

**BUSINESS HOUSE NETBALL ASSOCIATION**  
**BYE-LAWS GOVERNING LEAGUE MATCHES**

**1. REGISTRATION**

- A) Registration fees are to be agreed on by the Council from year to year.
- B) Affiliation fees are due each year. Failure to comply with the foregoing by the AGM-April will result in a penalty charge of 50% of the affiliation fee.
- If the fee of any member is not received by the AGM-April, that member shall no longer be considered a member of the Association.
- C) To become registered, each player shall sign the registration form at the beginning of a season and this shall be effective for the duration of the season.
- D) Late registration is limited to new employees who have joined the company after the Original registration form has been submitted. This must reach the Hon. Match Secretary at least ten (10) days prior to the player playing in a match.
- E) **PENALTY FOR PLAYING AN UNREGISTERED PLAYER:** Award match to the Opposing team and no goals recorded for the infringing team. Players are not recorded as having played.
- F) No team shall be registered with less than seven (7) players.
- G) At the start of the season, all teams entering the Opening Rally and Open League must participate in the uniform parade or forfeit the right to play in those competitions, unless a reason has been submitted in writing to the Council.

There shall be a Uniform Parade for teams that did not participate in the Opening Parade.

- H) The Registration Form as submitted at the beginning of the season shall be the only one effective throughout the season, i.e. there shall be no more Registration for Junior, Intermediate and Senior Leagues except as stated in D above.
- I) Registered players transferring from one Company to another must notify the Association in writing prior to playing with the new company at least ten (10) days prior to playing.

**Note: Teams found to be using players who are not legitimate employees of the company will be automatically disqualified.  
Heart Trainees are not allowed to be registered players.**

**2. COMPANIES/TEAMS/PLAYERS**

- A) A company which fields more than one team, shall grade its players as "A", "B", "C", etc. and shall indicate on the Registration Form, the team which each player shall represent.
- B) No player shall play in a lower grade team than that in which she is registered.
- C) Playing for a higher ranked team  
If a company has more than one team, a player from a lower team may play a maximum of two games for a higher team during the Open League. The same will apply during the divisional leagues on condition that both teams are not in the same division.

The player automatically becomes a member of the higher team when she plays more than two games for that team.

D) When a company is fielding more than one team in any one division, players may not interchange in that same division. Interchange is allowed ONLY in Open League.

E) **PENALTY FOR NOT COMPLYING WITH THE ABOVE PARAGRAPHS:**

The points will be awarded to the opposing team, and no goals to be recorded for the infringing team. Players are not recorded as having played.

### 3. MATCH RESULT FORMS

A) Each team is responsible for supplying the Match Result Form, which should be signed by all players and handed to the Hon. Match Secretary five (5) minutes before the scheduled start of the game.

B) Each player and substitute shall sign the Match Result Form with the same signature as appears on the Registration Form. Managers or Captains MUST print names on the back of the Match Result Form for quicker identification by the Hon. Match Secretary when checking the forms.

C) All signatures and results shall be filled in with a ballpoint pen.

D) To assist the Hon. Match Secretary with checking the Match Result Forms, when playing from a lower grade, this MUST be noted on the Match Result Form, beside the player's name.

E) No member of the Association is allowed to pass on information and scores of matches to the newspapers, radio and television unless she is the Hon. Match Secretary or a member of the Council.

F) **PENALTY FOR NOT COMPLYING WITH A & B IN ABOVE PARAGRAPHS:**

❖ Award match to the opposing team and no goals to be recorded for the infringing team. Players are not recorded as having played.

❖ If a team gains points on penalties, all players shall be recorded as having played on that day.

### 4. UNIFORMS

A) Full registered uniform and bibs must be worn for each match.

B) Where a dress is worn, it must be long enough to cover the panties. The style must allow freedom of movement to throw.

C) Where the blouse and skirt comprise the uniform the blouse must be worn inside the skirt during play. The blouse must be made to allow freedom of arm movement. The skirt must be long enough to cover the panties, and must allow freedom of movement.

D) Bibs must blend with the colour of the uniform. Letters should be at least eight (8) inches high and should be neatly sewn or written. The letters must be worn back and front. Bibs should be attached to the blouse by Velcro strips. Panties should match the colour of the skirt and should be thick. Cycle shorts are not allowed. Socks must always be worn. They are neater if turned down. If a team chooses to wear them long, then all members of her team should wear them long. All socks for a team must be the same colour. Sockets are not allowed. Shoes must be rubber sole, preferably white. If training shoes are worn, they should be clean.

E) No jewelry is allowed. Only a wedding band may be worn. This must be taped.

- F) Hairstyle should be suitable for a sporting occasion. Hair ornaments are not allowed. No scarves, tams etc. may be worn. A small plastic rain hood may be worn during rain.
- G) Nails must be short.
- H) Should there be duplication in uniform; any suitable means of identification acceptable to both teams shall be adopted.
- I) Members of the Disciplinary Committee, members of the Council or umpires, are empowered to ban a player from participating in a particular match, if: -
  - i. She is not wearing registered uniform.
  - ii. She is wearing jewelry (wedding rings properly ,taped, accepted).
  - iii. She is not wearing proper shoes or socks or a bib.
- J) There should be no alteration of uniform without permission from the Council. Failure to comply will result in a fine to be determined by the Council. Council reserves the right to reject the submission of uniform colours that are similar to teams already in the competition.
- K) Teams must submit uniform designs/colours accompanied by samples of the material for approval by the end of March.

**NOTE:**

- 1) **Remember that a television or press photographer may turn up at a match at any time.**
- 2a) **If there is any member of the team out of uniform, an apology MUST BE TENDERED to both umpires, who must be asked to give permission for such a player to take part in the game. An umpire may send a player off the court for unregistered uniform.**
- 2b) **Captains are responsible for maintaining the foregoing rules.**

**5. UMPIRES**

- A) Every match MUST be umpired by two umpires, one provided by each team, except for play offs, quarter final, semi-final and final matches when the organizers provide the umpires.
- B) The umpire shall have the minimum qualification of the J.N.A. Each umpire shall be neutral.  
  
A neutral umpire is one who is not a registered member of that company/team or the coach of that company/team in any competition in which that team is involved, or an employee of the firm to which the team belongs.
- C) Should any team not have a neutral umpire, that team forfeits the match. The team captains are advised to carry a whistle to ensure that the umpire is equipped.
- D) For Senior League matches, all umpires shall hold at least the Grade "A" Award for Umpires and shall be neutral. Any team failing to supply such an umpire shall forfeit the match.
- E) Substitution of an Umpire is allowed only for injury or illness. Once the substitute has umpired, the injured or sick umpire may not return to umpire in that game.

**6. COACHES**

- A) No more than two (2) Business House Teams shall be represented by the same coach. In the event of both teams playing at the same time, it is incumbent upon the coach to appoint an assistant.

## 7. CAPTAINS

- A) The Captains shall toss for choice of goal or first center pass and notify the umpire of the results.
- B) They have the right to approach an Umpire during an interval or after the game for clarification of any rule.
- C) During an interval, appeal to the Umpire for extra time to deal with an emergency affecting a member of the team and if the appeal is granted notify the opposing captain of the amount of time that is to be added to the Interval.
- D) Ten (10) minutes grace consideration for start of matches, must be communicated to the opposing team and to the Umpires by the Captain.

## 8. STARTING TIME OF MATCHES

- A) All matches must begin within ten (10) minutes of the scheduled starting time, provided a court is available.
- B) Any team not ready to begin a match within the start time shall forfeit the match – exception being if a player is still umpiring another match.
- C) No team may begin a match with less than five (5) players.

Late arrivals may enter the game only as specified in the current Code of Rules approved by the Jamaica Netball Association.

## 9. POINTS SCORING SYSTEMS

- A) Win, 3 points; Draw, 1 point; Loss, 0 point; walkover; 3 points and 15 goals for Senior League; 3 points and 7 goals for Intermediate and Junior League.

If a match has been started and is interfered by unforeseen circumstances:

- i) Prior to the start of the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) half, the match shall be replayed;
  - ii) During the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) half, the results at the time of the interruption will be upheld.
- B) If both teams have less than five (5) players, the match result form MUST be completed and the match is considered null and void.
  - C) **The Winner of the Competitions:**
    - The team scoring most points. If sectional play is employed, the winner of a section shall be the team scoring most points. If two or more teams in one section tie on points they shall play each other to decide the winner of the section.
    - If two teams tie on points they shall play off. If at the end of play off match there is a draw, both teams shall play extra time of ten minutes each half. Captains must toss again before extra time.
    - If at a quarterfinal, semi-final or final match, there is a draw at the end of the game, both teams shall play extra time of ten minutes each half.

- Captains must toss again before extra time. If there is still a draw at the end of extra time, play continues until a decision is reached.
- If the previous year's winner of a competition reaches the semi-finals of the same competition in the following season, if a bye is involved to reach the finals, the defending champion shall automatically draw the bye.
- If two teams from the same company reach the semi-finals in any competition, they shall automatically play each other in the semi-finals.
- To qualify as a player in play-offs, quarterfinal, semi-final and final matches, the player should have played in at least two (2) matches for that team in that competition.

#### 10. **POSTPONEMENT OF MATCHES**

- A) No match may be postponed without prior permission of the Hon. Match Secretary.
- B) Permission MAY be granted provided five (5) days notice is given in writing to the Hon. Match Secretary.
- C) Failure to notify the Hon. Match Secretary for permission to be granted will result in the loss of points.
- D) The Hon. Match Secretary will notify the opposing team and umpire of the postponement of matches.
- E) The team requesting the postponement shall pay a postponement fee of the cost of using the court.

#### 11. **NO SHOW OF TEAMS**

##### **Teams refusing to show for matches:**

- a) During the Open League – will be suspended for the ensuing Divisional League
- b) During the Divisional League – will be suspended for the ensuing season

#### 12. **LAY-OFF**

Once a player has been laid-off, she will **NOT** be able to participate in the Association's competition during the lay-off period.

#### 13. **STATUS CHANGE OF TEAMS**

The Council reserves the right to promote or demote a team during the Divisional League, if based on their performance it is considered that they had been misplaced.

#### 14. **TROPHIES**

If teams do not return trophies they will be asked to replace them with similar ones at their own cost. All trophies should be returned in good condition, to the Match Secretary/ Council member at the beginning of the Divisional League.

#### 15. **IDENTIFICATION CARDS**

All players and company officials must be in possession of valid BHNA Identification Cards for presentation at each match. Prior to the start of a match all ID Cards along with the Match Result Form must be presented.

**16. TEAM PHOTOGRAPHS**

Team photographs for the news media shall include players only.

Where teams have changed uniforms, they should present to Council a colour photograph of their players in the new uniform.

**17. DUTIES OF HOME TEAM**

Home team is the team that is named first on the fixture and is responsible for –

- a) A suitable ball, which if approved by the umpires, **MUST** be used for the duration of the match, unless it loses air or goes out of shape, in which case another ball may be used, with the consent of both umpires.
- b) Refreshments, served preferably at half time.

**18. NEW COMPANIES**

Companies wishing to join the Association (after the start of the season) **MUST** send in a description of their proposed uniform including bibs, for approval by the Executive Committee.

**19. TRIPS ABROAD/VISITING TEAMS**

Any Company planning to travel overseas or to invite teams from abroad to play Netball **MUST** first obtain permission from the Association at least *two months* prior to the proposed tour.

**20. DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE**

- A) Any complaint regarding a match must be conveyed in writing to the Hon. Match Secretary within forty-eight (48) hours of the match being played.
- B) The Disciplinary Committee will consider such complaints and report their recommendations to the Council for final decision.
- C) Any company/team may appeal against a decision of the Council. Such appeal must be made in writing to the Hon. Match Secretary of the Association. Any notice of appeal to the Council must be accompanied by Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) which shall be forfeited should the appeal be deemed to be frivolous.

**21. ACCIDENT**

The Business House Netball Association will not accept any liability whatsoever for any accident or injury that occurs to players and umpires on or off the courts. If a player is injured during a match, and this results in bleeding, that player should discontinue playing until the bleeding is controlled and the wound covered with a bandage, to the satisfaction of Match Officials.

**21. PREGNANCY**

Where a player is pregnant she is requested not to play both in her own interests and those of other players on court. The Council may bar any player known to be pregnant, from playing.

**22. LITTER**

The Association is responsible for seeing that the courts are left in a clean condition. It is requested that companies/teams place litter in the garbage bins provided.

**23. FIRST AID**

The company/team shall supply its own first aid.

February 24, 2007