



2021/22 National Basketball League Regulations - Summary of Changes

The NBL regulations are reviewed on an annual basis to ensure issues that have arisen during the previous season can be addressed and to ensure that the regulations remain current and applicable.

This can include rule amendments from FIBA, safeguarding, anti-doping guidance or legislation due to Brexit and the Home Office. Feedback taken from clubs and officials, plus incidents that have occurred throughout the season and the cases heard by the appeals board, are also considered.

The following is a summary of the main changes to the NBL Regulations for the 2021/22 season.

Eligibility

General changes take place annually regarding age ranges, fees, costs, general wording and other amendments. Major changes to the rules and regulations in 2021/22 are related to eligibility and the listing of nationality throughout the document since Brexit on 1 January.

Currently, EU citizens in the country have until 30 June 2021 to begin the EU Settlement Scheme. We have phased in the NBL's approach to this, with no changes to eligibility in 2020/21 but with further changes in 2021/22 and 2022/23.

As a result, there will be two categories of eligibility moving forward:

- Nationals (British & NI)
- Non-Nationals (anyone not British, or currently listed as EU/EEA/NON-EEA).

Taking into account legal advice, how this change will be applied and further information **can be found by clicking [HERE](#)**.

We have undergone a Home Office review of our Governing Body Endorsement (GBE) eligibility and have consulted on this with all affected leagues. The review has confirmed that the following changes are required:

- Allow NCAA Division 3 Migrants as part of the GBE process.
- Allow U Sport (Canadian leagues) migrants as a part of the GBE process.
- Adding a maternity and paternity policy into GBE eligibility considerations.

Other wording changes and a new appeals process have also been introduced, in line with best practice and the wishes of the Home Office.

For further information, please click [HERE](#).

BBL/WBBL

There have been significant wording changes and the removal of the BBL and WBBL regarding license fees.

The two leagues will only remain with regards to the nursery team ruling in regulation 5. This is due to the BBF having taken on the licensing of all players and coaches for the BBL and WBBL from September 2020.

Live Streaming

BE has added a new regulation regarding live streaming as a regulation for NBL Division One and WNBL Division One, with all games to be live streamed via the BE YouTube channel.

This will assist with promotion, exposure and marketing of the NBL and WNBL in a consistent format moving forward.

It is acknowledged that some work will need to be undertaken with WNBL Division One teams ahead of the 2021/22 season.

30.4 The home team for each Division One Men and Division One Women league teams are responsible for Live streaming their fixtures and staging the fixture on the BE YouTube Channel. This channel may change from time to time due to other hosting sites that BE wish to utilise. The sanctions listed in regulation 49.16 will be imposed for teams that do not meet this league requirement.

All Live streaming must meet Basketball England Live Streaming Policy listed in appendix 11.

49.16: Failure to Live stream league fixture (regulation 30.4)

£200.00 - 1st Offence

£400.00 - 2nd Offence

£500.00 - 3rd Offence and final written warning

Immediate expulsion from league - 4th Offence

Statisticians

Statisticians are now listed as an official role in the game and as a new regulation, where a statistician will now be a licensed and qualified official, obtaining at least the "Introduction to Statisticians' qualification" in this role.

42 Statisticians

42.1 Statisticians shall be provided by the Home Club. It is the responsibility of the Home Club to pay the Statisticians expenses in accordance with the current rates of Basketball England set out in Appendix 3. All Statisticians must wear the approved Basketball England uniform.

42.2 For Division One Men, Division One Women and Division Two Men games, or games where teams from these divisions meet in Cup competitions, two statisticians who

hold as a minimum the Introduction to Statistics qualification must be appointed to the game.

Failure to meet these regulations will result in an automatic fine being imposed (See Regulation 49.16).

Other changes

- Playoff regulation 14.3.4 for junior age groups, the regulations currently list 'bottom two places'. We have now added the placings to this regulation so it reads as 'bottom two places (11th & 12th place)', providing clarity.
- The section on Assessments (regulation 42) has been removed. Some of the information removed has been added to the referee section (regulation 43), including details of reporting mechanisms and a new email address.
- All instances of "Krossover" have been replaced with "HUDL" where applicable, due to a change in supplier.
- The Pandemic Policy will remain, with some changes for the 2021/22 season due to under 18 players not being immunised plus the possibility that COVID-19 could still be present during the season. **This policy can be seen by clicking [HERE](#).**

Wording changes

Some regulations have had their wording altered, though retain their intent. These changes have been listed below, with wording alterations in red.

Nursery Team Ruling

Regarding regulation 5.3 for nursery teams, the six-mile rule has been increased to 11 miles, to align club, school, college and university links. This has been done to support a better club infrastructure and aid the development of their programmes:

*5.3 Nursery Team may use the same team-name and/or the same home venue as that of its Principal Team. Where a Nursery Team does not use the same home venue as its Principal Team, the Nursery Team must use a home venue within an **11-mile** radius of the home venue of its Principal Team.*

Tip Off Times and Duration of Matches

Changes have been made to regulation 22.6.1 and 22.6.2. Both have been reworded with the aim of stopping away teams that have been sent fixture information but haven't replied from then stating they are unable to attend a fixture:

22.6.1. Where a home team does not confirm the game two weeks in advance of the fixture and the game details (tip-time/venue) are in anyway different from what is listed on the Basketball England website, the home team will be liable to find alternate arrangements, should the away team not be able to attend the amended time/venue.

22.6.2 The exemption to this rule is where a game has been confirmed by the HOME team in line with 22.6.1, the AWAY team then must confirm and acknowledge the game confirmation 7 days prior to the fixture taking place. After this time, the AWAY team forfeits the right to contest any amended game day details and the detail of this fixture stands as per game day confirmation and what is visible on the Basketball England website.

