



#NBL2021

NBL NEW CLUB ENTRY PACK

Basketball England National League Competitions (NBL)

The NBL Competitions are high level performance-based club competitions that are available for senior and junior age groups across England. There are three tiers for age group competitions and multiple tiers at the senior level competition. These leagues assist in the development of the game and act as a stepping-stone into the more performance-based competitions.

The aims and objectives of the NBL Competitions are to:

- Offer competitive fixtures and leagues across the country for all junior age groups and senior competitions, for both male and female participants.
- To increase and improve the quality of the players, coaches and clubs in England.
- To develop, increase and improve the quality of match officials.
- Increase the awareness of basketball across the country
- To provide a competitive environment for talented players that are a part of the Basketball England Performance Pathway.

Entering the Competitions

A new club can apply to Basketball England for Division 3 Men, Division 2 Women, Jnr. NBL Regional Leagues. To enter into these leagues, an online application has to be completed with the league fees paid at the same time. The leagues entry process opens in May each year.

All new entries will be discussed with your local Regional Talent Manager, therefore, it is advisable that you contact this person if you are interested in entering a team into the competitions as early as possible. Not all entries made will be guaranteed even if an entry is made and payment taken.

NBL Division 3 Men

A new Division 3 Men's Team can also opt into the Men's National Cup, in which all leagues are combined for this cup competition. At the end of the season there is a play-off competition based on certain league positions progressing.

WNBL Division 2 Women

A new club can apply to this women's leagues and by entering the team they can also opt into the Women's National Cup, this competition is a combination of WNBL 1 and 2 teams. An end of season play-off competition finalises the league with certain league positions progressing into this.

Jnr. NBL Regional Leagues

A new age group junior team can apply across a various age groups for both male and female competitions. Age groups available are Under 12, Under 14, Under 16 and Under 18 male plus female competitions. At the Under 16 and Under 18 age group, teams can pay an additional amount to enter into the National Cup Competition for their respective age group. This is a knock-out cup with a combination of all playing levels at each age group.

Team Entry Fees

Team entry fees are below to enable you to forecast the cost to enter into the competitions, however there may be an increase based upon board approval:

Competition-	League Fee	Surety Fee
Division 3 Men	£475.00	£630.00 New teams £200 for a senior second team with a team already in higher senior competitions.
Women's League	£325.00	£300.00
U18 Men's League U18 Men's National Cup	£90.00 Conf, £70.00 Regional £35.00	*£100.00 or £50.00 N/A
U18 Women's League U18 Women's National Cup	£110.00 Prem, £90.00 Conf, £70.00 Regional £35.00	*£100.00 or £50.00 N/A
U16 Boys League U16 Boys National Cup	£90.00 Conf, £70.00 Regional £35.00	*£100.00 or £50.00 N/A
U16 Girls League U16 Girls National Cup	£110.00 Prem, £90.00 Conf £35.00	*£100.00 or £50.00 N/A
U14 Boys League	£90.00 Conf, £70.00 Regional	*£100.00 or £50.00
U14 Girls League	£110.00 Prem, £90.00 Conf, £70.00 Regional	*£100.00 or £50.00
U12s Mixed League	£70.00	*£100.00 or £50.00
U12s Girls League	£70.00	*£100.00 or £50.00

*First junior team surety fee is £100.00 and any additional junior team's surety fee is then £50.00 per team.

A club is then required to become affiliated to Basketball England, with an affiliation fee of £60.00 for a senior club and £45 for a junior club payable. This fee also covers the Public Liability Insurance for the club which provides £10m cover. Only one fee is paid, therefore if your club has a senior team that competes in the leagues and you have junior teams also playing in the leagues, the fee is just £60.00, if you just have junior teams the cost is £45.00.

NBL Registration Licence Fees

Once your club has been entered into the leagues and fees have paid, the club is then affiliated. Players, coaches and team followers can then be registered by the club, this process opens on the 1st August each year. The licence cards for the individuals will need to be printed off by the club and taken to every league game. Without a licence card an individual cannot play or coach in a game.

Match Day Requirements

- A basketball game consists of four quarters of 10 minutes stopping clock with a half time and quarter intervals. It is encouraged to book a three-hour time slot for fixtures, to allow for set up the venue and a 15-minute warm is required as a minimum prior to tip off time, and to allow the game to take place, giving enough time for overtime time in case of any other issues arise and to clear away.
- All senior games require 24 second shot clocks as do Under 16 and Under 18 premier competitions.
- Support of local match officials is vital as three table officials are required for senior games and two table officials are required for all junior home games (exception to this is the junior premier competitions at the Under 16/Under 18 age groups where three table officials are required) and two referees for junior games, referees for senior games are appointed by Basketball England.
- All match official's fees should be paid in via BACS within 7 days of the game, although cash and cheque payments can be made on the day, and an expense form completed by the official and handed back into the club to receive payment should be completed. The rules governing match official's fees can be found within the NBL regulations.
- A dedicated person to update the results of the game on the online results service and responsible for emailing the scoresheet to Basketball England is required.
- A first aider is required at all games and at training sessions
- All facilities have to meet the rules and regulations for the Basketball England facilities standards document in the current rules and regulations.

Check list based on a Division 3 Men / WNBL 2 and Jnr. NBL age group teams.

This table will help you budget the costs for staging an NBL game to assist with you with budgeting for competing at this level.

Facility Hire	X3 hours court @ £_____		
Table Officials (Seniors x3 required, first price is for Division Three Men and second fee for WNBL 2)	Scorer Timer Shotclock operator	£17.00/ £11.00 £17.00/ £11.00 £17.00/ £11.00	Plus 35p per mile for travelling or receipts if travelled bus/train.
Referees-League & playoffs (Seniors) (first price is for Division Three Men and second fee for WNBL 2)	Crew Chief Umpire	£33.00 £23.00	Plus 35p per mile for travelling or receipts if travelled bus/train.
Referees National cup (seniors) *Three officials appointed.	Crew Chief Umpire Umpire	£30.00 £30.00 £30.00	Plus 35p per mile for travelling or receipts if travelled bus/train.
Table Officials Under 16 / Under 18 Competitions (Juniors x2 required)	Scorer Timer	£9.00 £9.00	Maximum claim including match fee and travel expenses for one match official is £30.00.
Table Officials Under14 Competitions (Juniors x2 required)	Scorer Timer	£6.00 £6.00	Maximum claim including match fee and travel expenses for one match official is £30.00.
Referees-League & playoffs Under 16 / Under 18 competitions (Juniors)	Crew Chief Umpire	£18.00 £18.00	Maximum claim including match fee and travel expenses for one match official is £30.00.
Referees-League & playoffs Under 14 / Under 12 competitions (Juniors)	Crew Chief Umpire	£13.00 £13.00	Maximum claim including match fee and travel expenses for one match official is £30.00.

Teams competing in Basketball England Competitions are encouraged to establish a club-based approach to their structures. This means that the following are required:

- Appoint nominated volunteers into key positions and functions within the club (e.g. chairman, club secretary, treasurer, marketing officer, fundraising officer etc)

- Consider financial sustainability, keep a monthly spreadsheet and write down all income and expenditure.
- Coaches and assistant coaches must be Level 2 qualified, be DBS checked and have a current safeguarding certificate.
- Organisation of courses within the club.

Format & Structure - League Fixtures

- **Format:** Matches are played in a home and away format unless otherwise pre-determined.
- **Home Venues:** Clubs will be required to identify their intended home venue(s) in their entry form. The venue(s) must conform to the requirements as stated within National League Facility Standards Document. During the season random checks will take place on match days to ensure the quality of the match day delivery is of the standard expected, this can be done by a Basketball England representative or a match official nominated by the club or Basketball England.
- **Fixtures:** All league fixtures will be in a home and away format (Unless playing in some regional leagues and Under 12 leagues where the fixtures are played in a triangular format), unless otherwise pre-determined. Basketball England will release their fixtures in June each year and clubs have until 31st August to make changes with their opposing teams. After the 31st August it may still be possible to make changes to the fixtures, however this may incur an administration charge and differs from league to league. Please check the regulations for the information relevant to your league. A club must list their preferred weekend day for their games to take place on, also listing the tip off time and if they have any other requirements i.e. double heading with another age group.
- **Referees & Match Officials: Seniors:** Basketball England will appoint referees for all senior age group competitions. The home club need to appoint the three table officials.
- **Referees & Match Officials: Juniors:** The home club need to appoint the referees for all junior home fixtures, one of these referees have to be neutral, there is a criteria set if the club are to use an official that is linked to the club. The home club are also responsible for assigning table officials for junior fixtures. Basketball England will only appoint referees for junior fixtures where a team has reached the quarter final of the play-off competitions or semi final of the cup competition, but the table officials will need to be sought by the home team.
- **Season Duration:** The season will start in September and finish in the following May.
- **Aspire Programme:** No National League Fixtures will take place on an Aspire Programme dates, the dates of which are predetermined and are once a month from October to May, with the exception of senior fixtures. The Aspire Programme is the first steps of the performance pathway and all players required to attend must do so.
- **Age group players:** All players U18 can only be registered for two age group teams at any one time. This includes both Junior and Senior Competitions.

Basketball England Rules and Regulations

Basketball England's NBL Competitions are governed by Rules and Regulations in which the most up to date version can be found on the Basketball England website and this document is amended on an annual basis These regulations cover the following areas:

- Governance
- The Competitions
- Participants
- Fixtures

- Facilities
- Playing kit
- Match Officials
- Medical Matters
- Discipline and disputes
- Miscellaneous
- Appendices

Please Note: The Regulations are currently being reviewed and the final version for the 2020/21 season will be published around the time of entry.

The Entry Process

If your club wishes to apply to join the NBL and believe that they are of a standard to compete at this level, then please complete an online entry form. Applications will be considered against the following criteria, and new clubs should demonstrate to the best of their abilities in their application how they meet these criteria:

1. The club has been playing basketball for at least one season in a competitive local league or other type of league, during a season, where they play in a normal basketball game and not a shortened version.
2. There are key positions and functions within the club (e.g. chairman, club secretary, treasurer, marketing officer, fundraising officer etc)
3. There is a club structure in place (e.g. seniors, youth teams competing locally or nationally) or are willing to develop such a club structure.
4. A team has more than ten players in the team.
5. The new team has no effect on the current provision in place locally by another basketball club that is already established.
6. There are coaching staff qualified to the correct level, DBS registered and with current safeguarding certificate.
7. The club has appropriate financial sustainability and can show previous accounts for the club.
8. The club has a club bank account with money in the account.
9. The club has access to a venue that meets Basketball England Facility Guidelines.
10. The club is organised and able to manage the administrative elements of being involved in a National League Competition.
11. When making an application, the club understands that travel is required and the club has the support to be able to transport players to away games as well as host home games.
12. The club has a minimum of two kits for the team to play in that are none contrasting and meet the rules and regulations of the competitions.
13. The club understands there are officiating costs in place and often depending upon the availability of local officials the cost of this can be high, this is also dependent upon the geographical location of the club.

Please note:

- An application does not necessarily mean that your team will be successful to play in the NBL Competitions. Basketball England will judge the club's application, and only if your club is considered to be of a suitable standard, will your club be invited to compete in the leagues.
- The League Division that you apply for may not necessarily be the League Division that you are entered in or considered for. Basketball England will consider geographic locations of club's home venues in deciding which league Division that they are put placed into.
- The leagues are set to a certain amount of teams and there is no guarantee that Basketball England can permit your team into one of the leagues.