

National Championships Handbook

2018 - 2019

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CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

GENERAL RULES

1. All Championship matches shall be played in accordance with the Official Rules of the International Netball Federation, except the National Primary Schools which will be played in accordance with Dragon Netball rules.
2. The Tournament Referee governs the event in accordance with the Championship Rules and in the event of a dispute their decision is final.
3. All clubs/schools/colleges, players, coaches, umpires, team managers and team officials shall be current affiliated members of Welsh Netball.
4. Entry forms for all competitions must be completed in full including affiliation numbers for players, coaches and managers and returned to Welsh Netball by the closing date with the required entry fee. Late entries may not be accepted.
5. Players must play in their age group. Only under exceptional circumstances will permission be granted by Welsh Netball for a player to play up an age group. An Age Group Application Form must be submitted to apply for permission to play out of an age group. Forms can be downloaded from the Welsh Netball website. **Please also refer to Rule 2 for Inter Area Championships and Rule 6 for the National Clubs Championships.**
6. Eligibility for age group competitions are:

For U12 to U19 age group competitions players must be under the specified age at midnight on **31st August** immediately prior to the competition.
7. Each team may consist of a squad of up to a maximum of **12 players**. It is recommended that there is a minimum of 10 players.
8. Each team must have a minimum of a Coach, Team Manager and Scorer. The roles of Coach and Team Manger must not be doubled up with other roles.
9. Teams must register on time and check the fixtures and event timings for any amendments.
10. Captains shall toss for first centre pass or choice of ends at least 5 minutes prior to their match.

11. Each team is responsible for providing a non-playing person to record the score for each of their matches.
12. At half time the two Scorers should confirm the score with each other and the next Centre Pass with the two Umpires. At full time the Scorers **MUST** confirm the result with each other before submitting the score sheets.
13. Teams should be courtside at least 5 minutes before their match is due to start. All players must be on court for the start of the match. Any team not on the court for the scheduled start of a match will forfeit the game, with the opposition being awarded the points and a number of goals. The number of goals awarded will be based on the average number of goals scored in the competition and decided by the Tournament Referee. Persistent lateness may result in disqualification from the competition.
14. A hooter or similar may be used as an indication to umpires at the start or end of a period of a match but the match itself is controlled by the umpire's whistle.
15. No injury time is permitted. Injured players should be removed from the court as soon as possible and substituted immediately. In the event of a serious injury the player must not be moved without medical supervision. If necessary the match will be abandoned and rescheduled if the result impacts on the overall outcome of the tournament.
16. No player who is bleeding from an open wound will be allowed to enter or remain on court and may only re-enter when:
 - The wound has been cleaned and covered
 - Affected clothing has been removed
 - A goal has been scored or during an interval, when the umpire indicates the player may return to the game
17. Match points will be awarded as follows for all age groups except Primary School competitions:
 - 5** points for a win
 - 3** points for a draw
 - 2** points for losing within 5 goals for matches longer than 30 minutes duration
 - 1** point for scoring more than 50% of the winning team's final score
 - 0** points for a loss
18. Match points for Primary School competitions:
 - 5** points for win
 - 3** points for a draw

2 points for more than 50% of the winning team's final score

1 point for each game played

19. In the event of a points tie, positions shall be decided on Goal Average (i.e. goals for divided by goals against). Should goal average be identical then Goal Difference will be used (i.e. goals for minus goals against).
20. In the event of a draw during knock out stages two minutes each way of extra time shall be allowed (with no half time). If it is still a draw at the end of extra time the winning team will be the first team to achieve a one goal advantage for games of less than 30 minutes, and a two goal advantage for matches longer than 30 minutes.
21. Welsh Netball cannot accept any responsibility for accidents or injuries to players or spectators which may occur during Championships.
22. Welsh Netball has the right to adapt and alter the rules of Championships in situ according to the circumstances.

UMPIRING

Teams are responsible for sourcing and funding one approved umpire for each team entered in a competition. Welsh Netball will plan the rota for umpiring and every effort will be made to have independent umpires for each match. Welsh Netball will provide a list of approved umpires based on experience, qualification and level of fitness. Please see Welsh Netball Umpire Selection Policy.

Umpires will not score at National Championships.

NATIONAL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS (U12, U14, U16 & U19)

1. Players must be **under 12, under 14, under 16 or under 19 years of age at midnight 31st August immediately prior to the competition.**
2. The Championship is open to all players affiliated to and playing in U12, U14, U16 and U19 teams in Wales.
3. All players and officials must be individually affiliated to Welsh Netball.
4. Qualifying regional rounds for U12, U14 and U16 will take place in the eight areas of Wales as defined by Welsh Netball. The two qualifying teams from each area will be invited to the National Finals.
5. The U19 Championships will have an 'Open' competition entry, therefore qualification through a regional round is not required.
6. Prior to the Championship each team must register with Welsh Netball a maximum of 12 players (with a recommended minimum of 10) to play in the Championship. No additions to the team list will be accepted once the Championship is under way.
7. **No player may play for more than one club.** Players must play for their affiliated club as defined on their WN affiliation. Players are required to have taken the court for their affiliated club at least 3 times prior to the Championship. Once a player has represented a club in any of the National Club Championships (including qualifying rounds) they can only play for that club in any National Club Championship.
8. **No player may play for more than one age group** in the National Club Championships (including qualifying rounds and Senior National Clubs).
9. Teams are responsible for providing a qualified umpire. For U12 and U14 National Club Championships the minimum qualification for all umpires is competent C Award and ideally with experience umpiring these age groups. For U16 and U19 National Club Championships umpires must be appointed from Welsh Netball's Approved List of Umpires. In exceptional circumstances an umpire not on the Approved List may be appointed with permission from the UAP.
10. The format for the Championships will be dependent on the number of entries. All National Club Championships will be played according to Welsh Netball adult rules (including U12 age group).
11. No player under the age of 10 at midnight 31st August immediately prior to the competition may compete in the U12 Championship (except under Rule 5 of the General Championship Rules).

12. No player under the age of 12 at midnight 31st August immediately prior to the competition may compete in the U14 Championship (except under Rule 5 of the General Championship Rules).
13. No player under the age of 14 at midnight 31st August immediately prior to the competition may compete in the U16 Championship (except under Rule 5 of the General Championship Rules).
14. No player under the age of 16 at midnight 31st August immediately prior to the competition may compete in the U19 Championship (except under Rule 5 of the General Championship Rules).

Please also refer to General Championship Rules

INTER AREA CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. The criteria for selection will be established by the Area Association Committee. This may lead to a variation in eligibility but the Areas are the final arbiters of who plays in their team.
2. **No player may play for more than one age group** in the Inter Area Championships.
3. Each Area is responsible for engaging the services of an umpire qualified to a minimum C Award level. Umpires must be appointed from Welsh Netball's Approved List of Umpires. In exceptional circumstances an umpire not on the Approved List may be appointed with permission from the UAP.
4. Each Championship will be played as a Round Robin competition whenever possible, however Welsh Netball reserves the right to change the format at any time. Length of matches will be determined in accordance with the venue hire etc.
5. When there is an A and B competition players cannot move between teams once the competition has started.
6. For the Senior Inter Area Championship players must be a minimum of 17 years of age midnight on 31st August immediately prior to the competition.

Please also refer to General Championship Rules particularly rules 5 & 6 for eligibility.

NATIONAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIP

1. The National Primary Schools competition is open to all primary schools affiliated to Welsh Netball.
2. All players must be in Years 5 or 6.
3. Regional rounds of the competition will take place in the 8 Areas of Wales as defined by Welsh Netball. The two qualifying teams from each Area will be invited to the National Finals.
4. The Championship finals will be played according to Dragon Netball Rules with the exception of the 'Rotation Rule'. There will be no rotation at the National Finals. Matches will be played with a size 4 ball, the posts will be at the lowest setting (8'6" or 9'), the footwork rule will be relaxed and the held ball rule will be set at 5 seconds.

THE ANN SMART TROPHY

1. The Ann Smart Trophy competition is open to teams of players aged **Under 16 years** from **individual schools affiliated to Welsh Netball**.
2. All players playing in the National Finals must be individually affiliated to Welsh Netball.
3. Qualifying rounds of the Ann Smart Trophy shall be organised and run by each Area, with the **winning school representing their Area at the National Finals**.
4. All players must be **under 16 years of age at midnight 31st August immediately prior to the National Finals** and must be on the school or college register. No player under the age of 14 at midnight 31st August immediately prior to the competition may compete in the Ann Smart Trophy (except under Rule 5 of the General Championship Rules).

Teams are responsible for providing
an umpire qualified to a minimum C Award level

5. . Umpires must be appointed from Welsh Netball's Approved List of Umpires. In exceptional circumstances an umpire not on the Approved list may be appointed with permission from the UAP.
6. At the National Finals the competition will normally be played as a Round Robin but Welsh Netball reserves the right to change the format at any time. Length of matches will be determined in accordance with the venue hire etc.
7. Players are not allowed to play in both the Ann Smart Trophy and the President's Cup competitions if they are held on the same day.

Please also refer to General Championship Rules

THE PRESIDENT'S CUP

1. The President's Cup is open to teams of players aged **under 19 years** from **individual schools and colleges affiliated to Welsh Netball.**
2. All players playing in the National Finals must be individually affiliated to Welsh Netball.
2. Qualifying rounds of the President's Cup shall be organised and run by each Area, with the **winning school or college representing their Area at the National Finals.**
3. All players must be **under 19 years of age at midnight 31st August immediately prior to the championship** and must be on the school or college register. No player under the age of 15 at midnight 31st August immediately prior to the competition may compete in the President's Cup except under Rule 5 of the General Championship Rules. **(Refer also to Rule 6)**
4. Players involved with "consortia" schools may choose which school they play for. If that school is subsequently knocked-out in a qualifying round the player cannot play for another "consortia" or school in a later round.
5. Eligibility to represent the consortium team is to be established by Area committees.
6. A team may consist of a squad of up to **12 players, only three of whom may be under 16 years of age.**

Teams are responsible for providing an umpire qualified to a minimum C Award level

7. . Umpires must be appointed from Welsh Netball's Approved List of Umpires. In exceptional circumstances an umpire not on the Approved list may be appointed with permission from the UAP.
8. At the National Finals the competition will normally be played as a Round Robin but Welsh Netball reserves the right to change the format. Length of matches will be determined in accordance with the venue hire etc.
9. Players are not allowed to play in both the Ann Smart Trophy and the President's Cup competitions if they are held on the same day.

Please also refer to General Championship Rules

CONTACT DETAILS

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For individual entry forms to all our National Competitions please visit our website.

Welsh Netball National Competitions 2018-19

Competition	Date	Venue	Entry and Payment	Team List
U19 Open Clubs	02.12.2018	House of Sport, Cardiff	02.11.2018	16.11.2018
U18 Inter Area	19.01.2019	Sports Centre, Ebbw Vale	20.12.2018	09.01.2019
U16 A&B Inter Area	27.01.2019	Bangor University	20.12.2018	11.01.2019
U14 A&B Inter Area	10.02.2019	House of Sport, Cardiff	11.01.2019	25.01.2019
Ann Smart Trophy	17.03.2019	LC2, Swansea	15.02.2019	01.03.2019
President's Cup	17.03.2019	LC2, Swansea	15.02.2019	01.03.2019
Senior Inter Area	06.04.2019	Merthyr Tydfil Leisure Centre	08.03.2019	22.03.2019
U16 National Clubs	07.04.2019	House of Sport, Cardiff	08.03.2019	22.03.2019
Primary Schools	02.05.2019	Merthyr Tydfil Leisure Centre	03.04.2019	12.04.2019
U12 National Clubs	11.05.2019	Bangor University	12.04.2019	26.04.2019
U14 National Clubs	12.05.2019	Bangor University	12.04.2019	26.04.2019