

ACADEMY LEAGUES RULES & REGULATIONS 2026-27



All additions/amendments from the 2025-26 season are highlighted in yellow.

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These regulations apply to the following U19 competitions: Elite Academy Basketball League (EABL), Women's Elite Academy Basketball League (WEABL) & College Basketball League (CBL).

1. Definitions and Interpretation

1.1 In these Regulations the following terms shall (unless otherwise required) have the following meanings:

AOC Sport	The Association of College Sport, registered office The Bloomsbury Building, 10 Bloomsbury Way, London. WC1A 2SL.
Away Team	The Team which plays or is to play or should have played a Match (except for a finals Match) but is not the Home Team for such Match.
Basketball England	The National Governing Body for basketball in England, company number 01429756 with registered office address NSC, Gate 13, Rowsley St, Manchester, M11 3FF.
Bench Personnel	A person at least 12 years of age that has a defined role within the Team (other than a Head Coach, Assistant Coach or Player- including those that are not playing in the fixture, not in playing kit) authorised by the Crew Chief to sit in the Team Bench area and be in communication with the Team during the Match, including statisticians.
British CBL	A Player that holds British citizenship. College Basketball League: has two tiers. Tier 2 CBL and Tier 3 CBL.
Chairperson	Person responsible for the DiSE element of club led partnerships that only compete in EABL/WEABL.
Coach	The person appointed as to lead the Team, directing tactics and controlling substitutions, and 'Coach' shall be deemed to include assistant coaches unless otherwise stated.
Competition	The three Academy leagues of CBL, EABL, WEABL including the Playoffs.
Competition Manager	Basketball England Member staff who leads the Competitions Department.
Competitions Review Panel	Will consist of three members of Basketball England Staff as elected by the Competitions Manager.
Disciplinary Officer	A person appointed by Basketball England to be responsible for disciplinary matters related to misconduct.
DiSE	Diploma in Sporting Excellence: a course offered through Basketball England that is a for basketball, that only EABL/WEABL partnerships can deliver for its nominated students.
Division	Each division of a League Competition.
EABL	Elite Academy Basketball League: male league that is Tier 1 of the Academy System.
Entry Fee	The entry fees listed and charged by AOC Sport.

eScoring	The online scoring system through the PlayHQ platform.
ETP	England Talent Pathway
Executive Board	The executive board of directors of Basketball England and AOC Sport.
FIBA	Fédération Internationale de Basketball: the International Governing Body for basketball.
FIBA Live Stats	Software used to record in game live stats.
FIBA Regulations	The general statutes, internal regulations, other rules and regulations and decisions of FIBA from time to time in force.
Forfeit	Whereby a team does not fulfil a fixture in accordance with the league rules, and the game is listed as 20-0 to its opponents.
Goal Difference	The difference between points for/scored and points against/conceded.
Head Teacher/Principle	Person responsible for education led institutions/partnerships.
HESA	HESA publishes open data and official statistics on various aspects of the UK higher education sector, such as students, staff, finances, research and more.
Home Team	The Team at whose venue a Match (except for a finals Match) is played or is to be played or should have been played.
Institution	School, College, Sixth Form or Club (Club only being permitted in EABL/WEABL)
Key Contact Person	Person responsible from the institutions who liaises with AOC Sport and Basketball England with regards to competition administration.
Match	An individual game of basketball played in accordance with these Regulations, forming part of the Competitions.
Match Officials	The Crew Chief, Umpire(s), the Table Officials and the Statisticians.
Participant	Any Member, Officer, Official, Player, member of a Club, League or Regional Association sanctioned by and/or falling under the jurisdiction of Basketball England.
Partnerships	EABL/WEABL DiSE partnerships that have been granted partnership status in line with regulation 3.5.
Player	An individual registered with AOC Sport to participate in a Match.
Playoff Competition	The knockout stages of a Competition that takes place after the conclusion of the Regular Season.
Referees	The officials shall be a crew chief and 1 or 2 umpire(s).
Regional/local officiating Coordinators	Where a local/regional person appoints officials for a given home team, that works with clubs locally.

Regular Season	The league season up to the commencement of the Playoff Competition.
Rules of Basketball	The rules published by FIBA according to which the Sport is played throughout the world.
Scoresheet	A standard form used to record the score and fouls in a Match, which also records the participating Players and Coaches along with the Match Officials.
Season	The playing season which extends from the first date on which the Competitions involving a Team takes place until the last date on which the Competitions involving that Team takes place.
SportLomo	AOC Sport online sport system used for player registrations and competition management.
Statistician	The statisticians shall be an inputter and a spotter.
Synergy	Video analysis programme.
Table Official	The table officials shall be a scorer, an assistant scorer, a timer and a shot clock operator.
Team	A team of Players representing an institution in a Match.
Team Bench	The designated courtside area for members of the Teams.
Team Delegates	A maximum of 21 individuals made up of the Players, Head Coach, up to 2 Assistant Coach(s) and Bench Personnel.
Team Representative	any person nominated by a team to represent its interests at any time during a Match (who shall not be a Match Official or the Game Day Delegate but may be a member of the Team).
Transfer	a transfer between two Teams from the same institution that play at different levels of the competition, listed in regulation 2.6.
Umpire(s)	The non lead referee(s) in a match.
WEABL	Women's Elite Academy Basketball League: female league that is Tier 1 of the Academy System.
Win Percentage	Win percentage is calculated by dividing the number of games won by the total number of league games available to be played in the league (games played + any voided games) and multiplying by 100.

1.2 Where the context so admits:

- words importing the singular shall include the plural and vice versa.
- words importing the masculine gender shall include the feminine gender.
- words importing persons shall include firms, corporations and unincorporated associations.

- 1.3 Reference to any Act, Statute or statutory provision shall include a reference to that Act, Statute or statutory provision as amended, re-enacted or replaced from time to time, whether before or after the date of adoption of these Regulations, and any former Act, Statute or statutory provision replaced (with or without modification) by the Act, Statute or statutory provision referred to and any subordinate legislation made thereunder respectively.
- 1.4 Section, Regulation and Appendix headings are for ease of reference only and shall not affect the construction of these Regulations.
- 1.5 The terms including, include, in particular or any similar expression shall be construed as illustrative and shall not limit the sense of the words preceding those terms.

2. Management

- 2.1 The EABL and WEABL, will be administered jointly between Basketball England (BE) & Association of Colleges (AOC) Sport in consultation with the two league appointed representatives from the teams that are competing within the leagues, one representative will cover EABL and one will cover the WEABL. Both roles are in a non-management role and in a consultative role only.
- 2.2 The CBL, will be administered jointly between Basketball England & AOC Sport.
- 2.3 The Executive Boards of Basketball England & AOC Sport have delegated the responsibility for organising the competitions to Basketball England's Competitions Department.
- 2.4 The Disciplinary Officer is responsible for disciplinary matters related to the misconduct of players, coaches, assistant coaches, and bench personnel and match officials. Where necessary, Basketball England's Disciplinary Code will be used to address any serious misconduct.
- 2.5 Decisions made by the Disciplinary Officer may be referred to the Competitions Manager or a three-person panel representing Basketball England known as the Competitions Review Panel.
- 2.6 By registering to participate, individuals accept and agree to abide by Basketball England policies, regulations and rules.
- 2.7 Unless otherwise mentioned in these regulations, all relevant AOC Sport Regulations shall apply.

3. Registrations and Entry

- 3.1 Institutions wishing to compete in the EABL and WEABL must have been awarded DiSE Partnership status or have been invited to participate in the league.
- 3.2 Teams cannot enter into the CBL as a 'Trust' and must enter as an individual institution.

- 3.3 New institutions wishing to join CBL Tier 3 must have participated in Dynamik Schools/AOC Sport Regional Leagues in the previous season and ensure they meet the new team entry pack information found on the **Basketball England** website. A meeting between the **institution** and Basketball England is a mandatory requirement if requested by Basketball England, prior to confirming teams for the new season.
- 3.4 Basketball England/AOC Sport reserves the right to refuse entry to any institution.
- 3.5 Should a previous season's entry fee or fines be outstanding, that institution will not be allowed to enter the league.
- 3.6 **Basketball England/AOC Sport reserves the right to withdraw a team if their entry fee for the season has not been paid in accordance with the terms stipulated on the invoice.**
- 3.7 All institutions invited to enter the competitions must be members of AOC Sport.
- 3.8 All players must be registered using AOC Sport's online system SportLomo. Failure to do this will result in games being forfeited until all players have been registered.
- 3.9 The last day for players registration on SportLomo to play in the Academy leagues for a team is 31 January. No new players can then be registered after this date.
- 3.10 **For EABL/WEABL teams, the maximum number of players that can be registered on SportLomo is 20.** Players can be transferred in and out of the team by the institution notifying Basketball England/AOC Sport of the players to be removed and added to teams.
- 3.10.1 Teams can make a written request for a maximum of three players to be deregistered from the EABL/WEAB/CBL and then registered for AOC Sport's regional leagues. Once deregistered, the player cannot then be reregistered for the EABL/WEABL/CBL. Applications must be received before the Christmas break.
- 3.11 The person responsible for the administration of the institution's basketball team shall be referred to as the 'key contact person'. All actions of the key contact person are deemed to represent the authority of the institution.
- 3.12 Communication between institutions and Basketball England/AOC Sport should be conducted through the key contact person.
- Only the key contact person will be acknowledged as the person to communicate decisions, unless the institution have informed of a nominated alternative. **It is the responsibility of the institution to inform** Basketball England and AOC Sport in writing of any permanent or temporary changes in the key contact person.

- 3.13 Upon registration, the Principal / Head Teacher of the institution or the Chairperson of Club Led Programs/partnerships accepts responsibility for the actions of its employees and accepts the responsibilities of the organisation set out within these Rules and Regulations and must comply fully with any disciplinary investigations and sanctions applied.

4. Player Eligibility

- 4.1 The age of each player is taken as at the 1 September of each season. All players must be under 19 and over 16 on this date.
- 4.2 All players must be registered on the Individual Learning Record of the institution/partnerships (EABL/WEABL) for which they play and must be on a programme of study which is funded by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, subject to exception in Regulations 4.4 and 4.5.
- 4.2.1 If the player is a pupil at an institution, studying a higher-level qualification at level 4 or above course and their Individual Learning Record is on the college/institution system (registered on HESA with the competing college and not the university that awards the qualification), then the player is eligible to compete within the competitions as a third-year student.
- 4.3 Where a student is on a funded study programme at more than one school/college, the student will play for the institution at which they study more guided learning hours. If this college does not enter a team in the student's chosen sport, the college at which the student studies fewer hours must make a written request to the other college for the student to play in their team.
- 4.4 Students competing in the competitions must be on a Further Education course only unless under aged and must be studying normal school education.
- 4.5 Part time students must be on a study programme on at least band 2 of the National Funding Rates and studying a minimum of 280 hours.
- 4.6 In exceptional circumstances players under the age of 16 (Year 10 and 11 students only) can be considered to participate. They must demonstrate their participation in Basketball England's Super Region training squad, or equivalent playing standard, within the previous 24 months, in addition to the general requirements of [Basketball England's Eligibility and Participation Exemption Policy](#).
- 4.6.1 Any applicant to participate under this clause must have been at the primary educational institution / Trust for more than two academic years, unless the applicant has transferred from a college within a reasonable distance in the same region (taken to mean Basketball England's regional areas). Any players transferring in either or between year 10 or 11 will not be considered unless the school the player is transferring to uses the same exam board as the school they are transferring from. In addition, both schools must demonstrate

that the players education will not be negatively affected by this transfer.

4.6.2 The request will need to follow Basketball England's Eligibility and Participation Exemption Policy application process with the sole exception of EABL and WEABL teams who may be granted automatic exemption in accordance with 4.6.3.

4.6.3 EABL and WEABL teams with players under the age of 16 (Year 10 and 11 students only) can be granted automatic exemption to play up into W/EABL providing the player has been part of the ETP or Basketball England's Super Region training squad within the previous 24 months. The requirements of Regulation 4.6.1 still apply.

4.6.4 Before being eligible to play, the Institution must register their player on the automatic exemption form [here](#). Once received the Regional Talent Manager will verify the player's participation in ETP or Super Region training squad. Once verified the Institution will be verified and the player will be eligible for the remainder of the season. A player will not be eligible until the approval has been issued by Basketball England.

4.6.5 Institutions playing players under the automatic exemptions in line with Regulation 4.6.3 will be managed by the Regional Talent Manager who will have a monthly meeting with the Coach or Programme Lead to review:

- Number of games played
- Minutes played
- Training sessions attended
- Strength and conditioning sessions completed

4.6.6 The maximum number of automatic exemptions that can be granted during a season are 2 for EABL teams and 3 for WEABL teams.

4.6.7 Basketball England have the right to withdraw the automatic exemption at any time if the player welfare and load management is not being adhered to.

4.7 DiSE Partnerships (EABL and WEABL only)

4.7.1 A DiSE Partnership can nominate a maximum of two schools/colleges/sixth forms as member bodies to the Basketball England DiSE Partnership. Each partner must be identified within a current and signed SLA or MoU.

4.7.2 WEABL Invitational non DiSE Partner teams may name a club as a member of the partnership. Any player must hold a NBL licence for the named club and must be in year 12 or 13 unless granted permission under regulation 4.6.

- 4.7.3 DiSE only partnerships, are permitted to make a request that a student who attends an Independent School and is British, who are a top 14 player at their current GB age group, will be enabled to make a request to play in the EABL or WEABL. The request will need to follow [Basketball England's Eligibility and Participation Exemption Policy](#). The top 14 is measured by the previous seasons GB final squads.
- 4.7.4 All recognised members of the partnership (4.7.1-4.7.3 inclusive) are eligible to participate in EABL and WEABL matches.
- 4.8 It is recommended that team's field at least 8 players per game.
- 4.9 Players registered to compete in the EABL, WEABL are not permitted to compete in U19 conference competitions organised by Basketball England or AOC Sport. This includes AOC Sport Regional Leagues & National competitions and Dynamik National Schools [\(including U19 Conference and U19 Premier divisions\)](#).
- 4.10 Players registered to compete in the CBL are not permitted to compete in U19 conference competitions organised by Basketball England (including Dynamik National Schools - [including U19 Conference and U19 Premier divisions](#)) or AOC Sport but can compete in AOC Sport Regional Tournaments & National Championships.
- 4.11 Any requests for exemptions to the player eligibility regulation, must be submitted via Basketball England's Eligibility and Participation Exemption Policy. The application can be accessed [here](#).
- 4.12 When a team fields an ineligible participant (player, coach or bench personnel), the game will be forfeit and recorded as 20-0 to the opposing team, with the institution to face further disciplinary action in line with the Basketball England Discipline Code.

5. Competition Format

- 5.1 Basketball England/AOC Sport reserves the right to adjust the format or rules of the competition as is deemed appropriate.
- 5.2 All league formats will be home and away fixtures unless otherwise communicated by Basketball England/AOC Sport.
- 5.3 No single game can count as the result in two games between the same two teams. Individual games must be played on both occasions in line with the fixtures listed. A breach of this regulation will result in potential disciplinary action for both teams and results becoming void.
- 5.4 The teams that qualify for the playoff rounds and the Finals shall observe any arrangements by Basketball England/AOC Sport for the staging of these fixtures, especially with regard to any sponsorship agreements.

- 5.5 The League positions shall be determined by awarding the following points:
- Three points for a win and zero point for a loss in all competitions.
 - Three points shall be awarded to the non-offending team for a Match that is won by forfeit.
 - All games that are 'void' at the end of the season will result in a score line of 0-0 **and no points awarded to either team.**
- 5.6 If two or more Teams have the same number of league points, the positions of such Teams in the league shall be determined as follows:
- The result of the match(es) between the two or more teams who are tied shall be used to decide the classification.
 - If these two or more teams have the same win-loss record of the games between them, further criteria shall be used in the following order until the teams can be separated:
 1. Higher goal difference of the games between them.
 2. Higher number of points scored in the games between them.
 3. Higher goal difference of all games in the league.
 4. Higher number of points scored in all games in the league.
 - If at any level of these criteria one or more team(s) are already classified, the procedure of shall be repeated from the start for all the remaining teams not yet classified.
 - If, upon application of these criteria the teams cannot be separated, the final classification shall be determined with a random draw.
- 5.7 Teams in the EABL will have end of season playoffs to determine an EABL overall champion.
- 5.8 Teams in the WEABL will have end of season playoffs to determine a WEABL overall champion.
- 5.9 CBL Tier 2 teams will have end of season playoffs to determine a CBL overall champion.
- 5.10 The two bottom placed teams in each of the CBL Tier 2 leagues will take part in a promotional playoff with CBL Tier 3 winners. The winners of the promotional playoff will qualify to play in the CBL Tier 2 league for the following season. Teams looking for these promotional spots must meet Tier 2 standards that are in place. **If a Tier 2 team loses their promotional playoff fixture, they will be relegated to Tier 3.**
- 5.11 The teams who finish in the bottom two places in CBL Tier 3 may be relegated to play in AOC Sport Regional Leagues/Dynamik National Schools for a minimum of one season before they can make an application to re-join the league.
- 5.12 Any team that does not fulfil and meet the Academy Delivery Standards (at the appropriate level of compliance – category one, two, or three) may see their league status revoked and removal from the league they are participating in.

- 5.13 Teams that withdraw from a season after the structures are confirmed, are not permitted to re-enter the league the following season. They must instead re-enter as a new team after one season, whereby during this time they must compete in the AOC Sport Regional league or Dynamik National Schools competition.

6. Fixtures

- 6.1 Basketball England/AOC Sport will generate dates for all the regular season games and these will be published at least 21 days before the start of the season. It is the responsibility of the home institution to provide necessary information, i.e. tip off times, officials, colours, map etc for the away team at least 7 days before the fixture date.
- 6.2 All fixtures must be played no later than the league deadline as published by Basketball England. Any fixtures that have not taken place by the league deadline will be marked as Void and neither team receive points.
- 6.3 No Team shall be required to undertake a fixture that does not enable its Players to arrive back at their home base/meeting point by midnight, unless otherwise agreed.
- 6.4 For EABL and WEABL a visible scoreboard, and a visible game clock and visible shot clocks shall be provided by the home team at every game. These facilities shall be clearly visible to both team benches.
- For CBL Tier 2 and Tier 3 a visible scoreboard, and a visible game clock shall be provided by the home team at every game. These facilities shall be clearly visible to both team benches.
- 6.5 For all competitions, the home team is required to provide a scoresheet and table equipment for the fixture. The home team is responsible for providing suitable first aid equipment at the venue.
- 6.6 Both teams must ensure they have their college identification cards available for inspection by the officials prior to the game commencing. If the identification cards cannot be produced the fixture should take place and a team should raise a dispute using the process outlined in Regulation 13.
- 6.7 For EABL/WEABL games the home team must upload their game film to Synergy within 24 hours of the game being completed.
- For CBL Tier 2 games the home team must upload their game film to Synergy (for game exchange purposes only) within 24 hours of the fixture being completed.
- 6.8 FIBA LiveStats is to be used for all WEABL and EABL fixtures and must be provided by the home team. When operated live, it should be operated with two licenced statisticians who hold at least the Introduction to Statisticians qualification. A live webcast, using the League Licence Code provided by Basketball England and FIBA LiveStats software, is desirable for all EABL and WEABL teams. This is applicable throughout their respective League and Playoff games.

- 6.8.1 Where stats have not been completed live using the League Licence Code it is mandatory for the game stats to be completed retrospectively from video using a match key by 09:00 the day after the game. If the stats are not completed by 09:00 the day after the game, the home team will be fined £30.00 for the first offence and £50 for subsequent offences.
- 6.9 For CBL Tier 2 games it is desirable that the home team takes full stats for both teams live at the game. Any software (FIBA LiveStats, iPad app, etc) can be used for this. No Stats are required for CBL Tier 3 games.
- 6.10 It is compulsory for all EABL/WEABL/CBL Tier 2 teams to provide nominations for end of season awards. This is a mandatory process and any teams that do not provide these submissions will be fined £150.00.
- 6.11 It is compulsory for all EABL/WEABL/CBL Tier 2 teams to vote for end of season awards. This is a mandatory process and any teams that do not provide these votes will be fined £150.00.
- 6.12 Spectator space if available should not interfere with the playing space. Spectators should be adequately supervised by the relevant school/college staff.
- 6.13 Teams arriving more than 15 minutes after the scheduled starting time will be liable to the forfeiture of the fixture. The away team must contact the home team if they are to be late. It is however the intention that the match should take place if possible and officials are requested to keep this in mind when making decisions.
- 6.14 Teams may only rearrange games with permission from Basketball England and/or AOC Sport.
- 6.14.1 For CBL Tier 2 and 3 teams, prior to 11 September, teams may rearrange fixture changes to a mutually agreed date and submit a Fixture Change Form, signed by both teams, to angela.eason@aoc.co.uk. On approval, the date will be updated on SportLomo by AOC Sport.
- 6.14.2 For EABL and WEABL teams, prior to 11 September, teams may rearrange fixture changes to a mutually agreed by submitting a change request in PlayHQ.
- 6.14.3 After 11 September, changes will only be agreed in exceptional circumstances. These fixtures should be prioritised over all other competitions so rearrangements should be kept to a minimum, with all teams permitted to postpone two games per institution per season.
- 6.14.4 Any changes after 11 September should still follow the process in Regulation 6.14.1 and 6.14.2 respectively.
- 6.15 Institutions should take reasonable precautions to safeguard the match officials and other participants from unsatisfactory behaviour by their own players, officials and supporters.

6.16 The home team is responsible for:

- Uploading a copy of the game film to Synergy within 24 hours (EABL/WEABL)
- EABL/WEABL undertaking FIBA Live stats for each home game
- CBL Tier 2 teams using Synergy to upload game film within 24 hours of the game finishing.

6.17 All teams are responsible for:

- Providing information requested from Basketball England/AOC Sport for use on the website and press releases adhering to any deadlines set.

Failure to Fulfil Fixture Obligations

6.18 A Team shall forfeit a Match if:

6.18.1 fifteen minutes after the scheduled tip off time, the Team is not present on the court or is unable to field five Players ready to play except where, by agreement of all parties, a Match tips off late (e.g. because of travel delays); and/or

6.18.2 fifteen minutes after the scheduled tip off time, a Team does not have a Level 2 coach present. All games must have a Level 2 coach present for both teams to start the game; and/or

6.18.3 its actions prevent the Match from being played; and/or

6.18.4 it refuses to play after being instructed to do so by the Crew Chief; and/or

6.18.5 it fails to raise a team for a fixture.

6.19 When a scheduled Match is forfeited, an automatic penalty will be imposed as detailed below. In addition, the Competitions Review Panel shall be entitled to increase the fine.

COMPETITION	FIRST OFFENCE	SUBSEQUENT OFFENCES	MAXIMUM PENALTY
EABL/WEABL	£100	£200 plus 2-point deduction	£500 or removal from league
CBL Tier 2	£75	£150	£500 or removal from league or automatic relegation
CBL Tier 3	£50	£100	£500 or removal from league or automatic relegation

6.20 If an institution is responsible for the postponement of a scheduled Match within 48 hours of the planned tip-off time, without the consent of its opponents, or fails to fulfil a fixture without such consent the Match may be forfeit in favour of the non-offending Team 20–0, and the Competitions Review Panel may, at its sole discretion, deduct league points from the offending Club.

Postponed Games

6.21 Where an institution is responsible for the postponement of a scheduled Match (within 48 hours of the scheduled tip-off time) as a result of the venue operator cancelling the court booking, the Match must be rescheduled within seven days of the postponement.

6.21.1 The institution must provide written confirmation from the venue to Basketball England within seven days of the postponement to evidence the cancellation. Such confirmation must: confirm that the Match was originally booked at the venue; confirm that the booking was subsequently cancelled by the venue operator; and be dated prior to the postponement of the Match, evidencing that the booking and its cancellation were confirmed in advance of the postponement notification. Failure to provide compliant written confirmation from the venue operator will result in the matter being referred to the Competitions Review Panel, who shall have the authority to award or forfeit the Match in favour of the opposition.

6.22 If games are postponed for other reasons, a new date for the game must be confirmed with the key contact person, Basketball England & AOC Sport no later than 7 days after the postponement.

6.23 In the event of postponements due to severe weather conditions or unforeseen road delays the following will apply:

- a) The travelling expenses (if applicable) of all match officials will be paid by the home team. If the Match Officials had arrived at the venue before the game was postponed, the Home Team shall also be responsible for paying half of the match fee.
- b) Any dispute over the team responsible for the postponement, and subsequently any costs, will be resolved by Basketball England/AOC Sport within seven business days.
- c) Any cost of court hire will lie with the team responsible for the postponement if the game is arranged for a later date. In the case of a claiming a forfeit the home institution is not entitled to claim court hire costs from the away institution.
- d) The responsibility for notifying the match officials of a postponement rests with the home institution.
- e) Basketball England may ask for confirmation or proof of the travel that was intended, type of vehicle used and details of the delays/breakdown, including any roadside assistance.

- 6.24 Where a Red Weather Warning is issued by the Met Office, Basketball England/AOC Sport may postpone all games in the impacted areas. This includes where a team's departure location would be from a red weather warning area.
- 6.25 Any claim for an outstanding/postponed Match must be received by Basketball England not less than 14 days prior to the league deadline, in order that full consideration of the claim can be made before confirming the final league positions and Playoff places.
- 6.26 All Crew Chiefs have the power to stop and, where necessary, abandon a game if they feel there is a safety concern or the behaviour of anyone involved puts the welfare of a participant or spectator at risk.
- 6.26.1 All Basketball England officials will accept the moral authority to implement procedures to provide a duty of care for all participants and spectators.
- 6.26.2 All abandoned games must be reported by the Crew Chief to Basketball England via [this form](#) no later than 23:59 on the day of the game, detailing the reason for abandonment.
- 6.26.3 Where a match is abandoned the Competitions Review Panel or the Competitions Manager shall reach a decision on the result and outcome of the match, based on the circumstances around each case. Only personnel listed on the original Scoresheet are eligible to play in any replay. If a Team is unable to field a full Team in the replay (by way of example only, due to injury or illness) then Basketball England shall (in its sole discretion) determine whether such replay should be rescheduled for an alternative date or be forfeited by the Team unable to field a full Team. The provisions of this Regulation 6.26 shall apply equally to any rescheduled replay.

7. Finals Events

- 7.1 Basketball England/AOC Sport will organise and promote the finals events as it deems appropriate and will deal with disciplinary and other issues that may occur during the event.
- 7.2 Spectators are not permitted to use air horns, including Vuvuzelas, or whistles at National Events in line with FIBA regulations.

8. Playing Rules

- 8.1 All games must be played according to current FIBA Rules unless otherwise stated.
- 8.2 The home team should provide the match ball. Wilson is the approved ball for competitions under the jurisdiction of Basketball England.
- 8.2.1 Size 7 Balls should be used for EABL and CBL.
- 8.2.2 Size 6 Balls should be used for WEABL.

- 8.3 All games should be played on a full court no less than 26m x 14m with a minimum of a one metre run off around the playing court and a minimum ceiling height of 6m.
- 8.4 All courts must have post 2012 court markings, any games that don't meet these criteria will forfeit the game 20-0.
- 8.5 When arranging a fixture, the venue address, game time and respective playing colours must be confirmed. In the event of a colour clash on the day of the game the home team shall change.
- 8.6 During the game, the only persons permitted to sit on the bench are the head coach, up to two assistant coaches, up to 12 players, and a maximum of six accompanying delegating members (this can include registered players that are not playing and cannot be kitted up), i.e. 21 persons in total. It is recommended that each team has a team manager.
- 8.7 Approved safeguarding training is required for anyone in regulated activity with children including, but not limited to, coaches, assistant coaches, physios and team managers.
- 8.8 When a player in an Academy League fixture (regardless of age) is disqualified, a designated coach or bench personnel, with a current enhanced DBS certificate, must accompany the player out of the playing area into a public space. If there is no coach or bench personnel available, the player must remain in the hall on the opposite side of the court to their team bench area and must not intervene or communicate with the team. If the disqualified player is to remain in the hall, any further intervention or incidents will be taken into account in any disciplinary investigation after the match.
- 8.9 In the event of a Coach being disqualified from an Academy League game, they must be replaced by another adult representing the institution who is suitably DBS checked and holds a minimum of a Level 2 basketball coaching qualification. Where no suitable qualified and DBS checked assistant coach is present, the game will be stopped. The game will be lost by default. If the team to which the game is awarded is ahead, the score shall stand as the time it was stopped. If that team is not ahead, the score shall be recorded as 2-0 to the non-offending team.

9. Results and Scoresheets

- 9.1 All games in CBL Tier 2 and Tier 3 must be recorded on a paper scoresheet. EABL and WEABL teams may use eScoring on PlayHQ. If eScoring is not used, a paper scoresheet must be completed.
- 9.2 Game results must be entered directly into SportLomo for CBL Tier 2 and Tier 3 and PlayHQ for EABL and WEABL teams within 6 hours of the games conclusion.
- 9.3 If a EABL and WEABL game does not have live stats or eScoring, the home team must send the result via Whatsapp to the designated results group chat within one hour of the game finishing. The name of the top three scorers for both teams must also be reported.

9.4 After the game, the completed white copy of the official scoresheet shall be sent by the home team to AOC Sport – angela.eason@aoc.co.uk.

9.4.1 For EABL and WEABL teams where eScoring is used, 9.3 is not required.

10. Match Officials

10.1 All referees, table officials and statisticians operating in Academy Leagues and Playoff Competitions must hold a full licence with Basketball England and must comply with the Basketball England Match Officials Handbook.

10.2 Failure to provide qualified and licensed Referees, Table Officials and/or Statisticians will result in a £30 fine per unlicensed/unqualified official not provided.

10.3 All Officials must wear the approved Basketball England uniform.

10.4 Match officials are subject to the Basketball England Code of Conduct & Ethics and Disciplinary Code.

10.5 For all competitions, the home team is responsible for appointing appropriately licensed and qualified referees, table officials and statisticians

10.6 Basketball England will make match official's appointments to all National Competition Finals and will determine the appropriate match fee and mileage rate and or the level of expenses that will apply.

Referees

10.7 The number and minimum level of referees, that must be appointed by the Home Club to each League, and Playoff Match is as follows:

LEAGUE	N.O. REFEREES (LEVEL 2-5)	N.O. REFEREES (LEVEL 1)
EABL WEABL	2	0
CBL Tier 2	2	0
CBL Tier 3	1	1

- 10.8 In the case where the Home Institution appoint the referees, they must meet the following criteria:
- 10.8.1 Must be **fully** licenced with Basketball England as a referee
 - 10.8.2 In the case that a referee is under 18, their co-official must be at least 18 years old, qualified (Level 2 minimum), and licenced as a referee with Basketball England.
 - 10.8.3 No siblings/family taking part in fixture.
 - 10.8.4 Is not registered to participate in the same competition.
 - 10.8.5 The Crew Chief must be completely independent from the Home Institution and not hold any position in any capacity within the Home Institution.
- 10.9 In the event of a home team appointing a referee that does not meet all of the above regulations (**10.7 and 10.8**) the game will be forfeited, and the institution may be subject to disciplinary procedures. No blame can be placed on a local/regional Officiating Coordinators as the home institution have ultimate responsibility to ensure the appointed referees meet the criteria.

Table Officials

- 10.10 The number and minimum level of Table Officials, that must be appointed to each League and/or Playoff Match is as follows:

LEAGUE	N.O. TABLE OFFICIALS (LEVEL 3-5)	N.O. TABLE OFFICIALS (LEVEL 2)	N.O. TABLE OFFICIALS (LEVEL 1)
EABL WEABL	1	2	0
CBL Tier 2	0	2	0
CBL Tier 3	0	1	1

WEABL/EABL home teams are required to provide a shot clock and appropriately qualified table official to operate this. (When no Level 3+ Table Official can be found, the priority is that a shot clock is used, so a Level Two can be used in these competitions only, where they have experience or undertaken a Level 3 course before).

- 10.11 Failure to meet this regulation will result in an automatic fine being imposed in accordance with regulation 10.2.

Officials Fees and Expenses

- 10.12 In all competitions, the Home Club shall be responsible for paying the Officials match fees and expenses.

The following match fee and expense rates are a guideline of the payment of officials:

Qualification Level	Referees	Table Officials & Statisticians
Level 5	£27.00	£21.00
Level 4 / Advanced Statistics Award	£26.00	£19.00
Level 3 / Introduction to Statistics	£24.00	£16.00
Level 2	£23.00	£14.00
Level 1	£22.00	£13.00

- Expenses paid to officials will either be in the form of:
 - Travel by Public Transport: The actual fare paid up to a maximum of second-class ordinary return.
 - Travel by Road: 45.0p per mile. This figure does not apply where the official is using a company car, in which case the rate shall be 18.0p per mile for all mileage.

All receipts for public transport should be supplied along with the expenses claim form.

It is recommended that the total match fee and expenses that may be claimed each game by each official **should not exceed a combined total of £37.00.**

For double-header appointments only one set of travel expenses may be claimed.

HMRC expects all payments to be made by bank transfer or cheque.
All officials are responsible for paying their own taxes and National Insurance and must comply with HMRC regulations.

- 10.13 Payments by BACS must be paid within 7 clear working days of conclusion of the match. Payments made in cheque or cash must be made prior to the match.

11. Match Official Failure to Arrive / Delay

- 11.1 All Match Officials must ensure that they are present at the venue thirty minutes before a fixture. Referees should then ensure that they are present on the playing court twenty minutes prior to the scheduled tip off time.

Referees

- 11.2 All fixtures require two suitably qualified referees in line with Regulation 10 for the game to take place. If it is not possible to appoint two referees by 24 hours prior to the game taking place, then the game will be postponed. Should the teams not agree to a postponement, the matter will be referred to the Competitions Review Panel to determine an outcome.

- 11.3 If two referees were appointed to a game, however, should one or both referees withdraw less than 24 hours prior to the game due to (a) injury, (b) illness, (c) unforeseen circumstances, then the following shall apply:
- 11.3.1 A member of either team who holds a suitable referee qualification and licenced with Basketball England, can take over with agreement from both teams.
 - 11.3.2 If no suitable replacement referee is available, then the game can go ahead with one referee, only if both teams agree to this, and the referee also agrees and is minimum Level 2 qualified and at least 18 years of age. Alternatively, either team can choose to postpone the game. If the game is subsequently cancelled or postponed as a decision by either team, the game must be rearranged for a later date. In terms of re-arranging a fixture and any costs incurred are the responsibility of the home team. Once the game has begun, neither team may go back on their decision to play/continue the game with only one referee, nor may they protest the score as a direct result of this.
 - 11.3.3 In the event of a dispute the home team will be asked to provide evidence to Basketball England of the referee appointments within seven days of the original fixture date, that should have taken place. Should such evidence not be available, this may result in the game being declared Forfeit by the home team.
- 11.4 Should all referees fail to arrive, the Home Team will follow Regulations 11.3.1 to 11.3.3 (inclusive) as far as possible, in order for the Match to take place.
- 11.5 Once a referee is substituted, this shall not normally be changed, even if the designated referee(s) arrives. The same referees shall continue throughout the Match. The Crew Chief shall have discretion to disapply this Regulation in exceptional circumstances.

Table Officials

- 11.6 Table officials must be present at the scorer's table at least 20 minutes prior to the start of the Match. If a table official is not present at the scorer's table 20 minutes prior to the scheduled tip off time without prior communication as to the reason for the delay (e.g. travel delay/unforeseen circumstances), the Home Team should take the necessary steps to appoint suitable replacements. The following procedure should be adopted:
- 11.6.1 If another suitably qualified table official is at the venue or in the immediate vicinity, they shall be informed that their services may be required.
 - 11.6.2 If there is no suitably qualified table official available, the Home Team, in consultation with the Crew Chief shall decide who shall be the replacement table official.
 - 11.6.3 If the table official fails to arrive by the time the Crew Chief signals three minutes, then the substitute official will be the timer; or

- 11.6.4 Once the table official is substituted this shall not normally be changed, even if the designated table official(s) arrives.
- 11.7 In the event of injury to or illness of a Match Official during the course of a Match, the Crew Chief may appoint a substitute at their discretion in accordance with the procedure set out in Regulation 11 above.
- 11.8 Should a match official not be able to complete a fixture due to illness or injury, their payment should be paid on a pro rata basis, rounded to the nearest interval of play. As such they will be entitled to either 0%, 25%, 50%, 75% or 100% of their match fee and should a replacement official be sought, they will be entitled to the remainder of the match fee.

12. Game Promotion

- 12.1 Teams are required to adhere to any requests related to league sponsorship (i.e. banner to be hung in venue, sponsor related social media, etc). Any conflicts of interest with team's own sponsorship agreements will be dealt with on an individual basis.

13. Disciplinary Action

- 13.1 Basketball England will be responsible for disciplinary matters in accordance with these regulations and the Basketball England Disciplinary Code.
- 13.2 Individual institutions, coaches, assistant coaches, team managers, players and/or team representatives may be disciplined for breaches of the Academy Basketball Rules and Regulations and/or the Basketball England Disciplinary Code and Code of Ethics and Conduct. Disciplinary action could include disqualification of a team or individuals from competition for any period that may be decided by the Basketball England Disciplinary Officer or a Disciplinary Commission.
- 13.3 Institutions are responsible for their supporters and failure to control their behaviour could result in similar disqualification or other action as deemed appropriate within the powers of the Discipline Code.
- 13.4 In the event of a Participant committing a disqualifying foul during a Match, the case will automatically be considered by the Disciplinary Officer under the following process:
- 13.4.1 Each referee is required to submit a written report on the matter, to Basketball England within 48 hours of the match finishing or by 12 noon on a Friday, whichever is sooner **via the Disciplinary Report form available [here](#).**
- 13.4.2 Where a Participant has been disqualified and video of the incident is available this must be submitted within 48 hours **if requested by Basketball England.**

13.4.3 The Participant and/or the Institution may also submit written reports if they so choose. Each of these reports shall be prepared by its author making clear as to evidence seen directly by the author. These must be submitted by the timeline stated in the Disciplinary Document.

13.4.4 If a Participant is guilty of misconduct not involving disqualification, which any of the Match Officials consider to be of sufficient gravity to warrant consideration by Basketball England, a report should be submitted to Basketball England within 48 hours of the match finishing or by 12 noon on a Friday, whichever is sooner.

13.5 The Disciplinary Officer shall determine the level of sanction based on reviewing the referee reports and any additional reports/evidence made available to them.

13.6 Suspensions will be issued in line with the below table:

Incident	Suspension
- General Improper Conduct (including leaving the team bench area during a fight situation) - Unsportsmanlike Conduct - Verbal Abuse 1 (Obscene/Foul Language) - Violent Conduct 1 (Physical retaliation)	1 game
Verbal Abuse 2 (Excessive Obscene/Foul Language)	2 games
- Violent Conduct 2 (Pre-meditated physical violence) - Verbal Abuse 3 (Continuous & aggressive abuse)	Minimum 2 games
Violent Conduct 3 (Continuous violent behaviour/physical violence)	Minimum 3 games

13.6.1 Where a Participant receives more than one disqualification during the same Season, they shall receive an additional suspension in accordance with the suspension framework set out below.

	1 game suspension plus Incident suspension
2nd Disqualifying Foul in Season	2 game suspension plus Incident suspension
3rd & Any Subsequent Disqualifying Foul in Season	2 game suspension plus Incident suspension

- 13.7 Disciplinary action as a result of a decision of the Disciplinary Officer / Basketball England will normally come into effect on the 14th day after the incident or as otherwise decided by the Disciplinary Officer / Basketball England. In all cases should an appeal be lodged against a decision of the Disciplinary Officer / Basketball England; any disciplinary action will only be set aside if an application to do so is submitted and approved in accordance with the Appeals Policy
- 13.8 A Participant under suspension for a Match may not participate in the Match, or act as a Participant from 20 minutes prior to the scheduled starting time of the Match, until after the end of the Match. They may be present in the Venue as a spectator unless otherwise stated by the Disciplinary Officer / Basketball England.
- 13.9 Failure to observe a suspension or breaching any condition applied as part of a suspension is classed as a breach of suspension. Any breach of suspension will result in the case being referred to Basketball England for further action as appropriate.
- 13.10 Suspensions which cannot be served in their entirety before the end of a season will be carried forward to the following season.
- 13.11 Players, Coaches, and representatives of the Institution shall not directly or indirectly approach Match Officials before, during or after the game to give information or make comment which may be regarded as being intended to influence a match official's judgment or neutrality in any way. Such action will be regarded as serious misconduct and the offender and the Institution they represent will be subject to disciplinary action.
- 13.12 At the discretion of Basketball England, a decision may be taken to allow the Institution to administer disciplinary action in order to ensure no individual is disciplined twice for the same incident.
- 13.13 All disciplinaries will be kept on record Basketball England to ensure all disciplinaries are monitored and accumulated from any other Basketball England Competitions. If sanctioned under the Disciplinary Code, any outcome may be held for a longer period of time, depending on the severity of the incident.
- 13.14 Basketball England may in appropriate cases at their sole discretion raise misconduct charges in addition to or instead of action taken within these procedures, in accordance with the Basketball England Disciplinary Code.
- 13.15 The below are possible sanctions that will be imposed by Basketball England/AOC Sport for institutions that do not meet the requirements laid out in these regulations:
- a) Final written warning
 - b) Monetary fine up to £500.00
 - c) Ineligible for playoffs
 - d) Immediate expulsion from league/playoffs
 - e) Automatic relegation for following season

14. Appeals

14.1 Any Institution or individual may appeal against a decision of the Disciplinary Officer, Officer of Basketball England or Competitions Review Panel in accordance with the Basketball England [Appeals Policy](#) by submitting an appeal with Basketball England as follows:

14.1.1 Where a Participant wishes to Appeal a Decision, they must lodge a written intention to Appeal with Basketball England (“Notice of Intention”) within 72-hours of notification of the Decision being made unless the full “Notice of Appeal” is required to be submitted prior to this deadline. This must be submitted [here](#).

14.1.2 The full “Notice of Appeal” must be submitted by the appellant in writing to Basketball England within 48 hours in respect of Disciplinary Officer decisions and within seven days for other decisions (unless otherwise specified) of the appellant being notified of the relevant decision. This must be submitted [here](#).

14.1.3 The appeal must be accompanied by a deposit of £250.00, or where the Participant directly subject to the Decision is aged under 18 at the time of the Decision the Appeal Fee is £100.00

14.1.4 An independent appeals panel will review the appeal submission and will elect in its sole discretion to determine the validity of the appeal either (i) based solely on the written submission, or (ii) on the basis of the written submission and by hearing oral evidence given by the appellant together with any other party or parties who, in the appeal panel’s opinion may be affected by the decision. For the avoidance of doubt, a personal hearing shall be convened solely at the discretion of the appeal panel chair and is not an automatic right of the appellant.

14.1.5 Any decision of the appeals panel shall be final and binding on the parties, subject to any further right to appeal in accordance with FIBA regulations.

14.1.6 The appeals panel shall determine whether the deposit is returned to the appellant in full, in part, or not at all.

14.1.7 The Appeals Panel may award costs and expenses against the appellant as it deems appropriate.

15. Signing Under Protest

15.1 The captain of the Team may sign the Scoresheet under a protest if its interests have been adversely affected by:

a. An error in scorekeeping, timekeeping or shot clock operations, which the referees were authorised to correct the error under Official Basketball Rule Article 44 (correctable errors) but failed to do so.

b. A decision to forfeit, cancel, postpone, not resume or not play the game.

c. A breach of player/coach eligibility rules.

- 15.2 A game may not be protested on the basis of decisions made by the match officials, with exception of regulation 15.1(a).
- 15.3 The captain of a team wishing to protest must notify the Crew Chief immediately after the final buzzer of their intention to protest and clearly state the reasons. Upon such notification, the Crew Chief shall ensure that the scoresheet remains open for a period of 15 minutes following the end of the game, during which time the team may decide whether to proceed with the protest.
- 15.4 If no protest is requested, the scoresheet may be signed by all match officials to formally close the game. All match officials must remain available to the Crew Chief until the scoresheet has been signed by all parties.
- 15.5 To lodge a protest, the captain must sign the scoresheet in the section marked "Captain's signature in case of protest." This must be followed by a written submission outlining the grounds for the protest, submitted by the Key Contact to Basketball England within 72 hours of the completion of the match. The submission must be accompanied by a deposit of £100. The submission should be submitted [here](#).
- 15.5.1 For all Playoff fixtures, and all fixtures played on the league deadline date, any protest must be submitted within 24 hours of the completion of the Match.
- 15.6 By signing the scoresheet under protest, the institution becomes automatically liable for payment of the £100 deposit, regardless of any subsequent action taken.
- 15.7 The Crew Chief shall be required to report the protest to Basketball England by no later than 12noon on a Friday or within 48 hours of the match finishing (whichever is earlier). The report should include the reasons given by the team on the day for lodging their protest.
- 15.8 Protests in respect of Matches during an event organised by Basketball England must be submitted in writing within one hour of the completion of the match, accompanied by a deposit of £100 to Basketball England.
- 15.9 If the scoresheet is not signed under protest in accordance with this regulation, any protest submitted afterwards will not be considered and will be automatically dismissed.
- 15.10 All protests relating to Matches will be considered by the Competitions Review Panel or the Competitions Manager.

16. Disputes

- 16.1 Any dispute alleging a breach of these regulations in relation to a Match must be submitted to Basketball England within 48 hours of the scheduled match. The dispute must be submitted by the Key Contact using the [designated form](#) and must be accompanied by a deposit of £100. This deposit may be refunded if Basketball England determines that the dispute is valid.

- 16.1.1 For all Playoff fixtures, and all fixtures played on the league deadline date, any dispute must be submitted within 24 hours of the completion of the Match.
- 16.2 Any dispute submitted under this Regulation will be shared with the opposing Team.
- 16.3 Under no circumstances can any dispute be submitted which seeks to question the validity of the result of the Match on the basis of the performance, quality or decisions of Match Officials.
- 16.4 If either team, or the Match Officials, has any reason to consider the circumstances may be such as to invalidate or forfeit a match, this should be stated at the start of the game prior to tip off, and reported to AOC Sport and Basketball England by the Match Officials and team making the report.
- 16.5 Should a match then take place or continue under the existing conditions the game started with, it then cannot be disputed. The Scoresheet and all reports forwarded to Basketball England who will determine the validity of the events.
- 16.6 If prior to or during a Match, the coach, captain or representative of a competing Team has a dispute related to these Regulations, they should notify the Crew Chief who shall record the matter. The Crew Chief should be notified immediately if the ball is dead and the clock is stopped, or at the first opportunity thereafter. The captain of the Team shall make their observations to the Crew Chief in a calm and courteous manner. The Crew Chief may explain their decision or, if necessary, may examine the Scoresheet and check the score and the playing time remaining.
- 16.7 All disputes and protests relating to Matches will be adjudicated by the Competitions Review Panel or the Competitions Manager.
- 16.8 Basketball England reserves the right, at any time during the Season, to review any Match. Where such a review identifies a breach of these Regulations, Basketball England may take any appropriate disciplinary or regulatory action in accordance with these Regulations.
- 16.9 Where a game is recorded by either team, Basketball England are entitled to request a copy of this footage. If requested, the footage should be sent within 48 hours.
- 16.10 Where the dispute relates to the governance or administration of the Competition by Basketball England, such complaints will be dealt with through the Basketball England [Complaints Policy](#).

Appendix 1: Disciplinary Timeline

The timeline shows a guide of the in-game disciplinary process for EABL/WEABL/CBL fixtures. This is not in any way definite and may be adjusted accordingly.

Time frames for games not taking place on a Wednesday will be adjusted accordingly.

Wednesday	Incident
Thursday	
Friday	Reports Received. Must be received by Friday 12:00pm
	Notification of Disciplinary Process and officials reports sent to club
Saturday	
Sunday	
Monday	
Tuesday	Deadline for teams to submit reports
Wednesday	Disciplinary case sent to the Disciplinary Officer
Thursday	
Friday	Disciplinary outcome sent to club.
	(Deadline for clubs to submit appeal 48 hours following notification.)
Saturday	
Sunday	
Monday	
Tuesday	Suspension Letters issued
Wednesday	Suspension in force