

## WEST YORKSHIRE JUNIOR LEAGUE RULES

1. a) The West Yorkshire Netball Junior League (WYJNL) **will be played to INF Rules and has taken into account the EN Domestic Rules Guidance which provides acceptable adaptations of INF Rules for domestic leagues/competitions, which takes account of our legal responsibilities, our duty of care and our objective to establish an inclusive, safe, fair and inspiring sporting environment that contributes to a high quality experience at all times.**  
b) All WYJNL fixtures will be played at approved venues **on the allocated court number on the dates and at the times allocated in advance at the start of each season. School holidays will be taken into account.** All fixtures will be played indoors.  
*Courts and facilities will be booked in advance on a block-booking basis by the WYJNL Committee. All spectators are responsible for their own entry fee and parking at sport centres where applicable.*  
c) **Special requests will only be considered in exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of the WYJNL Committee.**
2. a) All clubs/teams competing must be registered and affiliated to EN and West Yorkshire County Netball Association (WYCNA) prior to the first match of the season  
b) All individual players must be affiliated to EN and WYCNA prior to their first match of the season.  
c) Misuse of any part of rule 2 will result in a void match see rule 10.
3. a) All teams applying to join the WYJNL League will be placed **where possible** in an age group/division **deemed** appropriate to the level of their playing ability **and at the discretion of the WYJNL Committee. Each age group where possible will be made up of equal numbers of teams.**  
b) If clubs wish to play a talented player up an age range, they should obtain “age-banding” permission. Clubs must complete the appropriate documentation (see WYCNA website). Clubs must also inform the WYJNL Secretary and appropriate WYJNL Results Secretary and forward a copy of the appropriate document **5 days before a player plays for a higher age group.** Talented High 5 players in Y6 only, do not need “age banding” for playing up an age range to U12.  
c) If a player plays the equivalent of two **full** games with a higher age group **or higher positioned team in her age group**, she becomes automatically registered with that team for the remainder of the season and cannot play up for any other team in her club.  
d) Age banding is necessary for Duty of Care for players and is the responsibility of the club they are playing for. **Infringement of rule 3 b) will result in one point deduction.**
4. a) Any player affiliated to WYCNA may play only for one club within the WYJNL.  
b) If a player wishes to change clubs during the course of the season the **new** club must inform the WYJNL Secretary and appropriate WYJNL Results Secretary in writing/by email. Only following confirmation, will a player be eligible to play for their new club. They must play no further games for their original ‘named’ club for the rest of that season.  
c) Misuse of any part of rule 4. will result in a void match see rule 10.
5. a) Clubs entering the WYJNL must register with the WYJNL Secretary all their players by full name, date of birth, **affiliation number** and which team they represent i.e. High 5 (Y5 & Y6), U12 (Y7), U14 (Y8 & Y9), U16 (Y10 & Y11), (in accordance with the school academic year) and if applicable 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> team, at the pre-season meeting or by the date agreed by the WYJNL Committee. **The WYJNL Committee cannot guarantee all league entries. Late entries may not be accepted.**  
b) Any club registering a new player after the player registration deadline, must send a new up-to-date Registration Form to the appropriate Result Secretary and WYJNL Secretary, before the player plays their first match.  
c) Movement of players from a higher positioned team to a lower positioned one is not allowed except in exceptional circumstances.

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(e.g. return from serious injury) and only by prior agreement with the WYJNL Committee.

### d) Christmas Amnesty Rule

Prior to Christmas any team that has not been promoted to the Regional League can redefine their squads but must submit a new Player Registration Sheet to the appropriate Results Secretary and WYJNL Secretary 5 days before the New Year fixtures begin.

e) Any player that has played for a team that has qualified for Regional League and has played the equivalent of 2 full games is not allowed to take any further part in WYJNL in the New Year fixtures.

f) In the New Year any player that plays for their 2<sup>nd</sup> team/or another team in the WYJNL can experience Regional Competition but can only play the equivalent of 2 full games after which she will not be allowed to play any further WYJNL fixtures.

Rule 5 c) still applies.

g) Any Regional team who also has a 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> team in the WYJNL must submit a copy of their Regional Player Registration sheet to the appropriate WYJNL Results Secretary 5 days before the start of the New Years fixtures.

Infringement of rule 5 a) to d) will result in one point deduction being applied.

Infringement of rule 5 e) to g) will result in a void /cancelled match.

The penalty for any subsequent infringements will be at the discretion of the WYJNL Committee.

6. a) Each team must declare **up to** 12 players prior to the start of each match by completing a results card. This **must** be shown to the umpire.
- b) Once the squad/result card has been completed, (please include positions instead of ticks) players cannot be added or deleted after the game has started.
- c) For all clubs with more than one team in the WYJNL, any team changes/substitutions involving players registered with a lower positioned team must be recorded on the squad/result card,

clearly indicating which team **number** they are originally registered to.

d) If a player is suspended or ordered off under the International Netball Federation (INF) Rule 13 Game Management Rule, they must be recorded on the scorecard with full name and affiliation number clearly indicated in the comments. Any player that receives 2 suspensions within a season shall be automatically banned from participating for the entirety of the next scheduled fixture. Where this suspension occurs on the final game of the competition, the ban will be in place for the next scheduled fixture for the next period or season.

Any player that is ordered off in any fixture shall be automatically banned from participating for the entirety of the next scheduled fixture. Where this ordering off occurs on the final game of the competition, the ban will be in place for the next scheduled fixture for the next period or season.

e) At the end of the game, both results cards should be agreed and signed by the coach/team manager and umpires.

f) Infringement of any part of rule 6 will result in one point deduction being applied. The penalty for any subsequent infringements will be at the discretion of the WYJNL Committee.

7. a) To cover the cost of facilities, all teams will pay a match fee that will be set by the WYJNL Committee and that will ensure that the cost of facilities is met. This will be reviewed each calendar year.
- b) Method of payment for next season's matches will be made with the Treasurer at the end of the AGM meeting and will be by Internet banking or cheque.
- c) If using Internet banking please notify the Treasurer and relevant Result Secretary when this payment has been made.
- d) Cheque payments will depend upon your agreement with the Treasurer (see point b). Clearly indicate the age group/**division** on the back of the cheque.
- e) Any bank charges relating to unpaid cheques **MUST** be paid immediately by the relevant club.

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- f) All cheques are to be sent to the WYJNL Treasurer and are payable to '**WYCNA Jnr League**'. **Note:** The club name **must** be written on the back of a personal cheque – cash is not accepted in any circumstances.
- Bank Details**  
**HSBC**  
**SORT CODE 40-45-11 ACCOUNT NO.52226871.**
8. It is intended that the times of the matches will be between 9am and 2.00pm. **However on occasions this could be extended, and some teams may have to place twice on the same day.** Players and both umpires, are expected to take to the court at the specified time after sufficient time has been allowed for a warm up when possible. Both umpires will signal the start of each quarter.
- a) Any team not on court and ready to play at the umpire's signal, will be required to pay the court costs and umpires' expenses for both teams, where these are incurred.
- b) All matches will be of 40 minutes duration (4 X 10 minutes)
- c) All matches must be played on the stipulated **court number**, date and time and at the stated venue.
9. a) Any team **responsible for cancelling** a fixture will be required to pay the court costs and umpires' expenses for both teams, where these are incurred.
- b) Any team claiming points for a void match, but still using court time, i.e: a 'friendly' game, must forward the match fee (non-refundable), along with a results card to the WYJNL Results Secretary, stating the reason for their claim.
- c) They must also inform the opposing team of the reason for their claim, so that they have the right to reply if they disagree with the claim.
- d) No team can automatically assume they can claim points. Points can only be awarded or removed by the WYJNL Committee, once the claim has been investigated.
- e) Any claim needs to be made within the usual time frame i.e. by the following Friday.
10. For all teams responsible for a void/cancelled match a 5 point deduction will be applied per offence and the none-offending team will be awarded 5 points and **a number of goals for, which is to be agreed at the beginning of the season by the WYJNL Committee.**
11. If a match is cancelled due to circumstances beyond the WYJNL Committee 's control, eg: a leaking roof, the rearranged date will be mutually acceptable to both teams. However, should neither team agree, the WYJNL Committee will stipulate a date, time and venue on which the match **MUST** take place.
12. Centralised umpires will be allocated by the WYJNL Committee whenever possible. **However, should this not be possible then the team coach/manager may be required to umpire a fixture. If this situation arises then the team manager/coach must be a fully qualified EN umpire, e.g. 'C' Award or above, or must have passed the 'Into Officiating Award', or be within two years of attending an EN 'C' Award Course. Alternatively, the team coach/manager must source their own fully qualified EN umpire. In the unlikely event that WYJNL Committee can only provide 1 umpire at a fixture this umpire will be assigned to the first team named on the fixture.**
13. The team with the highest number of points in each division at the end of the season will receive the WYJNL League Trophies. In case of a tie on points, the League position will be decided on goal average (goals for divided by goals against).
14. Points will be awarded as follows:  
Win 5  
Draw 3  
Loss (with half winning score or more) 2  
Loss (with less than half winning score) 1

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15. a) Both teams should inform the appropriate WYJNL Results Secretary, using the results cards provided, of the result of the match by the following Friday. The scorecard can be posted or scanned. If the result is not received within this time, one point deduction will be applied.
- b) "PROOF OF POSTAGE" is a free service obtained at the Post Office and the WYJNL Committee will accept this in the event of delays caused by the postal service.
- c) When sending scanned results please email requesting a "PROOF OF RECEIPT". I.E. Before you hit send, click on options and tick "Request a Delivery Receipt". It is advisable that clubs keep appropriate records of emails/scanned results in the event of any query by the WYJNL Results Secretary.
- d) Both teams should submit their score to the WY website by text on the number indicated on the score card or submit on line.
16. **Players may not wear anything that could endanger themselves or other players, specifically;**
- a) **No adornment or jewellery may be worn other than a wedding ring which must be covered with tape. Flat religious bracelets which are not to be removed for religious and/or cultural reasons are to be suitably covered with a sweat/wrist band or taped flat to the arm as necessary to prevent injury to others.**
- b) **A medical alert bracelet may be worn provided it is covered and taped flat to the arm. Players wearing medical aids to protect injury or post surgery and who are prepared to take the risk of playing may take the court provided the medical aid is covered adequately thus preventing no obvious hazard to other players. Such players are advised to ensure that they have appropriate personal liability insurance coverage and have an appropriate medical certificate/letter.**
- b) **Fingernails must be short and smooth. Taped fingernails will not be allowed.**
- c) **Hair must be suitably tied back whilst participating in netball and any hair accessory that is used should not pose any risk to any individual.**
- d) **Gloves should not be worn except on medical grounds, and then only on production of a medical certificate. The player should ensure that the gloves do not endanger other players' safety and the player must ensure that they have appropriate personal liability insurance. Gloves should be plain, soft leather or micro fibre (eg Neoprene) which are manufactured without seams (or with internally sewn seams) and have no abrasive materials including but not limited to zippers, velcro, metallic or plastic fasteners.**
- e) **All players in a team must wear matching and appropriate playing uniform at all matches.**
- f) **Playing initials, worn both front and back, shall be 150mm (6 inches).**
- g) **A player may wear a hat/head covering and together with the coach/teacher/parent etc. they should ensure that the material used for the head covering is soft and without embellishments which might constitute a danger to any other player on the court, and with potential flowing/flapping edges held securely around the neck or tucked into shirt collar. It should be as neat and secure as possible. Peaks, baseball or tennis type caps do not meet the requirements and are not allowed.**
17. Your attention is drawn to the following WYJNL rules:
- a) **Any umpires participating in any match whilst pregnant do so at their own risk.**
- b) **Players must not chew gum while playing.**
18. Any team or individual, who wishes to submit a complaint against any other team or individual, must do so in writing, to the League Secretary, within fourteen days of the alleged incident, **clearly stating that it is to be treated as an official complaint.** **The Complainant should provide as much detail as possible about the complaint, including if possible, the specific part of the Codes of Conduct which they believe have been breached and /or why they believe the issue is a Disciplinary Offence.**

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### What Happens Next?

The Disciplinary Secretary or WYJNL Secretary is responsible for arranging an Investigation Panel, who determine whether or not the Complaint shows a prima facie case to answer. This means that there needs to be enough evidence in front of them to show that there is a serious enough case to warrant a Disciplinary Hearing. Whilst they have the power to ask for additional evidence, from anyone, they do not need to. In some cases, they may decide that the case is suitable for mediation, training or recommendations, as it is not so serious that it needs to be a Disciplinary Hearing.

### Interim Suspension

Investigation Panels may also impose interim suspensions, for example where the allegation is so serious that someone needs safeguarding from the possibility of that behaviour recurring, or the behaviour is such that it is felt the reputation of the sport needs protecting, or to protect the integrity of the Disciplinary Process. The Investigation Panel must define the activities which the person is suspended from. The interim suspension will usually continue through to the conclusion of the Disciplinary Process.

19. It is the responsibility of the Club Secretary to inform the WYJNL Secretary and other club secretaries within their own division of any details different from those appearing in the WYJNL Information Pack.
20. Every club must be represented at the pre-season meeting and AGM. Any team/club failing to send a representative will be fined £20.00
21. Team Officials/Bench players/Scorers. Only the team manager/coach, and 1 primary carer/first aider, umpires and up to 5 bench players are allowed to be on the team bench and courtside at any WYJNL match.

During play team officials and bench players must remain at the team bench, except that bench players may leave for a valid reason (such as to warm up).

During a match team officials and bench players may not:

- a) Criticise the umpires or their decisions.
- b) Use offensive, insulting or abusive language and or gestures.
- c) Use excessive noise or interruption.
- d) Encourage foul play by on-court behaviour.
- e) We recommend teams provide scorers when possible. Both scorers must sit together. If at any point they disagree with the score they must immediately tell the umpire, who will call time at a suitable break in play to verify the result before play continues. Infringement of any part of rule 21 a) to d) that results in the removal of the person from the team bench/playing enclosure will result in that person automatically being banned for the entirety of the next scheduled fixtures.

22. All spectators are to utilise the viewing galleries above the courts at the WYJNL League venues **where available and as directed by the umpires.**
23. Any matters not covered by the rules will be decided on by the WYJNL Committee.

### 23. **HIGH FIVE RULES**

High 5 is specifically designed for the U11's. The emphasis is on getting players to pick up key skills and experiences through flexible, fun play that includes everyone in the squad. Please encourage your players to time-keep and score as well as enjoying a taste of every position.

In addition to the WYJNL League rules 1-23 above all clubs participating in the WYJNL High 5 League will be run according to the following rules:-

1. Five-a-side.

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2. Mixed or single sex teams, only two boys are allowed on the court at the same time with a maximum of three boys in the squad.
3. GS & GA – their own shooting third, shooting circle and centre third.  
C – all thirds but not in the shooting circles.  
GD & GK – their opponents shooting third, shooting circle and centre third.
4. Normal court markings.
5. 4 X 10 minutes quarters with 2 minute intervals.
6. A size 4 ball must be used.
7. Posts must be a 2.74m (9ft) in height.
8. Players must pass or shoot within 4 seconds.
9. Defending the ball in a player's hand by outstretching the arms is not permitted. One jump to intercept a throw or shot is permitted provided the player is at least 1m away. Arms may only be raised as part of the vertical jump in an attempt to intercept the ball. Jumping up and down in front of a player is not permitted.
10. A shot for goal that rebounds off the post above the ring and into the net is allowed and recorded as a goal.
11. Players rotate after each quarter using the WYJNL Rotation Sheet, which must be completed and used throughout the game and submitted with the scorecard to the appropriate Results Secretary.
12. Minimum of 7 and maximum of 9 players in a squad.
13. Any late arrivals must be named on the rotation sheet and scorecard and must be court side by the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter.
14. If a team has to play with 6 or 5 players it will be played as a friendly. Both scorecards must still be submitted and must clearly state which team is claiming points for breaching rule 12.
15. An injured/ill player during play must be replaced temporarily by the player on the rotation sheet in the SCORER position for rotation 7 and 8 and the SCORER 1 position for rotation 9. At quarter time a decision is made as to whether the injured/ill player is fit to resume her position in the squad. If she is deemed fit, then continue with the current rotation. If not fit to resume her position then a NEW rotation sheet should be completed and followed, i.e.

a rotation of 9 becomes a rotation of 8, a rotation of 8 becomes a rotation of 7. PLAYERS MUST REMAIN IN THE ORIGINAL PLAYING ORDER. In the unlikely event of a 2<sup>nd</sup> injury please replace the injured/ill player with the TIME KEEPER.

16. If during play a squad of 7 is reduced to a squad of 6 due to injury/illness in the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter then this game is recorded as a friendly. If however a squad of 7 is reduced to a squad of 6 in the last quarter than the game is still valid. The injured/ill player will be replaced as rule 15 by the player in the SCORER position.

### ADVISORY NOTES

- 1st aid – **is not provided at** all current WYJNL. **Clubs are responsible for providing their own** qualified first aiders.
- Player welfare (over playing) – the WYJNL Committee recognise that this is a time when children and young people are enthusiastic and receptive to quality playing opportunities, however clubs are urged to monitor players who are potentially playing a high volume of sport.
- Scorecards – the WYJNL Committee advises all teams to ensure that all scorecards are only completed by the team manager/coach. Please ensure that players names are entered in full and are legible
- Procedure for payment of a cancelled or void match. Scorecards to be sent as per rule 15 stating in the comment box any fees/expenses incurred and the reasons for the void match. Result Secretary will inform the Treasurer.
- Age banding – players should only be put forward on a talent/performance level, NOT to solve a fixture problem.
- Approaching Players to change clubs – The WYJNL do not endorse the direct approaching of young players either in or out of season to transfer clubs. It is recognised, however, that there will be on occasions when it is beneficial for a young player to move clubs. The negotiations, preferably between coaches, must be done in an open and transparent way. An approach from a coach, parent or any other adult direct to young player is not considered

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appropriate. It is of course recognised that a young player may choose to join whichever club she wishes. Please refer to rule 4 above for the procedure if a change of club takes place during the season.

### **The WYJNL Committee would like to draw attention to the following codes of conduct:**

#### **Parents/Guardians**

- Encourage your child to respect and play fairly to the rules, regulations and requirement of netball, including, but not limited to, any competitions which they participate either directly or indirectly.
- Encourage your child to respect their Team Manager, coaches and officials and their decisions.
- Discourage unfair play and arguing with officials.
- Help your child to recognise good performance, not just results.
- Never force your child to take part in sport.
- 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.
- Support your child's involvement and help them to enjoy their sport.
- Use correct and proper language at all times.
- Never behave in a manner that would be perceived as offensive or inappropriate.

#### **Club Coaches, Umpires/ Officials and Volunteers**

- Consider the well-being and safety of participants before the development of performance.
- Develop an appropriate working relationship with performers, based on mutual trust and respect.
- 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).
- Display consistently high standards of behaviour and appearance
- Follow all guidelines laid down by the national governing body and the club.
- Hold the appropriate, valid qualifications and insurance cover.
- Never exert undue influence over performers to obtain personal benefit or reward.
- Never condone rule violations, rough play or the use of prohibitive substances.

#### **Players**

- All players must play within the rules and respect officials, coaches and their decisions.
- All players must respect opponents.
- Players should keep to agreed timings for matches or inform their coach or team manager if they are going to be late.
- Players must wear suitable kit for matches, as agreed with the coach/team manager. All Jewellery must be removed before matches and all laces must be tied up.
- Junior players are not allowed to smoke on WYJNL League premises or whilst representing their club at other competitions.
- Junior players are not allowed to consume alcohol or drugs of any kind on the WYJNL League premises or whilst representing the club.