

# ENGLAND NETBALL

## PREMIER LEAGUE PLAY-OFFS 2018-19

### RULES AND REGULATIONS

#### 1. Overview

Premier League Netball 1, 2 & 3 is a national league competition organised by England Netball to enable clubs to compete against each other to determine a national winner, whilst encouraging participation and development in netball through an open, fair, progressive and transparent league structure.

The Premier League Play-offs is a competition organised by England Netball that determines the movement of clubs between Premier League Netball 1,2 & 3 and Regional Leagues that takes place once the Premier League Netball 1, 2 & 3 leagues have concluded ("the Competition").

These regulations set out below outline the Rules and Regulations ("the Regulations") through which the Premier League Play-offs only shall be governed. For the avoidance of doubt, the separate regulations which pertain for the Premier League Netball 1, 2 & 3 competition shall have force within that competition.

These Regulations must be followed by all teams, players, officials, spectators and administrators involved in the management, administration and operation of the Premier League Play-offs.

#### 2. Competition Structure

2.1 Entry into the Premier League Play-offs will be through the following methods:

**2.1.1 Premier League Netball 1/2 Play-off** - The teams which finish in eighth and ninth position in Premier League Netball 1 will contest a play-off together with the teams which finish in second and third places in Premier League Netball 2. Each team will play the others once: the two teams with the best results will participate in Premier League Netball 1 in the following season; the remaining two teams will participate in Premier League Netball 2.

**2.1.2 Premier League Netball 2/3 Play-off** - The teams which finish in eighth and ninth position in Premier League Netball 2 will contest a play-off together with the teams which finish in second and third places in Premier League Netball 3. Each team will play the others once: the two teams with the best results will participate in Premier League Netball 2 in the following season; the remaining two teams will participate in Premier League Netball 3.

**2.1.3 Premier League Netball 3/Regional League Play-off** - The teams which finish in eighth, ninth and tenth position in Premier League Netball 3 will contest a play-off together with one team from each Region (giving nine Regional Teams).

2.1.3.1 **Regional Teams** - The teams nominated by the Regions will be done so at the discretion of the Region Netball Association. England Netball will have no involvement with or influence over these teams apart from the requirements set out in these Regulations.

2.1.3.2 These 12 teams (three (3) Premier teams and nine (9) Regional Nominations) will be divided into three groups of four, with the three Premier League Netball 3 teams spread across the groups.

2.1.3.3 The teams in each group will play against each other once.

2.1.3.4 The teams in first and second place in all groups will then play a cross-sectional match against the first or second place in a different group (the draw for this will be made and published at the start of the Premier League Netball season). The winners will be promoted to/or retain their place in Premier League Netball 3 for the following season. All other teams will return to/be relegated to the Regional Leagues.

#### 3. Competition Organisation

3.1 The Competition and all rights and properties associated with it shall be owned, controlled and managed by England Netball.

3.2 England Netball is responsible for the organisation and management of the Premier League Play-offs as well as the Premier League Netball 1, 2 & 3. Regional Leagues (or other mechanisms used by the Regions) that feed

into the Premier League Play-offs are the responsibility of the Regional Netball Associations, as autonomous organisations independent from England Netball. These competitions may have different regulations to these set out in this document.

- 3.3 Prior to the start of Premier League Play-offs, England Netball shall announce the following:
  - 3.3.1 the Competition Referees; and
  - 3.3.2 the person appointed to receive appeals of the decisions of the Competition Referee, as outlined in Section 8.

## **4. Competition Referees**

- 4.1 Competition Referees will be appointed by England Netball for the Premier League Play-offs. There will usually be three (3) Competition Referees who will have the authority and jurisdiction to make decisions on all matters arising throughout the Competition including, but not limited to:
  - 4.1.1 altering or amending the playing schedule as necessary;
  - 4.1.2 determining if there has been a breach of the Regulations and imposing an appropriate sanction including but not limited to the disqualification of any individual team or Player
  - 4.1.3 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 a Match and/or the Competition;
  - 4.1.4 determining the result and score should any Match not be concluded due to any unforeseen circumstance;
  - 4.1.5 enforcing the decision by any medical advisor, including but not limited to England Netball's appointed Competition Medic or Competition Physiotherapist, regarding the participation of a player and whether they are able to;
    - a) Start the match
    - or b) Continue to play;
  - 4.1.6 determining any matter not covered specifically within the Regulations.
- 4.2 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 will rest with the Competition Referees.
- 4.3 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 decide what action should be taken.
- 4.4 England Netball will appoint a Competition Medic and /or Competition Physiotherapist for the Premier League Playoffs, who has the authority to determine the participation of a player based on injury and / or illness and will refer this decision to the Competition Referees.
- 4.5 For all 'incidents' on or off the court at the selected venue an England Netball Accident Report form must be completed by the Competition Referees and a copy sent to England Netball which will be stored for insurance purposes using standard issued forms.
- 4.6 The Competition Referees will maintain and be responsible for a confidential Competition Referee Log Book where appropriate

## **5. Pre Competition Management and Administration**

### **5.1 Team Entry and Eligibility**

- 5.1.1 Entry to Premier League Play-offs shall be through finishing in the appropriate final positions of Premier League Netball 1, 2 and 3 or Regional Nomination. This is detailed in clause 2.1
- 5.1.2 All clubs / teams participating in the Competition must be affiliated to England Netball, and have paid a full affiliation in this respect.
- 5.1.3 England Netball is entitled to charge an entry fee to compete in Premier League Play-offs and this must be paid in full within the permitted timescales in order for a team to participate. This charge will include the costs associated with appointing the Umpires.
- 5.1.4 In order to qualify a team to participate in Premier League Play-offs a club shall either be accredited under England Netball's CAPS scheme, or working towards the same (where applicable).
- 5.1.5 By entering a team in Premier League Play-offs, clubs/teams agree that:

- a) they are able and willing to fulfil the costs and commitments of participation in the Premier League Play-offs;
- b) they will fulfil their obligations and responsibilities as set out in these Regulations;
- c) they are bound by the Competition Regulations; and
- d) they are bound by all of the rules, policies, regulations and by-laws of England Netball, including the England Netball Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Regulations, as may from time to time be in force

5.1.6 Where a Regional Nomination already has a team under the same England Netball affiliation in Premier League 1, 2 or 3 they will not be able to participate in the Premier League Play-offs, as only one (1) team per club can participate in Premier League Netball.

## **5.2 Player/Team Official Eligibility**

5.2.1 In order to qualify to participate in the Premier League Play-offs Players and Team Officials (as defined in 6.6 below) must be in membership of England Netball as an affiliated Registered Participant having paid the full affiliation fee due and received confirmation of their affiliation in advance of submitting the Squad Registration Sheet for the Premier League Play-offs. Individuals may affiliate via one of the following routes:

- a) Through affiliation to a Club
- b) Through affiliation to a Young Persons Group
- c) Independent Registered Participant through a County (Team Officials only)

5.2.2 To be eligible for the Premier League Play-offs all Premier League Netball Players and Team Officials must affiliate to England Netball within the timeframe set out in the Premier League Netball Competition Regulations. For Regional Nominations the appropriate Affiliation Fee must be received by England Netball Head Office Membership Services not less than four (4) days before taking to the court, either as a Player, or involved as a Team Official.

5.2.3 All players must be over 14 years old as at 11.59pm on 31st August immediately prior to the commencement of the playing season in which the Premier League Play-offs take place, unless they have completed an Age Banding Consent Form and submitted it with the Squad Registration Sheet.

5.2.4 During all matches in the Premier League Play-offs, Team Managers must at all times carry proof of age for all Players and a copy of all Age Banding Consent Forms applicable to Players listed on the Squad Registration Sheet.

5.2.5 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;

5.2.6 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 itself.

The England Netball Personal Accident insurance cover excludes any loss or expense due to pregnancy, childbirth, miscarriage or any consequence thereof. If, for example, a member who is pregnant is involved in an accident not related to the pregnancy, subject to the conditions of the policy, the relevant benefits would be payable. However, if any situation (such as hospitalisation) was prolonged as a direct result of pregnancy, pregnancy complications or even early childbirth, then this portion of any claim is not covered.

5.2.7 All members of the High Performance Programme are eligible to participate in the Premier League Play-offs. Athletes in the High Performance Programme will have a single management point within the England Coaching Team. For the purposes of each Athlete's development there may be limitations and conditions on their participation in the competition and these will be set by members of the England Coaching Team led by the National Coach.

## **5.3 Registration of Squads**

5.3.1 Participating teams must complete a Squad Registration Sheet fully listing each Player and their affiliation numbers. This needs to be lodged with England Netball's Competition and Events Officer two weeks prior to the commencement of the Premier League Play-offs. No additions can be made once the two week deadline has passed.

5.3.2 Teams may only use those Players whose names appear on their Squad Registration Sheet held by England Netball. There is no limit to the number of players who can be listed on the Squad Registration Sheet.

- 5.3.3 Squad Registration Sheets will be made available on the first Competition Day for the Team Manager to sign and return to the Competition Referee during the Registration Period.
- 5.3.4 Once a player has been registered on a Squad Registration Sheet and has played for that team at any time in the Competition, she cannot transfer to another team participating in the Premier League Play-offs during the course of the current Competition.
- 5.3.5 In respect of Premier League teams, only players who have taken to the court (played at least one (1) quarter) in Rounds 1-18 of the Premier League Netball 1, 2 & 3 competition during the course of the season will be eligible to compete for their registered team within the Premier League Play-offs for that season.
- 5.3.6 In respect of teams which have competed in the Regional League during the season, or competed in any other similar league competition, only players who have taken to the court for that team during the season and remain eligible may be registered for the Premier League Play-offs.
- 5.3.7 If a Regional Nomination has a player that has played for a Premier League Netball team during that season, they will not be eligible to play for the Regional Nomination during the Premier League Playoffs.

## **5.4 Competition Venues**

- 5.4.1 Matches will be played wherever possible on a court with adequate surrounds and playing surface and with ancillary facilities for participants including changing and showering facilities for Teams and Officials, unless otherwise agreed by the England Netball Event Manager. Where any such facilities are not available, this will be communicated to all Team Officials and Umpires before the Competition Day.
- 5.4.2 England Netball will hire the venue from a third party and conduct a full risk assessment, and take all appropriate measures to mitigate any identified risk.

## **6. Playing and Competition**

### **6.1 Time of Arrival and Registration**

- 6.1.1 All Team Managers must collect their team packs prior to their first game, from the Competition Referees area whose whereabouts will be communicated to teams in advance of the Competition. Scorers and timekeepers are also required to sign in before the first Match of each day in this area.
- 6.1.2 All teams will be held responsible for the behaviour, demeanour and actions of their Players, Team Officials and supporters.
- 6.1.3 Each team may declare up to twelve (12) Players prior to the start of each Match by completing a Premier League Netball Team Sheet and submitting it to the Competition Referees. These Players must be listed on the Squad Registration Sheet and must be done at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to the stated start time for the Match.

### **6.2 Competition Scheduling**

- 6.2.1 All Matches must be played as per the fixture schedule published by England Netball, unless otherwise agreed by the Competition Referee.
- 6.2.2 England Netball will only postpone or cancel the Premier League Play-offs due to extreme and unforeseen circumstances. Examples of unforeseen circumstances include but are not limited to, inclement weather such as flooding, heavy rainfall, snowfall, storms, or other conditions which would make participation dangerous. Injuries or delays incurred by teams do not qualify as unforeseen circumstances. England Netball will not be responsible for any costs incurred by the teams as a result of a postponement or cancellation of the Premier League Playoffs due to extreme and unforeseen circumstances.  
  
In instances of the above, the Event Manager will contact all teams either by phone or email at the earliest opportunity, through the contact details provided on the Squad Registration Sheet.
- 6.2.3 If the Premier League Play-offs are postponed or cancelled, England Netball will ensure that the teams and umpires are informed immediately the postponement or cancellation is known.
- 6.2.4 No team may play a Match with less than 5 players. Any team with less than 5 players on court during a Match will automatically concede the game.
- 6.2.5 In the event of a Match being conceded:

- a) The non-offending team will be awarded five (5) league points, and the team which conceded will have five (5) league points deducted from their total
- b) The team which conceded may be liable to pay any costs which the non-offending team has incurred, subject to the determination by the England Netballs' Event Manager

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

### **6.3 Match rules and format**

6.3.1 All Matches shall be played in accordance with the International Netball Federation Rules of the Game currently in force at the time, except where specifically stated in these Regulations.

### **6.4 Match Officials**

6.4.1 Umpires who hold a current Netball Europe 'A' Award or above, or its equivalent, and who have been identified by England Netball, will be allocated to each fixture by England Netball, or its nominee(s), and their appointment will be notified to the teams prior to the start of play, each day.

### **6.5 Technical Officials**

6.5.1 The Technical Officials are, collectively, the Umpires, Scorers and Timekeepers. The two (2) Scorers and the two (2) Timekeepers shall constitute the Officials Bench.

6.5.1.1 Each team must provide a competent Scorer, either an umpire or a Match Bench Official or a person who has either attended a Technical Officials Course or has a working knowledge of scoring. Scorers will be required for all fixtures.

6.5.1.2 Each team must provide a Timekeeper for each Match played. The Timekeeper should have a working knowledge of the INF Rules of the Game currently in force.

6.5.2 Scorers are required to utilise the INF Official Scoresheet for all Matches, which will be supplied by England Netball. If a Regional Nomination does not have Technical Officials with experience of using the INF Official Scoresheet, they must inform England Netball at the time they submit their Squad Registration Form for the Competition.

### **6.6 Team Officials**

6.6.1 Each team may have up to five (5) Team Officials. These will include a Coach, Team Manager and at least one Primary Care Person.

6.6.2 A Primary Care Person:

- Must be qualified to diagnose and treat injury or illness (for example, doctor or physiotherapist)
- Teams must provide evidence of the relevant qualification for their primary care person along with the Squad Registration Form. Any team with a primary care person who is not a qualified physiotherapist will be required to take guidance from the Competition Medic / Competition Physiotherapist on any injuries or illnesses
- Must wear identification as specified by England Netball
- 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

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

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

6.6.5 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 Event Organiser .

### **6.7 Match Timings**

6.7.1 All Matches shall be of one hour's duration (i.e., four (4) quarters of fifteen (15) minutes each) with intervals of eight (8) minutes for half time and four (4) minutes at quarter and three quarter time. Central timing will be used to commence the start of Matches only, which will be signalled by a hooter. Timekeepers will then operate independently of central timing.

- 6.7.2 Play will be stopped when instructed by the Umpire who shall blow the whistle to stop play. To restart play the Umpire shall signal and blow the whistle for play to be resumed.
- 6.7.3 In the event of a draw in a Premier 3 / Regional Play-offs cross sectional final match, INF Rule 4.2 will be implemented whereby:
- (i) There shall be a four (4) minute interval at the end of full time;
  - (ii) Extra time shall be played which shall consist of two (2) halves of seven (7) minutes each, with an interval of one (1) minute at half time. Teams shall change ends at half time;
  - (iii) The first Centre Pass shall be taken by the team entitled to the next Centre Pass;
  - (iv) In the event of the scores remaining tied at the end of extra time, a visual signal shall be used to indicate that play shall continue until one Team leads by two (2) goals.
- 6.7.3 During both of the intervals, that is, before extra-time and at half time, substitutions and/or team changes may be made:
- 6.7.4 Umpires must ensure that:
- a) Before the start of each Match the Captains have tossed for centre pass;
  - b) Both Teams are on court, in position and ready to play, at the scheduled time in accordance with the playing schedule and the central timer;
  - c) No Team starts a Match with less than five (5) Players.
- 6.7.5 Any Team not on court as detailed in accordance with 6.7.4 above will concede the Match. Zero (0) points will be awarded to the Team conceding the Match, and full match points for a win (5) will be awarded to the Team on court, in position and ready to play at the correct time.

## **6.8 Kit and Equipment**

- 6.8.1 Teams must carry an alternative set of playing kit and bibs for use where a clash of colours occurs. It is the Team Manager's responsibility to identify any potential clash. Where a clash of colours is identified, Team captains shall arrange to toss a coin to decide who shall wear their alternative kit.
- 6.8.2 Spare kit must be provided by each team and be readily available during a match, for example, to replace blood-stained clothing.
- 6.8.3 A match ball will be provided to each team during Registration, and this ball should be used for all Matches during the Premier League Play-offs

## **6.9 Scoring**

- 6.9.1 For all Round Robin matches, teams will be awarded league points as follows:
- a) Five (5) points for a win;
  - b) Three (3) points for a draw (except as provided for in 6.7.3 above);
  - c) Two (2) points for a loss within 5 goals of the winners' score – e.g., 50-46 = 2 points, 50-45 = 1 point;
  - d) One (1) point for a loss with more than 50 per cent of the winners' score;
  - e) Zero (0) points for a loss
- 6.9.2 Premier League Play-off league tables will be compiled on the basis of the points awarded to each team. Where teams are level on points:
- a) Goal Average shall be used to determine their relative positions, i.e., the team with the higher average score over the course of the Competition shall take precedence
  - b) In the event that Goal Average does not differentiate between the teams, then Goal Difference shall be applied, i.e., precedence 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 team with the greatest number of goals scored shall take precedence

- d) In the event that neither Goal Average nor Goal Difference nor goals scored can differentiate between the teams, the score in the match played between the teams shall determine the standings, with the winning team taking precedence.

In the event that none of the above differentiates between the teams, the Competition Referee shall determine the means of differentiation.

**Note - Where one of the teams has its Goal Average, Goal Difference or total number of goals scored affected by conceded fixtures, then all goals scored by and against conceding team(s) in all fixtures shall be omitted from the calculations of both 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.**

## **6.10 Registration of results**

- 6.10.1 Following the completion of each Match, the scorers from the two competing teams must complete the INF Official Scoresheet, and ensure that this is signed by both captains, in addition to the umpires and scorers. Once the official Scoresheet has been signed by the captain, no dispute can be logged. The Scoresheet must then be returned straight after each match to the Competition Referees
- 6.10.2 Results for all matches will be displayed throughout the Competition, this area will be detailed in pre Competition information sent to all teams

## **6.11 Photography**

- 6.11.1 The England Netball Duty of Care guidelines require that any person wishing to use a video, zoom or close range photography or mobile phone camera must register their details in the Registration Area each day before taking photographs.
- 6.11.2 Photography accreditation must be worn and visible at all times. Any persons taking images without the correct accreditation will be required to stop.
- 6.11.3 Flash photography is not permitted in the playing arena at any time

## **6.12 Health and Safety**

- 6.12.1 Play may be stopped if the Umpire deems it necessary due to the injury or illness of a player.
- 6.12.2 Team Officials are required to take great care in moving an injured player or ill player from the court.
- 6.12.3 Should the primary care person 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 Medical Staff, then the Match Officials should note the time lost during treatment and report to the Competition Referee who will adjudicate.
- 6.12.4 England Netball's appointed Competition Medic and / or Competition Physiotherapist has the authority to determine the participation of a player based on injury and / or illness (as per 4.5) and will refer this decision to the Competition Referee.
- 6.12.5 For all accidents or injuries on or off the court at the Competition, where any Player, Team Official, Umpire, Bench Official, spectator, Volunteer, Staff Member or any other individual connected to the Competition is injured, the Competition Referee must complete an England Netball Accident Report Form and return it to England Netball. This procedure should be followed for all injuries and accidents, regardless of whether or not medical treatment is given.

## **7. Competition Complaints Procedure**

- 7.1 On the Competition Day, all queries and complaints ("a Complaint") should be directed to the Competition Referee in the first instance, which will be dealt with as follows:
  - 7.1.1 Where the Complaint relates to the Competition format or management, including but not limited to the schedule, the opposing Team, playing surface or other playing arrangements, a protest must be made before the start of the Match (or as soon as possible after the issue becomes apparent during the Match)

to the Competition Referees. The Complaint must then be acknowledged by the Competition Referee who will decide what action should be taken; or.

7.1.2 Where the Complaint relates to the playing of a Match, the scoring and/or its result, the relevant team member or Team Official must:

- a) Inform their opponents and the Umpires of the Complaint;
  - b) Mark the Scoresheet with the words 'Under Protest';
  - c) Take the Scoresheet marked 'Under Protest' to the Competition Referee, straight after the Match (within 30 minutes of the game concluding);
  - d) Explain the issue in full to the Competition Referee;
- and the Competition Referee will decide what action should be taken.

7.1.3 The Competition Referees decision in relation to decisions taken under clauses 7.1.1 or 7.1.2 is binding apart from where parties to the complaint have the right to appeal the decision under Section 8 below.

7.2 Where a Complaint relates to the governance or administration of the Competition by England Netball, such Complaint will be dealt with under the Complaints Procedure of England Netball.

7.3 Where a Complaint relates to the behaviour of an individual Player or Team, volunteer or individual attending the Competition which could be considered as a Disciplinary Offence under England Netball's Disciplinary Regulations, such Complaint will be dealt with in accordance with the procedures set out in England Netball's Disciplinary Regulations and should be referred to the Disciplinary Secretary of England Netball.

## **8. Appeal of the Competition Referees Decision**

8.1 The decision of the Competition Referee in relation to a Complaint submitted in accordance with sections 7.1.1 or 7.1.2 shall be final and binding on all parties save that a party has a right to appeal in the following circumstances:

8.1.1 if the decision of the Competition Referee has a potential impact on a Match result, a league table, or the outcome of the Competition; and

8.1.2 there has been a failure by the Competition Referee to follow or act in accordance with these Regulations and/or the Competition Referee has 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.

8.2 An appeal should be forwarded in writing from the Team Manager of the appealing Team to the Community Competition and Events Manager within seventy two (72) hours of the Match.

8.3 The appeal shall be accompanied by a cheque for £100 which shall be returned if the appeal is upheld or if there are any other extenuating circumstances. The Competition Appeals Committee ("CAC") will decide whether the extenuating circumstance warrant the cheque being returned.

8.4 The Community Competition and Events Manager will establish a CAC which will consist of individuals that are independent of and not connected to the Competition. One of those individuals will be appointed as the Chair. The CAC will usually but not exclusively be three members of the England Netball Executive Team.

8.5 The Chair of the CAC will give notice of the appeal to the opposing Team and any other Team the CAC believe could be affected by the outcome of the appeal. These Teams will be permitted seventy two (72) hours from the time that the appeal notice is sent from the CAC to submit any evidence or submission that they wish the CAC to consider.

8.6 All submissions and evidence must be submitted in writing. The Chair of CAC will otherwise have the discretion to determine the process, procedure and direction of the appeal.

8.7 The CAC shall meet and reach a decision within seventy two (72) hours of receiving all the evidence and submissions.

8.8 The CAC 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 reaching its decision. The CAC shall have the discretion to publish the decision through whatever medium it considers appropriate.

8.9 The CAC shall have the delegated power of England Netball 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.

- 8.10 The procedures set out in this Section 8 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. For the avoidance of doubt, there shall be no further right of appeal against the decision of the CAC.
- 8.11 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.
- 8.12 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 8 shall be English Law.
- 8.13 If the circumstances require a decision to be taken sooner than provided for by this Section 8, 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 the seventy two (72) hours stated in this Section 8. In such cases the CAC shall issue a revised directions timetable which shall be binding on all parties.
- 8.14 In order to adhere to the timescales set out in Section 8, all communication will take place via electronic mail to the contact held on England Netball's administration system, which is confirmed on the Squad Registration Sheet, or if this is left blank, the contact provided to on MyNet. It is the participating Teams' responsibility to ensure that these contact details are kept up-to-date.

## 9. Miscellaneous

- 9.1 England Netball 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 England Netball's liability for any personal loss or injury caused by England Netball's own negligence, the negligence of its employees, or for fraud.
- 9.2 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.
- 9.3 These Regulations shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with English law.
- 9.4 Any questions regarding these Regulations can be addressed to:  
England Netball Events Manager  
England Netball  
Netball House, 1-12 Old Park Road, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 2JR
- 9.5 England Netball reserves the right 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 England Netball website.

## Definitions

Some definitions within the Premier League Play-offs Rules and Regulations are set out in the Membership Regulations and International Netball Federation's Rules of the Game. Supplementary to these, the following terms shall have the meanings set out below:

**Competition Appeals Committee (CAC)** means a body of up to three (3) individuals who are independent of and not connected to the Competition that will hear an appeal or a group of appeals on the Competition Referee's decision as set out in Section 8.

**Competition Day** means the day(s) in which Matches are played on for the Premier League Playoffs competition

**Competition Medic** means a qualified person appointed by England Netball to treat accident and injuries. This would be a minimum of an Emergency Medical Technician

**Competition Physiotherapist** means a qualified physiotherapist appointed by England Netball to assist with injuries.

**Competition Referee** means the individual appointed by England Netball with all necessary authority and jurisdiction to make decisions on any matters arising during the Competition as set out in 4.2.

**Competition Referee Log Book** means a record of any incidents, disciplinary matters, changes to schedule or complaints that arise on the Competition Day and are passed onto the England Netball Event Manager, templates for these documents are available at <http://www.EnglandNetball.co.uk/competitions>

**England Netball Accident Report Form** means a form that is accessible from <http://www.EnglandNetball.co.uk/competitions> that must be used to detail any accidents that occur during a competition

**England Netball Head Office** means the registered offices of England Netball which currently are Netball House, 1-12 Old Park Road, Hitchin Hertfordshire, SG5 2JR. Telephone number 01465 442344. The email address is [Competitions&Events@englandnetball.co.uk](mailto:Competitions&Events@englandnetball.co.uk)

**Goal Average** means goals for divided by goals against, to two decimal points

**Goal Difference** means the difference between the goals scored and the goals conceded

**High Performance Programme** means athletes currently selected as part of this programme, a list of such athletes is available here [http://www.englandnetball.co.uk/england/England\\_Squads/High\\_Performance](http://www.englandnetball.co.uk/england/England_Squads/High_Performance)

**INF Official Scoresheet** means the scoresheet issued by England Netball to be used to record the score at each Match

**Match** means an individual game of Netball played, in accordance with the provisions of Section 6, forming part of the Premier League Play-offs.

**Medical Advisor** means the assigned Competition Medic or Competition Physiotherapist for the Competition

**(Players) Not on court** means the Players listed on the Premier League Netball Team Sheet who are not at that present time playing in the Match

**Player** means an individual listed on the Premier League Netball Team Sheet who may from time to time participate in a Match.

**Premier League Netball Team Sheet** means a standard issue form that both teams must complete for every Match that details the 12 Players who are selected from the Squad Registration Sheet to play in the Match and the Team Officials that will be court-side

**Regional Nomination** means a Team that has been selected by the Regional Netball Association to participate in the Premier League 3 / Regional Playoff on behalf of that Region. This could be as Regional League winners or another outcome determined by the Regional Netball Association

**Registration Period** means the allocated time on the first Competition Day, prior to a team's first match, where a team's Team Manager signs to confirm the Squad Registration Sheet for their team. Once this sheet is signed and / or the dedicated window of the Period has expired (30 minutes before a team's first match) no further changes are permitted.

**Squad** means the twelve (12) Players listed on the Team Sheet for each Match.

**Squad Registration Sheet** means the list of players submitted by a Club prior to the start of the Premier League Play-offs from which a Club can select a Squad of twelve (12) Players for each Match

**Teams** means up to seven (7) Players actively participating in a Match at a given moment.

**Team Officials** mean the individuals (up to five (5)) who are listed on the Squad Registration Sheet and include the Coach and at least one (1) primary care person.