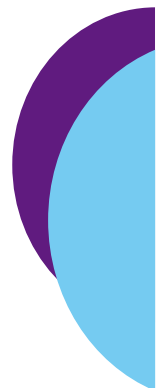




**Cheshire and Merseyside Youth
Netball League**

**League Constitution,
Rules, Regulations
and Code of Conduct**

2008 – 2009



Dear Club Official

Welcome to the 2008-09 season of the Cheshire and Merseyside Youth Netball League which is the fourth year that the league has been running. During the last season, the committee met regularly and the rules of the league were reviewed and many workings of the league were finely tuned. The 2007-2008 season again ran successfully and ended with a highly enjoyable presentation night organised by Cath Oakley from Southport Club. England Under 19 International Darcie Worsdale presented the cups and trophies and medals were awarded to young volunteers who had supported their clubs during the season.

We start this season with an entry of 61 teams, an increase of six on the 2007-08 entry, and we welcome two new clubs, Imagin8 and Wilmslow. The league supports the development of junior clubs whatever stage of development they are at. If you are a well established club, please remember that many others are in the early stages of their development and they would appreciate your support.

This league has been set up to develop an accessible and appropriate competition structure for young players from Cheshire and Merseyside. The onus is on participation and enjoyment and to help young players to develop a healthy attitude to sport and competition. There is a strong focus on providing a safe and enjoyable playing environment for young players and to support this, all clubs will be asked to sign up to the league's Code of Conduct and to abide by the contents of the Duty of Care document. Action will be taken should any member or person attached to a club be found to be in breach of either of these papers.

This booklet includes all the information you need to take part in the league. **Please read the constitution, league rules and guidelines carefully and make sure that all club players, coaches, officials and parents understand their responsibilities.** Remember that some rules have changed and you need to be aware of these. You should also check your fixtures carefully. You are encouraged to circulate the Code of Conduct to your members, helpers and parents before the competition begins.

Thank you to those of you who attended the AGM in June, it is only through the support of everyone that the league can continue to develop. Please remember that every club has the right to nominate a representative to sit on the committee and you are encouraged to make use of this so that meetings are meaningful and truly representative of all members.

Good luck for the season!
Cheshire and Merseyside Youth Netball League Committee

Jan Turley

Chair

CMYNL CODES OF CONDUCT

The purpose of this league is to encourage young people to enjoy playing sport. Action WILL be taken if this code of conduct is not respected.

Coaches and Umpires

- consider the wellbeing and safety of participants above the development of performance.
- make sure all activities are appropriate to the age, ability and experience of those taking part
- promote the positive aspects of the sport (e.g. fair play and respect for others)
- display consistently high standards of behaviour and appearance
- follow all guidelines laid down by league and national governing body
- hold the appropriate, valid qualifications and insurance cover
- never condone rule violations, rough play or the use of prohibitive substances
- encourage performers to value their performances and not just results.
- discourage unfair play and arguing with officials.

Parents

- encourage your child to learn the rules and play within them.
- discourage unfair play and arguing with officials.
- help your child to recognise good performance, not just results.
- set a good example by recognising fair play and applauding the good performances of all.
- never punish or belittle a child for losing or making mistakes.
- publicly accept officials' judgements.
- use appropriate and proper language at all times.

Players

- enjoy your netball and try to improve your skills
- be a good sport
- always play by the rules and do as the umpire requests
- treat people as you wish to be treated yourself
- don't bully, shout or intimidate others
- co-operate with your Team Manager and Coach
- do your best at all times
- compete for your own enjoyment

Cheshire and Merseyside Youth Netball League 2008 – 2009

Rules and Guidelines

(Please note that in order to assist you, any changes from Rules 07-08 are in italics)

1. Rules of Play

The CMYNL will be governed by the current EN official Rules book

2. League matches

Matches *must* be played as per the fixture list *unless otherwise decided by the committee*

3. League Fees

League fees for 2008 – 2009 will be £50 per team.

4. Venues

Matches will be played at pre-arranged central venues of St Peter and Paul (Widnes), Woodford Lodge (Vale Royal), and Pensby Sports Centre (Wirral).

5. Divisions

5.1 *The league divisions are as follows:*

U10: All players should be over 8 and under 10 at midnight on 31st Aug/1st Sept

U11: All players should be over 10 and under 11 at midnight on 31st Aug/1st Sept

U12: All players should be over 10 and under 12 at midnight on 31st Aug/1st Sept

U13: All players should be over 12 and under 13 at midnight on 31st Aug/1st Sept

U14: All players should be over 12 and under 14 at midnight on 31st Aug/1st Sept

U16: All players should be over 14 and under 16 at midnight on 31st Aug/1st Sept

U19: All players should be over 16 and under 19 at midnight on 31st Aug/1st Sept

5.2 Players must play in their own age group. In the case of small clubs, mixed teams from two age groups may be formed, but must play in the higher age group division

6. Player Qualifications and Eligibility

6.1 *Application for entry to the Cheshire and Merseyside YNL shall be open to any club which is affiliated to England Netball through Cheshire or Merseyside county associations and which has not previously played in another county league. The committee may accept applications from clubs who affiliate to other counties, should vacancies arise, but points will not be awarded and the teams will not be eligible to progress to the regional league*

6.2 *The club or team should have paid its subscription to England Netball for the current season*

6.3 *Players shall be a member of England Netball as a Registered Participant either:*

- *Through affiliation to a club or team*
- *Through a Young Person's group membership*

6.4 *Clubs/players should be able to produce evidence of current England Netball affiliation at fixtures*

6.5 *A player's league registration is for one age group per season per club. Players who have already affiliated to a club which has entered a team in their age group to play the Cheshire and Merseyside YNL should not be approached by another club to play for that club.*

6.6 *No borrowing of players from other clubs or teams of the same age group*

is allowed.

6.7 If a club has two teams in the same age group, players will normally play in one of the teams for all the matches (e.g. an A team player always plays for the A team). However, in the case of injuries and player absences, appropriate selection of teams may be made but they should reflect the aims and objectives of the league

6.8 Pregnant players may not take part in the league matches after the 12th week of pregnancy

7. Kit and Equipment

8.1 A player will not be allowed on court unless she is wearing suitable trainers which are fastened correctly.

8.2 Teams are expected to wear *their club* uniforms and bibs *as stated on the registration form. In the event of a clash of colours, a toss of a coin between the two captains will decide which team retains their original colours.*

8.3 The wearing of cycle shorts should be strongly discouraged unless supported by a medical reason.

8.4 Each team should provide a size 5 or 4 ball (as appropriate) which should be clearly marked with the team name.

8.5 Finger nails should be cut short

8.6 *All jewellery and sharp adornments (including body piercing and hard headbands) and watches should be removed*

8.7 *No form of glove may be worn except for medical reasons*

8.8 *Medic alert bracelets may be worn, but must be secured in such a way that they will not constitute a danger to an opponent. Necklaces for religious reasons may be worn but must be securely taped and covered by clothing which does not contravene the rules on playing uniforms*

9. Captains' Duties

Before each match, captains will toss a coin for centre pass or choice of ends and notify the umpires of the result. Both team captains must collect a completed score card at the end of the match from one of the umpires, in order to record the match result on the club results sheet.

10. Late Arrivals

No team shall start a match with fewer than five players. Late arrivals may enter the game after notifying the umpires and after a goal is scored and may only take a position left vacant. If a team fails to arrive on time, or with fewer than 5 players, the winning points shall be awarded to the team present on court at the correct time. After this time, the teams may continue to play a friendly game.

11. Injury, Illness and Substitution

11.1 Substitution is allowed after injury or illness during the game by the team of the injured player, although time allowance for injury is not normally included in the schedule. (see Official Netball Rules p20 –24 for further information)

11.2 *If a reserve plays, because of the late arrival of a player, she shall continue to play until the quarter or half time when the later arrival may take her place on court*

12. Umpires

12.1 Each team must provide an umpire to cover their duties as detailed in the playing schedule. Where a team fails to provide an umpire for a scheduled match, the team in that age group will have 5 points deducted from their total score.

12.2 *In the event that an umpire fails to arrive, or is injured, or taken ill during a match, the following procedure shall apply:*

- *If another umpire of the equivalent standard is available, then she/he will umpire the match*
- *If another umpire of the equivalent standard is not available, then the next best qualified umpire should be used*

13. Results Sheets and Umpire score cards

13.1 Results sheets and umpire score cards must be placed in the box or envelope marked "RESULTS SHEETS" at the end of the day. Failure to do so will mean results will go down as "NO GOALS SCORED"

13.2 *The results sheet must be checked by scorers/umpires and signed by both captains and umpires.*

14. Points

14.1 *Match points*

5 points for a win

3 points for a draw

2 points for the losing team if the score is *within 5 goals of the winners' score*

e.g 50-46 = 2pts, 50-45 = 1pt

1 point for the losing team if the score is 50% or more of the winners score

14.2 *If a team cancels a match, the non-offending team shall be awarded 5 league points for the match.*

14.3 *In the event that a match is abandoned for any reason, e.g because of serious injury, the committee will decide whether the score at the time of the stoppage stands as the final result, or whether the game is replayed.*

14.4 *Points at the end of the season*

Where two teams are level on points:-

- Goal average shall be used to determine *relative positions, i.e the team with the higher average score over the course of the season shall take precedence*
- In the event that goal average does not differentiate teams, then goal difference will be applied, *i.e precedence shall be given to the team with the greater difference between goals scored and goals conceded*
- In the event that goal difference does not differentiate teams, then the team with the greatest number of goals scored shall take precedence
- Where one of the teams has its goal average, goal difference, or total number of goals scored affected by cancellations, then the goals scored by and against defaulting team(s) shall be omitted from the calculations. For example, in the event that one team received 5 points for a cancelled fixture, then the goals scored by the other team against the offending team will not be included when its goal average or goal difference is calculated.

15 Qualification for NW regional League

15.1 *There will be a regional qualification division of six teams for each Under 14 and Under 16 age group. (if more than 6 teams apply for each age group, then a tournament will be held at the start of the season to decide on the top*

six teams)

15.2 Each team in the Under 14 and Under 16 regional qualification league will normally play the other teams once prior to the start of the regional league.

15.3 All regional qualification matches shall be umpired by neutral umpires (umpires will be requested to change courts to accommodate this)

15.4 Clubs who enter the Under 14 and Under 16 regional qualification divisions and the Under 19 division must supply umpires who have a netball Umpire C award or above to officiate at these fixtures

16. Appeals

Any club wishing to appeal against a team for breaking any of the league rules or guidelines *should* complete an appeals form within 7 days of the incident and returned to the league secretary. The discipline committee, as described in the constitution, shall consider the appeal

16. Trophies

Trophies will be awarded to the winners and runners up of each division. The trophies will be held by the club for one year and the winners will be responsible for having the trophy engraved with their club name and date. If funds are available, medals will be awarded to winning team members.

17. Photography

Anyone wishing to take photographs must register with the duty official, who will keep a register and issue a permission sticker.

18. Organisation and Administration of the League

18.1 The Cheshire and Merseyside YNL shall be governed and managed by the league committee

18.2 The decisions of the Cheshire and Merseyside YNL committee in respect of the rules and guidelines or any other matter which is not provided for, shall be considered to be final and binding on all parties (subject to the right of appeal which is specifically provided for under England Netball disciplinary regulations)

18.3 It is the responsibility of all team managers, coaches, and captains to ensure that all players are conversant with the rules and regulations

By entering a team(s) in the Cheshire and Merseyside YNL, clubs agree that:

- They will abide by these rules and regulations
- They are able and willing to fulfil the costs and commitments of participation in the league, including club responsibilities at fixtures and the provision of a committee member
- They agree to participate in a manner which promotes fairness and equity of opportunity for all players and clubs
- They actively promote and support the league code of conduct
- They take responsibility for the behaviour of their club members, officials and spectators

THE COMMITTEE CANNOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY PERSONAL LOSS OR INJURY SUSTAINED WHILE PLAYING IN THE LEAGUE

Cheshire/Merseyside Youth Netball League Constitution

1. Name

The name of the league (hereinafter called the CMYNL) is the “Cheshire and Merseyside Youth Netball League”

2. Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives for which the CMYNL is established are:

- To promote and develop the game of netball for young players

3. Membership

- All participants shall be affiliated to England Netball
- All participants shall play in the correct age groups as classified by England Netball
- All clubs must affiliate their members to England Netball and submit registration forms at the beginning of each season. Clubs must submit supplementary registration forms if new members join during the season.

4. League Entry fees

- Entry fees shall be agreed at the AGM
- Entry fees are payable when returning the league entry form, no later than the date stated on the form

5. Honorary Officers

- The honorary officers of the CMYNL shall be:
 - i) President
 - li) Vice President

6. Committee Officers

- The CMYNL shall be governed by a league committee. The committee officers are:
 - i) Chairperson
 - ii) Vice Chairperson
 - iii) Treasurer
 - iv) Secretary
 - v) Minuting secretary
 - vi) Fixtures secretary
 - vii) Umpiring secretary
 - vii) Publicity and promotions secretary
 - viii) Umpiring secretary
 - viii) Results secretary
 - ix) Duty of Care officer
 - x) Publicity and promotions secretary
 - xi) One place on the committee for any club which is not represented by one of the committee officers

- The committee members must be affiliated to EN and will be elected at the AGM by the league membership

7. CMYNL Committee

- The management of the affairs of the CMYNL shall be vested in the league committee
- The number of league committee meetings shall be arranged as necessary during the year
- The league committee may fill any casual vacancy in respect of committee officers to act until the next AGM
- The quorum for committee meetings shall be 2 committee members plus a representative from at least three other clubs
- Each person entitled to attend a committee meeting shall have one vote apart from the Chairperson who shall have a casting vote only

8. Annual General Meeting

- An Annual General meeting (AGM) shall be held in every calendar year. The date of this meeting shall be decided at the previous AGM
- Notification of the AGM shall be circulated at least 4 weeks prior to the date of the AGM
- Business to be transacted shall be:
 - i) To receive reports and accounts for the last season
 - ii) To elect committee members for the following season
- Persons eligible to vote at the AGM shall be:
 - i) Clubs—one vote each
 - plus ii) each committee officer
- The Chairperson shall have a casting vote only
- No person shall be permitted to have more than one vote on each proposal

9. Extraordinary General Meeting

- An extraordinary general meeting shall be convened:
 - i) By order of the league committee
 - ii) Upon request to the Secretary from three or more entitled to vote at the AGM
- Each request shall state the purpose for which the meeting is requested and shall set out any resolution which it is desired to propose

10. Disciplinary Measures

- Any member shall be liable to disciplinary action in any of the following instances:
 - i) refusal or neglect to abide by the CMYNL Constitution or Rules and Guidelines
 - ii) If he/she has been guilty of misconduct considered by the CMYNL committee, in its discretion, to bring discredit, or be prejudicial to the interests of EN or the game of Netball
- The CMYNL shall, in each year, have the power to appoint a Disciplinary committee composed of members of the CMYNL and including at least one person who is not a member of the CMYNL committee, not normally attending CMYNL committee meetings
- The CMYNL committee shall, in each year, have the power to appoint an Appeals Committee composed of those CMYNL committee members who

have not served on the Disciplinary committee concerned with the subject of the appeal, or such other person(s) who has/have not served on the Disciplinary Committee concerned with the subject of the appeal. The Appeals Committee may affirm, vary or rescind any action decided by the CMYNL committee or Disciplinary committee and may substitute any other sanction or order that it considers appropriate. The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be binding on all parties and all members of CMYNL

- A member who has been the subject of a disciplinary action by the CMYNL Disciplinary Committee has the right of appeal of an Appeals committee

11. Indemnity

- All honorary and committee officers shall be indemnified by the CMYNL against all costs and losses for which they may become liable, by reason of duty performed for/or with the authority of the league committee

12. Dissolution of the CMYNL

- Every member of the CMYNL who is entitled to vote at AGMs undertakes to contribute to the assets of the CMYNL in the event of the same being wound up for the payment of the debts and liabilities and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, such amount as may be required not exceeding £1 (one pound)
- If, upon the winding up or the dissolution of the CMYNL, there remains after the satisfaction of all debts, any liabilities or any property whatsoever, the same shall be given or transferred to some other organisation(s) having aims and objectives similar to those of the CMYNL

Notes about Umpires

This is a developmental league and following requirements should be adhered to:

- Ideally all umpires should have a “C” award qualification
- However, umpires who have attended a “C” award course will be eligible to umpire this season
- In exceptional circumstances, a club may utilise an umpire who has attended a Beginners Award on application to the umpiring secretary
- Any club without a C award umpire must commit to sending someone on a “C” award course before the end of the 2008/2009 season (Funding MAY be available)

Notes to Umpires

Thank you for supporting the CMYNL

The notes below should help you in your task:

- Umpires are requested to provide and prepare their own score cards for the matches.
- Please show the following information clearly on your scorecard:
 - Names of teams
 - Age group
 - Court number
 - Time of match
 - Final score
- Match duration—see page 11
- There will be central time keeping. A bell / foghorn will be used to signal start, half time, re-start and full time. Matches start and finish on the umpires whistle
- Extra time will be allowed to take a penalty shot, if it was awarded before the half time or full time whistle. Other shots entering the net after a half time or final whistle will be not allowed
- Please note that if a team has fewer than 5 players on court at the start of play, the winning points will be awarded to the team present on court at the correct time
- After each match, scores should be agreed and cards signed by the umpires before handing them to the winning captain
- Please umpire all age groups strictly as this is the only way that players will learn the rules

It is hoped that umpires will enjoy being involved in the CMYNL . Should you have any experiences that you feel contravene the league Code of Conduct, please contact one of the committee members

Club Responsibilities and Rota

Each club should ensure that:

- All club members understand the aims of the league and comply with the League Code of Conduct
- Spectators stand clear of the courts and understand the need for umpires to have full movement around the court
- Club officials and spectators stand at the defence end of the court when their team is playing
- It provides a litter bag for their teams and ensures that all personal litter is taken home
- It fulfils the requirements of the club tasks on the club rota (see Fixtures Handbook)

Two clubs will be asked to take responsibility at each fixture to ensure the event runs smoothly. It is the responsibility of the clubs to liaise with each other to plan how they will share the tasks. All equipment will be available in a box at the start of the day. Two dayglo jackets are available and must be worn by people on duty so that they are identifiable.

Tasks

1. Timing of matches

Timings will be as follows:-

High Five (Under 10 and 11s)

10 minute quarters, 2 minutes quarter time, 3 minutes half time

Netball

12 minute quarters, 1 minute quarter time, 3 minutes half time

A bell, hooter and stopwatch will be provided on the day

When High Five and 7 aside netball is being played at the same time, a **bell** will sound for High Five and a **hooter** for 7 aside timings

The hooter or bell will be rung at the **start** and **end** of each quarter and **after** full time.

2. Litter Collection

Ensure that clubs are collecting their own litter and are taking it home with them. Conduct a final litter check at the end of the day.

High Five Rules

1. Squads may consist of a minimum of 7 and a maximum of 9 players.
2. Each club should give the opposition, prior to the commencement of the game, a rotation sheet completed with each player's name and DoB so that there can be no queries
3. Players must rotate as shown in the rotation shown below.
4. In the event of an injury, in a squad of 7, the TK replaces the injured player and in a squad of 8 or 9, the CPM replaces the injured player
5. Late arrivals: Teams with a squad of 5 or 6 at the beginning of a match, can play the first quarter missing TK and S. If late players do not arrive in time for the second quarter, the game will be played as a friendly and points given to the opposition. The score will be recorded as 20-0. If the late players turn up in the first half, they must take up the rotation of TK and S

Rotations

	Squad of 7	Squad of 8	Squad of 9
1	Scorer	Scorer	Scorer
2	GA	C	GA
3	GD	GA	Timekeeper
4	Timekeeper	Time keeper	GD
5	C	GD	Scorer
6	GS	Centre pass marker	C
7	GK	GS	GS
8		GK	Centre Pass Marker
9			GK



Cheshire and Merseyside Youth Netball League

Appeals Sheet

Date of match Age group

Your team Opponents.....

Brief Outline of Appeal (please refer to the rule/regulation/code of conduct you are appealing under and name any witnesses – if appropriate to the situation)

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Signed

Position in club

This appeal must be sent to the league secretary to arrive no later than 7 days after the incident took place.

NOTES