**Yorkshire Netball**

PROPOSED CONSTITUTION CHANGES - For approval at the 2023 AGM

**ALL CLAUSES (Where applicable)**

* Change the following clauses to ensure correct gender-neutral pronouns are used i.e. ‘they/their’.

5.11

5.16

5.16.2

5.16.4

5.16.6

5.16.7

6.3

7.1

7.7.1

8.3

11.2

* Change the following clauses to substitute ‘General Meeting’ to read ‘AGM’ to ensure consistency.

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15.1

**CLAUSE 2**

* Change this section to VISION and replace with the following:

*2. VISION  
The vision of Yorkshire Netball is to create a more connected, inclusive, and competitive region.*

**CLAUSE 3**

* Replace 3.1-3.12 inclusive with the following:

*The objects for which Yorkshire Netball is established are:*

*3.1 To promote and further the growth and development of netball in Yorkshire.*

*3.2 To be a member of England Netball and to co-operate with them in all matters relating to the growth and development of the game and if appropriate, adopt the regulations, policies, and procedures of England Netball as a member organisation.*

*3.3 To protect and develop the interests of the sport of netball in Yorkshire; pledging to promote and celebrate difference.  
3.4 To develop and deliver Regional initiatives which align to the Yorkshire Netball vision.*

*3.5 To demonstrate a high level of transparency, diversity and inclusion, accountability and integrity in relation to organisational governance.  
3.6 To operate bank account(s)/investments in the name of Yorkshire Netball; managing regional resources in an effective and efficient manner whilst being solely applied towards the promotion of Yorkshire Netball objects.  
3.7 Provide leadership, support and guidance to constituent County Associations and members of Yorkshire Netball.*

*3.8 To do all such other lawful things as are considered by the RMB to further the interests of Yorkshire Netball or to be incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects, or any of them.*

**CLAUSE 4**

* Replace 4.2-4.4 inclusive with the following:

*4.2. Upon payment of the appropriate annual Yorkshire Netball membership fees, the* ***members of the Region*** *shall be considered as being one of two classes of Member:*

*4.2.1 Personal: persons who play, coach, umpire, officiate or organise Netball or are in any way connected with the sport of Netball; and*

*4.2.2 Group; certain organisations specified in the Membership Regulations.*

*4.3 Personal Members*

*The sub categories of Personal Member shall be:*

*4.3.1 Individual Member – Any person who plays, coaches, umpires, officiates or organises Netball or is in any way connected with the sport of Netball having paid the full subscriptions eligible in Yorkshire. Individual members may associate themselves with Group Members.*

*4.3.2 Honorary Life Member – Any person who has been awarded Honorary Life Membership of England Netball as may be conferred by the Directors upon any person who has rendered special service to England Netball at a Regional or National level.*

*4.4 Group Members*

*The sub categories of Group Member shall be:*

*4.4.1 County Netball Association - Any County Netball Association within Yorkshire paying the county association netball fee to England Netball.*

*4.4.2 Clubs - Any netball club within Yorkshire consisting of Personal Members which are affiliated to England Netball.*

*4.4.3 Schools – Any school within Yorkshire paying the secondary school group membership fee to England Netball.*

*4.4.4 Colleges and Universities – Any college or university within Yorkshire paying the college/university group membership fee to England Netball.*

*4.4.5 Leagues – Any league within Yorkshire paying the league group membership fee to England Netball.*

*4.5 This constitution applies to and binds all personal and group members of Yorkshire and each person within such group member. Each is deemed to have agreed to be bound and to comply with this constitution, all Yorkshire Netball regulations and procedures and any England Netball policies or rulings chosen to be adopted by Yorkshire Netball.*

*4.6 For the avoidance of doubt, no one is permitted to represent more than one member unless by way of a designated proxy vote. Membership is not transferable.*

**CLAUSE 5**

* Replace 5.2 with the following:

*5.2 The Regional Management Board (RMB) shall comprise of the following voting members:*

*- Up to 9 persons elected by the members of the Region.*

*- Up to 3 persons appointed by the RMB.*

*- Up to 3 persons co-opted by the RMB.*

*For the avoidance of doubt, all voting members of the RMB and it’s working groups must not be employed by the Region or England Netball for over 15 hours per week, on average, in any one year.*

* Remove 5.2.1
* Replace 5.3 with the following:

*5.3 The minutes of the RMB meetings shall be taken by the secretary. In the absence of the secretary, the RMB members present at the meeting will appoint one of their numbers to take the minutes.*

Replace 5.11 with the following:

*The Chairperson shall chair all meetings of the RMB. In the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice Chair will be the chair of the meeting.*

* Replace 5.16.1 with the following:

*5.16.1 resigns the post with at least one month’s notice to the RMB; or*

* Replace 5.7 with the following:

*The RMB shall meet not less than four times a year on dates determined by the RMB members, called by not less than 14 days clear notice. A quorum shall be 5 voting members of the RMB for any decisions required. The date, time an format will be determined by the RMB.*

**CLAUSE 6**

* Replace 6.1-6.1.8 inclusive with the following:

*6.1 Role of the Regional Management Board*

*The authority and role of the Regional Management Board is to:*

*6.1.1 Lead the decision making and coordinate activity leading to the successful delivery of the Objects set out in Clause 3.*

*6.1.2 Role model the values and behaviours expected from all members of the Region.*

*6.1.3 Conduct all matters in a professional manner, creating a culture of accountability and responsibility across all of the RMB and associated Working Groups.*

*6.1.4 Oversee and enforce associated policies, codes and procedures to ensure an approach that promotes and celebrates difference as well as enforcing any sanctions where appropriate.*

*6.1.5 Be responsible for the strategic and financial management of the Region’s affairs, protecting Yorkshire Netball’s future whilst adhering to the required governance standards.*

*6.1.6 Be committed to RMB responsibilities including but not limited to; attendance at RMB meetings, active participation in discussions and decision making, engagement with key stakeholders locally and nationally relevant to the role.*

* Replace 6.6 (i) with the following:

*(i) the person who will be the treasurer and as such, be responsible for operating the Region’s bank/investment account(s), in accordance with the financial procedures agreed by RMB;*

* Remove 6.6 (ii)
* Replace 6.6 (iii) with the following:

*(iii) the person who will be the Regional Safeguarding Lead*

* Remove 6.7
* Replace 6.11 with the following:

*6.11 Where a resolution has been circulated to an RMB member pursuant to clause 6.10 above and has not been received back by the RMB secretary within 21 days of being sent out, that RMB member will be deemed to have approved the resolution.*

**CLAUSE 7**

* Replace 7.1 with the following:

*7.1 All elected persons on the RMB may serve for a term of four years. At the General meeting corresponding with the end of that person’s term of office, they shall retire and shall be eligible for re-election for one further term of four years. No elected person may serve for more than two consecutive terms.*

* Remove ‘Job description’ from 7.4.
* Replace 7.5 with the following:

*7.5 All elected and appointed persons must be personal members of England Netball within the Region, throughout their term(s) on the RMB.*

* Replace 7.6.2 with the following:

*7.6.2 All appointed persons on the RMB may serve for a term of four years. At the General meeting corresponding with the end of that person’s term of office, they shall retire and shall be eligible for re-election for one further term of four years. No appointed person may serve for more than two consecutive terms.*

* Remove 7.6.4
* Replace 7.7.1 with the following:

*7.7.1 The RMB has the right to co-opt a person or persons on a temporary basis to the RMB, outside of any appointment or election process, if certain skills or knowledge are required. The RMB shall determine how long a co-opted person remains on the RMB. If at the period of one year or until the next Annual General Meeting, the RMB determine the co-opted member is required further, they must either become an elected or appointed member of the RMB.*

* Replace 7.7.2 with the following:

*7.7.2 An RMB co-opted person shall have one vote at RMB meetings, but not have a vote at the Region’s AGMs.*

**CLAUSE 8**

* Replace 8.1-8.5 with the following:

*8.1 The Region shall hold an Annual General Meeting (AGM) in every calendar year at a date, time and in a format determined by the RMB. The purpose of the AGM is to report on the previous Membership year (typically August-July inclusive) with members being given the opportunity to ask questions on such matters.*

*8.2 The AGM agenda will always address the matters of:*

* *Previous AGM minutes approval.*
* *Consideration of the previous membership year report containing a review of the Region’s activities across all working groups.*
* *Consideration of the previous financial year report including an income and expenditure account and balance sheet signed and dated by a qualified financial examiner. They shall also be dated and signed by two elected RMB members.*
* *Consideration and approval of forthcoming Regional membership fees.*
* *RMB Elections if appropriate and in accordance with Clause 7.1.*
* *Approval of any proposed constitution changes put forward by an RMB member or member of the region not less than 28 days before the AGM (proposed by one member and seconded by another).*
* *Any other resolutions proposed not less than 28 days before the AGM (proposed by one member and seconded by another).*
* *Any other business linked to constitution.*

*8.3 All AGM attendees will be expected to uphold themselves in accordance with the England Netball Code of Conduct as well as behaving in a manner that shows them to:*

* *Listen and respect the views of others.*
* *Respect the office of chair.*
* *Seek positive and constructive resolution and discussion to those issues where differences of opinion exist.*

*8.4 The AGM shall be called with at least 42 clear days’ notice and the following information circulated to all members by either the Chairperson or Secretary to each member of the Region (as defined in clauses 4.2-4.4):*

* *AGM Notice detailing date, time, venue and format.*
* *AGM Agenda as defined in clause 8.2.*
* *Regional Constitution for consideration in case of any proposed changes.*
* *Constitutional Changes proposal form.*
* *Member attendance form; completed no less than 14 days before the AGM.*
* *Proxy voting application form including voting member rights to appoint proxies.*

*8.5 The following documents will be sent to all voting members of the Region (and any appointed AGM voting proxies) not less than 7 days before the AGM in addition to the documents already circulated as outlined in Clause 8.4:*

* *Overview of proposed constitution changes for AGM approval.*
* *Proposed Regional Membership fees for AGM approval.*
* *Financial Report for any questions.*
* *Annual Report for any questions.*
* *CVs of members proposed for election.*
* *Clarification of voting methodology for identified resolutions.*
* Replace 8.7-8.9 with the following:

*8.7 As detailed in clauses 4.2-4.4, each member shall be entitled to attend, speak and have one vote at the AGM of the Region.*

*8.8. In connection with Clause 8.8 above each group member should be represented by a person appointed/is a member/accredited chair/deputy of said group.*

*8.9 The following shall be entitled to attend and speak at the AGM but shall not be entitled to vote, unless they are a duly appointed representative under clause 8.8 above or a proxy appointed under clause 8.10.3 below:*

*a) Each RMB co-opted person*

*b) Any other person, from time to time, as determined by the RMB collectively*

* Replace 8.10.1 with the following:

*8.10.1 Via the voting medium determined by the RMB prior to the AGM, each person or representative under clause 8.7 above shall be permitted to cast one vote on each resolution. One vote in their capacity under clause 8.7 and/or 8.8 above.*

* Replace 8.10.7 with the following:

*8.10.7 To validly appoint a proxy, the proxy voting application form must be fully completed and returned as per the form instructions no later than 5pm two working days before the AGM date.*

* Replace 8.16.1 with the following:

8.16.1 A resolution put to the vote at a meeting shall be decided by a voting mechanism determined by the RMB in keeping with the chosen format or hybrid format of the meeting.

* Remove ‘show of hands’ from 8.17.

**CLAUSE 13 AND 14**

* Remove both clauses as information sits within the relevant policies and procedures for Yorkshire Netball competitions and in England Netball policies adopted by the Region (Code of Conduct, Disciplinary Policy, Appeals Policy etc.)