

BUCS NETBALL REGULATIONS

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NET i The BUCS Netball Championships shall be conducted in accordance with the following BUCS sport specific regulations, the BUCS general regulations, and the World Netball Rules of Netball.

NET ii In the event that these regulations contradict the BUCS general regulations, these BUCS sport specific regulations will supersede, unless specifically stated otherwise.

NET iii In the event that these regulations contradict the World Netball Rules of Netball, these BUCS sport specific regulations will supersede, unless specifically stated otherwise.

NET iv The gender eligibility criteria for the BUCS Netball Championships will be determined as per [REG 4.3](#).

NET 1 There shall be a Female Championships, the programme for which shall include leagues and knockout competitions as per BUCS general regulations, Appendix 1 ('BUCS Competition Offer and Associated BUCS Points') and Appendix 10 ('BUCS Promotion, Relegation and Knockout Information').

NET 2 Minimum number of players for a fixture to start The minimum number of players per team required for a fixture to start will be five.

NET 3 Duration of play All matches shall consist of four quarters of 15 minutes, an interval of four minutes between quarter one and two and between quarter three and quarter four, and a half-time interval of eight minutes. Teams shall change ends each quarter. For league fixtures tied matches are permitted.

NET 3.1 Ties in knockout competition matches In the event of a tie after full-time:

- There shall be a four minute interval at the end of full-time;
- Extra time of two halves of seven minutes each shall be played, with an interval of one minute at half-time. Teams change ends at half time. The Centre Pass is taken by the team entitled to the next Centre Pass;
- During both of these intervals, substitutions and/or team changes may be made;
- In the event of a tie remaining at the end of extra time, a visual signal shall be used to indicate that play shall continue until one of the teams has a two goal advantage.*

*The home team is responsible for ensuring a visual indicator (such as a cone or flag) is supplied to the score bench prior to the start of the match.

NET 4 Match officials Match officials should be appointed as per Appendix 5 ('BUCS Match Officials Requirements').

NET 4.1 For Scottish Conference (Tier 1 and below) league fixtures, Scottish Conference Cup fixtures, Scottish Conference Trophy fixtures, and when two Scottish institutions/Playing Entities play each other in the National Trophy, each team is expected to provide one of the umpires unless agreed in writing prior to the fixture to do otherwise.

NET 4.2 Technical Officials/Scorers

NET 4.2.1 For matches where Technical Officials are required (see Appendix 5) the responsibility of scoring and timing will sit with the Technical Officials. It is the responsibility of the first named (home) institution/Playing Entity to arrange all Technical Officials, except for:

- Where one of the exemptions under REG 10.2 applies;
- Where the opposition (away) institution/Playing Entity provides at least 48 hours' (outside of weekends and bank holidays) notice ahead of the start time of the fixture that they shall be providing a Technical Official.

NET 4.2.2 For matches where Technical Officials are not required (see Appendix 5) each team should supply a Scorer. The Scorers, under the direction of the Umpires, should keep score and time throughout the match. Ideally each Scorer will not be a player being fielded as part of a team for the match, as since the Rules of Netball were changed to allow rolling substitutions, the need is greater for the Scorers to not be players to ensure consistency if they have to take to the court.

NET 4.2.3 Where an electronic scoreboard is being used (note NET 5.3), it is advised that at least one additional Technical Official/Scorer is in place to take responsibility for operating this.

NET 5 Facility and equipment requirements

NET 5.1 Court bookings Playing facilities must be booked for an appropriate length of time to allow for the full conclusion of the match including a warm up. A minimum of two hours of court time should be booked for leagues matches and at least two and a half hours for knockout fixtures to allow for extra time to be played. Institutions/Playing Entities failing to book sufficient time will be considered to have defaulted on the match if for any reason there is insufficient time to bring the fixture to a conclusion.

NET 5.2 Court requirements

NET 5.2.1 All Premier Tier/National Championship matches must be played on a regulation size sprung wooden indoor court with run-off areas a minimum of 1.5m wide, with regulation posts (sunken or floor fixed), regulation rings and post protectors.

NET 5.2.2 Tier 1 and below league matches and National Trophy and Conference Cup/Trophy/Shield knockout competition matches All matches must be played on courts of regulation size, with regulation posts (sunken, floor fixed or free standing) that when knocked have minimal movement, and regulation rings with nets. Wherever possible matches should be played on indoor courts and padded post protectors are encouraged. Where both indoor and outdoor courts are available the home team must stage the match on the indoor court. The playing area should be free from overhanging items, for example basketball hoops, indoor cricket nets, or trees. It is recommended that the minimum run-off be 1.5m each side of the court and 2m at each end of the court. Whilst there is no minimum run-off requirement, umpires should be able to run around the outside of the court unimpeded. Team benches and officials' bench(es) to be located where safe and so as not to impede the match officials.

NET 5.3 Scoring equipment

NET 5.3.1 For Premier Tier/National Championship matches an electronic scoreboard must be used which displays the time remaining in each quarter.

NET 5.3.2 For Tier 1 and below league matches, and National Trophy and Conference Cup/Trophy/Shield knockout competition matches a manual scoreboard is sufficient should electronic scoring not be available. For matches where a manual scoreboard is not available, e.g. matches hosted on outdoor courts, the scorers (see NET 4.2) must verbally announce the score after every goal scored.

NET 5.4 Match balls For all fixtures the first named (home) team shall provide at least two balls which meet the specifications of the World Netball Rules of Netball, which shall be given to the umpires prior to the fixture starting. One of these shall be selected by the umpires as the match ball and shall be used throughout the match unless the umpires instruct that it is replaced by a spare match ball.

NET 6 Pre-match procedures

NET 6.1 Team start list Before the start of the match, the names of up to 12 players, one of whom shall be the captain, must be provided to the scorers.

NET 6.2 Coin toss and pre-match checks The home team captain is responsible for ensuring the coin toss is carried out prior to the match commencing and informing the officials of the result. All teams must cooperate with the pre-match checks carried out by the officials.

NET 6.3 Players' clothing and equipment Rules 3.9-3.13 of the World Netball Rules of Netball are varied as follows:

NET 6.3.1 Playing uniforms do not have to be registered or include a player's name and/or team number.

NET 6.3.2 A team's playing uniform must be distinct from the opposing team's playing uniform. In the event that it is not, REG 9.4 shall apply. Whilst adherence to REG 9.4 should avoid a kit clash from being identified at a match, teams must carry an alternate set of playing bibs for use where this may occur.

NET 6.3.3 On-court captain identification

NET 6.3.3.1 For Premier Tier and National Championship matches, the on-court captain must wear identification such as an arm band, a patch on their playing uniform, or electrical tape secured around the player's upper arm.

NET 6.3.3.2 For Tier 1 and below league matches, and National Trophy and Conference Cup/Trophy/Shield knockout competition matches, it is preferable that the on-court captain wears identification as per NET 6.3.3.1, but verbal confirmation to the umpires prior to the match starting (or an on-court captain being changed) shall be acceptable.

NET 7 Substitutions There shall be no limit to the number of substitutions which can be made in a match.

NET 8 Representative commitments When three or more players are selected for a National Governing Body Senior, A, Under 21, or Under 19 side, necessitating their presence at a competition or preparation camp associated with a competition, the institution/Playing Entity concerned shall be able to postpone any affected league fixtures.

NET 8.1 The institution/Playing Entity concerned shall be responsible for informing the opposition institution/Playing Entity of the requirement to postpone no later than five working days prior to the original fixture date. Upon notification of the postponement, institutions must follow REG 14.3 to rearrange the fixture.

NET 8.2 Knockout competition fixtures are not covered under NET 8.

NET 9 Calculating final league positions

NET 9.1 Final league positions will be primarily based on league points accumulated. However, should there be any ties on points within a league, they shall be split using the sequential system of tiebreaker steps detailed in NET 9.2–NET 9.10.

NET 9.2 If after the application of a step the number of tied teams is reduced, but two or more teams remain tied, the tiebreaker criteria from that step shall be reapplied again to any remaining tied teams, before, if required, moving to the next step. For the avoidance of doubt, this will also apply where four or more teams are tied and may then split into two or more separate groupings of tied teams.

NET 9.3 For any tiebreaker step where data from fixtures across the whole league is used, if the tie on league points has been effected by any walkovers conceded to the teams tied or any void fixtures involving these teams, any results against the team(s) which conceded the walkover(s) or the team(s) involved in the void fixtures (i.e. all the results between the teams tied on league points and the team(s) conceding the walkover(s)/void match(es)) will not be included in the calculation.

NET 9.4 The teams tied will be ranked based on voluntary walkovers conceded (the lower the better).

NET 9.5 The teams tied will be ranked based on Goal difference from fixtures across the whole league (the higher the better).

NET 9.6 The teams tied will be ranked based on Goals for from fixtures across the whole league (the higher the better).

NET 9.7 The teams tied will be ranked based on league points accumulated from fixtures between the tied teams (the higher the better).

NET 9.8 The teams tied will be ranked based on Goal difference from fixtures between the tied teams (the higher the better).

NET 9.9 The teams tied will be ranked based on Goals for from fixtures between the tied teams (the higher the better).

NET 9.10 If a tie cannot be broken using the above system, then the final league positions of any teams still tied shall be determined by the BUCS Executive drawing lots.