



BASKETBALL ENGLAND NEW AFFILIATED LEAGUES POLICY

This document outlines the requirements needed in order to affiliate as a 'Local League' to Basketball England. The documents sets a foundation for all leagues, and that there is a base of governance and structure within a Local League to positively impact on the provision of competition within the basketball community.

It is recognised that organising and managing a local league is a daunting and difficult task. However, with the support from Basketball England and Regional Management Committees, various leagues have been successful in offering a vital competition aspect of the game at a local level.

Local Leagues that affiliate to Basketball England benefit from:

- **Insurance cover for games and tournaments**
- **Access to officials to officiate matches**
- **Access to the Basketball England 'Development grant' to develop competition and workforce**
- **Advice and guidance from Basketball England staff and Regional Management Committees**

Requirement of a Local League

The below details the requirements of a club to be eligible to affiliate to Basketball England:

- **Constitution**
- **Chair**
- **Secretary**
- **Treasurer**
- **League Welfare Officer**
- **Bank account with required signatories**

Further to this, by the end of first year of affiliation, the league will also need to ensure they have the below policies in place also:

- **Safeguarding and Welfare Policy**
- **Equality and Diversity Policy**
- **Data Protection Policy**

- **Code of Ethics and Conduct**

These will need to be submitted to your Relationship and Coordination Manager prior to affiliation for the following year. Templates of the above documents can be found [here](#) - you can use these to form the basis for your own league documents.

These documents will help display the duty of care of your league, as well as display the professionalism to other organisations. These documents will be useful in the event of applying for funding grants both locally and nationally to help develop your league and workforce.

Process of Affiliation as a New Local League

The basketball community is a vast network of clubs and leagues all over the country. It is important that leagues are created and formed in a way that helps compliment activity locally that is currently taking place (especially if there is none) and does not negatively impact the basketball landscape. The league can help senior, junior and disability-based competition.

The format of the league itself is dependent on the capacity and the need within the area. League structure can be based on a traditional home and away basis, a Central Venue League, seasonal based, 3x3 format and many others.

Below sets out the process in affiliating as a new local league:

1. Ensure that the 'requirement of a league' is fulfilled
2. Contact support@basketballengland.co.uk to confirm affiliation
3. This information will then be passed to the Regional Management Committee (RMC) for your area
4. The RMC will look over the information given and contact the League Chair to discuss the application
5. The RMC with the Relationship and Coordination Manager of that region will discuss and decide on whether the league meets the affiliation requirements
6. The club is informed of the decision for affiliation

During this process, it is important that a dual responsibility of affiliations lie with both the Regional Management Committee and the Relationship and Coordination Management staff of Basketball England. The RMC have expert local knowledge of the basketball community. The RMC is made up of several volunteers from across the region involved in the sport, whether that be as coaches, players, club committee members and officials. The Relationship and Coordination team are able to ensure that policy wise and infrastructure wise, the league have a base foundation with the view to develop. The combination of this approach ensures that any decisions made are for the good of the game.

Questions that will be discussed for the approval will be:

1. Is there a need for a new league? Does it over saturate the competition offer in the area?
2. What does this new league offer?

3. How will it develop competition workforce e.g. table officials, referees?
4. Does the overall activity of the new league positively impact the area and region?

Reasons for not allowing affiliation would be:

- League may dilute the strength of established leagues in the area by over saturation
- Individual(s) on the committee may be banned from Basketball England activity
- Do not meet the minimum requirement of a league
- Does not share the same views and objectives as Basketball England

Appeals

If the application for league affiliation has been rejected, there is a right of appeal. This is done through the following method:

1. **Within 7 days of the decision, submit in writing your intent to appeal the decision to support@basketballengland.co.uk. In this, include the decision email received and your reasons for appealing the decision**
2. **This appeal will then be passed to the Senior Relationship and Coordination Manager and the Chair of Basketball England Council for review (Appeals Group). If there is a conflict of interest from these roles, a suitable replacement will be sought (a different Relationship and Coordination Manager and a Chair from a different region)**
3. **You will be contacted by phone by the appeals group, to discuss your appeal with a view to then email further reasoning for the appeal 3 working days after the phone call**
4. **Information will be gathered from the initial decision group as to the reason for the rejection**
5. **Both sets of information will be discussed by the Appeals Group and a decision will be reached**

It is vital to state that the RMC and the Relationship and Coordination Manager will endeavour to work with the new league to meet the requirements, with the aim of approval for affiliation.

For any support and/or enquiries, email support@basketballengland.co.uk