

KATH WORRELL JUNIOR NETBALL LEAGUE

CONSTITUTION & RULES

CONSTITUTION

The league is named in memory of Kath Worrell who passed away in 2014. With Kath's passing Netball lost a great ambassador for the game; her MBE in 2004 is testament to her achievements in driving netball forward at all levels. Kath was tireless in her support of netball through all age groups and communities, as well as being instrumental in the setting up of many new netball projects.

1. The League shall be called "The Kath Worrell Junior League". The Kath Worrell Junior League is a female player only league.
2. The League shall be a satellite of the Watford Netball League (WNL) and its committee. See Watford Netball League Constitution and Rules document. The finances will be separate from the WNL finances.
3. The purpose of the KWJL is to encourage juniors to start playing Netball competitively outside of school and to develop their skills and abilities to be the best they can be, and more importantly enjoy the love of the game.
4. **League Fees**
 - a. **The Registration Fee** per team, per annum, will be in line with the approved amount at the WNL AGM and a non-returnable deposit of £30 will be payable by an agreed date each season. The balance of the Registration Fee must be received no later than date of the start of the season meeting.
 - b. Non-payment of the full amount by the date of the Start of Season meeting will result in a penalty of 4 points per game outstanding and may result in the team not being entered into the league.
5. **End of Season Meeting (known as the ESM)**
 - a. The WNL Chairman shall conduct the ESM, and if not present, then the WNL President.
 - b. The business of the end of season meeting is to:
 - i. Receive the Annual Reports
 - ii. Agree any changes to the Constitution and Rules - outside of the rules/constitution of the Watford Netball League (WNL)
 - iii. Discuss how the season went, what to keep and what to improve upon

KATH WORRELL JUNIOR NETBALL LEAGUE

- a. The ESM shall be held within 3 months following the last match session of the season.

6. Start of Season Meeting

6. **Start of Season Meeting**

- a. The Start of Season Meeting shall be held prior to the first proposed fixture.
- b. Each club/team must have a representative present at the meeting. Failure to do so will result in 4 points being deducted.
- c. The business of the Start of Season Meeting is:
 - i. Confirmation of Entry
 - ii. Payment of balance of Fees
 - iii. Complete the Club/Team Contact Sheet(s) online
 - iv. Complete the Team Player Form, on or before the first fixture.
 - v. Provide a copy of the Club's England Netball Club Roster via email to the league - email address to be advised. This enables the league, via the unique player ID number, to check each player is affiliated for the coming season, and their registration type.
 - vi. Confirm the Club is registered with England Netball for League administration.

7. **Amendments to the Rules**

- a. Alterations to the Constitution and Rules can only be made at an ESM. Any suggested amendments must be sent to the League Secretary **IN WRITING AT LEAST SIX (6) WEEKS BEFORE THE MEETING** where they will be discussed, and a decision made.

8. **Netball Playing Rules**

- a. Games will be played in adherence to the current rules and directives of All England Netball Association (England Netball) and the Hertfordshire County Netball Association (Hertfordshire Netball), except as in RULE 12 - Scoring, when applicable. All teams must abide by the Constitution and the Rules herein. There may be occasions due to special circumstances where the committee feel it is beneficial to the league to not adhere to a particular rule and or guidance, for example see RULE 12.

9. **Discipline**

- a. The Kath Worrell Junior League endorses the England Netball Code of Conduct/Disciplinary Policy:
<https://www.englandnetball.co.uk/governance/performance-policies/code-of-conduct-2/>
- b. Extracts for reference of the Code of Conduct for players, officials and coaches are on the WNL website - <https://www.watfordnl.co.uk/kath-worrell-junior-league.html>

10. **Duty of Care**

- a. The League accepts the principles and core values of the England Netball Duty of Care

KATH WORRELL JUNIOR NETBALL LEAGUE

guidelines: www.englandnetball.co.uk/make-the-game/safeguarding.

11. **Dissolution of the League**

- a. In the event of the dissolution of the League, all monies shall go to Watford Netball League.

12. **Equity Policy Statement**

a) This League is committed to ensuring equity is incorporated across all aspects of its development. In doing so it acknowledges and adopts the following Sport England definition of sports equity:

- (a) Sports equity is about fairness in sport, equality of access, recognizing inequalities and taking steps to address them. It is about changing the culture and structure of sport to ensure it becomes equally accessible to everyone in society.
- (b) The League respects the rights, dignity and worth of every person and will treat everyone equally within the context of their sport, regardless of age, ability, gender, race, ethnicity, religious belief, sexuality, or social/economic status.
- b) The League is committed to everyone having the right to enjoy their sport in an environment free from threat of intimidation, harassment, and abuse.
- c) All League members have a responsibility to oppose discriminatory behaviour and promote equality of opportunity.
- d) The Watford Netball League Officers will deal with any incidence of discriminatory behavior.

13. Child Welfare

Any decisions/judgments made will always be made with the aim to promote the welfare of the children playing and to support them in transitioning to an adult netball environment should they wish to do so once eligible. It is the responsibility of all Team Managers as well as the League Officers to uphold this aim.

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12-09-21

KATH WORRELL JUNIOR NETBALL LEAGUE

RULES

Facilities for play

Matches will take place at a central venue on hard courts booked by the WNL League.

Application for next season

League Registration forms must be returned with the appropriate non-returnable deposit by the date specified on the form issued at the ESM. New teams wishing to enter the league must complete a registration form with the appropriate non-returnable deposit within one week later than the date specified. All forms can be found on the WNL league's website. <https://www.watfordnl.co.uk>

Divisions

The number of teams entering the league will dictate the number of teams in a division and the divisions with appropriate age segregation. The Officers will make every attempt to provide a full schedule for all teams and have the discretion to reject applications if the need arises.

Teams

Clubs may enter 1 or more teams; on the condition no players play down into a team of a lower age group. Teams infringing this rule will be penalised by two (2) points per player every time it occurs. A club with more than 1 team in a category must specify 1st, 2nd, and subsequent teams. Teams infringing this rule will be penalised by two (2) points per player every time it occurs.

Playing up. Players may play up into the next higher age group providing it does not breach England Netball safeguarding guidance. Players may play up into the next standard team or higher age group for up to 12 quarters only in the season. In their 13th quarter that player is then deemed a member of the next higher team and may no longer play down into the lower team. Infringement of this rule will be penalised by a two (2) point deduction per player every time it occurs.

If the Club has more than two teams in the KWJL this rule will apply to each team individually.

All teams must complete the Team Player Form prior to their first match. The Club's **England Netball Roster** sourced via **Engage** must be emailed to the Fixture Secretary prior to the Start of Season or on the first fixture of the season. Failure to do so will result in a four (4) point deduction per team for each fixture it is not submitted. For new players after the first fixture a player form must be completed and submitted before they play their first match. Failure to do so will result in a four (4) point deduction per team for each fixture it is not submitted.

All teams must PRINT **the full name of all players on** the back of the scorecard for each game and indicate when a player has `played up` and for how many quarters. If a player has played up and there is no information on how many quarters have been played, then the player will be deemed as having played 4 quarters. A penalty of two (2) points per player will be deducted if their name is not

KATH WORRELL JUNIOR NETBALL LEAGUE

on the back of the scorecard. This will occur even if the team involved lost the game.

Any unaffiliated player (see 5 below) will be penalised four (4) points per player.

5. Players

Players must be registered to the Kath Worrell Junior League (see 4(d)) and have full England Netball Club affiliation as required by England Netball for club league competition.

Players can only be registered to one Kath Worrell Junior league club, except in (a) below.

(a) A player may change clubs within the League once only in any one season providing:

They have agreement of both clubs.

They notify the League in writing two (2) clear days before playing for their new club.

They re-register with their new club.

Two (2) clear League matches elapse between club appearances.

This may not happen for the last three (3) League fixtures of the season.

In the case of injury, illness, or pregnancy, if a player has not played for 3 consecutive matches she may, on production of a medical certificate, play for a team of the same club in a lower division providing it meets England Netball safeguarding guidance. Cancelled matches are not included in this calculation. The League Secretary must be notified in writing 7 days beforehand.

- (b) The KWJL is a development league for junior players. Players registered in a Satellite Academy, County Academy, County squad or any other higher league, are not eligible to play in the League.

Any infringement of the rules in section 5 (a) or (b) will incur a deduction of two (2) points per player for the offending team every time it occurs.

- (c) **New players** after the first fixture must submit their name on the Player registration form before the start of their first game. Failure to do so will result in four (4) point deduction per player for each fixture that it is not submitted.

All players must have full England Netball Club affiliation before they play their first match.

6. Promotion and demotion (if applicable)

The bottom 2 teams in the higher division will change with the top 2 teams in the next lower division. In the event of teams withdrawing their place will be automatically filled in the next season by the teams moving up to maintain the required minimum.

The League Officers reserve the right to alter the two up two down if necessary. In the event of a tie for promotion and demotion places it will be decided by goal difference. If still a tie it will be decided by goal average. Cancelled games will not count in the goal average.

KATH WORRELL JUNIOR NETBALL LEAGUE

8. Umpires

All umpires must be affiliated to England Netball and have completed as a minimum the Into Officiating Award (IOA) course. They must, on request provide their attendance/qualification certificate. For junior umpires they must umpire age-appropriate games. See England Netball website for guidance.

9. Provision of Umpires

No match can take place without 2 umpiring officials - see Rule 10 - and both must be either a qualified umpire or umpire who holds a current Into Officiating Award (IOA). Each team **MUST** provide one non-playing umpire for each match. If the team cannot supply an umpire, the game is **FORFEITED**, and the other team records a **WIN**. The game can then be played as a friendly and the scorecard marked accordingly.

If the umpire arrives late, the game is still **FORFEITED** if it has started as a friendly.

10. Qualified umpires

Teams of all divisions must provide a qualified (IOA & above) umpire for their game. Their Certificate should be available for inspection at all matches, along with the umpire's current affiliation number.

Regarding under 18s umpiring games please see England netball's recommendations which the league follows.

<https://www.Englandnetball.co.uk/search/?search=age+limits+for+umpires>

If a team takes the court without an appropriate umpiring official, then the game must be forfeited.

Should a team complete a fixture with an umpire who defaults on the above rule they will have four (4) points deducted as well as forfeiting the game.

11. Start of play

All games must start at the appointed time. All matches are started and stopped by the umpires. However, all games must be finished 10 minutes before the next game is due to start.

Once a team and an umpire are on court, timing for the first quarter will commence at the appointed time. No team may start with less than 5 players and an appropriate umpire – see Rules 9 and 10. If a team is late on court, the team present will then be credited with 1 goal for every complete minute their opponents are late on court. If the opponents have not arrived by the end of the first quarter, they will forfeit the match, with 1 point deducted, if some players have arrived. Otherwise, it will be deemed a cancelled fixture and a six-point penalty will apply. This match will not count when calculating either team's goal difference or

KATH WORRELL JUNIOR NETBALL LEAGUE

defence record. The umpires will note the result on the scorecard.

If after 15 minutes, a team has less than 5 players and an umpire, they will forfeit the game, but have right of appeal to the League Officers regarding the 1-point deduction if it is due to unforeseen circumstances. This appeal must be recorded by the umpires on the scorecard.

12. Scoring

4 points for a win; 2 for a draw; 1 to the losing team if the winning team's score is not more than 5 goals above that of the losing team.

There will be 1 point for each quarter one won. There will be no points added if the quarter ends in a draw.

At the season end, in the event of a draw on points, the result for League positions will be decided on goal difference. If still a draw, then goal average will be used.

To ensure there is a reasonable level playing field if a team is ahead in a game by more than 12 goals at the end of a quarter the players must rotate their positions:

GS moves to WA

GA moves to GK

WA moves to WD

C moves to GD

WD moves to GK

GD moves to GS

GK moves to GA

The only exception to this is if a player has a disability (permanent or temporary) which would make moving to a different position dangerous for the player or other players. Umpires will be the decider and both umpires must agree for the rule **not to be** enforced.

Any decision made will be in the best interest of avoiding injury and promoting child welfare. Once the rotation has taken place if the gap closes to 5 or less goals players may be moved back to their normal playing positions at the end of the quarter.

13. Notification of results

It is the **team's responsibility** to ensure the scorecard is correct and:

It shows the correct result,

All Players have **PRINTED** their full names and any players playing up are indicated, including the number of quarters played.

Umpires have **PRINTED** and signed their names and stated their qualification level.

If **less than 7 players** take to the court for the duration of a whole game, it should be marked on the Score Card so points for non-signature are not deducted,

The results should be uploaded to the KWJL results form for the appropriate division. The front and

KATH WORRELL JUNIOR NETBALL LEAGUE

back of the scorecard should be photographed and uploaded too. This must be done on the same day of the match.

Any team failing to post their scorecard and the photographs will be penalised with a two (2) point deduction regardless of the result.

14. Postponement and Cancellation of matches

Postponements are allowed for:

Extreme weather conditions, in which case the League Secretary will attempt to contact each club secretary, or team captain. If in doubt they can contact the League Secretary.

The KWJL Officers will consider **requests for postponement** of matches in writing to the League Secretary, 4 weeks in advance, and before the last fixture. If a postponement is agreed the game should be re-arranged with the agreement of both teams, and played 4 weeks either side of the fixture, and the postponing team will be responsible for arranging the venue and cost.

If any team, for any reason, should **cancel** 3 or more fixtures throughout the season the Officers of the League will review their application for the following season.

Cancelled matches will incur a penalty of 4 points to the cancelling team if it cannot be replayed in option B above. The cancellation must occur before 9 pm on the Friday prior to the Sunday match. Any cancellation or failure to turn up after this time will incur a penalty of 6 points in total.

In the event a fixture is cancelled on the original fixture date by one of the teams in accordance with rule 14(d) above and the fixture is subsequently cancelled by the League, this cancellation will stand, and the appropriate penalties applied. The game will not be replayed at a future date.

In the event a game is cancelled by a team, the non-offending team will be awarded 20 goals. The award of goals in games that do not take place will only be used to calculate best defense and best attack.

15. Spectators

All spectators must stand outside of the court perimeter fence. All dogs must be on a lead and remain on the pathways and no dogs are allowed onto the courts under any

circumstance. Team managers (are these regarded as Bench Officials, in which case they should remain on the bench rather than wander around each quarter. Just a thought) can remain on the court edge during play and must remain in one position during the quarters.

16. Photography & Video Recordings

No photography or video recording of matches is allowed. An individual child can be photographed by a parent /guardian of that child but not whilst the game is in progress and can only include other children if their parents/guardians have given permission.

17. Complaints

The Officers of the league are empowered to deal with any complaint arising on match days as they see fit. All those taking part in match days, including but not limited to players, spectators, team mangers, bench official and umpires are encouraged to make every effort to resolve complaints and disputes on the day with the parties concerned. If this is not possible

KATH WORRELL JUNIOR NETBALL LEAGUE

then with a league official if one is available.

Notice of any unresolved complaints or dispute should be sent in writing to the League Secretary when an Officers meeting may be called.

18. Appeals

Appeals must be made in writing, signed by a Club official, to the League Secretary. Full details of the reasons for the appeal must be included and the President of the League will review the appeal.

Date Revised: 12/09/21

Summary of Penalties

NOTE: Penalties are applied AFTER any match result has been recorded.

Constitution Description	Offenders Penalty
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Constitution Description	Offenders Penalty
2. Non-payment of court fees, in part or full (this should be number 4)	- 4 points per game while fees are outstanding
5. No representation at ESM	- 4 points
6. No representation at Start of Season meeting	- 4 points
Rule Description	Offenders Penalty
4. Teams	
(a) Playing down into a lower standard or age group	- 2 points per player on that game
(b) Failure to stay up on 4 th occasion	- 2 points per player on that game
(d) Failure to submit full names on Team registration form	- 4 points per team per game
(e) Missing printed full name on score card	- 2 points per player on that game
(f) Unaffiliated player	- 4 points per player on that game

KATH WORRELL JUNIOR NETBALL LEAGUE

5. Players	
(a) (i) Lack of agreement of both clubs	
(a) (ii) Failure to notify KWJL in writing 2 clear days prior to playing for new club	
(a) (iii) Failure to re-register with new club	
(a) (iv) Failure to allow 2 clear WNL matches between club appearances	- 2 points on that game for any of these infringements 5(a) and 5 (b)
(a) (v) Playing for new club in the last 3 WNL fixtures	
(a) (vi) Failure to produce a medical certificate, and/or failure to notify League Secretary in writing 7 days beforehand	
(b) Satellite Academy, County Academy, County Squad, or higher league player except in 5 (f)	
(c) New players - Failure to submit name and signature	- 4 points per player on each game
10. Inappropriate umpire	- 4 points if game completed and game forfeited or forfeit game if can't be played
11. Late on court	1 goal awarded to team on court for every minute up to a maximum of 15 goals -1 point if match is not played after 15 minutes
13. Notification of results	
(b) Lack of PRINTED players names	
(c) Lack of PRINTED and SIGNED umpire names	
(e) Not received on the day of fixture	- 2 points for any of these infringements
14 (d) Cancelled match (not postponed) or failure to turn up	- 4 points if game cancelled BEFORE 9 PM Friday before fixture - 6 points if after 9 PM on Friday before fixture - 20 goals to non-offending team (goals awarded here will only be used to calculate best defense and best attack)

