

BIRMINGHAM CITY NETBALL CLUB

Constitution

1. The Club shall be called Birmingham City Netball Club and shall be a member of England Netball.
2. The aims of the Club shall be:
 - a. to provide opportunities for girls to play netball at their appropriate level.
 - b. to develop individual players, focusing on skills, fitness and attitude.
 - c. to foster and encourage sportsmanship.
 - d. to raise the standard of play, umpiring and coaching.
 - e. to enter tournaments, national competitions and local leagues, including adult leagues.
 - f. to prepare girls for entry to senior clubs in adult Netball Leagues.
 - g. to run a Little League in summer to introduce girls in school years 3 to 6 to netball and to bring them up to readiness for Club membership.
 - h. to provide opportunities for girls in year 8 and above to gain skills and qualifications in coaching, umpiring and team management through the Club and Little League.
3. There shall be two classes of membership: Playing Members and Associate Members.
4. Playing Membership shall be open to girls in School Years 3 to 11 (exceptionally Year 13 when available) who show evidence of ability in and commitment to the sport. The Club will not discriminate unfairly against any player or intending player. Discrimination on the grounds of ability and commitment is not considered unfair in a competitive club.
5. The optimum playing membership shall be 20 per age group. The Club reserves the right to refuse applications if there are already 20 playing members in the relevant school year. Playing members are required to have the appropriate age-related membership of England Netball.
6. All members of the Committee shall be Associate Members ex-officio. Associate Membership shall be open to parents and guardians of all playing members and to any adults who wish to promote the aims of the Club, subject to the agreement of the Committee.
7. The sovereign body of the Club shall be the General Meeting. Each Associate Member shall be entitled to attend and vote at General Meetings. Playing members shall be entitled to attend but not to vote. At all other times the authority of the Club shall be vested in the Committee.
8. An Annual General Meeting shall be held during the Autumn Term. Extraordinary General Meetings may be held at the discretion of the Committee, or upon receipt of a written request signed by at least ten Associate Members. Fourteen days' notice of General Meetings shall be given.

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9. Items for inclusion in the Annual General Meeting should be submitted to the Secretary during the first week of the Autumn term.
10. The members of the Committee shall be Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Safeguarding Officer and Level 2 Club Coaches. Any other person may be co-opted as a member of the Committee. The Safeguarding Officer shall be appointed by the Committee.
11. A Coach or Coaches may be appointed by the Committee. The Club may remunerate any Coach for his or her services, but the Coach shall not be employed by the Club under a contract of service.
12. The Annual General Meeting shall elect the Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer and up to four additional Committee members. The Committee may co-opt additional members at any time.
13. Nominations for members of the committee must be proposed and seconded. The annual report and the annual balance sheet shall be presented by the Secretary and Treasurer respectively at the Annual General Meeting. The Annual General Meeting may appoint an auditor or auditors.
14. A monthly subscription shall be paid by all Playing Members. Subscriptions shall be reviewed annually by the Committee, and may be set at different rates for different age groups. A reduction in subscriptions may be made for players with an older sister paying subscriptions.
15. The Club will administer a discretionary Hardship Fund. Families in financial difficulties may apply to the Fund for help with the cost of kit and away trips and other one-off expenses. Exceptionally temporary help with current subscriptions may be given.
16. The Club shall hold a Bank current account with three signatories. Cheques drawn on the Club's account must be signed by any two signatories. The Club may operate Internet Banking in accordance with its Bank's conditions.
17. The committee shall meet at least once per term and at other times as deemed necessary.
18. All Members of the Club shall abide by the Rules of the Club and the Code of Conduct that applies to them. Any member who acts contrary to the Rules and Code of Conduct shall be subject to the Club's Disciplinary Policy.
19. This Constitution and Rules may not be altered unless approved by a General Meeting held in accordance with paragraph 8. All Associate Members shall be given fourteen days' notice of any amendment.
20. The Club may be dissolved following the passing of a Resolution of Dissolution at a Special General Meeting held in accordance with Paragraph 8. The assets of the club shall be applied to such netball-related organisation or organisations as are specified in the Resolution of Dissolution; in the absence of which the assets shall be applied to England Netball.

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Rules

1. Prospective playing members may attend two training session for free; thereafter a monthly subscription is payable.
2. Beginners will be accepted up to year 6. Membership at Year 7 and above for new and existing players will be dependent on demonstration of an appropriate standard of netball.
3. Players must have a Club's Membership Application form completed for them and signed by a parent or guardian. Players and parents / guardians must sign and abide by the relevant Code of Conduct.
4. Subscriptions are due in every month of the year by Bank Standing Order, quoting the player's Club Membership Number. They may be paid on any date in the month and cover complete months. A bridging fee at a rate set by the Committee shall be paid for any sessions after the two free sessions and before the start of the following month.
Playing members who are in arrears may be refused participation in the Club's activities.
England Netball Membership fees should be paid direct to England Netball when required.
5. As a competitive club, playing league matches is a core part of our activity. Players should apply themselves seriously to the game of netball and engage in activities outside of the Club to promote and maintain their personal fitness. They should regularly attend training and normally be available for matches when selected. Players who are unwilling or unable to do so may be asked to leave. The same applies to those who do not meet the competitive standard required by the Club, as determined by the Head Coach.
6. Where there is a conflict, the Club should normally have first call on a player's leisure activities. Players intending to move to another club will normally be expected to play out the rest of the relevant League season with BCNC.
7. For matches players should purchase and wear full Club kit and take care of their kit at all times. For training sessions club training T-shirts should be worn. England Netball safety guidelines must be followed with regards to fingernails and jewellery.
8. Players should show courtesy and sportsmanship at training and when playing matches. Umpires' decisions should be accepted with good grace.
9. In accordance with the Club's Disciplinary Policy sanctions up to and including dismissal from the Club may be applied in the case of any player (or her parent) who fails to abide by the Rules of the Club.

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Constitution and Rules certified by

Signed:

Name: Dianne Barber

Role: Chairman

Date: 5th October 2024

Signed:

Name: Jonathan Barber

Role: Secretary

Date: 5th October 2024

Rules re-certified by Jonathan Barber, 5th October 2025

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