

North West Area Board Regulations 2016-2017 Season



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1. MANAGEMENT OF LOCAL AREA COMPETITIONS

- 1.1 These regulations govern the operation of NWAB Local Area competitions for the season 2016/17. The regulations will be subject to a full review at the end of the season, based on:
- A. The operation of the local league Competitions
 - B. The club's suggestion for amendments to Regulations as outlined in 1.8
 - C. Proposals from the National Area Boards Committee (NABC) or any sub-committee of the NABC
- 1.2 The North West Area Board will be responsible for all policy concerning our Local Area Competitions. Our Area Board Committee will consist of an Executive Committee and one representative of each affiliated club. A local referees representative may if required attend.
- 1.3 The Executive Committee will be comprised of the following members:
- A. Chairperson
 - B. Secretary
 - C. Treasurer & Registrar
 - D. League Convenor/Fixtures Secretary
 - E. Public Relations Officer
 - F. Child Protection Officer
 - G. Adult Convenor/Fixtures Secretary
 - H. Appointments officer
- 1.4 The Executive Committee will administrate the affairs of the Area Board Committee
- 1.5 Any member of the Executive Committee has the right to submit a written report on any aspect of the game at which he/she is present. Such reports may be used as a basis for imposing automatic fines as sanctions.
- 1.6 The official channel of communication between the Executive Committee and a participating club is the Club Secretary, as nominated on the Basketball Ireland Club Registration Form when the club registers with Basketball Ireland each season. All correspondence must be typed, email is acceptable.
- 1.7 These regulations form part of the Regulations of Basketball Ireland and should be read in conjunction with them. Communication will occur as required to ensure that these regulations are complementary to agreed strategic objectives and the development of pathways for Irish players as proposed by the Council of Basketball Ireland.
- 1.8 All suggested amendments to the regulations must arrive with the secretary on or before the Annual Rules Committee Meeting of the current season for consideration by the NWAB.
- 1.9 By entering into and being registered to play in NWAB Competitions, clubs and/or individuals must accept these regulations in their entirety. The Executive Committee may impose disciplinary action and/or fines for breaches of the regulations that have no specified penalty.

1.10 All Local Area Competition trophies will remain the property of the NWAB. When the winning clubs have been ascertained, a person nominated from the NWAB will present the appropriate trophy to that club. The club in turn will then be responsible for its return to the NWAB by the date required by the Area Board Secretary. Failure to return the trophies by this date may result in the NWAB replacing the trophy, with the cost of this paid by the club.

1.11 Should a trophy be damaged whilst under the care of custody of a club, the club may be required to refund to the NWAB the amount of the present value of the trophy, or the cost of thorough repair. Should a trophy be lost or destroyed by any cause whilst under the care and custody of a club, the club may be required to pay the NWAB a sum equivalent to the present value of the trophy in addition to any other penalty imposed by the board.

1.12 The season begins on July 1st of the current year and ends on June 30th of the following year.

1.13 The NWAB will have the right to exercise its judgement and discretion in the interpretation of these regulations taking into account the best interests of Basketball Ireland, its' clubs, its' players and/or potential players.

2 COMPETITION STRUCTURES

2.1 LOCAL COMPETITION REGULATIONS

2.1.1 All officials should be provided with updated versions of the local competition rules and regulations at the commencement of each competition and each team coach should bring an updated copy of these regulations to each game.

2.1.2 All games must start on time. If one team is not ready on court ready to play 15 minutes after the appointed start time, a walkover will automatically be awarded to the team already on court unless the teams and referee(s) have reached an alternative agreement.

2.1.3 If for any reason the start of the match is delayed, the two coaches shall decide the length of the game. In the event of a non-agreement, the referee shall decide.

2.1.4 Where circumstances cause the shortening of a game, coaches cannot refuse to play but if they have a complaint, they should have their captain sign the score sheet "under protest" at the end of the game.

2.1.5 At the end of the game, the home team shall be responsible for the return of the white score sheet to the Registrar. Failure to do so within seven (7) days will result in a walkover awarded in favour of the away team and fine. (Appendix 1) Any team that concedes a walkover may be subject to a penalty as specified in Section 6.

2.1.6 Any team that concedes more than two walkovers in one season will be withdrawn for the remainder of the season.

2.1.7 Start time for games are as follows:

A: Monday to Friday: Tip times starting between 1900-2100

B: Saturday: Tip times starting between 1000-2100

C: Sunday: Tip times starting between 1100-2100

2.1.9 No minor teams are obliged to play Sunday to Thursday evenings (unless agreed by both teams) at the relevant fixtures meeting.

2.1.10 Two (2) timeouts allowed in the first half and three (3) for the second half.

2.1.11 Four (4) team fouls allowed per quarter, with the fifth and successive fouls resulting in two free throws. Five (5) personal fouls allowed per game per player.

2.1.12 All matches should begin with a jump ball. The team who does not win the jump ball will be awarded possession when the next jump ball is called. Thereafter, possession will alternate between teams after each jump ball and subsequent quarters.

2.1.13 If requested, birth certificates of players must be lodged with the registrar of the Area Board within seven (7) days of such request. Failure to comply will result in the automatic suspension of that player.

2.1.14 All correspondence to the club secretary shall be deemed to have informed the club in full by the Executive Committee. It is up to the club secretary to pass the information onto the relevant personal.

2.1.15 A change in club secretary must be notified to the respective Area Board in writing within forty-eight (48) hours of the change. E-mail is also acceptable.

2.1.16 All correspondence from the Executive Committee requesting a reply must be answered within seven (7) days. Failure to do this will result in an automatic fine, as set in Appendix 1.

2.1.17 Any club/team that wishes to play in a neighbouring Area Board must comply with the following procedures:

- A. The team must complete the National Area Board Link Agreement Form to allow them to enter the league in question.
- B. The team must continue to play in their geographically based Area Board's competition (if available) as well as the new Area Board's competition to ensure development is not slowed.
- C. This procedure must be repeated for each season. No rolling agreements may exist.

2.1.18 Any matter that may arise and is not covered by the existing competition regulations, the Executive Committee shall deal with and decide the matter accordingly.

2.2 JUVENILE COMPETITIONS REGULATIONS

2.2.1 The current Basketball Ireland National Underage Rules shall apply to all juvenile competitions.

2.2.2 A Player who is registered with a team may not play with any other team from his /her club which is playing in the same age group.

2.2.3 All games should be played in four 7-10 minute quarters. U12 and U14 play 7 or 8 minute quarters. U16 play 8 minute quarters and U18 play 9-10 minute quarters. For U9-U11 competition, four 6-7 minute quarters are required.

2.2.4 Two registered referees must be used for all games under 14 and above. Two registered intro referees can officiate these games, providing that at least one is 18 years old. If the home club does not provide 2 registered referees the game will be lost by forfeit, the away team will be awarded the points and a fine of €50 will be levied.

2.2.5 The League Winners and the Cup Winner in the Under 14 and Under 16 leagues will automatically go forward to represent the North West in the All Ireland Club Championships (AICC), providing that the winners of the league also contest the Super Cup final. In the instance that the League Winners and the Club Cup Winner are from the same club and do not wish to field both teams to the AICC, the runner up may be nominated to attend by the NWAB with the following priority: Club Cup runner up, next highest league position.

2.2.6 If any qualifying team decides not to go forward to the AICC their place may be substituted with the following priority: Club Cup Winner runner up, next highest league position.

2.2.7 NWAB Cup Play-offs , The teams placed 2nd, 3rd, 4th& 5th in the U14 & U16 leagues will compete for the cup as follows:-

1stin league goes straight through and is **League Winner**

2nd V 5th 

Winner V Winner  **Club Cup Winner**

3rd V 4th 

Both League Winner & Club Cup Winner go through to AICC

Finals Day League Winner V Club Cup Winner  Super Cup Winner

2.2.8 The winners of the League will play the winners of the Cup in the NWAB Super Cup. Failure of either team to play in the Super Cup will result in forfeiture of an AICC place. For teams to qualify for a AICC place in the Super Cup final then 80% of the players on that team must have played in at least 80% of the league games in that age category .

2.2.9 In the case of any club having 2 teams registered in the same age and sex category in the same season, they will play their strongest basketball ability team first when both said teams are playing the same opposition on the same day. (An "A" team is not necessarily the strongest team).

2.3 SENIOR COMPETITION REGULATIONS

2.3.1 No player under 16 years of age on the 31st December of the current season may take part in adult competition.

2.3.2 All games should be played in four by eight-ten minute quarters in League games and ten (10) minutes in Cup games. Teams can agree on the length of the quarters.

2.3.3 Within a club that has more than one team competing in local league competitions, any player licensed that plays up on a higher level on more than two occasions, will not be eligible to play for the lower level team, e.g. Div. 2 to Div. 1.

2.3.4 All teams playing senior divisions must have full-size, indoor courts and bookings not less than 90 minutes per game.

2.3.5 All clubs must provide 2 registered active referees at the start of the season. The referees must be active throughout the season; clubs that fail to have a referee available may not be issued with fixtures as subject to the NWAB.

2.3.6 All teams competing at all age levels must lodge their team registration form and team fees and player licence fees before the first game of the season and will not be deemed to have entered the competition without having done so. A team photograph of all players registered with that team must also accompany the registration form.

2.4 LEAGUE COMPETITION STRUCTURE

2.4.1 Any team who does not complete their league programme will be liable to pay a bond in order to enter the league competition in the following season as set by the Executive Committee. The bond will be returned at the end of the season unless one or more of its teams did not complete their league programme.

2.4.2 League points: three (3) for a win, one (1) for a loss/default and zero (0) for a walkover/forfeit. In the case of the latter, other penalties may be applied at the discretion of the Executive Committee. If a forfeit/walkover is awarded, the score will be recorded as 20:0 in favour of the non-offending team.

2.4.3 The team with the greatest number of points at the conclusion of the league shall be deemed to be the winners of the league.

2.4.4 If two or more teams finish on equal points, FIBA guidelines will apply to determine the final league classifications.

2.4.5 If a team withdraws or is expelled from the league then all games in which the team participated prior to the withdrawal or expulsion will be considered null and void and will not be included in the league table.

2.5 CUP COMPETITION STRUCTURE

2.5.1 The Cup competition will be played in a home and away first round with a third and deciding leg if necessary. All other rounds are knockout. The Executive Committee will conduct an open draw for the competition, which may include seeding based on the results of the previous season. The Cup competition will only run if the Executive Committee deem there is enough demand for it.

2.6 LOCAL COMPETITION FINANCES

2.6.1 Referee Fees: Each club is required to pay referee fees as determined by the Executive Committee. Payment of referees will be made by the designated venue officer on the game night prior to the game taking place.

2.6.2 Monies owed: Any monies owed to the respective Area Board by a club not received by the due date will be subject to penalties as agreed by the Executive Committee.

2.6.3 If a club competing in local competition folds or withdraws from competition, leaving outstanding monies owed to the League, the officials of the club which folded will be responsible for the payment of one seventh of the outstanding debt before they will be permitted to play or be involved with any other club.

2.6.4 Dishonoured cheques: Cheques from clubs that are not honoured upon presentation will be liable to monetary penalty plus bank charges.

3 ENTRANCE CRITERIA & PROCEDURES

3.1 APPLYING TO ENTER LOCAL COMPETITION

3.1.1 There is no automatic entry to any local area board competitions. Applications to enter each area board competition must be received annually, must be accompanied by the entry fee, bond (if required) and received by the NWAB Registrar by the deadline set out by the Executive Committee.

3.1.2 Clubs that wish to play in another Area Board must complete the National Area Board Link Agreement Form only once both Area Boards agree, the club in question may apply for local competition. This process is not a rolling one and must be repeated prior to the start of each season and given deadlines.

3.1.3 All clubs must also pay an annual Basketball Ireland club membership registration fee and complete the Basketball Ireland online registration as specified by the Basketball Ireland Registrar. Further all clubs must ensure their members register and pay their annual Basketball Ireland player membership fee.

3.1.4 All clubs competing in NWAB local competition must be a registered member of Basketball Ireland and their players/team(s) should be registered with their respective Area Board under their player/team registration scheme.

3.1.5 Further, all clubs must pay club affiliation fee and each team affiliation fee and player registration fee (and any other fees) as specified by NWAB.

3.1.6 Any team withdrawing from local league competition after the fixtures have been released will forfeit their entry fee and/or bond by the club. In addition clubs will be fined for withdrawing from a competition after this date and will be subject to sanction per fixture not fulfilled. See Appendix 1.

3.1.7 Basketball Ireland hereby disclaims any liability whatsoever in respect of promotions, game or any events organised by club team and/or team companies participating in local area competitions. Teams participating in local competition must take out public liability insurance policy (minimum requirement is €6.4 million public liability insurance cover). All Teams must submit a copy of this insurance policy to the NWAB. Each Area Board reserves the right to request proof of this insurance at any time. The policy shall indemnify Basketball Ireland in the event of any, and all subsequent claims or actions.

3.1.8 Team names are subject to approval by Basketball Ireland as outlined in the Basketball Ireland Regulations.

4 REGISTRATIONS & LICENSING

4.1 LICENSING PROCEDURES & DEADLINES FOR LICENSING

4.1.1 As per Basketball Ireland Regulations, all clubs must be registered with Basketball Ireland through the club registration scheme. Their players competing in local competition must be registered with their respective Area Board under their team/player registration scheme before the first scheduled game of the season.

4.1.2 All coaches, assistant coaches, club officials (any person, other than the coach or players, authorised by the referee to sit on the team bench, and be in communication with the team during game, including statisticians/physiotherapists etc.), must be registered/licensed as an individual member of Basketball Ireland. Only those licensed will be permitted to sit on the team bench. Breach of this regulation will incur automatic penalties as outlined in Appendix 1.

4.1.3 Any club who plays an unlicensed or ineligible player in any game covered by these regulations shall automatically forfeit the game and be fined accordingly (Appendix 1).

4.1.4 A player must only be registered with one club at any one time to play local competition.

4.1.5 A club player may only play for one team throughout the season if the club has two teams in the same division.

4.1.6 No player may be registered to play in two National Federations at the same time.

4.1.7 A: If the player has transferred from another club, a copy of the completed Basketball Ireland transfer form must accompany the application. This transfer must be signed by the acquiring club, the transferring club and finally the local area board the latter club was affiliated to before it will be accepted as a legitimate transfer.

B: If the player previously played outside of Ireland, then International Clearance as outlined in section 4.2 must be sought by Basketball Ireland from the Federation the

player last played with.

4.1.8 The local competition team fees for this season are as follows:

AGE	Club Affiliation	League	Discount
Senior	€80	€70 per team	No Discount
U-18 & below	€80	€60 per team	50% for second team

4.1.9 The local competition player license fees for this season are €3 per player for all age groups.

4.1.10 The closing date for registration of players is 31st December of the current season.

4.2 INTERNATIONAL CLEARANCE OF PLAYERS

4.2.1 Any player who has played outside Ireland since the previous Basketball Ireland season, or who is new to playing in Ireland must receive clearance from the last National Federation in which the person played, or came from. In some cases, a National Federation may charge a fee for this clearance, which must be paid by the requesting club.

4.3 TRANSFERS

- 4.3.1 All Transfers at Area Board Level must firstly be completed in accordance with the Regulations and Bye-Laws of Basketball Ireland. Article 10, Transfers Within Basketball Ireland.
- 4.3.2 All Players wishing to transfer at club level must complete the Basketball Ireland transfer Form regardless of age.
- 4.3.3 In order to comply with the transfer date deadline, players requesting a transfer must have completed the first section of the transfer form and have it lodged with the secretary of their Area Board by midnight on 31st October.
- 4.3.4 Once a player has been registered with Basketball Ireland and has been issued with a BIPIN the player is considered to be a member of the club he/she has been registered with for transfer purposes. All players, irrespective of age, must be registered with Basketball Ireland.
- 4.3.5 No transfer shall be signed by the assigned representative of the Area Board without all sections of the transfer form being fully completed. The BIPIN must be included on all forms if the player has previously been registered with Basketball Ireland.
- 4.3.6 No transfers shall be permitted at Under 12 and downwards.
- 4.3.7 Rule 4.3.6 shall not apply when a player at Under 12 is moving from one geographical area to another. A transfer form must be completed in all such cases as per the rules herein.
- 4.3.8 When a player transfers from one geographical area to another, the secretary of the outgoing Area Board, when the transfer has been completed, shall send a copy of the transfer form to the secretary of the incoming Area Board.
- 4.3.9 A player shall only be permitted to transfer once in a season.
- 4.3.10 A club can only accept a maximum of 3 incoming players from any one club in a season. If a club caters for both genders, they can accept a maximum of 3 incoming transfers for each gender. At under 13 to under 16 clubs are only permitted to transfer 3 players into any one team.
- 4.3.11 Where a club cannot facilitate a team within their natural age group, Rule 10 above shall apply. The incoming transfer club may not accept more than the maximum 3 players.

- 4.3.12 Where a club becomes defunct prior to the commencement of the season and /or before the 31st October. The players of the club may transfer in compliance with rule 10 above. The transfer form must be completed with the TRANSFERRING CLUB AUTHORISATION section crossed CLUB DEFUNCT.
- 4.3.13 Should a club become defunct after the 31st October, no players from the club may transfer within the remainder of that season.
- 4.3.14 A player that has transferred during the current season to a club that has become defunct may not transfer for the remainder of the season. Rule 9 shall apply in this instance.
- 4.3.15 All transfers when completed by the assigned representative of the Area Board will be forwarded to the registrar of Basketball Ireland as per Rule 10 E of Basketball Ireland, Regulations & Bye Laws.
- 4.3.16 Where a transfer does not come under the above rules. The secretary of the Area Board in under whom the jurisdiction the transfer falls under shall submit the transfer to the National Area Boards Committee (NABC) for their decision.
- 4.3.17 Where an Area Board refuses a players transfer within the rules above or for any other reason. The player having firstly complied with the appeal procedures of their Area Board shall then have the right of appeal to the National Area Board Committee (NABC). The appeal shall be forward in writing to the Secretary of the NABC by the player and/or the players intended club within fourteen days (14) of the transfer having been rejected by the appeal committee of their area board.
- 4.3.18 When the secretary of the National Area Boards Committee (NABC) receives an appeal under rule 17 above. The secretary will inform the players Area Board of the receipt of the appeal and set the date for the hearing which shall take place at the next scheduled meeting of the NABC and/or within twenty eight (28) days of the receipt of the appeal. All parties to the appeal shall be entitled to be represented at the hearing.
- 4.3.19 The National Area Boards Committee shall have the right to exercise its judgement and discretion in interpretation of these rules taking into account the best interest of Area Boards, its clubs and its players and/or potential players and Basketball Ireland.
- 4.3.20 The North West Area Board may exercise its judgement and discretion in the interpretation of these rules in the interest of development in the NWAB, its clubs and its players and/or potential players.

5 UNIFORMS&FACILITIES

5.1 Teams are required to wear matching uniforms. Unless otherwise specified, the uniform must be numbered as outlined in the current FIBA Official Rules of Basketball.

5.2 Teams must wear their stated registered colours for all games, as stated on registration.

5.3 Teams that fail to comply with Regulations 5.1 &5.2 will be automatically fined €10/£10per player concerned.

5.4 All teams should have two sets of playing kit; one of the designated sets should be lighter in colour than the other.

5.5. In the event of a colour clash, the first named team on the fixture list shall change.

5.6 Teams must nominate their home venues at the start of the season.

5.7 The home team must provide a visible electronic clock, Basketball Ireland scoresheet and table equipment i.e. pens, arrow, foul markers and team foul markers. They must also provide adequate changing facilities with hot showers, toilets, the correct court markings and the use of an official Molten or other as designated match ball.

5.8 Clubs with home venues are responsible for the conduct of their players, members and spectators at all times while the venue is being used for their games.

5.9 The referee has the final decision with regard to a game going ahead or not. The referee must be satisfied that the venue is safe. Every effort should be made by the home team to overcome the difficulties but if the situation cannot be made safe for players and officials then the referee will decide accordingly.

6 FIXTURES

6.1 FIXTURE SCHEDULING

6.1.1 All local competition fixtures shall be arranged prior to the start of each season either at the Area Board's fixture meeting or as designated by the league convenor/ fixtures secretary.

6.1.2 In the case of a fixtures meeting, each registered club must send one delegate to the fixtures meeting. Failure to do so will result in a fine (Appendix1).

6.1.3 Confirmation of all fixtures should be sent to the league convenor/fixtures secretary

6.1.4 Failure to confirm fixtures to league convenor/fixtures secretary will result in the league convenor/fixtures secretary setting them as necessary.

6.1.5 Unless otherwise stated, it is the responsibility of the home teams to provide two table officials to perform the functions of scorekeeper and timekeeper. These officials must be registered as Table Officials with Basketball Ireland.

6.1.6 The home team will be responsible for correctly completing the following information on the official Basketball Ireland score sheet: a) Competition, b) Home Team, c) Away Team, d) Venue, e) Date, f) Time g) BI Number. If a Scoresheet is submitted without any of the above, the Home team will be deducted a point. If the Away Team fails to provide any of their BI Numbers, they will have the point deducted. The BI Numbers can be submitted on a typed sheet for each game and this can be attached to the score sheet.

6.1.7 A commissioner neutral to the clubs involved in games shall be appointed where possible/appropriate by the league convenor/fixtures secretary.

6.2 FIXTURE RESCHEDULING

6.2.1 Requests for change of fixtures will only be accepted in exceptional circumstances and at the sole discretion of the league convenor/fixtures secretary.

6.2.2 Requests for change of fixtures must be submitted in writing/email at least two weeks in advance to the respective league convenor/fixtures secretary.

6.2.3 Requests for change of fixtures within two weeks of original set date will result in an additional late fee (see Appendix 1) as well as the fee set in 6.2.2.

6.3 FIXTURE CANCELLATIONS

6.3.1 Late cancellations of a fixture will not be permitted unless exceptional circumstances prevail as agreed by the Executive Committee.

6.3.2 A Fixture cancellation fee as outlined in Appendix 1 shall apply.

6.3.3 Where a team fails to fulfil a fixture, the offending team will be liable for all costs incurred i.e. venue costs, travel expenses and referee costs. The team may also be fined and/or penalised by the Executive Committee.

6.3.4 If a game is disrupted due to condensation the following procedures will apply:

A: On the first occurrence of condensation, the referee will stop the game and allow the home team fifteen (30) minutes to correct the problem.

B: On the second occurrence, the referee should stop the game and advise the commissioner, if appointed, that the floor is unplayable. The referee will make the final decision to abandon the game and the game will be rescheduled.

6.3.4 When a club does not fulfil its league fixtures during the month preceding the playoffs, the club will be deducted one (1) point in the league table.

6.4 FIXTURE POSTPONEMENT

6.4.1 In the event that a team fails to fulfil an away fixture, they will forfeit the home advantage in their next home fixture against the same opponent. This will be carried forward to the next season if necessary.

6.4.2 If a team fails to reach a venue due to adverse weather conditions, the league convenor/fixtures secretary may rule that the game should be re-scheduled provided that:

A: The league convenor/fixtures secretary is satisfied that every effort to travel to the game based on the submission of the travelling team outlining the efforts made to travel to the game.

B: If these conditions are met, the game will be rescheduled as outlined above.

C: If these conditions were not met, and the league convenor/fixtures secretary does not accept the case made by the team, then the regulation 6.3.2 and 6.3.4 will apply.

7 GAME PROCEDURES

7.1 PRESENTATION STANDARDS

Home teams must ensure that there is an adequate level of crowd control and stewarding at all matches. There should be a minimum of one (1) steward to one hundred (100) spectators.

The home team is responsible for taking reasonable precautions to control the behaviour of spectators. However, disciplinary action may be taken against either team for the behaviour of its followers.

7.2 OFFICIALS

7.2.1 All match officials (commissioners, referees and table officials) operating in Local Area Competitions must be registered and licensed as appropriate with Basketball Ireland. Unlicensed/unregistered officials will not receive any officiating appointments from any Area Boards and clubs will be fined for using unlicensed officials (See Appendix 1).

7.2.2 The appointments officer may appoint a commissioner to local competition games as appropriate.

7.2.3 For matches where the appointments officer has not appointed a commissioner or where one has failed to arrive, both teams, in consultation with the referee may nominate an observer to be seated at the scorer's table to oversee fair play and accuracy in the operation of the table.

7.2.4 This commissioner/nominated observer may not interfere with the table officials but may request that the referees be called to the table. Should the referee deem that these persons are not necessary, they may have the persons removed from the vicinity of the table.

7.2.5 The referee shall be responsible for the administrative and reporting duties of the commissioner, where there is none present.

7.2.6 Where an appointments officer has appointed referee(s) to games but the officials have not arrived 15 minutes prior to the game starting and no communication has been received detailing the reason for the late arrival, the commissioner/referee may take the following action:

A: If one/two suitably qualified and registered officials are at the venue, they will be informed their services may be required.

B: If no suitable officials are present, the commissioner will decide if the match is to be played.

7.2.7 Once a substitute official is named this will not be changed, even if the original official arrives at the venue.

7.2.8 It is the responsibility of the home club to pay for the officials' expenses in accordance with the fees set out by the NARB.

7.2.9 All officials should wear the approved uniform as designated by Basketball Ireland.

7.2.10 Two neutral referees should be used for all senior games. Where possible referees should travel together to keep costs down for clubs.

7.3 PRE-GAME PROCEDURES

7.3.1 The following actions must be accomplished fifteen (15) minutes before the game: A: The visiting team shall have access to the game court. This time may be increased if possible and may be reduced in the case of other games that are also being played.

B: The match officials (commissioner, referee(s), table officials) have all received payment for the game.

7.3.2 Uniform requirements as outlined in Section 5 will also be checked as part of the pre-game commissioner/referee check.

7.4 GAME PROCEDURES

7.4.1 Half time will be a minimum of five (5) minutes.

7.4.2 The interval between quarters will be a minimum of one (1) minute.

7.4.3 Except where mentioned, all other playing rules are in accordance with those currently approved by FIBA.

7.5 POST-GAME PROCEDURES

7.5.1 The commissioner or, in the absence of a commissioner, the referee is responsible for their report (if required) arriving by post/fax/email to the league convenor/fixtures secretary within five (5) working days of the fixture.

7.5.2 Following the game, the commissioner, or nominated representative will delete from the score the name of all players who were not present in uniform and did not play.

7.5.3 The home team is responsible for the original score sheet arriving by post to the league convenor/fixtures secretary within 7 working days of the fixture. Failure to supply these in accordance with deadlines will result in automatic penalties as outlined in Appendix 1.

7.5.4 The home team is responsible for sending a scan copy of the original score sheet, team & game photos and match report within five (7) working days of the fixture. Failure to supply these in accordance with deadlines will result in automatic penalties as outlined in Appendix 1.

7.5.5 Clubs must pay all fines by the end of the season. Failure to pay fines will result in an additional penalty as per regulations 2.7.2 and 8.6.1.

8 DISCIPLINES, PENALTIES & APPEALS

8.1 DISCIPLINE OF CLUBS, CLUB MEMBERS, CLUB OFFICIALS, COACHES, PLAYERS & GAME OFFICIALS

8.1.1. It is compulsory for the Executive Committee to appoint an Area Board's Appeals Committee. Members of the North West Area Board Appeals Committee will serve for 3 years. In the case where a member of the NWAB Appeals Committee resigns, they will be replaced for the remainder of the 3 year period when a new Appeals Committee will be appointed. This committee should be ratified by the respective Area Board Committee and should consist of the Chairperson and minimum of five (5) people. A minimum of three (3) members must be present to hear any appeal of the local Area Board.

8.1.2 Unless otherwise specified, the local Executive Committee shall be responsible for all disciplinary matters arising from the competitions and other activities organised by the local Area Board.

8.1.3 Individuals may be fined or suspended for any matter pertaining to the local competitions as decided by the Executive Committee.

8.1.4 Decisions from disciplinary matters have the right of appeal to the North West Area Board's Appeals Committee.

8.1.5 Two Technical fouls in a season will result in a suspension of 1 game and any further technical foul will result in a further 1 game suspension.

8.2 EFFECT OF SUSPENSION

8.2.1 Any disciplinary action decided by the Executive Committee will take effect immediately and this decision will remain in force until the written appeal and fee are received as outlined in 8.5.1.

8.2.2 In the event of a player or coach being disqualified from any game under the jurisdiction of the NWAB, the player/coach shall automatically be suspended for a minimum of two (2) games. These suspensions will take effect immediately and cannot be appealed.

8.2.3 All disciplinary action will be applied to both league and cup competition regardless of what competition the incident took place in.

8.2.4 Any suspension not served in full before the end of the season will be carried forward into the following season.

8.2.5 Any player or coach who is suspended may not play or sit within the team bench area. He/she may be present at the venue unless otherwise decided by the Executive Committee.

8.3 PENALTIES

8.3.1 Outside of automatic fines, the Executive Committee may impose penalties upon individual players, clubs, club member and/or game officials as it sees fit.

8.3.2 Penalties may be in the form of fines, league points, suspension or disqualification from their respective local league competition or any other penalties deemed appropriate by the respective Area Board from time to time.

8.3.3 The NWAB Secretary will notify all penalties in writing/via email.

8.3.4 A penalty or sanction imposed by an Executive Committee, not including automatic fines as outlined in Appendix 1, may be appealed in the first instance to the Area Board Appeals Committee. Such an appeal shall be in writing, will be provided to the Area Board Secretary within five (7) days of the notice of the penalty and be accompanied by a bond of €100/£100.

8.3.5 The appeal must clearly state the grounds on which the penalty is being appealed and shall include any documentary evidence to be considered necessary to support the appeal. The Area Board Appeals Committee may not always hold an appeal hearing for such appeals.

8.3.6 Until such time as an appeal is heard, the penalty will stand unless otherwise determined by the Area Board Appeals Committee.

8.4 WRITTEN PROTEST

8.4.1 If a team believes that its interests have been adversely affected and that the decisions taken have influenced the result of the game, it may protect the result by signing the score sheet 'under protest' in accordance with the procedures outlined in the current FIBA Official Basketball Rules.

8.4.2 A written protest and the appropriate fee (€100/£100) must be sent to the league convenor/fixtures secretary within three (3) working days following the date of the game. Email is acceptable but must be followed up with a phone call to ensure the receipt of the email. A copy of the written protest must also be sent to the opposing team. The defending party have three working days to reply to the protest.

8.4.3 If either the written protest or the fee is not received within the specified time, the protest shall be considered null and void.

8.4.4 If the decision is made in favour of the team making the protest, the fee shall be refunded in full.

8.5 APPEALS

8.5.1 In order for an appeal to be valid it must be received in writing at the postal address or email address of the Area Board Secretary within seven (7) days of the decision made and must be accompanied by a deposit of €100/£100. This deposit will be returned if the appeal is upheld.

8.5.2 On receipt of an appeal, the secretary shall notify the club, against who the complaint has been made, in writing/ or by email within three 3 days of receipt of the communication.

8.5.3 On receipt of this notification, the defending club shall be allowed seven (7) days in which to lodge their reply to the secretary.

8.5.4 The Area Board Appeals Committee may call a meeting to discuss the appeal. Alternatively if required, a date and time for an oral hearing, once set, shall also be communicated to both parties. A: The party bringing the appeal shall state their case first. The defending body or committee will then state their case. Each side will have the opportunity to cross-examine the other side through the Chair. The Area Board Appeals Committee members may also question both sides.

B: The Chairperson once satisfied that all involved have had ample time to state their case and cross examine, shall then terminate that part of the appeal meeting and ask all parties to withdraw to allow the committee to make their decision.

8.5.5. The decision of the Area Board Appeal Committee shall be forwarded orally, in writing, by fax, or electronically to both parties. Both parties must offer either a telephone number or fax number to the committee for early receipt of the decision. A written copy of the decision shall also be forwarded within seven (7) days by post to both parties.

8.5.6 If the decision is made in favour of the team making the appeal, the fee shall be refunded in full.

8.5.7 If all local Area Board appeal mechanisms have been exhausted, only then can the decision be appealed to the National Appeals Committee, as outlined in Basketball Ireland Regulations.

8.6 PAYMENT OF FINES

8.6.1 Payment of fines must be completed by close of the current season. Failure to clear fines laid by the Executive Committee may result in a temporary suspension of the clubs registration for the following season(s) and also loss of AICC place.

8.6.2 All fines imposed, whether they are individual or club fines must be paid by the date specified. All clubs will be liable to pay a member's fine and seek reimbursement from that individual.

8.6.3 No fine outside of the automatic penalties in Appendix 1 may be appealed until it has been paid.

8.7 LEAGUE PLAYOFFS & CUP SEMI-FINALS/FINALS

8.7.1 In the specific case of the league semi-final or finals weekend and cup semi-final or finals weekend the following procedures shall apply:

A: Protests must be submitted within twelve hours following completion of the game. The fee (€100/£100) must accompany the written protest, which must be handed in person or emailed to a member of the Executive Committee.

B: A technical committee (if applicable) will also deal with the disciplinary matters arising from games over the weekend. A decision will be made and communicated to the club on such incidents within sufficient time constraints.

C: The technical committee's (if applicable) decision will be final. Due to time constraints there will be no right to appeal such decisions.

9 DRUG TESTING

9.1 Basketball Ireland strictly prohibits the use of performance enhancing, recreational or other drugs listed in the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and FIBA Guide to Doping Control. Basketball Ireland and the NABC will adhere to the guidelines and list of prohibited substances provided and subscribes to the National Anti-Doping Programme, operated by the Irish Sports Council (ISC).

9.2 Basketball Ireland reserves the right to require a participant to submit to drug testing at any time as directed by the NABC and/or the ISC.

9.3 Following the amendment to the Irish Anti-Doping Rules by the ISC on April 6th 2010, the ISC has adopted various policy changes in respect of Therapeutic Use Exemptions. For a full update on Anti-Doping, please refer to Appendix 3 and <http://www.irishsportscouncil.ie/Anti-Doping>.

9.4 The ISC no longer has a Declaration of Use Form. All medications and supplements must be declared by the player at the time of a drug test on the Doping Control Form. This is especially important for players using Beta2Agonists and Glucocorticosteroids.

9.5 Any person who refuses to submit to drug testing will be treated as if they have tested positive.

9.6 Any person who has a positive drugs test will be subject to disciplinary action before an independent panel set up by NABC who will investigate the circumstances of the offence and decide the penalties to be imposed.

9.7 The player and/or the NABC, Basketball Ireland and/or the Basketball Ireland Anti-doping Officer shall be entitled to make written submissions and/or appear in person or be represented before the independent panel.

9.8 The decision of this independent panel may be appealed to the IAC, as outlined in the Appeals Section (Section 8.5), whose decision shall be final. There is no recourse to further appeal.

10. MEDIA ADVERTISING & SPONSORSHIP

10.1 Basketball Ireland and NABC encourages clubs and/or teams to enter into sponsorship, advertising and endorsement agreements with commercial enterprises, companies, individuals or organisations provided that no such agreement is contrary to the interest of basketball.

10.2 Basketball Ireland and NABC reserve the right to decide on the appropriateness of advertising and sponsorship images that clubs may use at basketball venues. The advertising of tobacco products and hard alcohol is not permitted.

10.3 Basketball Ireland and NABC reserve the right to claim sponsorship exclusivity on brands, companies and institutions in respect of the National Competitions. If an exclusivity

clause is implemented, clubs or teams will not be permitted to enter into any sponsorship or advertising agreement pertaining to team names, uniform advertising, and advertising signage at games, courtside services products and game sponsorships.

10.4 Exclusivity for advertising signage, courtside services products and game sponsorships shall only be exclusive to the particular competition for which Basketball Ireland sponsorship applies.

10.5 A Club shall fulfil all obligations and display signage as directed by the CO in support of Basketball Ireland Sponsor(s). The Club may be subject to further sanctions as deemed appropriate by the NABC.

Teams must use basketballs and equipment as approved by Basketball Ireland and the NABC.

10.6 All Basketball Ireland local competitions matches shall be played with the official Molten approved ball of Basketball Ireland.

Appendix 1: Schedule of Automatic Fines

REGULATION	PENALTY (£/€)
Failure to complete team registration application form by deadline (Late fee)	100
Local competition withdrawal fee	100
Failure to attend fixtures meeting at start of the season	25
Failure to attend Board Meeting/AGM	100
Failure to return white score sheet seven days of fixture and loss of one league point per sheet	40
Failure to provide any item(s) of table equipment	5 per item
Failure to provide referees in accordance with 2.2.4	Forfeit Game / LOSS OF POINTS
Failure to provide a visible clock and/or scoreboard	25 per item
Use of an unlicensed coach and/or team follower	25 per person
Use of an unlicensed player	50 per person & forfeit
Failure to wear matching uniforms	10 per player
Failure to wear registered team colours	10 per player
Administrative charge for change of fixture request	20
Additional late fee for change of fixture request within two weeks of Game	20
Failure to advise correct result and/or scorers to the designated number within 6 hours of the game.	10
Cancellation of a fixture	250
Postponement of game within seven (7) days of days	50
Postponement of game with 48 hours of fixture	100

NWAB Regulations 2016-2017

Failure to reply to official correspondence from the Executive Committee	25
Failure to use approved match ball in competitions	25 per match
Others as instructed by the NABC/Executive Committee during the season	As instructed

Appendix 2: Anti-Doping Update

PROHIBITED LIST:

The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) Prohibited List is an International Standard issued annually by WADA that identifies classes of substances and methods that are prohibited in-competition, out-of- competition, and in particular sports. The 2010 Prohibited is effective since 01 January 2010 and can be accessed on the WADA website at <http://www.wada-ama.org/en/>. Clubs and athletes are responsible for updating themselves on changes to this list.

Athletes can easily check out what over-the-counter medications, bought in the Republic of Ireland, are prohibited or permitted in sport by checking the 'Drugs in Sport Database' on www.eirpharm.com.

Medications bought in Northern Ireland should be checked on www.globaldro.com.

On checking of these websites, it is seen that a high proportion of cold and flu treatments contain pseudoephedrine e.g. Benylin four Flu, Day Nurse, Nurofen Cold and Flu. Pseudoephedrine is also found in some cough treatments e.g. Robitussin Plus, Benylin Dual Action Chesty. The cough and decongestant medication Casacol is also prohibited in competition. However, please note that Athletes who are required to take a prohibited medication for a legitimate medical reason may apply for a therapeutic use exemption (TUE). Check out www.irishsportsCouncil.ie/Anti-Doping/TUEs_and_Medicines for information on TUE Applications.

Remember athletes selected for doping control must declare the use of all prescribed and over-the-counter medications and supplements taken in the last 14 days pre testing, on the doping control form.

Athletes as requested to remind their GP/Consultant that they are subject to drug testing and their doctor can check any medications they prescribe in MIMS – a booklet available to all doctors on a monthly basis. The Irish Sports Council ensures that each monthly edition is updated if there are any changes to the status of a medicine in sport. All prescription medications available in Ireland are listed and each medication is classed as permitted, prohibited (requires a TUE) or requiring declaration.

Once your medication has been checked as outlined above, it can be classed as;

- A. Permitted – athletes do not need to complete a TUE form but should declare the medication on the Doping Control Form at the time of a drug test if taken within the last 14 days
- B. Requires Declaration – athletes do not need to complete a TUE form BUT MUST DECLARE THE MEDICATION ON THE DOPING CONTROL FORM AT THE TIME OF A DRUG TEST IF IT HAS BEEN TAKEN WITHIN THE LAST 14 DAYS
- C. Requires a TUE – athletes need to check whether they are required to apply for a Pre- test TUE or Post-test TUE (see below for criteria).

PRE-TEST TUE POLICY:

From 2010 the following athletes must apply for a TUE prior to using a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method:

- A. All Athletes in the Irish Sports Council's Registered Testing Pool (ISC RTP)
- B. Athletes who are part of an International Federation's (IF) Registered Testing Pool and those competing in International Events, as defined by the IF.
- C. Athletes who are part of the ISC RTP are informed by the ISC in writing and advised of the TUE requirements.

Athletes, who are not on the ISC RTP but are on their IF RTP or are competing in international level events, should check with their IF to see what the TUE requirements are. Some IFs publish

these details on their websites.

POST-TEST TUE POLICY:

All other Athletes can apply for a TUE retroactively, i.e. if an athlete is tested and the lab reports an Adverse Analytical Finding (AAF), the Irish Sports Council Anti-Doping Unit will contact the athlete and request the athlete to submit his/her medical file to the TUE Committee along with a TUE application. All athletes are urged to ensure that their doctor keeps their medical records up to date at all times.

If the Athlete is unable to prove that he/she was using the Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method for a legitimate therapeutic purpose the AAF will stand and the National Governing Body will start proceedings for a Disciplinary Hearing. If the TUE Committee reviews the medical file and is happy that the athlete was using the Prohibited Substance or Method for a legitimate purpose, the AAF is not pursued and no action is taken against the athlete.

If an athlete is unsure about whether he/she should apply for a TUE in advance, he/she can contact the Irish Sports Council. Athletes to whom the Post-Test TUE Policy applies may still apply to the ISC for a TUE in advance of using the Prohibited Substance or Method.

A listing of IF contacts is available at www.wada-ama.org/en/Anti-Doping-Community/IFs/List-of-IFs

DECLARATION OF USE POLICY:

The ISC no longer has a Declaration of Use Form. All medications and supplements must be declared by the athlete at the time of a drug test on the Doping Control Form. This is especially important for athletes using Beta2Agonists and Glucocorticosteroids.

EXISTING ABBREVIATED TUE APPLICATIONS:

All previously granted Abbreviated TUEs (ATUEs) have now expired since December 31st, 2009. This has come about with the introduction of the updated WADA International Standard for TUEs. This also applies to TUEs previously granted by International Federations. If you fit the criteria listed above for a Pre-Test TUE you should now follow the steps below and re-apply for a TUE. If you fit the criteria listed above for a Post-Test TUE you should contact your GP/Consultant to ensure that they have an up to date medical file for you.

CONSTITUTION OF NWAB

1. NAME

The name of the association shall be the NWAB hereinafter referred to as the Board.

2. OBJECTS

The functions of the Board are to promote, control, supervise and regulate the playing of basketball at all levels within the NWAB boundaries in accordance with the rules and regulations of Basketball Ireland.

3. STATUS

The Board shall be affiliated to Basketball Ireland

4. COMPOSITION

The Board shall be comprised of the following members:

A: Executive Officers of the Board who shall be elected every two (2) years.

Chairperson
Secretary
Treasurer & Registrar

B: Executive Officers of the Board who shall be elected annually.

Fixtures Secretary/League Convenor
Public Relations Officer (PRO)
Children's' Officer

C: All affiliated clubs

D: Any other body affiliated to the Board.

5. MANAGEMENT

The Executive Officer Board, hereinafter referred to as the Executive, shall manage the affairs of the Board. The Executive will be comprised of:

Chairperson
Secretary
Treasurer & Registrar
Fixtures Secretary/League Convenors
Public Relations Officer (PRO)
Children's' Officer

6. DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

The Chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the Board. In his absence, the Executive Officers present shall elect a Deputy Chairperson from the Executive.

The Secretary shall conduct all correspondence for and on behalf of the Board. The Secretary shall also keep accurate minutes of all decisions made at all meetings of the Board.

The Treasurer shall maintain a record of all monies received and expended by the Board. The Treasurer shall open and maintain a bank account acceptable to the Executive in to which all monies received shall be lodged and from which all payments shall be made, by cheque when convenient. The Treasurer will also be required to submit a financial report for the Executive Officer meetings and at the Annual General Meeting, which shall accurately and in detail reflect the financial operation of the Board over the said period.

The Fixtures Secretary/League Convenor shall administer on a day to day basis the running of the competitions held under the auspices of the Board, and to the satisfaction of the Executive Officers and provide updated League Tables at all times throughout the season.

The Registrar shall record and control the registration and legality of all players participating in competitions under the control of the Board.

The Public Relations Officer shall be responsible for the promotion of basketball through the recognised channels of the press, radio, television and in all other areas where appropriate.

The Children's Officer shall be the first point of contact for concerns about a child.

The Executive Committee shall have the power to create and fill any other in its opinion is necessary.

7. OFFICERSHIPS

Executive Officers must be 18 years or over to be eligible for office.

8. AFFILIATION/REGISTRATION

A: Affiliation fees shall be fixed each year by the Executive and become due the day of August each year.

B: All registration fees shall be fixed each year by the Executive.

C: If requested, birth certificates of players must be lodged with the secretary of the board within seven (7) days of such a request.

D: All clubs/players must be registered with the Board and Basketball Ireland in order to be eligible to play in competitions run by the Board.

E: Clubs failing to pay monies due to the Board by the date the monies become due and payable will not be re-instated until the monies due has been paid in full.

9. BOARD MEETINGS

A: The Board shall meet at such times as shall be considered necessary, but not less than once during the playing season in addition to the Annual General Meeting.

B: The Quorum for Board meetings is shall be one quarter of the membership, including Executive Officers.

C: Each officer and nominated delegate, or proxy in his or her absence of delegate, shall be entitled to vote. In the event of a tie, the Chairperson shall have the casting vote.

D: When a decision is taken, voting shall be by secret ballot, if so demanded by at least one quarter of the membership present and entitled to vote.

E: Any board member who misses 3 meetings will be removed from the board and their club will be obliged to replace them with 7 days.

F: The Chairperson shall debar any member who obstructs or interferes with the business of the Board meeting.

G: Roll call shall be taken before the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting. Only the nominated delegate or proxy in the absence of the delegate shall be entitled to answer for their club.

H: The fine, as set in Appendix 1, shall sanction clubs failing to have their nominated delegate or proxy in attendance at Board meetings.

I: An Executive Officer shall not be deemed to be a representative of his club.

J: No delegate may stand for re-election to the board if they have failed to attend the majority of meetings or provide a proxy to attend board meetings in their place during their term of office.

10. EXECUTIVE OFFICER MEETINGS

- A: The Executive Officers shall meet at any such times deemed necessary but not less than once every two (2) months in the playing season.
- B: The quorum of Executive Officers meetings shall be any three Executive Officers.
- C: The Chairman, or in their absence, his or her nominee from the Executive shall have the power to call Executive Officer meetings.

11. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

- A: The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Board shall be held before the 31st of May each year.
- B: All members of the Board shall be present at the AGM
- C: No person shall be entitled to vote in more than one capacity.
- D: The business of the AGM
 - i. Minutes of last General Meeting
 - ii. Adoption of Standing Orders
 - iii. Chairperson's Address
 - iv. Secretary Report
 - v. Statement of account from Treasurer
 - vi. Fixture Secretary/League Convenor's Report
 - vii. Public Relations Officer's Report
 - viii. Child Protection Officer's Report
 - ix. Registrar's Report
 - x. Motions
 - xi. Election of incoming Officers
- E: Extraordinary General Meetings of the Board may be called by the Executive Officers on its own initiative or on the written request of at least one third of the affiliated clubs. The purpose of such meetings must be stated and all affiliated clubs shall be given not less than seven (7) days' notice.
- F: One (1) months' notice of the AGM shall be given to all members and affiliated clubs.