



**NW**  
NORTH WEST

# **REGIONAL RULES & REGULATIONS**

2025 - 2026

<b>GOVERNANCE</b>	3
<b>THE REGIONAL LEAGUE COMPETITIONS</b>	6
<b>PARTICIPANTS</b>	10
<b>TRANSFERS</b>	16
<b>FIXTURES</b>	19
<b>FACILITIES</b>	29
<b>MATCH OFFICIALS</b>	31
<b>MEDICAL MATTERS</b>	38
<b>DISCIPLINE AND DISPUTES</b>	39
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>	50
 <b>APPENDIX</b>	
<b>1. GAME DAY SCHEDULE</b>	51
<b>2. GAME DAY DELEGATE ROLE DESCRIPTION</b>	52
<b>3. MATCH FEES AND EXPENSES</b>	53
<b>4. ZONE DEFENCE &amp; FULL COURT</b>	54
<b>PRESS BREACH SANCTION</b>	
<b>5. ALL MUST PLAY RULE</b>	55

## 1 APPLICABILITY OF REGULATIONS

- 1.1** These regulations apply to all Basketball North West Regional League Competitions unless a specific exception is stated.

## 2 BASKETBALL ENGLAND RULES & MEMBERSHIP

- 2.1** Before applying for membership with Basketball England, please visit [www.basketballengland.co.uk](http://www.basketballengland.co.uk) to access key documents, including:

- 2.1.1 The Code of Ethics & Conduct
- 2.1.2 Other official policies and procedures

- 2.2** These documents—collectively referred to as the Basketball Rules—cover important topics such as:

- 2.2.1 Anti-doping
- 2.2.2 Safeguarding
- 2.2.3 Whistleblowing
- 2.2.4 Social inclusion

- 2.3** By becoming a member, you and your club committee agree to:

- 2.3.1 Comply with the Basketball Rules
- 2.3.2 Ensure all individual club members also comply when participating in basketball activities

## 3. OVERSIGHT OF REGIONAL LEAGUE COMPETITIONS

- 3.1** Basketball North West has delegated responsibility for managing the Regional League Competitions to the Competitions Review Panel. Final accountability for the panel's decisions lies with the Basketball North West Manager.

## 4. CLUBS BASED OUTSIDE ENGLAND

- 4.1** If a club's regular home venue is located outside of England, it must be affiliated with:

- 4.1.1 Basketball England
- 4.1.2 The official basketball governing body of the country where its home venue is based

## 5 CLUB REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

**5.1** Every club must register with Basketball England either:

- 5.1.1 The name of the company or legal entity that oversees the club's operations, or
- 5.1.2 The names of at least three individuals who are responsible for managing the club

## 6 CLUB SECRETARY & DIRECTOR RESPONSIBILITIES

**6.1** The name of the Club Secretary must be registered with Basketball England.

**6.2** Any action taken by the Club Secretary is considered to have the full authority of the club, unless formally overturned by a majority decision from the club's Directors.

**6.3** The club is also responsible for the actions of its Directors in relation to basketball matters. This includes (but isn't limited to):

- 6.3.1 Public statements
- 6.3.2 Letters to the media
- 6.3.3 Approaches to players who are licensed with other clubs

## 7 CLUB COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL

**7.1** All communication between a club or team and Basketball North West must go through the Club or Team Secretary, unless a different contact has been officially nominated.

**7.2** The club must inform Basketball North West in writing of any permanent or temporary change to the Club Secretary.

## 8 CLUB WELFARE OFFICER REQUIREMENTS

**8.1** Every club in the Regional League Competitions must appoint a Club Welfare Officer (CWO).

**8.2** The CWO's details must be registered with Basketball North West.

**8.3** CWOs must:

- 8.3.1 Hold current safeguarding training at Level 2 or higher
- 8.3.2 Maintain a valid enhanced DBS check (renewed every 3 years) and submit it to Basketball England

- 8.4** The CWO—or a suitable deputy—must attend the Basketball North West Conference each year for support and training.

## **9 CLUB COMMITMENT TO THE SPORT**

Every club in the Regional League Competitions must actively promote, present, and develop basketball to the best of its ability. This should be done at a standard that meets the expectations of Basketball England and/or Basketball North West.

## **10 TEAM NAMING GUIDELINES**

- 10.1** All team names must be approved by Basketball North West.
- 10.2** Each team name must include a specific geographical location that reflects where the team or venue is based.
- 10.3** A nickname may also be added (e.g. Rockets, Magic).
- 10.4** Any sponsor name included in the team name must also be approved by Basketball North West.
- 10.5** The approved location, nickname, and sponsor will be used in official Basketball North West schedules.
- 10.6** If a club has multiple teams in the same age group, those teams must be distinguished by colour, not by number (e.g. Rockets Red, Rockets Black).

## **11 CLUB LIABILITY & INDEMNITY**

- 11.1** Each club agrees to protect (indemnify) Basketball North West and/or Basketball England—including their members, officers, staff, and contractors—against any costs, losses, or claims that may arise from the club failing to follow these regulations.
- 11.2** This includes (but isn't limited to):
- 11.2.1 Financial losses (e.g. loss of income or profit)
  - 11.2.1 Legal or professional fees
  - 11.2.1 Claims made by third parties
- 11.3** The club remains responsible whether the breach was intentional, accidental, or due to negligence—and even if the consequences weren't foreseeable at the time the club agreed to follow these regulations.

## 12 TEAM SELECTION & APPEALS

**12.1** Basketball North West has the sole authority to decide:

- 12.1.1 Which clubs or teams are accepted into the Regional League Competitions
- 12.1.2 Which Division or Conference each team will compete in
- 12.1.3 Which teams are selected for other events organised by Basketball North West

**12.2** Clubs or teams may appeal decisions made by Basketball North West under these rules and regulations—but only if the appeal follows the process outlined.

**12.3** All appeals related to team selection will be reviewed by an Appeals Panel.

## 13 ENTRANCE & AFFILIATION FEES

**13.1** Clubs must pay a deposit when applying to enter the Regional League Competitions.

**13.2** Full payment must be received before 1st September—otherwise, the club's acceptance may be withdrawn.

**13.3** If a club withdraws its entry, the deposit is automatically forfeited.

**13.4** If withdrawal happens before 1st September, the remaining entry fee (minus the deposit) will be refunded.

**13.5** If withdrawal happens on or after 1st September, Basketball North West may retain the full entry fee.

**13.6** If a club's application is declined, the full entry fee will be refunded.

**13.7** All clubs must also pay an annual Club Affiliation Fee to Basketball England, which must be received no later than 1st September before the season begins.

## 14 GAME ATTENDANCE BY OFFICIALS

**14.1** Basketball North West has the right to send an official representative to any game played at any club venue within the Regional League Competitions.

## 15 LEAGUE RANKINGS & MATCH OUTCOMES

**15.1** Basketball North West has the right to send an official representative to any game played at any club venue within the Regional League Competitions.

**15.2** 0 points are awarded for matches lost by default or forfeit.

**15.3** In these cases, Basketball North West may also deduct additional points if deemed appropriate.

**15.4** Matches voided due to force majeure (e.g. extreme circumstances) will be recorded as 0–0, with no league points awarded to either team.

## **16 TEAM CLASSIFICATION & RANKINGS**

**16.1** If two or more teams finish with the same number of league points, their rankings will be decided using the following steps:

16.1.1 Head-to-head results between the tied teams

16.1.2 If still tied, apply these criteria in order until teams can be separated:

16.1.2.1 Higher goal difference in head-to-head games

16.1.2.2 Higher total points scored in head-to-head games

16.1.2.3 Higher goal difference across all league games

16.1.2.4 Higher total points scored across all league games

16.1.3 If some teams are separated at any stage, the process restarts for the remaining tied teams.

16.1.4 If teams still cannot be separated, a random draw will determine final positions.

16.1.5 If more than two teams are tied and an alternative format (approved before the season) results in an uneven number of games played between them:

16.1.5.1 Rankings will be based only on the results between the tied teams

16.1.5.2 Win percentage will be used instead of total league points

16.1.6 When teams need to be ranked across different divisions, the following method applies:

16.1.6.1 League position

16.1.6.2 Win percentage

16.1.6.3 Points difference per game

16.1.6.4 Total points scored per game

16.1.7 If divisions have played an uneven number of games:

16.1.7.1 Matches involving the lowest-ranked teams in each division will be nullified until all divisions have played the same number of games

16.1.8 This adjustment is for cross-group ranking only and does not affect the original league standings

## 17 PLAYOFFS

**17.1** Playoff matches will usually be played as single-leg games on the home court of one of the competing teams.

**17.2** Basketball North West may decide on an alternative format—such as a Final Four Tournament.

**17.3** Basketball North West will publish the playoff format by 31st January of the season.

## 18 LEAGUE TROPHIES

**18.1** All trophies awarded to league winners remain the property of Basketball North West.

**18.2** Once the winning clubs are confirmed, Basketball North West will present the appropriate trophy to each club.

**18.3** The club is responsible for returning the trophy by 1st September of the following season, in good condition.

**18.4** If the trophy is not returned by this date, Basketball North West may collect it at the club's expense.

**18.5** Basketball North West retains possession of all trophies outside of the award period.

## 19 TROPHY CARE

**19.1** If a trophy is damaged while in a club's care, the club must pay Basketball North West either:

19.1.1 The value of the trophy at the time of damage, or

19.1.2 The full cost of repair [Decision made at Basketball North West's discretion]

**19.2** If a trophy is lost, destroyed, or damaged beyond repair, the club may be required to pay:

19.2.1 The current value of the trophy, and

19.2.2 Any additional penalties imposed by Basketball North West.



## 20 MEMENTOES

- 20.1** A maximum of 18 individual mementoes will be awarded to teams that finish first place in their league.
- 20.2** Mementoes will also be presented to players and coaches who participate in the Playoff Finals.
- 20.3** If a player or coach is disqualified for misconduct, Basketball North West may withhold their memento at its discretion.

## 21 PLAY OFF FINALS

- 21.1** Basketball North West will organise and promote the League Play-off Finals as appropriate.
- 21.2** A Technical Commission, nominated by Basketball North West, will oversee:
  - 21.2.1 Disciplinary matters
  - 21.2.2 Other match-related decisions as needed
- 21.3** Play-off Finals will be held at a neutral venue, unless Basketball North West decides otherwise.
- 21.4** Mementoes will normally be presented to players and coaches who participate in the Finals.
- 21.5** If a player or coach is disqualified during any part of the Final, Basketball North West may withhold their memento at its discretion.

## 22 INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP & LICENSING

- 22.1** All participants in the Regional League Competitions must be registered as individual members with Basketball England.
- 22.2** Player licensing must be completed at the Local League level via Play HQ.
- 22.3** Players must not license at the National League level, as this will make them ineligible to compete in the Regional League under these rules and regulations.

## 23 COACHING & BENCH PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS

- 23.1** All coaches must hold at least the Basketball England Introduction to Coaching Basketball Award.
- 23.2** Every coach must be accompanied by a licensed Bench Personnel who is at least 18 years old. This is a safeguarding requirement to ensure players are properly supervised—especially in situations where a coach's full attention may be needed (e.g. player injury).
- 23.3** For mixed or female teams, a female licensed Bench Personnel aged 18 or over must be:
  - 23.3.1 Present at least 30 minutes before the game
  - 23.3.2 Seated on the bench during the game
  - 23.3.3 Available after the game

## 24 PLAYER LICENSING & ELIGIBILITY

- 24.1** A player may not hold a valid license to represent more than one team in the same Regional League Competition.
- 24.2** Players can play for multiple teams only if those teams are in different age groups or competition brackets within the Regional League.
- 24.3** Under no circumstances may a player represent two teams in the same conference, even if they belong to different clubs within the same Conference.

## 25 NATIONAL LEAGUE RESTRICTIONS

- 25.1** Players who hold a National League License are not eligible to play in any Regional League Competition.
- 25.2** The only exception applies to U12 players whose club:
  - 25.2.1 Does not have a team in the relevant U14 Regional League category, but
  - 25.2.2 Does have a team in the U14 National League Conference
- 25.4** For clarity: Any player competing in the National League U14 Boys Premier Division is not permitted to play in the Regional League under any circumstances.

## 26 LICENSING EXCEPTIONS

- 26.1** Any licensing exceptions or special cases will be handled individually.
- 26.2** Clubs should complete the Basketball North West exemption form.

## 27 COACHING & SAFEGUARDING REQUIREMENTS

- 27.1** A coach cannot be licensed for two clubs that compete in the same league or competition at the same time.
- 27.2** Anyone involved in regulated activity with children—including Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Bench Personnel, Physios, and Team Managers—must have:
  - 27.2.1 A clear, enhanced DBS certificate valid for three years
  - 27.2.2 Any unclear DBS results will be risk assessed individually by Basketball England
  - 27.2.3 Approved Basketball England safeguarding training

## 28 APPLICATION PROCESS

- 28.1** All license applications must be submitted via Play HQ.
- 28.2** Applications can be submitted at any time.
- 28.3** Payment must be made before any license is approved.
- 28.4** Basketball England will usually process complete applications within seven business days.

## 29 TRANSFERS

- 29.1** Any completed transfer request must be made via Play HQ.
- 29.2** For players under 18, the request must be made by a parent or guardian
- 29.3** The current club must confirm the transfer within 7 days
- 29.4** If the club fails to respond within 7 days, the transfer will proceed automatically
- 29.5** Once approved, licenses are issued from the date of approval and are available as digital licenses via Play HQ.
- 29.6** Licenses are only approved and issued on business days, between 9:00am and 5:00pm.

## 30 ELIGIBILITY & CONDITIONS

- 30.1** Once a license is approved, the participant becomes eligible to compete in the Regional League Competitions.
- 30.2** By obtaining a license, the participant:
  - 30.2.1 Accepts the authority and jurisdiction of Basketball England
  - 30.2.2 Agrees to follow all rules, regulations, and the Code of Ethics and Conduct

## 31 LICENSING DECISIONS & ENFORCEMENT

- 31.1** Basketball England may decline, cancel, or suspend a license at its sole discretion.
- 31.2** Failure to meet any licensing conditions will make a participant ineligible to represent their club.
- 31.3** If a team fields an ineligible participant
  - 31.3.1 The game will be awarded 20–0 to the opposing team
  - 31.3.2 The coach will face disciplinary action under the Basketball England Discipline Code
  - 31.3.3 A fine may be applied in accordance with these rules and regulations.

## 32 VALIDITY OF LICENSES

- 32.1** Before the season begins, clubs should submit license applications via Play HQ.
- 32.2** Individuals may be licensed at any time during the season, up to the final game of the regular season.
- 32.3** Intra-club transfers (between teams within the same club) are allowed up to seven days before the end of the regular season for the team the player is transferring to.
- 32.4** A person is not eligible to represent a club until their application has been approved by Basketball North West.
- 32.5** Simply submitting an application does not guarantee eligibility.
- 32.6** To be valid, a license must be issued and endorsed for the specific season, club, and team.
- 32.7** When calculating deadlines, the European Convention on the Calculation of Deadlines applies:
- 32.8** If a deadline falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or public holiday, it is extended to the next working day, unless stated otherwise.

## 33 PROOF OF VALID LICENSE

- 33.1** Before each match, clubs must present evidence of valid licenses confirming that:
  - 33.1.1 All players are fully licensed with Basketball England
  - 33.1.2 All coaches and bench personnel are also properly licensed and available for inspection
- 33.2** Before each match, all officials must be prepared to present evidence of their license if requested by either of the teams involved.

## 34 LICENSING NON-COMPLIANCE & MATCH ELIGIBILITY

- 34.1** Failure to comply with these rules and regulations may result in:
  - 34.1.1 A fine, and/or
  - 34.1.2 Forfeiture of the match, as determined by the Competitions Review Panel
- 34.2** For events organised by Basketball North West, the Technical Commission will decide whether a person is eligible to participate.

## 35 LICENSE PRESENTATION & MATCH PARTICIPATION

- 35.1** If a valid license is not produced for a player, coach, or bench personnel, that individual cannot participate in the match.
- 35.2** A valid license card may be viewed in the HoopsHQ App.
- 35.3** If a player is declared to be arriving after tip-off but fails to arrive during the match, the Table Officials must remove their name from the team line up.

## 36 LICENSE REVIEW & DISPUTES

- 36.1** The Crew Chief must review license cards in HoopsHQ and accept them as proof of eligibility for participation.
- 36.2** If a team challenges the validity of any license, the issue must be reported to Basketball North West within 24 hours of the fixture.

## 37 AGE ELIGIBILITY FOR ALL LEAGUES

- 37.1** Player ages are calculated as of 1st September each season.
- 37.2** Minimum age requirements by age group:
  - 37.1.1 Under 12: Players must be turning 10 years old on or after 1st September of the academic year.
  - 37.1.2 Under 14: Players must be turning 11 years old on or after 1st September of the academic year.
  - 37.1.3 Under 16: Players must be turning 13 years old on or after 1st September of the academic year.
  - 37.1.4 Under 18: Players must be turning 15 years old on or after 1st September of the academic year.

## 38 LICENSING EXEMPTIONS

- 38.1** A club representative may apply for a licensing exemption on behalf of a player.
- 38.2** All exemption requests must be submitted via the correct form to Basketball North West

## 39 MINIMUM TEAM REQUIREMENTS

- 39.1** Each team must field a minimum of 8 players for the full duration of the season.
- 39.2** Every team must also have a designated head coach assigned to that age group for the entire season.

## 40 DEFENSIVE RULES (SEE APPENDIX 4)

- 40.1** For U18 Men & U19 Women, Zone or combination defences are permitted in Quarters 1 and 3.
- 40.2** For U18 Men & U19 Women man-to-man defence may be used throughout the game but is mandatory in Quarters 2 and 4.
- 40.3** For all other age groups Man-to-man is always mandatory.
- 40.4** No full court press after a team is up by 20 points or more.

## 41 ALL MUST PLAY (SEE APPENDIX 5)

- 41.1** The All Must Play rule is to create a more competitive playing environment and to encourage all players to participate during a fixture across the age groups.
- 41.2** This applies to:
  - 41.2.1 Under 11
  - 41.2.2 Under 12
  - 41.2.3 Under 14

## 42 COACH DISQUALIFICATION PROTOCOL

- 42.1** If a coach is disqualified during a game and there is no qualified, licensed assistant coach listed on the scoresheet:
  - 42.1.1 The game will be stopped immediately
  - 42.1.2 The team without a suitable replacement will lose the game by default
  - 42.1.3 If the non-offending team is ahead at the time of stoppage, the score will stand

- 42.2** If the non-offending team is not ahead, the result will be recorded as a 20–0 win in their favour

## 43 SPECTATOR NOISE CONTROL

- 43.1** Air horns, vuvuzelas, and whistles are not permitted at Basketball North West games, in line with FIBA regulations.
- 43.2** The Crew Chief has the authority to stop the game and instruct the game day delegate or home team to remove any prohibited items from the venue.

## **44 MID-SEASON TRANSFERS – PLAYERS & COACHES**

**44.1** A mid-season transfer of a player or coach between clubs is not normally permitted unless:

44.1.1 The individual, the transferring club, and the receiving club all consent to the transfer and its terms.

## **45 TRANSFER PROCESS**

**45.1** To refuse a transfer, the current club must decline the release request via Play HQ within seven days of the individual submitting it.

**45.2** The club must provide a reason for the decline in an email to [phil.cain@basketballnorthwest.org.uk](mailto:phil.cain@basketballnorthwest.org.uk)

**45.3** The transfer will then be placed on hold.

## **46 DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

**46.1** If the parties cannot reach agreement, the matter will be reviewed by the Basketball North West Manager.

**46.2** Their decision will be final and binding on all parties.

## **47 TRANSFER REQUESTS – PLAYERS & COACHES**

**47.1** If a player or coach wishes to transfer their license during the season, they must:

47.1.1 Submit the request in writing to their current club

47.1.2 Submit a release request via Play HQ

**47.2** If the individual is not under contract with the club:

47.2.1 The club must comply with the request within seven days

47.2.2 The club must also confirm the release via Play HQ.

**47.3** The transferring club must acknowledge the request within seven days.

**47.4** If the club does not respond by day 8, the player or coach will be automatically released.

**47.5** The individual will then be eligible to join a new club and purchase a new license for their new team.



## 48 TRANSFER COMPLETION & ELIGIBILITY

**48.1** A player or coach becomes eligible to represent the new club only after:

48.1.1 Play HQ has approved the transfer, and

48.1.2 Before all required documents have been received and approved by Basketball England

**48.2** Any issues with the transfer will be communicated to the clubs via email from Basketball North West and/or Basketball England.

**48.3** It is the responsibility of both the transferring and receiving clubs to confirm that the transfer has been successfully completed.

**48.4** Once approved, the player or coach and the new club must register for a new license to compete in the Regional League Competition.

## 49 INTRA-CLUB TRANSFERS & RESTRICTIONS

**49.1** All intra-club transfers must be notified and approved via email to: [phil.cain@basketballnorthwest.org.uk](mailto:phil.cain@basketballnorthwest.org.uk)

## 50 INTRA-CLUB TRANSFER GUIDELINES

**50.1** Intra-club transfers are typically permitted if:

50.1.1 Each team maintains a minimum of 8 players, and

50.1.2 Teams do not rely on the same players to fulfil fixtures across both squads

## 51 INTRA-CLUB TIMING & LIMITATIONS

**51.1** Transfers between teams within a club must be completed at least 7 days before the end of the regular season for the team the player is transferring to.

**51.2** Intra-club transfers are not permitted on Saturdays or Sundays

**51.3** Intra-club transfer requests made solely to consolidate top players into one team just before playoffs will be declined

## 52 POACHING & CLUB LOYALTY

**52.1** While a person holds a valid license, no representative of another club may approach them with the intent to induce a transfer, unless:

52.1.1 Written permission has been granted by a duly authorised representative of the club the individual is currently licensed to.

**52.2** Any breach of this rule will be treated as misconduct by Basketball England and may result in disciplinary action under the Basketball England Disciplinary Code.

## 53 FIXTURE ARRANGEMENT & COMPETITION FORMAT

- 53.1** In all divisions, clubs must play each other in a scheduled number of home and away matches to determine the League champions.

## 54 COMPETITION STRUCTURE

- 54.1** For all age groups, except for Under 11s:

- 54.1.1 Teams will be split into divisions and/or conferences
- 54.1.2 Each team plays home and away fixtures
- 54.1.3 The division or conference winner is crowned champion
- 54.1.4 The season culminates in end-of-season playoffs

## 55 ALTERNATIVE FORMATS

- 55.1** In leagues, divisions, or conferences with small numbers of teams [e.g. four]. Teams may agree on an alternative format.

## 56 MATCH SCHEDULING

- 56.1** Matches will normally be played on Saturdays or Sundays.

- 56.2** Games may be scheduled on alternative days only if:

- 56.2.1 Basketball North West stipulates the change, or
- 56.2.2 There is mutual agreement between clubs, and the date is formally approved

- 56.3** Such exceptions will be considered only in exceptional circumstances

## 57 MATCH TIP-OFF TIMES

- 57.1** All matches must take place within the following standard time windows, unless special authorisation is granted by Basketball North West:

- 57.1.1 Saturday: 10:00 – 18:00
- 57.1.2 Sunday: 11:00 – 17:00
- 57.1.3 Weekdays: By mutual agreement between both teams

- 57.2** Tip-off times outside these windows must be mutually agreed by both teams and approved where necessary.

**57.3** In the case of triple header matches, earlier start times may be applied to accommodate the full schedule.

## **58 FIXTURE CONFIRMATION PROTOCOL**

**58.1** The home team must re-confirm all fixture details listed in the Game Day Schedule [Appendix 1] with the away team at least two weeks before the match.

**58.2** The away team must acknowledge the confirmation.

**58.3** If confirmation is not received within two weeks, the fixture will still go ahead.

**58.4** Any postponement must be mutually agreed in line with these rules and regulations.

## **59 LATE CONFIRMATION & LIABILITY**

**59.1** If the home team fails to confirm the fixture two weeks in advance and the tip-off time or venue differs from Play HQ:

59.1.1 The home team is responsible for finding alternative arrangements if the away team cannot attend the amended fixture.

## **60 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT DEADLINE**

**60.1** If the away team does not acknowledge the fixture confirmation at least seven days before the match:

60.1.1 They forfeit the right to contest any changes to game details

60.1.2 The fixture will proceed as listed on Play HQ

## **61 LATE ARRIVAL & TIP-OFF ADJUSTMENTS**

**61.1** If a team arrives within 15 minutes after the scheduled tip-off time:

61.1.1 The Crew Chief, in consultation with team representatives, will decide the new start time

## **62 MATCH CONTINUATION & TIP-OFF FLEXIBILITY**

**62.1** Basketball North West encourages that matches proceed wherever possible

**62.2** The Crew Chief, in consultation with the Game Day Delegate, may amend the designated tip-off time to support match continuation

## 63 COURT HIRE REIMBURSEMENT

**63.1** If a late arrival by the away team causes the home team to incur additional court hire costs:

- 63.1.1 The away team must reimburse the home team
- 63.1.2 The home team must submit proof of cost via an official venue invoice
- 63.1.3 This must be provided within seven days of the scheduled match date.

## 64 FIXTURE LIST & REARRANGEMENTS

- 64.1** Basketball North West will prepare the fixture list before the start of each season.
- 64.2** In exceptional circumstances, Basketball North West may require a match to be rearranged.
- 64.3** No changes to the fixture list are permitted unless they meet the conditions below.

## 65 FIXTURE CHANGE REQUESTS

### 65.1 Before 31 August

- 65.1.1 If two clubs agree to rearrange a match (date, venue, or tip-off time), they may agree through the process on Play HQ.

### 65.2 After 31 August

- 65.2.1 Fixture change requests will not be considered unless the reason is venue unavailability.
- 65.2.2 Clubs must provide documentation from the facility operator confirming the original booking and the reason for unavailability.

### 65.3 From 1 September

- 65.3.1 All fixture change requests must be submitted via PlayHQ.

**65.4** If the above meets the above and the opponent does not agree, Basketball North West will arbitrate and may request email trails between clubs to review the dispute..

## 66 NOTIFICATION OF MATCH OFFICIALS

**66.1** If the match is postponed or changed within 24 hours before the tip, and the home club fails to notify officials and they arrive on the original date:

66.1.1 The home club will be liable for travel expenses and half the match fee of the officials.

## 67 UNRESOLVED POSTPONEMENTS

**67.1** If clubs fail to agree on a new date within 14 days of the original postponement:

67.1.1 Basketball North West will set the new date

67.1.2 The team responsible for the postponement may be charged an administrative fee of £25.

## 68 DEFAULT SCHEDULING

**68.1** Games will be considered “as scheduled” unless written confirmation of postponement is received.

**68.2** Clubs that do not respond to postponement requests forfeit the right to claim compensation for any costs incurred.

## 69 GAME POSTPONEMENTS

**69.1** If a game is postponed and agreed by either team:

69.1.1 The home team must offer two alternative dates within 5 days

69.1.2 The away team must respond within 5 further days, either accepting a date or offering two new alternatives

**69.2** If the home team cannot accommodate the alternatives, they must contact Basketball North West within 4 days to request a date be set.

## 70 GAME ABANDONMENT

**70.1** Crew Chiefs have the authority to stop or abandon a game if they believe the behaviour of any individual puts the welfare of participants or spectators at risk.

**70.2** All Basketball England officials accept the moral responsibility to uphold a duty of care for everyone involved.

## 71 ABANDONED MATCH OUTCOMES

- 71.1** If a match is abandoned, the Competitions Review Panel will decide the result and outcome, based on the specific circumstances.
- 71.2** Only personnel listed on the original scoresheet are eligible to participate in any replay.

## 72 REPLAY ELIGIBILITY & RESCHEDULING

- 72.1** If a club is unable to field a full team for the replay (e.g. due to injury or illness):
- 72.2** The Competition Review Panel will decide whether the match should be rescheduled or forfeited, at its sole discretion
- 72.3** These provisions apply equally to any rescheduled replay

## 73 VENUE CANCELLATION & MATCH POSTPONEMENT

- 73.1** If a club is responsible for postponing a scheduled match (up to 48 hours before tip-off) due to the venue owner cancelling the court booking:
- 73.2** The match must be rescheduled within 14 days of the postponement
- 73.3** The club must provide confirmation from the venue that the original booking was cancelled
- 73.4** This confirmation must be submitted within 7 days of the postponement

## 74 FAILURE TO PROVIDE CONFIRMATION

- 74.1** If the club fails to provide venue confirmation, the matter will be referred to the Competitions Review Panel
- 74.2** The panel may choose to award the match to the opposing team

## 75 FORCE MAJEURE & EMERGENCY POSTPONEMENTS

- 75.1** If a match is postponed due to severe weather, unforeseen travel delays, or vehicle breakdowns, the following applies:
  - 75.1.1** The home team must cover any travel expenses incurred by match officials
  - 75.1.2** The team responsible for the postponement must pay for court hire costs when the match is rescheduled

**75.2** If the match is forfeited, the home club may submit a compensation claim.

**75.3** Basketball North West may request:

- 75.3.1 Confirmation of intended travel
- 75.3.2 Type of vehicle used
- 75.3.3 Details of the breakdown
- 75.3.4 Any roadside assistance documentation

## **76 GLOBAL PANDEMIC PROTOCOL**

**76.1** In the event of a global pandemic, Basketball North West reserves the right to cancel all fixtures until it is safe to resume. This may result in the season ending earlier than scheduled.

## **77 FAILURE TO FULFIL FIXTURE OBLIGATIONS**

**77.1** A team will forfeit a match if:

- 77.1.1 It is not present on court or unable to field five players within 15 minutes of the scheduled tip-off time
- 77.1.2 Its actions prevent the match from being played
- 77.1.3 It refuses to play after being instructed by the Crew Chief
- 77.1.4 Exception: If all parties agree to a delayed start (e.g. due to travel delays)

**77.2** Any club that fails to fulfil a match without just cause may:

- 77.2.1 Forfeit league points
- 77.2.2 Be subject to expulsion from the competition
- 77.2.3 If a league match is not fulfilled during the regular season, and the process has been followed the responsible club will forfeit the match 20–0

## **78 PLAY-OFF ELIGIBILITY**

**78.1** Any claim for an outstanding or postponed match must be submitted to Basketball North West at least 14 days before the first play-off match. This ensures proper consideration before confirming final league standings and play-off places.

## **79 EXPUNGED RECORDS**

**79.1** If a team fails to fulfil 90% of its scheduled league fixtures, its entire league record may be expunged



**79.2** Final decision rests with the Competitions Review Panel

## **80 ASPIRE DAY RESTRICTIONS**

**80.1** No regional league games may be scheduled on Aspire Days.

**80.2** These dates will be set in advance, and must be kept clear of fixtures.

## **81 GAME DAY DELEGATE RESPONSIBILITIES**

**81.1** Both the home and away clubs must nominate a Game Day Delegate for each match.

**81.2** The Game Day Delegate is responsible for all aspects of the match except gameplay, and must not hold any other official role during the match.

**81.3** Exception: For the away team, a Team Manager may act as Game Day Delegate if no other personnel are available.

**81.4** Delegate Duties include:

81.4.1 Host and support Match Officials

81.4.2 Manage spectator issues

81.4.3 Oversee court layout, with advice from Match Officials—but final responsibility remains with the Delegate

81.4.4 See Appendix 2 for full role details

## **82 TEAM REPRESENTATION**

**82.1** Each club may nominate a Team Representative from their bench personnel to liaise with the Game Day Delegate during the match.

## **83 ARRIVAL & PRE-MATCH MEETING**

**83.1** The following must be present at the venue at least 30 minutes before tip-off:

83.1.1 Match Officials

83.1.2 Game Day Delegate

83.1.3 Team Representatives

83.1.4 Minimum five players per team

**83.2** If delayed, the club must phone the opposition's Game Day Delegate to confirm expected arrival time.

**83.3** The Game Day Delegate will conduct a pre-match meeting with Match Officials and Team Representatives 20 minutes before tip-off, held at or near the scorer's table.

## **84 PRE-MATCH MEETING & LICENSING REQUIREMENTS**

**84.1** If Match Officials are assigned to two consecutive matches on the same day:

84.1.1 The pre-match meeting for the second match should take place immediately after the first match concludes

**84.2** At this time, teams and Match Officials must provide the Table Officials with:

84.2.1 Valid licenses for all participants

84.2.2 A complete team list

## **85 NON-COMPLIANCE & PENALTIES**

**85.1** Failure to:

85.1.1 Attend the pre-match meeting, and/or

85.1.2 Provide the required number of players and/or licenses

85.2 May result in a fine imposed by Basketball North West.

## **86 TECHNICAL COMMISSION – MATCH OVERSIGHT**

**86.1** When a Technical Commission is appointed, it must be seated at the scorer's table, positioned to clearly view the operation of the table throughout the match.

**86.2** After consulting with the Crew Chief, Game Day Delegates, and Team Representatives (where appropriate), the Technical Commission will make decisions on any aspect of the match not covered by the Rules of Basketball.

## **87 WARM-UPS & PRACTICE PROTOCOL**

**87.1** The court must be made available for warm-up at least 20 minutes before tip-off.

**87.2** During warm-up (pre-match, half-time, or any interval), actions likely to damage equipment are strictly prohibited.

**87.3** Any player who breaches this rule after receiving a warning from Match Officials may be liable to a fine.

## **88 COURT PRACTICE RIGHTS**

**88.1** Before the 1st and 3rd quarters, each team has exclusive practice rights in the half of the court they will be attacking.

## **89 HALF-TIME**

**89.1** A 10-minute half-time should be allocated for junior fixtures, unless:

89.1.1 Both teams agree to reduce the time and confirm with Match Officials

89.1.2 If teams disagree, the Crew Chief will set a compromise time

89.1.3 The half-time duration may also be confirmed in advance when finalising fixture details

## **90 SCORING PROTOCOL**

**90.1** Only Play HQ E-scoring is permitted to be used in all regional games.

**90.2** The home club is responsible for ensuring the e score sheet is uploaded.

**90.3** After the match the Crew Chief, Umpires, and Table Officials must sign the scoresheet

**90.4** The Table Official is responsible for ensuring the Crew Chief's signature is obtained immediately after the match

## **91 COACH DISQUALIFICATION**

**91.1** In age-group games, if a coach is disqualified and no qualified, registered assistant coach is listed on the scoresheet:

91.1.1 The game will be stopped

91.1.2 The opposing team will be awarded a 20–0 win and/or the matter will be referred to Basketball North West for review

## 92 SAFEGUARDING REQUIREMENT

- 92.1** All junior teams competing in the Regional League Competition must travel with at least two appropriately licensed adults, in accordance with the Basketball England Safeguarding Policy

## 93 MINIMUM TEAM NUMBERS & MATCH COMMITMENT

- 93.1** Teams should have a minimum of eight players ready to play at the scheduled tip-off time.
- 93.2** Basketball North West recognises that, within the regional structure, some teams may occasionally struggle to meet this requirement. In such cases, clubs are encouraged to proceed with the fixture if a reasonable compromise is agreed by both teams.
- 93.3** Acceptable compromises may include:
- 93.3.1 Running clock for selected quarters
  - 93.3.2 Half-court pickup defence
  - 93.3.3 Other mutually agreed adjustments

## 94 PARTICIPANT PRESENCE

- 94.1** All participants listed on the scoresheet at the start of the match must be present at the end, unless:
- 94.1.1 Disqualified
  - 94.1.2 Taken to hospital or removed due to medical emergency

## 95 CLUB COMMITMENT

- 95.1** Clubs are expected to participate fully in any competition they are entered, and to do so to the best of their ability.

## 96 VENUE COMPLIANCE

**96.1** Clubs must ensure their home venues comply with current government health and safety legislation

**96.2** Clubs must be able to provide the following documentation upon request:

- 96.2.1 Venue risk assessment
- 96.2.2 Up-to-date health and safety certification
- 96.2.3 Proof of public liability insurance

## 97 STEWARDING RESPONSIBILITIES

**97.1** Each home club is responsible for providing appropriate stewarding to manage:

- 97.1.1 Spectator control
- 97.1.2 Support for Match Officials

## 98 SCOREBOARD & GAME CLOCK REQUIREMENTS

**98.1** The home club must ensure its venue provides an electronic scoreboard and game clock that is:

- 98.1.1 Clearly visible to players, match officials, and spectators
- 98.1.2 Displays the remaining game time in minutes and seconds

**98.2** If the clock is positioned or constructed in a way that limits visibility for one team, the home team must notify all parties during the pre-match meeting.

## 99 BENCH & BASKET POSITIONING

**99.1** For all matches, the home team shall have its team bench and attacking basket positioned on the left side of the scorer's table, facing the court at tip-off.

**99.2** If both teams agree, they may interchange benches and/or baskets, overriding the default arrangement in these rules and regulations. .

## 100 TEAM UNIFORMS & ADVERTISING

**100.1** Team uniforms must comply with the official rules of basketball, as defined and updated by FIBA. You can find the latest documentation on FIBA's official downloads page.

- 100.2** Uniforms may include advertising, with compliance with any specific requirements set by Basketball North West.

## **101 TEAM COLOURS**

- 101.1** Each club must register its first-choice colours (vests and shorts) with Basketball North West.
- 101.2** The home team must always wear its complete registered colours.
- 101.3** If a known colour clash exists before the match the away team must change to a colour that provides suitable contrast.
- 101.4** If a clash is identified at the venue or during the pre-match meeting the home team must change to a contrasting colour.
- 101.5** In the event of a dispute on match day, the Crew Chief will make the final decision, which is binding on both teams.
- 101.6** The away team is responsible for ensuring its uniforms contrast sufficiently with the home team.
- 101.7** It is recommended that the home team:
- 101.7.1 Has two alternative uniforms available
  - 101.7.2 Keeps a dissimilar set of uniforms at the venue in case of an unavoidable clash

## **102 NEUTRAL VENUES**

- 102.1** For matches played on neutral courts or promoted by Basketball North West (e.g. Cup and final ties, Basketball North West will decide which colours are to be worn by each team, at its sole discretion.

## 103 OFFICIALS LICENSING & APPOINTMENTS

**103.1** All referees, table officials, and statisticians operating in Regional League Competitions must:

103.1.1 Be licensed with Basketball England

103.1.2 Comply with the most recent Basketball England Officials Handbook

## 104 REFEREE APPOINTMENTS

**104.1** Referees for each match will be appointed by Basketball North West.

**104.2** If a fixture does not have a referee appointed via Who's the Ref, Basketball North West will contact the home club to arrange appointment of the required number of referees, in line with league rules.

## 105 REFEREE PAYMENTS & FINANCIAL COMPLIANCE

**105.1** The home club is responsible for paying referee match fees and expenses for all competitions, as outlined in Appendix 3.

**105.2** Payments must be made via bank transfer or cheque, in line with HMRC expectations

**105.3** All officials are responsible for their own tax and National Insurance obligations

## 106 EXPENSE SUBMISSION & PAYMENT DEADLINES

**106.1** Officials must submit expense forms for the previous week's games by Monday 09:00.

**106.2** Forms submitted after this time will be treated as part of the following week.

**106.3** Clubs must ensure BACS payments clear into the official's account by the second Tuesday after submission.

**106.4** If payment is not received by the second Wednesday, the official may submit a late payment form to Basketball North West.

**106.5** If payment remains outstanding no officials will be appointed to the club's next home fixture.

**106.6** If payment is still not made five days before the next match, the game will be forfeited.

## 107 REPEATED BREACHES & PENALTIES

**107.1** On a second and subsequent breach, the club must:

107.1.1 Make payment 48 hours in advance of the match via BACS

107.1.2 Pay an additional fine of £25.00 per unpaid official, invoiced by Basketball North West

**107.2** After a third breach, the club will face disciplinary action under Regulation 42

## REFEREE APPOINTMENTS

### 104

Referees for each match will be appointed by Basketball North West.

#### 104.1

If a fixture does not have a referee appointed via Who's the Ref, Basketball North West will contact the home

**104.2** club to arrange appointment of the required number of referees, in line with league rules.

## 108 APPOINTMENT OF MATCH OFFICIALS

**108.1** For all competitions:

108.1.1 The Crew Chief and Umpire may be appointed by Basketball North West

108.1.2 If no appointment is made by Basketball North West, the home club is responsible for appointing licensed, qualified, neutral officials.

108.1.3 The Crew Chief must have no connection to the home club, excepting when these rules and regulations apply to official none arrival.

108.1.4 Clubs using Basketball North West to appoint officials must ensure all criteria are met, ultimate responsibility remains with the home club.

108.1.5 If the home club appoints an official who does not meet the required criteria :

108.1.5.1 The game will be forfeited

108.1.5.2 The club may face disciplinary action

**108.2** Basketball North West cannot be held responsible—the home club retains full accountability.

## 109 CRITERIA FOR APPOINTMENT OF REFEREES

**109.1** Match officials must meet the following criteria;

109.1.1 The Crew Chief must be completely independent from the club and not hold any position in any capacity within a club.



- 109.1.2 Must be licensed with Basketball England as a referee.
- 109.1.3 In the case that a referee is under 18, his or her co-official must be at least 18 years old, qualified (Level 2 minimum), and licensed as a referee with Basketball England unless supervised by a Basketball North West recognised Referee Coach.
- 109.1.4 No siblings/family taking part in fixture.
- 109.1.5 Is not registered to participate in the same competition.
- 109.1.6 The number of referees required for each match depends on the level of competition.

LEAGUE	NO.REFEREES (LEVEL 2-5)	NO.REFEREES (LEVEL 1)
Men's Conference League	2	0
U18 Premier & Conference U16 Premier & Conference U14 Premier	2	0
U16 Regional U14 Conference & Regional U12 Leagues	1	1

## 110 REGULATION EXCEPTIONS

- 110.1 These rules and regulations may be set aside to ensure a match takes place, but only with:

- 110.1.1 Agreement from both teams AND
- 110.1.2 Prior approval from Basketball North West

## 111 REFEREE COMPETENCY

- 111.1 Basketball England and / or Basketball North West reserves the right to restrict any referee from officiating if they are deemed not competent or do not meet the required standard

## 112 BREACH CONSEQUENCES

- 112.1 Any breach of this regulation may result in the home club forfeiting the match

## **113 FINALS APPOINTMENTS**

**113.1** For finals and events, Basketball North West will determine:

113.1.1 The match fee

113.1.2 The mileage rate

113.1.3 Any other applicable expenses.

## **114 FIXTURE & REFEREE LISTINGS**

**114.1** All fixtures will be published on the Play HQ website and HoopsHQ app.

**114.2** Referee appointments will be listed on the 'Who's The Ref' website

**114.3** It is the Clubs and Match Officials' responsibility to check this information regularly

## **115 FIXTURE CHANGES AFTER FRIDAY 12:00PM**

**115.1** If a club alters fixture details after 12:00pm on a Friday, the home club must inform the Match Officials.

**115.2** If an official attends a cancelled or postponed fixture without prior notice, the home team is liable for the travel expenses and half the match fee.

## **116 TABLE OFFICIALS – APPOINTMENT & RESPONSIBILITIES**

**116.1** The home club must provide Table Officials for all matches

**116.2** Where possible, officials should be neutral and not associated with the home club

## **117 PAYMENT & COMPLIANCE**

**117.1** The home club is responsible for paying match fees and expenses in line with the current Basketball England rates (see Appendix 3)

**117.2** All Table Officials must wear the approved Basketball England or Basketball North West uniform

## **118 MINIMUM TABLE OFFICIALS BY COMPETITION LEVEL**

**118.1** The home club is responsible for appointing the minimum number of Table Officials for each match, based on the level of competition.

LEAGUE	NO.TABLE OFFICIALS (LEVEL 3-5)	NO.TABLE OFFICIALS (LEVEL 2)	NO.TABLE OFFICIALS (LEVEL 1)
Division One Men	3	0	0
Division One Women Division Two Men	2	1	0
Division Three Men Conference League Men Division Two Women	1	2	0
U18 Premier U16 Premier	1	1	1
U18 Conference U16 Conference U16 Regional U14 Premier U14 Conference U14 Regional	0	1	1
U12 Leagues	0	0	2

## 119 REFEREE UNIFORM

**119.1** Referees must wear the current Basketball North West Officiating uniform for all games in Regional League Competitions

## 120 MATCH HANDLING REPORTS

**120.1** Clubs may submit reports on referee performance or match handling. Reports must be sent to:  
**[appointments@basketballnorthwest.org.uk](mailto:appointments@basketballnorthwest.org.uk)**

## 121 ARRIVAL TIMES

**121.1** All Match Officials must arrive at the venue 30 minutes before tip-off.

**121.2** Referees must be on court 20 minutes before tip-off.

## 122 MINIMUM REFEREE REQUIREMENT

- 122.1** All fixtures require two suitably qualified referees for the game to proceed.
- 122.2** If two referees cannot be allocated at least 24 hours before the game, the fixture may be postponed
- 122.3** If teams do not agree to a postponement, the matter will be referred to Basketball North West for a final decision.

## 123 LAST-MINUTE REFEREE WITHDRAWAL

- 123.1** If one or both referees withdraw less than 24 hours before the game due to injury, illness, or unforeseen circumstances:
- 123.1.1 A licensed referee from either team may officiate, with agreement from both teams.
- 123.1.2 If no replacement is available, the game may proceed with one referee, only if:
- 123.1.2.1 Both teams agree
- 123.1.2.2 The referee is Level 2 qualified and at least 18 years old
- 123.1.3 Alternatively, either team may choose to postpone the game
- 123.1.4 If the game is then postponed or cancelled by either team, it must be rearranged in line with these regulations.

## 124 REFEREE NON-ARRIVAL

- 124.1** If all referees fail to arrive, the Game Day Delegate must follow these regulations as closely as possible to allow the match to proceed.
- 124.2** Once a substitute referee is appointed, they will continue for the full match, even if the original referee(s) arrive
- 124.3** The Crew Chief may override this in exceptional circumstances, at their discretion.

## 125 TABLE OFFICIAL NON-ARRIVAL

- 125.1** All table officials must be present at the scorer's table 30 minutes before tip-off
- 125.2** If a table official is absent without prior communication (e.g. travel delay or unforeseen circumstances), the Game Day Delegate must appoint a suitable replacement

## **126 TABLE OFFICIAL REPLACEMENT PROCEDURE**

- 126.1** If a qualified table official is at the venue or nearby, they may be asked to step in,
- 126.2** If none are available, the Game Day Delegate, in consultation with the Crew Chief, will appoint a replacement
- 126.3** If the original table official has not arrived by the three-minute signal, the substitute will act as timer
- 126.4** Once substituted, the table official will not normally be replaced, even if the original official arrives

## **127 INJURY OR ILLNESS DURING MATCH**

- 127.1** If a Match Official becomes injured or ill during the game, the Crew Chief may appoint a substitute, following the procedure in these rules and regulations.

## **128 MEDIA & SOCIAL MEDIA CONDUCT – MATCH OFFICIALS**

- 128.1** Match Officials are not permitted to make comments about match incidents on:
- 128.1.1 Media platform
  - 128.1.2 Public websites
  - 128.1.3 Social media
  - 128.1.4 Any other electronic format
- 128.2** This applies specifically to matches in which they officiate
- 128.3** Any breach of this regulation will result in an investigation under the Basketball Disciplinary Code.

## 129 FIRST AID REQUIREMENTS

**129.1** The home club must ensure suitable first aid equipment is available at the venue for all matches

**129.2** Each team must have at least one person present who holds a:

129.2.1 First Aid at Work Certificate, or Emergency Aid Certificate

## 130 BLOOD INJURIES

**130.1** During a match, referees must instruct any player who is bleeding or has an open wound to leave the playing area immediately.

**130.2** A player may only return to the court once:

130.2.1 The bleeding has stopped, and

130.2.2 The affected area or wound is completely and securely covered.

**130.3** Coaches must follow the Basketball England guidance: Preventing Infectious Diseases – Blood and Other Body Fluids

## 131 MISCONDUCT

- 131.1** Serious offences and any matters involving Match Officials will be handled under the Basketball England Disciplinary Code.
- 131.2** Misconduct by Participants, occurring during, immediately before, or after a match, will be considered by Basketball North West.
- 131.3** In special cases, the Disciplinary Officer may convene a Special Commission of three persons to review the matter, this is at the sole discretion of the Disciplinary Officer.
- 131.4** Participants, Match Officials, Club Directors, and other Club Officials or members may be:
- 131.4.1 Fined (up to £10,000 per offence)
  - 131.4.2 Suspended
- 131.5** In addition to or instead of fines/suspensions, Basketball North West may take action regarding the outcome of a match, including:
- 131.5.1 Ordering a replay
  - 131.5.2 Deducting points
  - 131.5.3 Declaring the match void.

## 132 PENALTY GUIDELINES

- 132.1** Penalties for common offences are listed in these rules and regulations. These are guidelines only—final decisions are at the discretion of Basketball North West, based on the circumstances of each offence.

## 133 DISREPUTE & VENUE OFFENCES

- 133.1** Basketball North West may take disciplinary action in response to any matter deemed to bring disrepute to the sport of basketball.
- 133.2** Offences committed before, during, or after a match at the venue by:
- 133.2.1 Participants
  - 133.2.2 Match Officials
  - 133.2.3 Club Directors
  - 133.2.4 Club Officials or members

## **134 DISCIPLINARY PROCESS**

**134.1** The Disciplinary Officer may co-opt a special technical advisor to assist in decision-making.

**134.2** The Disciplinary Officer has sole authority to determine what evidence is admissible.

## **135 APPEALS PROCESS**

**135.1** Clubs or individuals may appeal decisions made by:

135.1.1 The Disciplinary Officer

135.1.2 An Officer of Basketball North West

135.1.3 The Competitions Review Panel.

**135.2** Appeals must follow the Basketball England Appeals Policy.

## **136 SUBMISSION DEADLINES**

**136.1** Appeals must be submitted in writing to Basketball North West:

136.1.1 Within 2 days for Disciplinary Officer decisions

136.1.2 Within 7 days for other decisions, unless otherwise specified

**136.2** Based on either:

136.2.1 The date the appellant was notified of the decision, or

136.2.2 The date of any incident incurring automatic disciplinary points

## **137 APPEAL FEE**

**137.1** Appeals must be accompanied by a £250 deposit

## **138 PENALTY GUIDELINES**

**138.1** An appeals panel appointed by Basketball North West or Basketball England will review each appeal and may choose to:

138.1.1 Decide based solely on the written submission, or

138.1.2 Hear oral evidence from the appellant and any other relevant parties

**138.2** A personal hearing is not an automatic right and may only be convened at the discretion of the panel chair



## **139 FINALITY & FINANCIALS**

**139.1** The appeals panel's decision is final and binding on all parties

**139.2** The panel will determine whether the €250 deposit is:

139.2.1 Returned in full

139.2.2 Returned in part

139.2.3 Retained entirely

**139.3** The panel may also award costs and expenses against the appellant as deemed appropriate

## **140 DISQUALIFICATION OR EXPULSION**

**140.1** Any participant disqualified or expelled from a match will be automatically reviewed by the Disciplinary Officer

## **141 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

**141.1** Match Officials must submit a written report to Basketball North West within 48 hours of the match.

**141.2** If video footage of the incident is available, it must be submitted within 72 hours

**141.3** The participant and/or club may also submit written reports, which must:

141.3.1 Be authored by someone with direct knowledge of the incident

141.3.2 Clearly state the evidence observed firsthand.

## **142 MISCONDUCT WITHOUT DISQUALIFICATION**

**142.1** If a participant commits misconduct not involving disqualification, and a Match Official believes it is serious enough to warrant review, a report must be submitted to Basketball North West for disciplinary consideration.

## **143 PENALTY POINTS & SUSPENSIONS**

**143.1** A system of cumulative penalty points applies to all participants.

**143.2** A one-game suspension will be triggered when a participant's total penalty points reach or exceed any of the following thresholds:

143.2.1 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, and so on in increments of 5.

## 144 SUSPENSION TIMING

**144.1** The suspension will take effect from or after 14 days following the disciplinary incident.

**144.2** The exact start date will be determined by the Disciplinary Officer.

## 145 PENALTY POINTS

**145.1** A technical foul automatically invokes the following minimum penalty points:

PLAYER	4
BENCH PERSONNEL	4
COACH	4

**145.2** Unsportsmanlike fouls automatically invoke the following minimum penalty points:

PLAYER	4
--------	---

**145.3** Disqualifications automatically invoke the following minimum penalty points:

PLAYER	7
BENCH PERSONNEL	7
COACH	10

**145.4** These points contribute to the cumulative penalty system, which may trigger suspensions as outlined in the disciplinary regulations.

## 146 AUTOMATIC FINES – REPEAT DISQUALIFICATIONS

**146.1** In accordance with these rules and regulations the following automatic fines apply for repeat disqualifications within the same season:

**146.2**

DISQUALIFICATION COUNT	FINE AMOUNT
2nd Disqualification	£75
3rd & Any Subsequent Disqualification	£150

**146.3** These fines are automatically applied and form part of the cumulative disciplinary record for each participant.

**146.4** The fines will be collected from the club.

## 147 ADDITIONAL PENALTY POINTS & EVIDENCE REVIEW

**147.1** The Disciplinary Officer may assign additional penalty points after reviewing reports submitted under these rules and regulations, this will typically apply to disqualifications of a grievous nature.

## 148 MISCONDUCT WITHOUT DISQUALIFICATION

**148.1** Reports of misconduct not involving disqualification will be handled under these rules and regulations.

**148.2** If accepted, an appropriate number of penalty points will be allocated to the participant concerned

## 149 EVIDENCE & NOTIFICATION

**149.1** If visual or other evidence suggests that additional individuals may be liable for disciplinary action, action will only be taken after the relevant party has been notified.

## 150 CARRY-FORWARD OF POINTS

**150.1** Disciplinary points incurred within six weeks of season end will be carried forward until 30 November of the following season

## **151 SUSPENSION TIMING**

- 151.1** Disciplinary action for automatic penalty points due to disqualification will normally take effect on the 14th day after the incident, unless otherwise decided by the Disciplinary Officer
- 151.2** During this period, the participant may appeal under these rules and regulations.
- 151.3** The Disciplinary Officer may also impose additional penalty points or fines for the same incident.

## **152 SUSPENSION FOR UNPAID FINES**

- 152.1** If a fine is imposed under these rules and regulations, the participant is suspended from all basketball activity until the fine is paid in full to Basketball North West.

## **153 END-OF-SEASON RESET**

- 153.1** At the end of each season, all cumulative penalty point totals revert to zero, except as outlined in these rules and regulations.

## **154 MATCH OFFICIAL REPORTS**

- 154.1** Match Officials must not include recommendations or comments about disciplinary action in their reports or elsewhere.

## **155 DISCIPLINARY OFFICER DECISIONS**

- 155.1** Disciplinary action resulting from a Disciplinary Officer decision will also normally take effect 14 days after the incident, unless otherwise specified.
- 155.2** If an appeal is lodged, any disciplinary action will be suspended until the appeal is heard.

## **156 DELIBERATE MATCH MANIPULATION**

- 156.1** Any club that deliberately fields a weakened team without a reason deemed acceptable by Basketball North West, or is judged to have deliberately lost a match, will be considered guilty of misconduct.
- 156.2** Such cases will be dealt with under these rules and regulations.
- 156.3** Medical certificates may be requested to verify illness or injury claims

## **157 INFLUENCING MATCH OFFICIALS**

**157.1** Participants and club officials must not approach Match Officials before, during, or after a match to:

157.1.1 Provide information

157.1.2 Make comments

157.1.3 Attempt to influence judgment or neutrality

**157.2** Any such action will be treated as serious misconduct and addressed under the Disciplinary Code.

## **158 SPECTATOR RESPONSIBILITY**

**158.1** Clubs are responsible for their spectators.

## **158.2** Clubs must ensure that spectator behaviour aligns with the principles of the Disciplinary Code

158.2.1 The following fines may be imposed:

OFFENCE	PENALTY
Failure to provide qualified and licensed Table Officials	£40 per official and possible disciplinary action for the club
Forfeiture of fixture	£100 - 1st offence £200 – subsequent
Failure to attend the pre-match meeting and/or late arrival of team for pre-Match meeting (5 players)	£50
Failure to email Scoresheet as required	£40- 1st offence £60 - 2nd offence 1 Pts deduction – subsequent
Failure to update score on Game Management System	£15 - 1st offence £30– subsequent
Failure to field eight players	£50
Failure to provide appropriate scoreboard	£100
Failure to provide adequate stewarding	£50
Fielding an Ineligible Participant	Minimum £500 plus consideration by the Competitions Review Panel
Team arriving on the playing court up to 15 minutes after the scheduled tip off time	£50

## **159 SUSPENDED PARTICIPANTS – MATCHDAY RESTRICTIONS**

### **159.1** A participant under suspension may not:

159.1.1 Take part in the match, or

159.1.2 Act in any official or participant role

159.1.3 From 20 minutes prior to tip-off until after the match has ended

### **159.2** They may be present at the venue as a spectator, unless otherwise directed by Basketball North West.

## **160 SAME-DAY MATCH BAN**

- 160.1** A suspended individual is also barred from participating in any other match within the same competition(s) on the same day as the suspended fixture, unless otherwise decided by Basketball North West.

## **161 BREACH OF SUSPENSION & SCOPE OF APPLICATION**

- 161.1** Failure to observe a suspension or breach any condition attached to it is considered a breach of suspension
- 161.2** Any breach will be referred to Basketball England and may result in further disciplinary action

## **162 SCOPE OF SUSPENSION**

- 162.1** Suspensions apply to Regional League Competition matches only
- 162.2** They do not apply to other events, including FIBA competitions, unless otherwise determined by Basketball England

## **163 MISCARRIAGE OF JUSTICE**

- 163.1** The Disciplinary Officer has the authority to amend automatic penalty points if they believe a miscarriage of justice has occurred.

## **164 STANDARD MATCH DISPUTES**

- 164.1** Any dispute or complaint relating to a match must be:
- 164.1.1 Recorded in line with these rules and regulations.
  - 164.1.2 Submitted in writing to Basketball North West Headquarters within 72 hours of match completion.
  - 164.1.3 Accompanied by a £100 deposit
- 164.2** The deposit may be returned if the complaint is deemed valid by Basketball North West
- 164.3** The submitting club must also send a copy of the complaint to:
- 164.3.1 The opposing club
  - 164.3.2 The Match Officials for the fixture
- 164.4** Complaints cannot challenge the match result based on the quality of Match Officials appointed by Basketball North West or its nominees.

## 165 EVENT-SPECIFIC DISPUTES

**165.1** For matches during an event organised by Basketball North West:

165.1.1 Complaints must follow these rules and regulations.

165.1.2 Submitted in writing within one hour of match completion

165.1.3 Accompanied by a £100 deposit

165.1.4 Delivered to a member of the Technical Commission, or if unavailable, to the senior Basketball North West representative in attendance.

## 166 PRE-MATCH VALIDITY CONCERNS

**166.1** If either team or the Match Officials believe the match may be invalid or subject to forfeiture, this must be:

**166.2** Declared before tip-off.

**166.3** Reported to Basketball North West by the Match Officials and the Home Team.

**166.4** If the match proceeds under the declared conditions, it cannot be disputed afterwards.

**166.5** Confirmation of concerns and all reports will be forwarded to Basketball North West, who will determine the validity of the match.

## 167 IN-MATCH COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

**167.1** If a coach, captain, or team representative has a complaint related to these regulations before or during a match, they must:

167.1.1 Notify the Crew Chief, who will record the matter

167.1.2 Raise the issue immediately, when the ball is dead and the clock is stopped, or at the next available opportunity.

**167.2** The team captain must present their observations in a calm and courteous manner.

**167.3** The Crew Chief may:

167.3.1 Explain their decision, or

167.3.2 Examine the e-scoresheet, check the score, and verify the remaining playing time.



**167.4** If the interruption exceeds 30 seconds,

167.4.1 it will be charged as a Time-Out to the team raising the complaint.

167.4.2 Unless the Crew Chief determines the complaint is valid and chooses to waive the Time-Out.

**167.5** If a team believes it has suffered unreasonable harm due to an incident connected with the match—excluding decisions made by Match Officials—the team captain may sign the e-scoresheet “under protest”

**167.6 Under Protest Procedure**

167.6.1 The captain must notify the Crew Chief immediately after the final buzzer

167.6.2 The scorer must record the time of the final buzzer on the e-scoresheet

167.6.3 The Crew Chief must ensure the scoresheet remains open for 15 minutes after the match

167.6.4 If no protest is made during this time, the e-scoresheet may be signed by all officials to close the game

167.6.5 All Match Officials must remain available to the Crew Chief until the e-scoresheet is signed by all parties Formal Protest

167.6.6 If a team signs the e-scoresheet “under protest”, they must follow the procedure outlined in this rules and regulations to validate the protest.

167.6.7 By signing “under protest”, the club is automatically liable to pay a £100 deposit, regardless of any further action.

**167.7** All disputes and protests relating to matches will be considered by Basketball North West.

## **168 GOVERNING LAW**

- 168.1** These regulations, and any disputes or differences arising from them, shall be governed in all respects by English law

## **169 JURISDICTION**

- 169.1** Any dispute arising from or connected to these Regulations—including questions about their existence or validity—shall be resolved in accordance with:

169.1.1 These Regulations

169.1.2 The Articles of Association of Basketball North West and/or Basketball England

- 169.2** All decisions made under these Regulations shall be final and binding on:

169.2.1 Clubs

169.2.2 Players

169.2.3 Match Officials

169.2.4 Club Officials

169.2.5 Any other relevant parties.

## **170 SEVERABILITY & AMENDMENTS**

- 170.1** These rules and regulations may be amended, added to, or deleted from time to time by Basketball North West.

- 170.2** Clubs will be given no less than 30 clear days' notice of any changes before they take effect

- 170.3** In exceptional circumstances, shorter notice may be given, but Basketball North West will provide as much notice as reasonably practicable.

# APPENDIX 1: GAME DAY SCHEDULE



DATE OF FIXTURE		
AGE GROUP/DIVISION		
HOME TEAM		
AWAY TEAM		
TIP TIME		
VENUE INCLUDING ADDRESS & POSTCODE		
HOME KIT COLOUR		
ACCESS TO COURT		
ACCESS TO CHANGING ROOMS		
PARKING INFORMATION		
SPECTATOR PROVISION INFORMATION		
GAME DAY DELEGATE		
WELFARE OFFICER		
PRE-GAME MEETING LOCATION		
REFEREE NAMES		
IS THE GAME BEING RECORDED?	YES	NO
IS THE GAME TO BE LIVE STREAMED?	YES	NO
OTHER IMPORTANT GAME INFORMATION		

Away team to confirm their attendance, kit colour and their Game Day Delegate for the game. Teams should be in attendance at the fixture one hour before the game.

It is the responsibility of every team to provide a Game Day Delegate.

### **ROLE OF THE GAME DAY DELEGATE**

1. Both clubs HOME team and AWAY team must nominate a responsible adult/member of their club to act as Game Day Delegate on the day of the game.
2. For the home club, this must NOT be the team manager or coach, but another adult who is at the game.
3. For the away team, this should not be the team manager or coach, but if there is no other person is available, this role can be the responsibility of the team manager.
4. The Game Day Delegate must be confirmed in the Game Day Schedule that is communicated between the two teams two weeks prior to the fixture, any changes need to be communicated with opposing team and officials.

### **THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE GAME DAY DELEGATE ARE AS FOLLOWS:**

1. The Game Day Delegate needs to fully understand the schedule and logistics of the day to be able to respond to any questions/queries during the pre-match meeting and event.
2. Upon arrival at the venue, the Game Day Delegate from the home team will ask their opponents who their Game Day Delegate is and make introductions to each other.
3. Together they will then report to the match referee at least 30 minutes before the start of the game and introduce themselves to him or her.
4. The primary responsibility of the home team Game Day Delegate is to look after the referee before, during and after the game until they leave the venue. It would be appropriate if the home and away team delegates did the job together.
5. This would include
  - a. showing the referee where the changing rooms and toilets are,
  - b. directing them to the correct court, possibly offering a drink at half time and after the game and ensuring that their fees are paid.
6. During the game, each delegate will be responsible for the behaviour of all club members and spectators.
7. If the referee needs to, he/she will, during a stoppage in play, approach the Game Day Delegate to assist him/her in dealing with any problems that may occur.
8. The Game Day Delegate is not exempt from being reported for misconduct.
9. The home team Game Day Delegate is responsible for ensuring the scoresheet is uploaded to Play HQ.
10. The Basketball England Code of Ethics and Conduct must be considered by the delegate at all times, and any Serious Incidents must be reported through the Report It tool on Basketball England's website.
11. Basketball England is totally committed to promoting anti-discrimination and the Basketball England Equality and Equity policy must be emphasised and observed at all times.

COMPETITON	REFEREES	TABLE OFFICIALS & STATISTICIANS
NBL Division One Men	£51.00	£32.00
NBL Division Two Men	£50.00	£27.00
WNBL Division One Women & NBL Division Three Men	£42.00	£22.00
WNBL Division Two Women	£30.00	£16.00
NBL Conference League Men	£28.00	£16.00
Jnr. NBL Under 18 & Jnr. NBL Under 16	£25.00	£14.00
Jnr. NBL Under 14 & Jnr. NBL Under 12	£24.00	£13.00

1. For National Cup competitions or Division 3 Men/NBL Conference promotional playoffs fees will be charged at the rate of the highest team taking part in the game.
2. The rate does not change based on whether the game is officiated with two or three referees.
3. For Junior NBL regular season games, the total match fee and expenses that may be claimed each game by each official shall not exceed a combined total of £37.00.
4. For all Junior National Cup or Playoff matches where Basketball England appoint the referees, the £37.00 max claim will not apply to ensure suitable officials can be appointed.
5. Expenses paid to officials will either be in the form of:
  - a. Travel by Public Transport: the actual fare paid up to a maximum of second-class ordinary return; and
  - b. Travel by Road: 45.0p per mile. This figure does not apply where the official is using a company car, in which case the rate shall be 18.0p per mile for all mileage.
  - c. All receipts for public transport should be supplied along with the expenses claim form.
6. For officials who are officiating more than one game in a day, travel expenses should be split as follows; calculate the whole journey i.e., home to first venue to second venue to home and divide these expenses equally between the two clubs. The exception to this is when a club would be charged more because of splitting the expenses equally than what they would be charged if the claim were home to venue to home. In this scenario the closer team would be charged for home to venue to home and charge the other team the balance of your travel. The same logic should be followed if travelling to more than two venues in the same day or as a result of overnight travel.

## APPENDIX 4: ZONE DEFENCE & FULL COURT PRESS BREACH SANCTION



This sanction is applied for the following reasons:

For Zone defences being played illegally by a team in:

- Under 18 or Under 19 (Quarters 2 and 4)
- Under 16
- Under 14
- Under 12 competitions

If a full court Δpress is applied after a team is up by 20 points or more in all regional competitions –

The crew chief will call an ‘officials time out’ with coaches and their co-official to the centre circle and give a verbal warning that they must cease playing a zone defence or a full court press, (which ever is applied at the time) and to remind the coach(es) of the potential sanctions that will then be applied.

The coaches will then be given an additional 30 seconds to reinforce this message with their team.

Once play has resumed following the ‘officials time out’ any further breaches of the rule will result in the coach being issued a warning (W) technical foul in the first instance.

Once called the warning technical (W) this will be recorded in the scorebook as a ‘W’ (not a coach ‘C’ or bench ‘B’ technical). The opposition will be given one free throw and then play will resume.

Any further breaches of these rules will result in the coach receiving a technical foul recorded as ‘C’. The opposition will be awarded one free throw.

A coach will not be ejected until they have received two Coach technical fouls ‘C’s on a scoresheet. A ‘W’ technical will not be counted as a formal technical (C) but the opposing team will receive the same one free throw.

<b>COACH</b>	W	C	.....	No ejection
<b>COACH</b>	B	W	C	No ejection
<b>COACH</b>	W	C	C	Ejection

1. The All Must Play rule is to create a more competitive playing environment and to encourage all players to participate during a fixture across the age groups.
2. The rule applies in the following competitions:
  - a. Under 12
  - b. Under 14 Conference Age Group
  - c. Under 14 Regional Age Group
3. The rules are:
  - a. Games will consist of four quarters of 10 minutes, with the first and third quarters split into four periods of 5 minutes, with the clock stopping at 5:00 and not the nearest dead ball. This is not a time out, it is a substitution only. The game shall be resumed with the alternating possession arrow at the halfway line.
  - b. For teams of 10 players, the coach can choose how they wish to rotate their players, all players must play in one five-minute period of both quarters one and three.
  - c. For teams of 11 and 12, the coach can choose when they rotate the 11th and 12th player at their own discretion, excluding the 1st and 3rd quarters. However, the coach does not need to play these players at all.
  - d. For teams of nine or less, the below rotational schedule will be in place to rotate players in quarters one and three. Coaches will need to number their players and list this along with their playing number and name at the start of the game and given to the table officials. Please be aware that any teams playing with less than eight players can occur a penalty in line with the rules and regulations.
  - e. Normal timeouts will be administered however there will be no stoppages for switching players.
  - f. If a player is injured or fouled out and the team has less than 10 players, the coach of said team shall decide on who fills this place, ensuring that the minutes are shared equally across the team.
  - g. In addition:
    - i. If a player has a pre-existing medical condition which may affect their ability to participate in accordance with the game rules, with the child and parent's permission, officials should be informed at the pre-game meeting, but officials don't need to know what the condition is. Reasonable adjustments can be made to enable the player to participate.
    - ii. Both Coaches and Officials have a duty of care to ensure the safety of players. If a coach has any health or wellbeing concerns about a player during the game, they should inform an official. If a player is taken off the court, this does not necessarily mean that they cannot play for the duration of the game. Again, reasonable adjustments can be made.
    - iii. When it comes to welfare and injuries, the head coach has ultimate responsibility in deciding what is best for the player at that specific moment. A player leaving the game can recover and re-enter the game later. If officials are in doubt over the decision of the coach, they should allow it to happen, but email [phil.cain@basketballnorthwest.org.uk](mailto:phil.cain@basketballnorthwest.org.uk) to raise their concerns.

## ROTATIONAL SCHEDULE

1. To be used when a team has nine or less players.
2. Teams of 10 or more can select which players they play in each period of the 1st and 3rd quarters, but no players can play in both periods of the 1st and 3rd quarter.
3. It is entirely up to the coach if they want to play players 11 and 12 at all in any part of the game.
4. Please note that teams who play a fixture with less than eight players will be liable to a fine in line with these rules and regulations.

TEAM 6 PLAYERS									
1st Half					2nd Half				
1st Qrt		2nd Qrt		3rd Qrt		4th Qrt			
1	X	X			X				3
2	X	X				X			3
3	X	X			X	X			4
4	X	X			X	X			4
5	X				X	X			3
6		X			X	X			3
	5	5			5	5			

TEAM 7 PLAYERS									
1st Half					2nd Half				
1st Qrt		2nd Qrt		3rd Qrt		4th Qrt			
1	X	X				X			3
2	X	X			X				3
3	X	X			X				3
4	X				X	X			3
5	X				X	X			3
6		X				X			2
7		X			X	X			3
	5	5			5	5			



## APPENDIX 5: ALL MUST PLAY RULE

TEAM 8 PLAYERS									
1st Half					2nd Half				
1st Qrt		2nd Qrt		3rd Qrt		4th Qrt			
1	X	X			X				3
2	X	X				X			3
3	X					X			2
4	X					X			2
5	X				X	X			3
6		X			X	X			3
7		X			X				2
8		X			X				2
	5	5			5	5			

TEAM 9 PLAYERS									
1st Half					2nd Half				
1st Qrt		2nd Qrt		3rd Qrt		4th Qrt			
1	X	X				X			3
2	X					X			2
3	X				X	X			3
4	X				X				2
5	X				X				2
6		X			X				2
7		X			X				2
8		X				X			2
9		X				X			2
	5	5			5	5			