

# WELCOME TO PLAYVERSATILITY.COM



Hello and welcome to playversatility.com. The following information has been put together to help you get the most out of your time with us!

If you have any questions about anything contained in this pack please contact the team at [info@playversatility.com](mailto:info@playversatility.com)

Please also read the Terms and Conditions found on the competition website or available on request for information about: our waiver, injuries, code of conduct, disciplinary process, forfeits, signing in, fill-ins, postponed games.

## LOCATION

### Highbury

Highbury Grove School, 8 Highbury Grove, N5 2EQ. (Entrance on Highbury Grove)  
Bus Routes: 4, 19, 30, 236, 277, 393. Tube: Highbury & Islington



Contact us on [info@playversatility.com](mailto:info@playversatility.com) for more information.

## POSITIVE SPORTING BEHAVIOUR

We want to be the best and most fun netball and versatility leagues in London! How do we do that? Well, firstly by making sure you guys are safe on court, and secondly that you have fun!

We try to promote sporting behaviour at all times: Applauding the good things your opposition (and teammates) do, smiling on court, playing fairly and just generally having the right attitude go a long way to achieving this.

## UNIFORM

We provide bibs – other than that you can wear what you wish as long as it's appropriate. Inappropriate footwear is a sure-fire way of injuring yourself (and potentially others) so laced sporting shoes with sufficient grip are required. If you wear inappropriate clothing you won't be permitted on court, so don't forget your kit!

Nails should be short and smooth. Nail clippers are provided. No gloves or tape may be used without the presentation of a relevant medical certificate to the competition organisers. This is not our stance but that of England Netball. No jewellery may be worn, this includes all visible piercings. Players should bring their own strapping tape to the courts if required.

## GAME TIMES

Games are played at 6.20pm, 7.00pm, 7.40pm and 8.20pm. For netball, each game is split into four 9 minute quarters with a very short break at each quarter / half time.

Turnover between games is really quick, so please co-operate with your umpires so that the game can be started as soon as possible.

Teams that are late on court will be penalised by a goal a minute. This commences from the moment the other team is on court and onside.

The first team on court and on side will receive the first centre pass.

## FACILITIES / BIKES / CARS

Highbury Grove School has an indoor reception area and changing rooms with showers. These are open from 6.15pm and close at 9pm. The changing rooms are closed 5 minutes before the final whistle of the night, as we have to pack up and ship out really quickly. This unfortunately means that you can't have a shower after your game if you're playing in the 8.20 game slot.

Bike racks are just outside the main entrance but are not permitted into the school premises.

There is limited car parking at Highbury Grove which can be accessed from Highbury New Park and is closed at 9.05pm. We recommend using public transport.

**Playversatility.com Ltd do not accept any liability for any property that is lost, damaged or stolen on, or near the competition venue.**

## FIXTURES

When teams submit their proforma (by the deadline) they can express a preference regarding fixtures. This might be one of the following:

- (a) not to clash with another team (this must be a mutual request, and only one team can be requested)
- (b) a request for early games
- (c) a request for late games
- (d) a request for an even spread of games.

While we try our best to ensure that a team's preference is satisfied, we use the preference only as a guide, and teams should not automatically expect to receive their preference fully.

The fixture list is worked out for the whole season in advance and as there is usually very little turnover of teams there is no need for grading games. Once the fixture list is finalised it is posted on the competition website and after this, it won't usually be changed as to do so usually affects at least 3 other teams.

The top four teams in a league will play in Semi Finals (SF), with the winning teams playing a Grand Final (GF). In the event of a tie in SF / GF games, two 1-minute extra-time periods will be played. At the end of the second extra-time period, if the scores are still level, the timekeeper will shout loudly to teams playing "SCORES TIED, NEXT GOAL WINS" at which point the team that scores the next goal will win the game.

In the event of a game not reaching full time, or where extra time was required but not played, the team that finished higher in the ladder will progress to the final.

## LADDERS

The league ladders are usually updated daily and can be found on the playversatility.com website. Teams are ranked with 3 points for a win, 1 for a draw and zero for a loss. In the event of teams being tied on points, the goal difference (not goals scored) will differentiate the teams.

After every team has played each other twice, the top four teams compete in the Semi Finals (1 v 4, 2 v 3) and the winners of these games take part in the Grand Final. Even if your team isn't participating in the Semi or Grand finals, you'll still have games to play; these will contribute to your final ladder position.

Occasionally, there may be a mistake on the ladders – this might happen where a team has had a higher graded fill in and we haven't reflected that in the final scores. If this happens, please let us know. But first, please make sure that you're looking at the right week and that we've actually made a mistake!

## PROMOTION / RELEGATION

Usually (but not always) the team that finishes top of the league ladder will be promoted and the team that finishes bottom of a league ladder will be relegated. This may involve moving a team to another night and is at the discretion of the competition organisers. We try to do what's best for everybody to ensure an even competition in each league.

## WEATHER

Let's be honest – it's usually not as much fun playing in the wet. Having said that, if we cancelled netball just because it was a bit wet or windy, we'd only play about 10 weeks a year! Therefore, unless you hear otherwise, your games will be played. In the event of extreme weather conditions (heavy snow, torrential rain, lightning or icy conditions) we'll contact the captain of each team to let them know that the games have been called off. You can also get the latest status by checking our website, [www.playversatility.com](http://www.playversatility.com).

## DANGEROUS PLAY

We know that netball can get quite competitive at times but all players are required to ensure that they take steps to play safely. All of our umpires have been instructed to remove players from play if they are considered dangerous – even if it's unintentional.

We hope we're not being sexist by saying it, but normally the biggest problem is male players who are just learning to play and want to impress their team with their commitment and dedication to winning. Just a word of caution – we've seen it all before, and running full pelt into someone (even accidentally) in a vain attempt to get the ball or slow them down will not be looked at lightly. It's the easiest way to get suspended. Play cleanly and you'll be welcomed back with open arms!

Any player suspected of being under the influence of drugs or alcohol will receive an automatic suspension to be determined by the site manager / competition organiser. This even includes just smelling of alcohol. It's dangerous and we don't condone it.

## UMPIRE RESPECT

**One simple rule – only ask a question at quarter / half time breaks.**

We really like our umpires and we take any necessary steps to look after them. They do a great job to the best of their ability and we guarantee that moaning at them, giving them dirty looks, questioning their calls or making loud sarcastic comments to no-one in particular won't work. Again – we've seen it all before! If you have any questions, you're more than welcome to ask them with your captain at a scheduled break but please leave it at that.

If you think that your umpire has had an off day and it's something that we (as competition organisers) need to be aware of then please do let us know – it might be an aspect of their game that we can help them to improve.

## COACHING

No team or player is perfect and there are always opportunities to improve. Some of our umpires are pretty darn hot at netball and some of them are graded coaches. We like to encourage them to help you improve when they feel that it's suitable - it's not that they're favouring one team over another – just that they're trying to help someone get better.

## PLAYVERSATILITY.COM STAR PLAYER

The playversatility.com star player is the player that we all like to have on our team. Each week, the umpires will award playnetball stars at the end of the game to the players who have:

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- played with a smile on their face
- encouraged their team
- applauded the opposition
- received umpire feedback and improved their game
- kept going until the final whistle
- played some exquisite champagne netball!

Being a playversatility star isn't just about being the best player on the court – it's about attitude, sportsmanship and playing hard but fair.

At the end of the season, the playversatility stars for each player are totted up and they will be crowned the playversatility.com star.

## FEEDBACK

We welcome feedback – both positive and negative – but we do ask that it is constructive and considered. Please contact us via the website or come and have a chat with the site manager at the courts to provide feedback.

## SOCIAL

We're a social league which means we try and get everyone to come to the pub after your games! You'll usually find us in the Brewhouse and Kitchen so come and find us and say hello – we'll probably buy you a drink! We also hold our end of season presentations and social nights in our favourite local pub.

That's it! Enjoy yourselves and we'll see you at the courts.

## A BIT MORE FOR THOSE OF YOU THAT ARE CAPTAINS!

A good captain makes a huge difference to teams in playnetball.com!

A captain has the following responsibilities:

### AWAY FROM THE COURTS

- Completing and submitting a team proforma at the beginning of the season. A blank proforma is available on the registration page of the website.
- Co-ordinating deposit / team payment. Although we provide the facility for team members to pay individually, it is the captain's responsibility to ensure that all team members pay promptly by the specified deadline each season. It's obviously also much easier for us if the captain collects the subs from each team member and then makes a single payment on behalf of the team.
- Cheques for payment into playversatility.com should be made payable to **SIMPLY VERSATILE LTD.**
- Representing the team and acting as a focal point for any communications from competition organisers (including disciplinary matters).
- Ensuring that a full team plays each week. If you need fill ins the best thing to do is to find players at the courts. If you're playing the first game of the night this isn't always possible so if you've tried facebook and twitter and all of your contacts then let us know and we can try and help you out.
- Ensuring all team members, team fill-ins and supporters are aware of, and in agreement to, the terms and conditions of the competition.
- Organising socials for the team!

### AT THE COURTS

- Ensuring all team members sign in (including fill-ins).
- Getting your players on court as soon as the final whistle for the previous game has gone.
- Ensuring all players adhere to the terms and conditions of the competition whilst on court.
- Raising any questions with the umpires or competition organisers on behalf of the team at the appropriate time.

Many teams share these responsibilities amongst players on the team and this works really well too. Just make sure you know who's responsible for what 😊

All of the information you need is on [playversatility.com](http://playversatility.com). Please let us know if you have any questions by emailing: [info@playversatility.com](mailto:info@playversatility.com)