



The Challenge Cup is a hybrid competition designed to support player development by bridging the gap between divisions. It gives YBL and Junior National League players more opportunities to compete.

14 | The Challenge Cup

2026/2027 SEASON

Who can play? As of 1st (first) September

Cannot be aged 10 years old or below	Can be aged 11 years old	Can be aged 12 years old	Can be aged 13 years old	Cannot be aged 14 years old or above
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**Performance Licence holders
Players in Junior National League**

This division allows Junior National League Players; those holding a Performance licence, within the criteria above participating in this division.

THIS IS AN
ALL-PLAY DIVISION

This competition is an All-Play division, with all players to play at least one quarter

Exemption Requests

We will consider exemption requests in-line with our Inclusion and Exemption Policy

When can we play?

Scheduling fixtures for this competition

Scheduling regular season home fixtures should be between the time slots given below. Rearrangements can be outside the agreed times, with the agreement of both teams, if agreed in advanced.

	Earliest tip time	Latest tip time
Friday	19:00	20:00
Saturday & Sunday	10:00	17:00
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday	19:00	20:00

How can we play?

5 You can go to this game with 5 players



Zone defence is not permitted



**Half-Court defense is applied
IN THIS DIVISION**



When a team reaches a 20-point lead they must play half-court defense. Teams can attempt rebounds or gain possession of a loose ball. However, once the opposition has secured clear possession/control of the ball (including dribbling in their back court), the leading team **MUST** return to their own half (around the throw-in line) and play defence once the ball is in their defensive back court.

Game Play for this competition

<p>This division is to be Live Scored</p>	<p>1 SCR SCORER REQUIRED</p>	<p>1 TK TIMEKEEPER REQUIRED</p>	<p>1 SCO SHOT CLOCK OPTIONAL</p>	<p>SCO SCO must be qualified Level 2 or Level 3 Candidate - working towards their Level 3. Overseen by a Level 3 or above in-line with our YBL Officials 2026</p>
<p>Size 6 basketball</p>	<p>2 Time-outs First half 3 Second half 1 Per-team in overtime</p>	<p>Substitutions YES</p>	<p>1 Minimum of one coach per-team</p>	<p>10:00 Minute Quarters STOP-CLOCK</p> <p>5:00 Minute Overtimes STOP-CLOCK</p>
<p>Referees are not appointed to this division</p>				

For more information, regulations and payment guide - please see the Officials Booklet on the Referee & Table Official page on the website