on court are in position and ready to play at the scheduled time in accordance with the playing schedule and the Central Timekeeper.
- c. No Team starts a Match with less than 5 Players on court.

T33 Any Team not on court in accordance with T32 a) to c) above will concede the Match. 0 points will be awarded to the Team conceding the Match and match points for a win, 5 points will be awarded to the Team on court, in position and ready to play at the correct time.

T34 The umpires must record on the Scoresheet the name and arrival time of the Team that arrived late.

Substitutes & Team changes

T35 During the half time intervals substitutions/team changes may be made by both Teams providing they take place immediately.

T36 Only injured or ill Players may be substituted during a Match, owing to the short game time. No other changes may be made during the Match by either side.

T37 No extra time will be allowed for injury or illness or for the substitution made as a result of it.

Injuries & Accidents

T38 Play may be stopped if the Umpires deem it necessary due to an injury or illness of a player an umpire or match official.

T39 The Primary Carer and Team Officials are required to take great care in moving an injured or ill player from the court.

T40 Should a Primary Carer feel that an injury is critical (e.g. head, neck or back) and that the injured player should not be moved without the assistance of the medical staff then the Umpires should note the time lost during treatment and report to the Competition Referees who will adjudicate.

T41 Netball East's appointed Qualified First Aider has the authority to determine the participation of a player based on injury and/or illness and will refer the decision to the Competition Referees.

T42 In the event that a Match is abandoned for any reason, for example because of a serious injury, the result of the Match will be determined by the Competition Referee, having regard for the score at the time at which play was suspended.

Scoring

T43 Teams will be awarded league points as follows:

- a. 5 points for a win
- b. 3 points for a draw
- c. 1 point for a loss in which the Teams score is 50% or more of the winning teams score.
- d. 0 points for a loss in which the Team score is less than 50% of the winning Teams score.

T44 Where Teams are level on points:

- a. Goal average shall be used to determine their relative positions i.e. the Team with the higher goal average over the course of the competition stage shall take precedence.
- b. In the event that goal average does not differentiate between the Teams, then goal difference shall apply i.e. precedence shall be given shall be given to the Team with the greater difference between goals scored and goals conceded.
- c. In the event that goal difference does not differentiate between the Teams, then the result of the group match(es) between the Teams shall be the decider, based on the points awarded.
- d. In the event that group matches results does not differentiate between the Teams, then the Team with the greatest number of goals will take precedence.
- e. In the event that none of the above is able to differentiate between the Teams the winner will be decided by a play-off game, the format of which shall be determined by the Competition Referee.

Note: Where one of the Teams has its goal average, goal difference or total number of goals affected by conceded fixtures, then all goals scored by and against the conceding Team(s) in all fixtures will be omitted from the calculations of the Teams level on points. Except where one of the Teams level on points is the conceding Team, at which point they assume a goal average of 0 and will be the lowest ranked Team of those level on points.

T45 In the placing matches, the following will apply if there is a draw at full time:

- a. There will be an extra 2 minutes each way
- b. Teams change ends immediately after full time, and the centre pass is taken by the Team entitled to take the next centre pass.
- c. The teams will change over at half time without a break

- d. In the event of a draw after the full period of extra time play will continue without a break until the next goal is scored, whereupon the Team that scores that goal is the winner.

Registration of Results

- T46 Scorecard must be checked and signed by the Scorer(s) and both Captains. Once the Official Scoresheets have been signed no dispute can be logged, unless it is marked "Under Protest".
- T47 If there is a disagreement in relation to the final score, the procedure outlined in appendix 1a, b & c (Competition Complaints Procedure) must be followed.
- T48 It is the responsibility of the winning Team Captain or Team Manager to take both Scorecards to the Results Table after they have been signed by both Scorers and Team Captains.
- T49 In the event of a draw, the Team Captain or Team Manager from each Team will take responsibility for taking the Scorecards to the Results Table.

