



Appendix 11 – Pandemic Policy 2021/22

The purpose of this document is to outline the process that will be undertaken should further changes be required to the 2021/22 season given that many members under 18 years of age may not be vaccinated against COVID-19.

It is important that all members are aware of [Basketball England's Return to Play Guidance](#) and adhere to it at all times. This will limit the potential for COVID-19 issues throughout 2021/22.

The changes are rules and regulation based and all league and competition entry fees are to be paid as normal at the time of entry. Should the season be curtailed in line with regulation 23.9.6 or there be a delayed start, then information on membership and licensing will then be communicated. Affiliation must remain in place for a club to operate as a basketball club.

Rules and regulation-based adjustments for 2021/22

The main consideration for change is the lead times to confirm fixtures with BE and league/cup opponents and what happens if there is a case of COVID-19 within a playing squad or a club member has been exposed to the virus. In this case the government advice on this has to be followed.

The following amendments to the rules and regulations on this area are as follows below:

COVID-19 case: Should a game be postponed due to a case of COVID-19 within a team and where the team have been exposed to the individual and there is a need to postpone the game, both clubs should ensure they re-arrange the fixture in line with the re-arranging a fixture protocol and a new date should be confirmed within 14 days of the current one being scheduled. All games are expected to be fulfilled by the end of the season, with the option of playing the game midweek where possible. If the fixture cannot be scheduled before the end of the season, the game will be void and the score line will be 0-0 and with no fine applied to this.

Confirming fixtures

The usual 31 August deadline to confirm fixtures to BE/opposing teams without a fixture change fee being applied, will remain and may be adjusted by Basketball England to support clubs if they still have issues accessing facilities, this will be communicated closer to the date.

23 Re-Arrangement, Postponement, Abandonment and Replaying of Matches

23.1 *Basketball England will prepare a fixture list prior to the start of the Season. In exceptional circumstances, Basketball England may require a Match to be rearranged.*

23.4 *No changes are permitted in respect of any fixture list relating to a Competition, save that:*

23.4.1 *Prior to whenever two Clubs reach agreement regarding the rearrangement of a Match (including a change in date, venue or tip time), they may jointly make an application in writing to Basketball England using the Fixture Change Form (available to download from, or provided upon request by, Basketball England) for the matter to be considered; and*

23.4.2 *After 31 August, the request to change any Match from its published date will not be*

considered by Basketball England for Senior Competitions and Jnr.NBL/WNBL Premier Competitions across all age groups unless the reason to change of the date is due to venue unavailability **or the team has a COVID-19 case**. Documentation is required by the facility operator in advance of the game and must be submitted or information **provided by the club in question with the relevant documents completed to report a positive case**. The change of tip time is permitted only in exceptional circumstances, it must be changed and confirmed up to 28 days in advance of the fixture and teams must be aware that by doing so, there is no guarantee officials may be appointed it must also be authorised by Basketball England.

23.4.3 For all Jnr.NBL/WNBL Conference and Regional into Under-12 competitions a request to change any match date, tip time and venue after the 31 August will be considered by Basketball England. The Club responsible for the change shall be liable to pay an administrative charge of £15.00 is if a new date, tip time and venue is agreed upon within 7 days of the original fixture postponed on or after the 8th day the charge will rise to £35.00 All changes after 31 August be approved by the opponent of the team making the request. The maximum a team can request a postponed fixture is twice per team for the regular playing season.

24.3 Where a Club is responsible for the postponement of a scheduled Match (within 72 hours of the tip off) or does not fulfil a fixture, without the consent of its opponents, the Competitions Review Panel may issue a fine no greater than the maximum amount set out above. In addition, the Match in question will be awarded to the non-offending Team 20-0 and such number of league points as the Competitions Review panel shall determine (in its sole discretion) may be deducted. Compensation may be sought from non-offending team, for any charges that may be incurred due to the late cancellation of the game in line with this regulation, maximum amount that can be claimed is up to £75.00 for a Senior Fixture and £50.00 for a Junior Fixture, only facility hire, travel expenses and officials' costs incurred in line with regulation 23.5 and 40.8 can be taken into consideration and evidence of the cost associated must be proved. The amount awarded is at the discretion of Basketball England and the compensation will be deducted from the fine issued by Basketball England and will only be compensated once the fine has been paid in full by the offending team. Any compensation claim must include evidence of costs and must be submitted within 7 days of the date of the scheduled Match.

Please note that regulation 23 will not be enforced should the reason be deemed due to an individual testing positive for COVID-19 and the team have been exposed to the individual, meaning the team has to self-isolate in line with Government advice.

Teams should ensure they make their opponents aware at the earliest opportunity and ensure all officials are also made aware.

Refreshments

The following rules will not be applied for the 2021/22 season for teams within the following leagues, or cup competitions/playoffs, meaning no after game refreshments are required and therefore fines will be redundant for this. This may also include finals events, where it may not be safe to provide after game match refreshments to teams but will be confirmed in advance of an event taking place:

21.6 The Home Club shall provide suitable refreshments for the Away Team and the Match Officials at the following Matches, failure to do so will result in an automatic fine:

- Division One Men
- Division One Women
- All Senior Cup and Playoff games from Quarter Final onwards
- All Age-Group Cup and Playoff games from Quarter Final onwards

National League Standards

The following standards will be updated for the 2021/22 season:

Match Programme - to be supplied for each home game commensurate with its status. This must include all relevant sponsors' adverts as provided by Basketball England. Each programme must carry any and all adverts for Basketball England sponsors as required.

This will not be applied for the 2021/22 season as physical handouts, these can be done in digital form and emailed to opposing teams to pass to any spectators. This affects as a mandatory requirement for Division One Men and Women, Division Two Men and Division Three Men