NON-CENTRAL VENUE – GUIDE 2026-27

Introduction The Birmingham Netball League centralise Division 4 to 15 netball matches at a single venue. Due to capacity, Divisions 1-3 are invited to arrange their own home and away matches at various locations throughout Birmingham. These are your guidelines and criteria in arranging those matches.

Where can we have our Home Ground?

1. BNL Member Clubs are required to have a Birmingham (or Solihull) Postcode for their venues.
2. Any Club wishing to play on the perimeters of Birmingham MUST notify their Opposition in advance and secure their approval that they are happy to play at said venue.
3. Whilst the majority of teams do book and play matches at Indoor Venues, it is not a Rule, Requirement nor Obligation – please check with your opposing Secretaries when arranging fixtures to confirm whether Indoor or Outdoors has been booked, so your players can dress appropriately.

What do I have to do before the first match starts?

1. Make sure all your players are EN affiliated and insured BEFORE they play. Do not play any unaffiliated player. Go online to England netball and follow the membership process.
2. Ensure your club is linked to the BNL and log your players in their teams using the Team Management function.
3. Submit your completed BNL registration forms along with a copy of each ENgage team log to Gill Warner. (You will be deducted points for fielding unregistered players as per Rule 2a) Ensure you update BOTH with any additions to the Team.
4. If you have a Regional Team, please provide us with the names of players Registered to Regional – we liaise with the Regional League Secretary on these registrations. Refer BNL Rules part 3.

What do I have to do on match day ?

1. Write all players and subs on the match card BEFORE the match starts (late arrivals can write on and be checked – nails etc.- when they arrive) Cross off anyone who does not play.
2. Make sure your team (min 5 players) are on court READY TO PLAY 10 minutes before the allotted start time.
3. Toss a coin to decide on the first centre pass and court ends.
4. Play to the BNL rules (please ensure all players aware of these) and respect the Umpire at all times.
5. Give 3 cheers to your opponents at the end of the game and select a player of the match.
6. Alert your Opposition & Umpire if you cannot play.

What do I have to regarding Umpires ? ADD NEW PROTOCOLS

1. Advise all your Club umpires to fill in an Umpire registration form for submission to our Umpiring Secretaries. A copy form can be requested from Diane Barrett, BNL League Secretary: bhamnetball@hotmail.com if they have not already received one. (They will also need to provide proof of affiliation, as for players – you can create a club 'umpire' team on the Engage function).
2. Your Club Umpires must attend the 2026 BNL Umpiring Forum.
3. NEW: Submit your Match time, venue & umpire (if you have been able to book one from the BNL approved div1-3 Umpire list) to the BNL Umpiring Team two weeks before your match for distribution to the Umpires to cover any unallocated matches. The Umpire Team will then forward confirmations to Clubs. If you still have problems booking an umpire please ask Norma McClean for assistance: normamclean@live.co.uk
4. Pay your booked Umpire £20.00 on match day.

Any queries, complaints or general enquiries, please send into the BNL Committee – bhamnetball@hotmail.com