



England Netball – East Midlands Regional Association- Constitution

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1 NAME & LOGO

- 1.1 The association shall be called England Netball East Midlands Region otherwise known and referred to as Regional Association or East Midlands Netball.
- 1.2 The Regional Association will use the following logo as approved by the Board of Directors (meaning the Board of Directors at England Netball).



2 OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The Regional Association is affiliated to England Netball and will be bound by and conform to the rules, strategies, plans, policies and procedures of, and be accountable to, the Board of Directors for the participation, regulation, growth and development of the game in the East Midland Region.
- 2.2 The Regional Association will serve as a forum to co-ordinate activities, organise regional competitions, arrange technical courses and elect representatives to serve on National Committees in line with plans and strategies approved by the Board of Directors.
- 2.3 The Regional Association will seek to develop the game of netball within the East Midlands Region in line with plans and strategies approved by the Board of Directors.
- 2.4 The Regional Association and its Members are committed to treating everyone equally and with respect; it shall not discriminate in any way against any other Member and will act in compliance with the Equality Act 2010.

3 VISION & MISSION STATEMENT

- 3.1 The Regional Association supports and endorses England Netball's vision, mission and strategic goals.
- 3.2 The Regional Association's own mission statement is:

To establish Netball in the East Midlands Region as a top performing sport in all disciplines with a financially sustainable governing body that promotes

“Netball for Life” and develops more world class athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers.

4. GUIDING PRINIPLES

4.1 The Regional Association will:

- 1) always place the participant at the heart of everything we do and provide the best quality service we can but we will balance that with the need to grow and manage a sustainable Regional Association.
- 2) value and respect the contribution and needs of our volunteers who are integral to our success.
- 3) coordinate and locally deliver England Netball’s portfolio of programmes and products.
- 4) be innovated and progressive in our thinking, always connecting short-term actions to medium-term strategies and long term goals striving to improve the quality and standard of what we do and how we do it.
- 5) work together with England Netball as ‘one team aligned to one dream’ for the benefit of Netball within the region and as such we will succeed or fail together.
- 6) work in partnership and collaboration with England Netball where there is a mutual benefit in terms of operations effectiveness and efficiency, value for money and added value for participants in Netball.
- 7) develop, enable, encourage programmes and activities that have a positive and beneficial impact on the lives of netball participants within the East Midlands Region.
- 8) establish integrated planning and process pathways that enable rather than constrain service excellence.
- 9) recognise and celebrate individual and collective contributions and success.

5. MEMBERSHIP

5.1 The Counties in the Regional Association are Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire and Nottinghamshire (hereinafter “Counties”). The members of the Regional Association shall comprise of:

Derbyshire Netball Association
Leicestershire Netball Association
Lincolnshire Netball Association
Northamptonshire Netball Association
Nottinghamshire Netball Association
Each England Netball affiliated school within one of the Counties
Each England Netball affiliated club within one of the Counties

The Regional Management Board

or any member of the above, as applicable (hereinafter “Members”).

- 5.2 All persons who assist in any way with the Regional Associations activities shall become members of the Regional Association and hence of England Netball and all affiliation fees shall be paid.
- 5.3 All paid persons (who are not members of the Regional Association) must acknowledge and adhere to the England Netball East Midlands Regional Association Constitution and incorporated policies and processes whilst engaged in activities under the jurisdiction of the Regional Association thus subject to all the constraints and privileges associated with it.
- 5.4 The Regional Association may refuse membership only for good and sufficient cause, such as but not limited to a conduct or character likely to bring the Regional Association or sport into disrepute.

6 STRUCTURE OF THE REGIONAL ASSOCIATION

- 6.1 The Regional Association’s structure is comprised of:
 - a) Regional Management Board
- 6.2 The Regional Management Board has the authority to establish, determine terms of reference, set roles and responsibilities and dissolve various groups, forums and TSG’s at its sole discretion to assist with the management and operation of the Regional Association.
- 6.3 At the date of this Constitution the current groups, forums and TSGs are comprised of:
 - a) Regional Operating Technical Support Group
 - b) Competition Technical Support Group
 - c) Performance (Incorporating Player Pathway- satellite, County, Regional Academy, Regional Performance Academy, TID, Competition opportunities and Coaching Pathway) Technical Support Group
 - d) Officiating Technical Support Group
 - e) Volunteer & Club Development Technical Support Group
 - f) Recognition and Profile Technical Support Group
 - g) County Chairs Forum
 - h) Governance and Finance Group
 - i) Youth Action Group

7. REGIONAL MANAGEMENT BOARD

7.1. The business of the East Midlands Region shall be managed by a Regional Management Board.

7.2 Role and Powers of the Regional Management Board

7.2.1 The principle role of the Regional Management Board is to plan, support and co-ordinate the development of the game within the East Midlands Region in a manner that meets the requirements of national plans and strategies determined by England Netball Board of Directors whilst engaging with the Counties to formulate and implement plans responding to the specific needs of the game within the East Midlands Region.

7.2.2 The Regional Management Board will work with England Netball Regional Staff on an ad hoc basis to prepare and submit a budget to England Netball to deliver national targets according to regional need and will be accountable to the England Netball Board of Directors for the use of such funds in achieving these targets.

7.2.3 The Regional Management Board will provide direction, support and guidance to regional and sub-regional sporting partnerships to ensure that the overall policies and strategies for the development of the game are communicated consistently and effectively to regional partners and that any additional funding opportunities within the region are identified and secured and used in line with England Netball and regional priorities.

7.2.4 The Regional Management Board shall, where asked to by England Netball, submit an Annual Report and independently examined accounts to England Netball on the significant activities held at regional and county level.

7.2.5 The Regional Management Board may at the request of England Netball nominate appropriate individuals to serve on any national standing, working or technical committees established by England Netball.

7.2.6 The Regional Management Board has the authority to establish, determine terms of reference, set roles and responsibilities and dissolve various groups, forums and TSG's at its sole discretion to assist with the management and operation of the Regional Association.

7.2.7 The Regional Management Board may from time to time allocate certain areas of responsibility to members of the Regional

Management Board or set further terms of references or roles and responsibilities for the Regional Management Board itself.

7.2.8 The Regional Management Board will appoint an independent auditor to examine, verify and confirm the accuracy of the yearly income.

7.2.9 The Regional Management Board shall have the power to make, alter, add to and revoke By-Laws of the Regional Association, provided that such By-Laws or any alterations, or revocation shall not be effective until the earlier of:

- a) Approval by the Regional Association (AGM or EGM) or
- b) Three months after passing of an appropriate resolution by the East Midlands Regional Management Board

7.3 Composition of the Regional Management Board:

7.3.1 The composition of the Regional Management Board shall be:

- a) Chair
- b) Vice Chair
- c) Treasurer
- d) Elected member
- e) Regional Operating Technical Support Group Chair who shall be appointed by the Regional Management Board and not hold positions a-d above
- f) Up to 3 members appointed by the Regional Management Board, one of whom must be an England Netball Member at the time of appointment. The other two appointed members may or may not be in membership of England Netball at the time of appointment
- g) The Regional Management Board may, from time to time, appoint members with relevant knowledge and experience on a short term basis to carry out specific and time-bound strategic work and will not have any voting rights

7.3.2 Regional Management Board members listed in 7.3.1 sub clauses a-f above have voting rights. Voting members must not be a paid employee of England Netball.

7.3.3 Each member of the Regional Management Board (except the Regional Manager and Regional Office Personnel) will have one vote. Any member of the Regional Management Board who is a paid member of staff of England Netball will not be entitled to vote. In the event of a tie in votes cast on any item of business the Chair shall have a further casting vote.

- 7.3.4 The Regional Manager is invited to attend all Regional Management Board meetings as a communication link with England Netball. The Regional Manager is not a member of the Regional Management Board and therefore has no voting rights. Minutes of the meeting will be taken by the Regional Office Personnel.
- 7.3.5 The Regional Management Board shall normally meet every four months in January; May and September.
- 7.3.6 Five members of the Regional Management Board, who are entitled to vote, must be present to form a quorum for Regional Management Board Meetings.
- 7.3.7 Regional Management Board members shall serve for a term of four years from date of election unless vacated earlier in accordance with 7.7.1
- 7.3.8 All members of the Regional Management Board shall be eligible for re-election after serving their term at the Annual General Meeting in accordance with this Constitution.

7.4 Roles of Members of the Regional Management Board:

7.4.1 The Chairman shall:

- a) Attend all Regional Management Board Meetings where possible and send apologies where they are unable to attend.
- b) Chair all meetings of the Regional Management Board;
- c) Be responsible for the conduct of the Regional Management Board in managing the affairs of the East Midlands Region;
- d) Co-ordinate the work of the Regional Management Board;
- e) Be entitled to attend any meeting of the forums, groups or Technical Support Groups established by the Regional Management Board.
- f) Adhere to the role description set by the Regional Management Board
- g) Adhere to the relevant Code of Conduct

7.4.2 The Vice Chairman shall:

- a) Deputise for the Chairman
- b) Attend all Regional Management Board Meetings where possible and send apologies where they are unable to attend.
- c) Assist the Chairman in all matters relating to 7.1.7 b-d above
- d) Adhere to the role description set by the Regional Management Board
- e) Adhere to the relevant Code of Conduct

7.4.3 The Treasurer shall:

- a) Attend all Regional Management Board Meetings where possible and send apologies where they are unable to attend.
- b) Be responsible for providing financial advice to the East Midlands Region
- c) Oversee the production of annual accounts
- d) Be a member of the Governance and Finance Group, contribute to the preparation of an annual budget based on strategic and operational plans as submitted by Regional Operating Technical Support Group and any other, groups or TSGs.
- e) Be responsible for the preparation and monitoring of operating statements against budgeted figures in line with Governance and Finance Group meetings.
- f) Prepare a balance sheet for each Regional Management Board Meeting
- g) Prepare monthly/bi-monthly or quarterly operating statements for Technical Support Groups as per their requirements
- h) Manage the bank accounts for the Regional Association
- i) Adhere to the role description set by the Regional Management Board
- j) Adhere to the relevant Code of Conduct

7.4.4 The Regional Operating Technical Support Group Chair shall:

- a) Chair and manage the Regional Operating Technical Support Group.
- b) Attend all Regional Management Board Meetings where possible and send apologies where they are unable to attend.
- c) Adhere to the role description(s) set by the Regional Management Board.
- d) Adhere to the relevant Code of Conduct

7.4.5 The Appointed Members shall:

- a) Attend all Regional Management Board Meetings where possible and send apologies where they are unable to attend.
- b) Adhere to the role description(s) set by the Regional Management Board.
- c) Adhere to the relevant Code of Conduct

7.4.6 The Elected Members shall:

- a) Attend all Regional Management Board Meetings where possible and send apologies where they are unable to attend.

- b) Adhere to the role description(s) set by the Regional Management Board.
- c) Adhere to the relevant Code of Conduct

7.5 The Regional Management Board may fill any vacancy that may occur during the year. If this involves filling an elected position then that person must offer themselves for election at the next Annual General Meeting following their initial appointment.

7.6 Elections to the Regional Management Board:

7.6.1 The dates for re-election will be incorporated with the Regional Association's By-Laws and notified to members within AGM/EGM notification time scales.

7.6.2 Members of the Regional Association would consider and vote on a list of nominations received (against the published role description/ person specification) for:

- a) Chair
- b) Vice Chair
- c) Treasurer
- d) Elected members

7.6.3 Each nomination should be accompanied by a Netball Curriculum vitae highlighting appropriate experience. Appointments would be by a simple majority. Nomination forms will be circulated to Members of the Association by the Regional Management Board and completed forms must be returned to the Board 28 days before the Annual General Meeting.

7.6.4 Only members of the Regional Association can be nominated. A voting member cannot be a paid member of staff of England Netball.

7.6.5 At the first meeting of the Regional Management Board each year the elected members shall decide who shall be appointed as the 3 appointed individuals.

7.7 Resignation from the Regional Management Board:

7.7.1 A post on the Regional Management Board may be vacated if:

- a) The Member concerned resigns their post by notice to the Regional Management Board
- b) They shall be absent for more than 2 consecutive meetings without justifiable reason

- c) They are requested to resign by the vote of the Regional Management Board

7.8 The members of the Regional Management Board will be reimbursed by the Regional Association at England Netball Travel and Subsistence Rates for travel, accommodation and other expenses incurred by them in connection with meetings of the Board or other approved business of the Board.

7.9 The members of the Regional Management Board shall have limited liability and are covered by England Netballs insurance place for its affiliated members. No member of the Regional Management Board is to be held personally liable for any action.

8 HONORARY MEMBERS

8.1 The Regional Management Board may recognise special service to the East Midlands Region by the appointment of Honorary Members. Nominations may be submitted by any East Midlands Regional Member throughout the year for approval by the Regional Management Board.

8.2 Honorary Members, shall be eligible to attend all General Meetings of the East Midlands Region in a non-voting capacity and receive such rights and privileges as determined by the Regional Management Board

9 GENERAL MEETINGS OF THE EAST MIDLANDS REGION (AGM and EGM)

9.1 The Annual General Meeting:

9.1.1 The Annual General Meeting shall be held annually on a date to be determined by the Regional Management Board.

9.1.2 The date of the Annual General Meeting shall be fixed and reported not less than 56 days prior to the date of such meeting. Agenda and motions shall be circulated not less than twenty-one days prior to the meeting to each member of the Regional Association. The Regional office personnel will be responsible for circulating notices to each Member of the Regional Association. Each Member shall be responsible for notifying their nominated representatives.

9.1.3 The Chair of the Regional Management Board shall act as Chair of the Annual General Meeting. If not present the Vice Chair of the Regional Management Board shall act as Chair of the meeting.

9.1.4 There must be six members present who are entitled to vote shall to form a quorum

9.1.5 Business to be transacted at the Annual General Meeting shall be:

- a) To receive reports;
- b) To elect those members of the Regional Management Board who have been nominated in accordance with paragraph 7.6.3, each of whom shall hold office to the end of the General Meeting at which her/his successor is appointed;
- c) To consider any proposed resolution submitted in writing to the Regional Office not less than 28 days before the date of the Annual General Meeting, which has been proposed by one Member and seconded by another Member.
- d) To receive the independently examined accounts of the Association

9.2 **Extra-Ordinary General Meeting**

9.2.1 An Extra-Ordinary Meeting may be convened at any time provided that either

- a) By order of the Regional Management Board;
- b) upon receipt of a written request from 2 or more Members entitled to vote at a General Meeting stating the purpose for which a meeting is required and setting out any resolution that it is desired to propose;

9.2.2 An Extra-Ordinary Meeting shall be convened within 28 days from receiving the request.

9.2.3 There must be six members present who are entitled to vote shall to form a quorum.

9.3 Voting at General Meetings (AGM and EGM).

9.3.1 The following shall be entitled to attend, speak and vote at a General Meeting (AGM or EGM) of the region:

- a) An appointed representative of each County Association
- b) An appointed representative of each affiliated club to one of the Counties
- c) An appointed representative from each affiliated school within one of the Counties
- d) Members of the Regional Management Board
- e) Each Technical Support Group Chairs

9.3.2 The following shall be entitled to attend and speak at a General Meeting (AGM or EGM) but shall not be entitled to vote:

- a) Honorary Members of the East Midlands Region

- b) Each affiliated School within the East Midlands Region
- b) The Regional Manager
- c) Directors of England Netball
- d) Any registered participant affiliated through the East Midlands Region

9.3.3 Voting procedure at General Meetings (AGM or EGM) shall be as follows:

- a) Each person entitled to attend and vote shall be permitted to cast one vote;
- b) No proxy voting will be allowed
- c) No postal voting will be allowed
- d) A simple majority of those present and entitled to vote shall be required to pass any resolution. The Chairman of the meeting shall have a second and/or casting vote in the case of an equality of votes.

10 FINANCE, SUBSCRIPTIONS AND OTHER FEES

10.1 The financial year shall end on 31 March

10.2 Each Member shall pay their annual affiliation fees direct to England Netball.

10.3 The annual affiliation fee as in 10.2 above will include a regional contribution which will be set by the Regional Management Board. The rates are set out in the Regional Associations By-Laws.

10.4 Subscriptions and other fees owed to either England Netball or the Regional Association, such as but not limited to participation fees are subject to the Regional Association By Laws.

11 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

11.1 Proposals to alter the constitution shall be submitted in writing to the Regional Manager not later than 28 days before the Annual General Meeting by a member of the Regional Management Board seconded by another member of the Regional Management Board

11.2 No alteration or addition to the constitution shall be made except by special resolution passed at a General Meeting (AGM or EGM) with not less than two-thirds of the votes cast being in favour

12 DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

12.1 The Regional Management Board shall have the power to discipline, in such a manner as it thinks fit, but subject to the current [Disciplinary Regulations](#) adopted by England Netball in place at the time of any incident.

13 ANTI DOPING POLICY

13.1 The Regional Management Board adopts England Netball current policy in relation to Anti Doping which is the [WADA Code](#) and [UK Anti-Doping Rules](#).

14 SAFEGUARDING YOUNG PEOPLE IN NETBALL POLICY

14.1 The Regional Management Board adopts England Netballs current [Safeguarding Young People in Netball Policy](#)

15 DBS DISCLOSURE INFORMATION AND INFORMATION SHARING PROTOCOL

15.1 The Regional Management Board adopts England Netball current procedures in relation to [DBS Disclosure Information and Information Sharing](#).

16 RECRUITMENT OF EX-OFFENDERS POLICY

16.1 The Regional Management Board adopts England Netball current policy on the [recruitment of Ex-Offenders](#).

17 DATA PROTECTION AND PRIVACY POLICY

17.1 The Regional Management Board adopts England Netball current policies in relation to [Data Protection](#) and [Privacy](#).

18 ANTI-BULLYING & HARASSMENT POLICY

18.1 The Regional Management Board adopts England Netball current policy in relation to [Anti-Bullying and Harassment](#).

19 COMPLAINTS AND CUSTOMER CHARTER POLICY

19.1 The Regional Management Board adopts England Netball current policy in relation to [Complaints](#).

20 EQUALITY POLICY

20.1 The Regional Management Board adopts England Netball [Equality Policy](#)

21 WHISTLE BLOWING

21.1 The Regional Management Board adopts England Netball current policy in relation to [Whistle Blowing](#)

22 CODES OF CONDUCT

22.1 The Regional Management Board adopts the England Netball [Codes of Conduct](#).

23 SOCIAL MEDIA

23.1 The Regional Management Board adopts the England Netball [Social Media Policy](#)

24 INTERPRETATION

24.1 For the avoidance of doubt, all policies adopted in clauses 12 to 23 shall, where applicable, be interpreted as if the Regional Association were the principal of the policy, by way of example only, if a policy states a complaint should be sent to England Netball's Office, it should be sent to the Regional Association's Office. In the event of any confusion on processes please contact the Regional Office for further guidance.

25 ARBITRATION AND MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

25.1 If any dispute shall arise on the interpretation of this Constitution or the need arise to deal with any matter not provided for in this Constitution, reference shall be made to the Chair of the Regional Management Board who shall refer the same to the Board of Directors of England Netball whose decision shall be binding on all parties.

26 DISSOLUTION

26.1 In the event of dissolution, any assets remaining after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities shall be dealt with in a manner to be determined by resolution of a General Meeting so as to promote the objects of the East Midlands Region or of some organisation with, kindred aims. In the event of there being a deficit, the General Meeting shall decide how it should be met.

27 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

27.1 Members acknowledge that these Rules constitute a legally binding contract to regulate the relationship of the Members of the Regional Association.