



# LEAGUE RULES

## PROPOSALS FOR THE 2016-2017 SEASON

Rules revised March 2016 from the previous season's approved draft.  
Altered in accordance with FA major revisions received 16 April 2016  
Submitted to the Management Committee 18 April 2016  
Submitted to the WRCFA 20 April 2016

The Football Association Standard Code of Rules for Youth League mandatory wording is printed in **black bold typeface**. Optional FA rules are printed in *black italic*. League amendments/additions are printed **in cyan** with any proposed alterations notified by **red warnings**.

## DEFINITIONS

### 1. (A) In these Rules:

“Affiliated Association” means an Association accorded the status of an affiliated Association under the Rules of The FA.

“AGM” shall mean the annual general meeting held in accordance with the constitution of the Competition.

“Club” means a Club for the time being in membership of the Competition.

“Competition” means the [ ] League.

“Competition Match” means any match played or to be played under the jurisdiction of the Competition.

“Contract Player” means any Player (other than a Player on a Scholarship) who is eligible to play under a written contract of employment with a Club.

“Deposit” means a sum of money deposited with the Competition as part of the requirements of membership of the Competition.

“Fees Tariff” means a list of fees approved by the Clubs at a general meeting to be levied by the Management Committee for any matters for which fees are payable under the Rules.

“Fines Tariff” means a list of fines approved by the Clubs at a general meeting to be levied by the Management Committee for any breach of the Rules.

“Ground” means the ground on which the Club’s Team(s) plays its Competition Matches.

“Management Committee” means in the case of a Competition which is an unincorporated association, the

management committee elected to manage the running of the Competition and where the Competition is incorporated it means the Board of Directors appointed in accordance with the articles of association of that company.

“Match Officials” means the referee, the assistant referees and any fourth official appointed to a Competition Match.

“Mini Soccer” means those participating at ages under 7s to under 10s.

“Non Contract Player” means any Player (other than a Player on a Scholarship) who is eligible to play for a Club but has not entered into a written contract of employment.

“Officer” means an individual who is appointed or elected to a position in a Club or Competition which requires that individual to make day to day decisions.

“Participants” means an Affiliated Association, Competition, Club, Club Official, Intermediary, Player, Official, Match Official, Management Committee member, member or employee of an Affiliated Club and all such persons who are from time to time participating in any activity sanctioned either directly or indirectly by the Association.

“Player” means any Contract Player, Non Contract Player or other player who plays or who is eligible to play for a Club.

“Playing Season” means the period between the date on which the first competitive fixture in the Competition is played each year until the date on which the last competitive fixture in the Competition is played.

“Rules” means these rules under which the Competition is administered.

“Sanctioning Authority” means [The FA][the [ ] County Football Association Limited].

“Scholarship” means a Scholarship as set out in Rule C 3 (a) (i) of the Rules of The FA.

“Secretary” means such person or persons appointed or elected to carry out the administration of the Competition.

“Team” means a team affiliated to a Club.

“Team Sheet” means a form provided by the Competition on which the names of the Players taking part in a Competition Match are listed.

“The FA” means The Football Association Limited.

“written” or “in writing” means the representation or reproduction of words or symbols or other information in a visible form by any method or combination of methods, whether sent or supplied in electronic form or otherwise.

“Youth Football” means those participating at ages under 11s to under 18s.

(B) All Clubs shall adhere to the Rules. Every Club shall be deemed, as a member of the Competition to have accepted the Rules and to have agreed to abide by the decisions of the Management Committee in relation thereto, subject to the provisions of Rule 16.

(C) The Competition will be known as [the Craven, Aire and Wharfe Junior League](#) (or such other name as the Competition may adopt). The Clubs participating in the Competition must be members of the Competition. A Club which ceases to exist or which ceases to be entitled to play in the Competition for any reason whatsoever shall thereupon automatically cease to be a member of the Competition.

(D) The administration of the Competition under these Rules will be carried out by the Competition acting (save where otherwise specifically mentioned herein) through the Management Committee in accordance with the rules, regulations and policies of The FA.

(E) Unless stated otherwise, terms referring to natural persons are applicable to both genders. Any term in the singular applies to the plural and vice-versa.

## **NAME AND CONSTITUTION**

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**2(A) This Competition shall consist of not more than one hundred Clubs approved by the sanctioning authority.**

**(B) Clubs must be affiliated to an affiliated Association and their names and particulars shall be returned annually by the appointed date in a manner prescribed by the Sanctioning Authority and must have a constitution approved by the Sanctioning Authority. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff). The area covered by**

the Competition Membership shall be the Bradford, Craven, Keighley and Wharfedale districts of the West Riding. Clubs may be accepted from outside this area with the agreement of the Management Committee.

This Competition shall apply annually for sanction to the West Riding County Football Association(s) and the constituent teams of member Clubs may be grouped in divisions, each not exceeding twelve in number.

(C) Inclusivity and Non-discrimination

(i) The Competition and each member Club must be committed to promoting inclusivity and to eliminating all forms of discrimination and should abide and adhere to The FA Equality Policy and any legislative requirements (to include those contained in the Equality Act 2010).

(ii) This Competition and each member Club must make every effort to promote equality by treating people fairly and with respect, by recognising that inequalities may exist, by taking steps to address them and by providing access and opportunities for all members of the community, irrespective of age, gender, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, marital status, race, nationality, ethnic origin, colour, religion or belief, ability or disability or otherwise.

(iii) Any alleged breach of the Equality Act 2010 legislation must be referred to the appropriate Sanctioning Authority for investigation.

(D) Clubs must comply with the

provisions of any initiatives of The FA which are adopted by the Competition including but not limited to, Charter Standard and RESPECT programmes. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(E) Clubs shall not enter any of their Teams playing at a particular age group in the Competition in any other competition (with the exception of FA and County FA Competitions) except with the written consent of the Management Committee. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(H) At the Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting called for the purpose, a majority of the delegates present shall have power to decide or adjust the compilation of the divisions at their discretion. When necessary this Rule shall take precedence over Rule 12.

## **ENTRY FEE, SUBSCRIPTION, DEPOSIT**

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3(A) Applications by Clubs for admission to this Competition or the entry of an additional team(s) from the same club must be made in writing to the Secretary and must be accompanied by an entry fee of ten pounds per team which shall be returned in the event of non-election.

At the discretion of the voting members present applications, of which due notice has been given, may be received at the Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting or on a date

agreed by the Management Committee.

(B) An annual subscription shall be payable in accordance with the Fees Tariff per team where a Club provides more than one Team in membership of the Competition and shall be payable on or before the third Monday in August in each year.

(C) A Deposit of £[ ] shall be payable per Club (or per Team where a Club provides more than one Team in membership of the Competition) and shall be payable on or before [ ] in each year. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(D) A Club shall not participate in this Competition until the entry fee, Annual Subscription and Deposit have been paid.

(E) If requested by the Competition, Clubs must advise annually to the Secretary in writing by the third Monday in August of its Sanctioning Authority affiliation number for the forthcoming Playing Season, failing which they shall be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff. Clubs must advise the Secretary in writing, or on the prescribed form, of details of its headquarters, Officers and any other information required by the Competition.

## **MANAGEMENT, NOMINATION, ELECTION**

4(A) The Management Committee shall comprise the Officers of the Competition, one representative of each of the four district football associations and four members who shall all be

elected at the AGM. All Participants shall abide by The Football Association Regulations for Safeguarding Children as determined by The FA from time to time.

(B) Retiring Officers shall be eligible to become candidates for re-election without nomination providing that the Officer notifies the Secretary in writing not later than [ ] in each year. All other candidates for election as Officers or members of the Management Committee shall be nominated to the Secretary in writing, signed by the secretaries of two member Clubs, not later than fourteen days prior to the AGM in each year. Names of the candidates for election shall be circulated with the notice of the Annual General Meeting. In the event of there being no nomination in accordance with the foregoing for any office, nominations may be received at the AGM.

(C) The Management Committee shall meet as and when required, save that no more than three calendar months shall pass between meeting.

On receiving a requisition signed by two-thirds of the members of the Management Committee the Secretary shall convene a meeting of the Management Committee.

(D) Except where otherwise mentioned all communications shall be addressed to the Secretary or the nominated league official - whom shall conduct the correspondence of the Competition and keep a record of its proceedings.

(E) All communications received from Clubs must be conducted through their Officers, to the Secretary. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(F) Any member, other than an Officer, absenting himself from two consecutive meetings, without sending a reason for absence, satisfactory to the Committee, shall be deemed to have resigned.

## POWERS OF MANAGEMENT

5(A) The Management Committee may appoint sub-committees and delegate such of their powers as they deem necessary. The Management Committee shall have power to deal only with matters within the Competition and not for any matters of misconduct that are under the jurisdiction of the FA or affiliated Association

(B) Subject to the permission of the Sanctioning Authority having been obtained the Management Committee may order a match or matches to be played each season, the proceeds to be devoted to the funds of the Competition and, if necessary, may call upon each Club (including any Club which may have withdrawn during the season) to contribute equally such sums as may be necessary to meet any deficiency at the end of the season.

(C) Each member of the Management Committee shall have the right to attend and vote at all Management Committee meetings and have one vote thereat, but no member shall be allowed to vote on any matters directly appertaining

to such member or to the Club so represented or where there may be a conflict of interest. (This shall apply to the procedure of any sub-committee).

In the event of the voting being equal on any matter, the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.

(D) The Management Committee shall have powers to apply, act upon and enforce the Rules of the Competition and shall also have jurisdiction over all matters affecting the Competition. Any action by the Competition must be taken within 28 days of the Competition being notified.

With the exception of Rules 6(H) and 19, and subject to Rule 5(I), in relation to any alleged breaches of a Rule the Management Committee shall issue a formal written charge to the Club concerned. The Club charged is required to respond to the charge within 7 days from the date of notification of the charge. In such reply a Club may:-

(i) Accept the charge and submit in writing a case of mitigation for consideration by the Management Committee on the papers; or

(ii) Accept the charge and notify that it wishes to put its case of mitigation at a hearing before the Management Committee; or

(iii) Deny the charge and submit in writing supporting evidence for consideration by the Management Committee on the papers; or

(iv) Deny the charge and notify that it wishes to put its case of mitigation at a hearing before the

Management Committee.

Where the Club charged fails to respond within 7 days, the Management Committee shall determine the charge in such manner and upon such evidence as it considers appropriate.

Where required, hearings shall take place as soon as reasonably practicable following receipt of the reply of the Club as more fully set out above.

Having considered the reply of the Club (whether in writing or at a hearing), the Management Committee shall make its decision and, in the event that the charge is accepted or proven, decide on the appropriate penalty (with reference to the Fines Tariff where applicable).

The maximum fine permitted for any breach of a Rule is £100 and, when setting any fine, the Management Committee must ensure that the penalty is proportional to the offence, taking into account any mitigating circumstances. No Participant under the age of 18 can be fined.

All breaches of the Laws of the Game, Rules and Regulations of The FA shall be dealt with in accordance with FA Rules by the appropriate Association.

(E) All decisions of the Management Committee shall be binding subject to the right of appeal in accordance with Rule 16.

Decisions of the Management Committee must be notified in writing to those concerned within ten days.

(F) [ ]% of its members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business

of the Management Committee or any sub-committee thereof.

(G) The Management Committee, as it may deem necessary, shall have power to fill in an acting capacity, any vacancies that may occur amongst their number.

(H) A Club must comply with an order or instruction of the Management Committee and must attend to the business and/or the correspondence of the Competition to the satisfaction of the Management Committee. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(I) Subject to its right of appeal in accordance with Rule 16 below, all fines and charges shall be paid within 14 days of the date of posting of notification of decision. [Any queries on fines or charges must be submitted within 7 days or they will stand.](#)

Any Club failing to do so will be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff. Further failure to pay the fine including the additional sum within a further 14 days will result in fixtures being withdrawn until such time as the fines are paid.

(J) A member of the Management Committee appointed by the Competition to attend a meeting or match may have any expenses incurred refunded by the Competition.

(K) The Management Committee shall have the power to fill any vacancy that may occur in the membership of the Competition between the AGM or Special General Meeting called to decide the constitution and the

commencement of the Competition Playing season.

(L) The business of the Competition as determined by the Management Committee may/shall be transacted by electronic mail or facsimile.

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

6(A) The AGM shall be held not later than 31st June in each year. At this meeting the following business shall be transacted provided that at least 51% Members are present and entitled to vote:-

(i) To receive and confirm the Minutes of the preceding AGM.

(ii) To receive and adopt the Annual Report, Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts.

(iii) Election of Clubs to fill vacancies.

(iv) Constitution of the Competition for ensuing Playing Season.

(v) Election of Officers and Management Committee.

(vi) Appointment of Auditors.

(vii) Alteration of Rules, if any. (See Rule 20)

(viii) Fix the date for the commencement of the Playing Season and kick off times applicable to the Competitions.

(ix) To fix the date for the end of the Playing Season.

(x) Other business of which due notice shall have been given and accepted as being relevant to an AGM.

(B) A copy of the duly audited/verified Balance Sheet, Statement of Accounts and Agenda shall be forwarded to

each Club at least 14 days prior to the meeting, together with any proposed changes.

(C) A signed copy of the duly audited/verified Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts shall be sent to the Sanctioning Authority within 14 days of its adoption by the AGM.

(D) Each Club shall be empowered to send two delegates to an AGM. Each Club shall be entitled to one vote only. 14 days' notice shall be given of any Meeting.

(E) Clubs who have withdrawn their membership of the Competition during the Playing Season being concluded or who are not continuing membership shall be entitled to attend but shall vote only on matters relating to the Playing Season being concluded. *This provision will not apply to Clubs expelled in accordance with Rule 17.*

(F) All voting shall be conducted by a show of voting cards unless a ballot be demanded by at least 50% of the delegates qualified to vote or the Chairman so decides.

(G) No individual shall be entitled to vote on behalf of more than one member Club.

(H) Any continuing Club must be represented at the AGM. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

(I) Officers and Management Committee members shall be entitled to attend and vote at an AGM.

(J) Where a Competition is an incorporated entity, the Officers of



**the Competition shall ensure that the Articles of Association of the Competition are consistent with the requirements of these Rules.**

## **AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED**

Each Club shall complete and sign the following agreement which shall be deposited with the Competition together with the application for membership for the coming Playing Season, or upon indicating that the Club intends to compete.

“We, A, \_\_\_\_\_ of

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Chairman) and

B \_\_\_\_\_ of

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Secretary) of the \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Football Club have been provided with a copy of the Rules and Regulations of the \_\_\_\_\_ Competition and do hereby agree for and on behalf of the said Club, if elected or accepted into Membership, to conform to those Rules and Regulations and to accept, abide by and implement the decisions of the Management Committee of the Competition, subject to the right of appeal in accordance with Rule 16.”

The agreement shall be signed by:

(i) Where a Club is an unincorporated association, the Club Chairman and secretary; or

(ii) Where a Club is an incorporated entity, two directors of the Club.

Any alteration of the Chairman and /or secretary of the Club

on the above agreement must be notified to the West Riding County Football Association to which the Club is affiliated and to the Secretary.

Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

## **QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS**

**8(A)(i) A registered youth playing member of a Club is one who, being in all other respects eligible, has:-**  
**For Competitive League Games only**  
**– See Rule 8(A)(xiv) for Mini Soccer Registrations**

Signed a fully and correctly completed Competition registration form in ink, countersigned by an Officer of the Club and a parent or guardian and who has been registered with the Registration Secretary a minimum of three working (Saturday and Sunday are not working days) days and whose completed registration card has been received by the Club prior to playing.

(ii) Provided two identical recent passport approved photographs (not scanned copies or on paper/card of the player).The photographs must have been taken in the last 12 months.

(iii) Provided proof of date of birth including a photocopy of the player’s birth certificate or passport or other official document issued by a Government Agency attesting to the player’s date of birth. – should a player have changed his/her name a copy of the official change of name or a letter from a parent/guardian must be enclosed with

the registration for it to be completed correctly. No original documents must be sent – the league will not be held responsible for any lost or misplaced original documents

(iv) Provided a stamped addressed envelope. Registrations without S.A.E. will incur an administration charge (See Fines Tariff.) Registration applications with insufficient postage will incur an administration charge as deemed appropriate by the Management Committee. Should documents have to be collected from a Royal Mail Sorting office, there will be an additional fee – see Fines Tariff. No collection of cards from the Registration Secretary without prior arrangement.

(vi) Applied to play in competitions for which he/she is eligible by reason of his/her age.

(vii) The player's details must have been recorded online in accordance with League requirements. – in accordance with current published League requirements.

Delete wording in red.

(v) All clubs must obtain from parents or guardians any known serious medical conditions of the player and emergency contact details of the player's parents or guardians. These details must be available at matches and training events the player attends within the management of the club or League.

(vi) Subject to a player continuing to play for the same team in the new season his Registration may be renewed for up to two more seasons by returning the

registration card together with a new Registration Form. The Registration Cards of players no longer playing for the team must be returned to the Registration Secretary before the commencement of the new season when the Registration will be cancelled. These pre-season cancellations will not affect the team's player limit. All Registration Cards expire after three seasons when a new application with new photographs must be made.

A new registration card will only be reissued when all the season have been used or the card has been destroyed by a league official following deregistration of the player – Cards with season still available, will be reissued but a charge will be made. See Fines Tariff

(vii) Where registration documents have to be returned to a club unprocessed due to errors or illegibility an administration charge, will only apply if postage or SAE is not provided.

(viii) In the event of a lost, damaged or laminated registration cards the club will be required to provide new photographs (2 per player) and will incur an administration charge see Fines Tariff.

(ix) The team manager or other club official shall be responsible for checking the registration cards of the opposing players before a game and to see that the names agree with those entered on the Match Result Sheet. The latter to be completed prior to the kick-off. And exchanged, with the opposition and Referee. Failure to do this may result in a fine. A League official or a member of the Management Committee not

connected with either team may also inspect registration cards at any time. Any club found to be playing or to have played a registered player when the registration card was not available at the game shall be liable to a fine. See appendix page

(x) No player/s shall take part in any a match unless his/her registration card is available for inspection by the opposition or league officials. If any match is not played because one team lacks a sufficient number of registration cards available the circumstances shall be reported to the Management Committee who may fine the offending club or award the points to their opponents or order the match to be replayed at a later date. A fine may be imposed upon a club which fails to have the registration cards for its players available for inspection at the match. In exceptional circumstances, where the registration cards are not available through no fault of the Club. Only a League official may authorize a match to take place and institute an alternative method of checking the eligibility of players. See appendix Page.

(xi) At no time during the season shall a team have more than twenty two players for 11-a-side; eighteen for 9-a-side; fourteen for 7-a-side and ten for 5-a-side registered with the League. A club secretary or other official may “de-register” players by returning their registration cards to the Registration Secretary. Having utilized their allocated registrations and de-registered some a team may fill their vacancies. Players “de-registered” shall no longer be

available to play for their team and shall be considered free to sign for any other team in the League.

(xii) In the event of a team or club withdrawing from the League during the season it shall be considered that the players registered for that team shall be “de-registered” and available to sign for another club provided that they have discharged their undertakings. A club must inform the League within seven days if they have an objection to this.

(xiii) Players’ Registration Cards remain the property of the League and must be returned if requested.

(xiv) Players in non-competitive mini-soccer teams are not required to submit forms or proof of date of birth or have registration cards. Teams must register their players online and may transfer them between other teams of the same club without fee. The League may, at any time, require the club to produce documentation to prove date of birth of any player and signed consent forms from parents/guardians.

(B)(i) Contract Players are not permitted in this Competition with the exception of those Players who are registered under contract with the same Club who have a Team operating at Steps 1 to 6 of the National League System.

It is the responsibility of each Club to ensure that any Player signing a registration form for that Club has, where necessary, the required International Transfer Certificate. Clearance is required for any Player aged 10 and over crossing borders including

Age on 31st August of the relevant Playing Season	Eligible Age Groups	Maximum Permitted Format	Minimum Pitch Sizes		Maximum Pitch Sizes		Recommended Goal Sizes in feet	Ball Size
			Yards	Metres	Yards	Metres		
6	Under 7	5v5	30x20	27.45 x 18.3	40x30	36.3 x 27.45	12x6	3
	Under 8							
7	Under 8	5v5	30x20	27.45 x 18.3	40x30	36.3 x 27.45	12 x 6	3
	Under 9							
8	Under 9	7 v 7	50 x 30	45.75 x 27.45	60x40	54.9 x 36.6	12 x 6	3
	Under 10		50 x 30	45.75 x 27.45				54.9 x 36.6
9	Under 10	7 v 7	50 x 30	45.75 x 27.45	60 x 40	54.9 x 36.6	12 x 6	4
	Under 11							
10	Under 11	9 v 9	70 x 40	64 x 36.6	80 x 50	73.15 x 45.75	16 x 7	4
	Under 12		70 x 40	64 x 36.6				
11	Under 12	9 v 9	70 x 40	64 x 36.6	80 x 50	73.15 x 45.75	16 x 7	4
	Under 13							
12	Under 13	11 v 11	90 x 50	82.3 x 45.75	100 x 60	91.44 x 54.9	21 x 7	4
	Under 14							
13	Under 14	11 v 11	90 v 50	82.3 x 45.75	100 x 60	91.44 x 54.9	21 x 7	4
	Under 15		90 v 50	82.3 x 45.75				
14	Under 15	11 v 11	90 v 50	82.3 x 45.75	110 x 70	100.58 x 64	24 x 8	5
	Under 16							

Age on 31st August of the relevant Playing Season	Eligible Age Groups	Maximum Permitted Format	Minimum Pitch Sizes		Maximum Pitch Sizes		Recommended Goal Sizes in feet	Ball Size
			Yards	Metres	Yards	Metres		
15	Under 16	11 v 11	90 v 50	82.3 x 45.75	110 x 70	100.58 x 64	24 x 8	5
	Under 17		100 v 50	91.44 x 45.75	130 x 100	118.87 x 91.44	24 x 8	5
	Under 18		100 v 50	91.44 x 45.75	130 x 100	118.87 x 91.44	24 x 8	5
16	Under 17	11 v 11	100 v 50	91.44 x 45.75	130 x 100	118.87 x 91.44	24 x 8	5
	Under 18		100 v 50	91.44 x 45.75	130 x 100	118.87 x 91.44	24 x 8	5
	Open Age		100 v 50	91.44 x 45.75	130 x 100	118.87 x 91.44	24 x 8	5

Wales, Scotland and Ireland.

(ii) A Player registered with a Premier League or Football League Academy under the Elite Player Performance Plan contained within Youth Development Rules will not be permitted to play in this Competition. Details of the Youth Development Rules are published on The FA website. A Player registered with a FA Girls' Regional Talent Club may play in this Competition subject to the FA Programme for Excellence (Female) Regulations.

(iii) If any Player is serving in any branch of Her Majesty's Regular Forces, the Player must first obtain the consent of his Association secretary before signing a registration form to play for a Club.

(iv) Each Team must have the following number of Players registered **by the third Monday in August** before the start of each Playing Season:

FORMAT	MINIMUM NUMBER
5v5	5
7v7	7
9v9	9
11v11	11

Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(C) A child who has not attained the

age of 6 shall not play, and shall not be permitted or encouraged to play, in a match of any kind.

The relevant age for each Player is determined by his or her age as at midnight on 31 August of the relevant Playing Season. i.e. Children who are aged 6 as at midnight on 31 August in a Playing Season (together with those who attain the age of 6 during the Playing Season will be classed as Under 7 Players for that playing season. Children who are aged 7 as at midnight on 31 August in a Playing Season will be classed as Under 8 Players for that playing season, and so on.

Notwithstanding the above, a child is permitted to play up in the age group above his or her chronological age group, irrespective of any changes of format or competition structure, save that a child who attains the age of 6 after 31 August is permitted to play only in the Under 7 age group, and may not play in the Under 8 age group, for that Playing Season.

The age groups that children are eligible to play in are set out in the table below, along with the permitted football formats for each of those age groups. Children shall not play, and shall not be permitted or encouraged to play, in a match between sides of more than the stated number of players, according to their age group:

Please see chart on pages 12 and 13

(D) The annual fee for an 11v11 team shall include registration forms for

twenty-two players. For other formats the included registrations will be: 5v5 - ten; 7v7 - 14 and 9v9 - 18.

**Registrations forms to be obtained from the League or online.**

**(E) The Management Committee shall decide all registration disputes.**

In the event of a Player signing a registration form or having a registration submitted for more than one Club priority of registration shall decide for which Club the player shall be registered. The **Registrations** Secretary shall notify the Club last applying to register the Player of the fact of the previous registration.

**(F) It shall be deemed a breach of the Rules for a Player to:-**

**(i) Play for more than one team in the Competition in the same Playing Season without first being transferred.**

**(ii) Having signed for one **team** in the Competition, sign for another **team** in the Competition in that Playing Season except for the purpose of a transfer.**

**(iii) Submit a signed registration form for registration that the Player had wilfully neglected to accurately or fully complete.**

**Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).**

**(G) (i) The Management Committee shall have the power to accept the registration of any Player subject to the provisions of clauses (ii) and (iii) below.**

**(ii) The Management Committee shall have power to refuse, cancel or**

**suspend the registration of any Player the exercise of such power being without prejudice to the Management Committee's ability to fine a Club at its discretion (in accordance with the Fines Tariff) that has been charged and found guilty of registration irregularities. (Subject to Rule 16).**

**(iii) The Management Committee shall also have power to refuse or cancel the registration of any Player charged and found guilty of undesirable conduct , such refusal or cancellation being subject to the right of appeal to the Sanctioning Authority. Where the Management Committee does not have enough information to enable it to make a decision pursuant to the above power, it may apply, in its absolute discretion, to the Sanctioning Authority or The FA for further information. Undesirable conduct shall mean an incident of repeated proven misconduct, which may deter a participant from being involved in this Competition.**

**(iv) For a Player who has previously had a registration removed in accordance with clause (iii) but has a registration accepted at the expiry of exclusion will be considered to be under a probationary period of 12 months. Whilst under a probationary period, should the Player commit a further act of proven misconduct under the jurisdiction of the Competition, (excluding standard dismissals), the Competition would be empowered to consider a further charge of bringing the Competition into disrepute.**

**(Note: Action under Clause (iii) shall**

only be taken against a Player in cases of the Player bringing the Competition into disrepute and will in any event be subject to an Appeal to the Sanctioning Authority or The Football Association. All decisions must include the period of restriction. For the purpose of this Rule, bringing the competition into disrepute can only be considered where the Player has received in excess of 112 days' suspension, or 10 matches in match based discipline, in any competition and is not restricted to the Competition in a period of two years or less from the date of the first offence)

(H) Subject to compliance with FA Rule C 2(a) when a Club wishes to register a Player who is already registered with another Club it shall submit a transfer form to the Competition accompanied by a fee as set out in the Fees Tariff. Such transfer shall be referred by the Competition to the Club for which the Player is registered. Should this Club object to the transfer it should state its objections in writing to the Competition and to the Player concerned within 7 days of receipt of the notification. Upon receipt of the Club's consent, or upon its failure to give written objection within 7 days, the Secretary may, on behalf of the Management Committee, transfer the Player who shall be deemed eligible to play for the new Club from such date or three days after receipt of such transfer. In the event of an objection to a transfer the matter shall be referred to the Management Committee for a decision.

(I) (1) A Player may not be registered for a team nor transferred to another team

in the Competition after the last day in February except by special permission of the Management Committee.

(2) No player may be transferred within 28 days of being registered or previously transferred.

(3) Requests for Transfer Forms shall be made to the Registration Secretaries together with a stamped addressed envelope. All player transfers must be on the correct forms.

(4) The following will apply to preliminary games played to determine divisional allocations. A club may transfer a player from one team to another within the club without cost and without waiting 28 days so long as the documentation has been submitted to the Registration Secretary and the amended card received back. Failure to comply with this rule may result in a fine. See appendix page

**(J) A Club shall keep a list of the players it registers and a record of the games in which they have played, and shall produce such records upon demand by the Management Committee.**

**In the event a Club has more than one Team in an age group, each team must be clearly identifiable but not designated 'A' or 'B' or 1st or 2nd. In such cases, Players will be registered for one team only. A Player so registered will be allowed to play for his Club in a younger or older age group within the provisions of Rule 8 (C).**

**(K) A register containing the names of all Players registered for each Club, with the date of registration, shall be**



kept by the Section Administrator/ Registrations Secretary and shall be open to the inspection of any duly appointed Member Club representative at all Management Committee meetings or at other times mutually arranged. Registrations are valid for one Playing Season only. **REVISION NEEDED**

In the event of a Non Contract Player changing his status to that of a Contract Player with the same Club, another Club in the Competition or with a Club in another Competition his registration as a Non Contract Player will automatically be cancelled and declared void unless the Club conforms to the exception detailed in Rule 8(B)(i).

(L) A player shall not be eligible to play for a team in any special championship, promotion or relegation deciding match (as specified in Rule 12(A)) unless the Player has played **six** games for that Team in this Competition in the current Playing Season. ~~A club must have registered a minimum of eleven players per team 11 v 11 or nine players per team for 9 v 9, seven for 7 v 7 and five for 5 v 5 by the 3rd Monday in August or be fined a sum of three pounds per player short of the required number. See appendix page:~~

~~(O) if the correct number of players registrations are not received by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in August as per rule 8(M) there is no guarantee that registrations will be processed in time for the first game of the season, should this be the case and a match has to be postponed due to lack of player registrations then rule 10F will apply — see appendix page:~~

(M) (i) Subject to Rule 8(M)(ii), any Club found to have played an ineligible Player in a match or matches where points are awarded shall have the points gained from that match deducted from its record, up to a maximum of 12 points, and have levied upon it a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(ii) The Management Committee may vary the sanction as relates to the deduction of points set out at Rule 8(M)(i) only in circumstances where the ineligibility is due to the failure to obtain an International Transfer Certificate or where the ineligibility is related to the Player's status.

(iii) Where a Club is found to have played an ineligible player in accordance with Rule 8(M)(i) above, the Management Committee may also, at its discretion:

(a) Award the points available in the Competition Match in question to the opponents, subject to the Competition Match not being ordered to be replayed;

(b) Levy penalty points against the Club in default; or

(c) Order that such match or matches be replayed (on such terms as are decided by the Management Committee).

**(The following Clause applies to Competitions involving players in full-time secondary education):-**

(N) (i) Priority must be given at all times to school and school organisations' activities. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(ii) The availability of children must be cleared with the Head Teachers (except for Sunday Competitions).

(iii) A child under the age of 15 as at midnight on 31 August in a Playing Season, shall not be permitted to play in a Competition Match during that Playing Season where any other Player is older or younger than that child by two years or more.

## **CLUB COLOURS. CLUB NAME**

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9(A) Every Club must register the colour of its shirts and shorts, with the Secretary by the first day of July who shall decide as to their suitability.

Goalkeepers must wear colours which distinguish them from other Players and the Match Officials.

No Player, including the goalkeeper, shall be permitted to wear black or very dark shirts.

Any Team not being able to play in its normal colours as registered with the Competition shall notify its opponents the colours in which they will play (including the colours of the goalkeeper jersey) at least **five days** before the match.

If, in the opinion of the referee, two Teams have the same or similar colours, the **away team** shall make the change. Should a Team delay the scheduled time of kick-off for a Competition Match by not having a change of colours they shall be fined (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

Players' shirts must have unique

numbers printed on the back which must correspond to the players' names as listed on the Match Result Sheet and with the league designated match online reporting system and submitted to the referee. Players shall not exchange shirts during the game without the permission of the referee who shall report this to the League. Clubs may use traditional 1-16/17 numbers or squad numbers as they wish so long as no two shirts have the same number. A player changing places with the goalkeeper may exchange shirts subject to the referee being informed. A fine of ten pounds may be imposed for failure to comply with this rule. See Fines Tariff.

(B) Any Club wishing to change its name must obtain permission from the Sanctioning Authority and from the Management Committee. Any Club wishing to change its colours during the Playing Season must obtain permission from the Management Committee. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

## **PLAYING SEASON. CONDITIONS OF PLAY. TIMES OF KICK-OFF. POSTPONEMENTS. SUBSTITUTES**

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10(A) All Competition Matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game as determined by the International Football Association Board or, for Mini-Soccer and 9v9 football, the Laws as set down by The FA.

Clubs must take all reasonable precautions to keep their Grounds in a playable condition. All Competition

Matches shall be played on pitches deemed suitable by the Management Committee. If through any fault of the home Team a match has to be replayed, the Management Committee shall have power to order the venue to be changed.

The Management Committee shall have power to decide whether a pitch and/or facilities are suitable for matches in the Competition and to order the Club concerned to play its fixtures on another ground. ~~DELETE: Should the League/Clubs organize fixtures on a Football Turf Pitches, these games will take place, failure to forefill the fixture will result in the defaulting club being charged under league rules:~~

Football Turf Pitches are allowed in this Competition. . All Football Turf Pitches used must be on The FA's Register of Football Turf Pitches and must be tested (by an accredited test institute) every 3 years and the results passed to The FA. The FA will give a decision on the suitability for use and add the pitch to the Register.

The home Club is also responsible for advising participants of footwear requirements when confirming match arrangements in accordance with Rule 10(C).

All matches shall have a duration as set out below unless a shorter time (not less than 40 minutes) is mutually arranged by the two Clubs in consultation with the referee prior to the commencement of the match, and in any event shall be of equal halves.

Matches should be played in accordance with the Laws appropriate to the relevant age group, as laid down by The FA, as detailed below.

SEE CHART ON PAGES 16 & 17

For round robin/trophy events, the maximum duration of play per half cannot be exceeded, but the minimum duration of play per half may be adjusted.

For trophy events, the Competition may award mementos.

~~The times of kick-off shall be fixed at the AGM and can only be altered by the mutual consent of the two competing Clubs prior to the scheduled date of the match with written notification given to the Secretary at least [ ] days prior.~~

The times of kick-off shall be decided by the home Club. In the event of the away team being unable to agree with this time the kick-off will be decided by the Chairman, Secretary and Fixture Secretary.

Referees must order matches to commence at the appointed time and must report all late starts to the Secretary.

The home Team must provide goal nets, corner flags and at least two footballs fit for play and the referee shall make a report to the Secretary if the footballs are unsuitable. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(B) Except by permission of the Management Committee all Competition Matches must be played on the dates originally fixed but priority shall be given

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Minimum duration of play per half (minutes)</u>	<u>Maximum duration of play per half (minutes)</u>	<u>Maximum playing time in one day in all organised development fixtures (minutes)</u>	<u>Maximum playing time in one day in all tournaments and trophy events/festivals (minutes)</u>	<u>Competition structure.</u>
Under 7 and Under 8	10	20	40	60	Development focussed with a maximum of 3 trophy events per season over 2 week periods (6 weeks)
Under 9 and Under 10	20	30	60	90	Development focussed with a maximum of 3 trophy events per season over 4 week periods (12 weeks)
Under 11	20	30	80	120	Development focussed with a maximum of 3 trophy events per season over 26 week periods (18 weeks)

Under 12	20	30	80 (if applicable)	120	Any varieties including one season long league table
Under 13 and Under 14	25	35	100	150	Any varieties including one season long league table
Under 15 and Under 16	25	40	100	150	Any varieties including one season long league table
Under 17 and Under 18	25	45	120	180	Any varieties including one season long league table

to The FA and parent County Association Cup Competitions. All other matches must be considered secondary. Clubs may mutually agree to bring forward a match with the consent of the (Fixtures) Secretary. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

In the case of a revised fixture date, the Clubs must be given by the Competition 5 clear days' notice of the match (unless otherwise mutually agreed).

(C) An Officer of the home Club must give notice of full particulars of the location of, and access to, the group and time of kick-off to the Match Officials and the secretary of the opposing Club at least **five** clear days prior to the playing of the match. If not so provided, the away Club shall seek such details and report the circumstances to the Competition. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(D) The minimum number of Players that will constitute a Team for a Competition Match is as follows:

FORMAT MINIMUM NUMBER

5v5	4
7v7	5
9v9	7
11v11	7

Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the

Fines Tariff).

(E)(i) In Competitions where points are awarded home and away matches shall be played. In the event of a Club failing to keep its engagement the Management Committee shall have the power to impose a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff), deduct points from the defaulting Club, award the points from the match in question to the opponents, order the defaulting Club to pay any expenses incurred by the opponents or otherwise deal with them except the award of goals. Notwithstanding the foregoing home and away provision, the Management Committee shall have power to order a match to be played on a neutral ground or on the opponent's Ground if they are satisfied that such action is warranted by the circumstances.

(ii) Any Club unable to fulfil a fixture or where a fixture has been postponed for any reason must, without delay, give notice to the (Fixtures) Secretary, the Competition Referees Appointments Secretary, the secretary of the opposing Club and the Match Officials.

(iii) In the event of a match not being played or abandoned owing to causes over which neither Club has control, it shall be played in its entirety on a date to be mutually agreed by the two Clubs and approved by the Management Committee. Failing such agreement and notification to the (Fixtures) Secretary within **seven** days the Management Committee shall have the power to order the match

to be played on a named date or on or before a given date. Providing gate money is taken and retained the visiting Club shall receive their actual standard class rail or bus fares or the equivalent for [ ] persons, or car allowance at [ ] p per mile for transporting [ ] persons, or hire charge of a coach (receipt to be submitted). The residue (if any) to be equally divided between the two Clubs after deducting the cost of advertising, printing, posting, police and Match Officials charges. The home Club shall take the whole of the proceeds of the second match.

Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(iv) The Management Committee shall review all matches abandoned in cases where it is consequent upon the conduct of either or both Teams. Where it is to the advantage of the Competition and does no injustice to either Club, the Management Committee shall be empowered to order the score at the time of the abandonment to stand. In all cases where the Management Committee are satisfied that a match was abandoned owing to the conduct of one Team or its Club member(s) they shall be empowered to award the points for the match to the opponent. No fine(s) can be applied by the Management Committee for an abandoned match.

(v) The Management Committee shall review any match that has taken place where either or both Teams were under a suspension imposed upon them

by The FA or Affiliated Association. In each case the Team that was under suspension would be dealt with in the same manner as if they had participated with ineligible players in accordance with Rule 8(M)(i) above. Where both Teams were under suspension the match must be declared null and void and shall not be replayed.

(F) A Club may at its discretion and in accordance with the Laws of the Game use substitute Players in any match in this Competition.

~~Where a Competition does not allow repeat substitutes:~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ For Under 17s and Under 18s – [up to 3 may be selected from 3 substitute Players] [up to 4 may be selected from 4 substitute Players] [up to 5 may be selected from 5 substitute Players].~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ Where a Competition does allow repeat substitutes:~~

For Under 11s - Under 16s –up to 5 may be selected from 5 substitute Players. A Player who has been substituted becomes a substitute and may replace any Player at any time subject to the substitution being carried out in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of Association Football.

For Mini-Soccer – any number of substitutions may be used at any time with the permission of the Match Official. Entry onto the field of play will only be allowed during a stoppage in play. A Player who has been replaced may return to the play as a substitute for another Player. A Team

must not have a match day squad greater than double the size of its Team in an age group.

In Youth Football only, the referee shall be informed of the names of the substitutes not later than **five** minutes before the start of the match and a Player not so named may not take part in the match.

A Player who has been selected, appointed or named as a substitute before the start of the match but does not actually play in the game shall not be considered to have been a Player in that game within the meaning of Rule 8 of this Competition.

(G) The half time interval shall be of **five** minutes' duration, but it shall not exceed 15 minutes. The half time interval may only be altered with the consent of the Match Officials.

(H) The Teams taking part in Youth Football shall identify a Team captain who shall wear an armband and shall have a responsibility to offer support in the management of the on-field discipline of his/her teammates. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(2) A club requiring the postponement of any fixture shall submit its request in writing or by email so as to reach the Fixture Secretary not less than fourteen days before the proposed date on which the match was scheduled to be played for consideration by the Management Committee/Age Group Administrator.

**ADD** A club may request a maximum of three postponements per team per season.

(K) No player may take part in any match in this League unless his name is written on the Match Result Form prior to the kick-off and matches with their Registration Card. Failure to do this may result in a fine. Any player not on the team sheet, whom steps onto the pitch is classed as an eligible player, and will be dealt with under rule 80 (i) & 80(ii) See appendix page.

(L) No one is to stand behind either of the goal lines. Failure to provide corner flags and mark out spectator areas may incur a fine. See appendix page.

## **REPORTING RESULTS**

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### **DELETE FA WORDING AND REPLACE AS FOLLOWS**

**11(A) Each team shall complete a Match Result Form prior to the game. One copy that includes the full name and shirt number of every player including possible substitutes must be given to the opposing team manager/coach and the referee at least five minutes prior to the kick-off. Additional details including the referee's signature, goals scored and the final score must be added to the white copy after the game. This copy must be retained until the end of the season unless required by the League. Each team shall complete the required details, including statistics and Respect marks, on the FA FULL-TIME website within three days of the match.**

**(B) The Home Club shall telephone/ notify the result of each match to the**



**Results Secretary by 5:30pm on the day of the match or 9:30pm for evening games. All postponements must be reported by the stated times as above. Clubs in default shall be fined (in accordance with the Fines Tariff.**

~~(C) DELETE If no match reporting has been completed at all on the full time system a fine will apply @ this is a fixed penalty of £20.00 with no right of appeal. Unless a valid reason is received prior to the deadline time.~~

~~NB. If the fixed penalty exceeds £20 the Club must be charged as detailed in Rule 5(D).~~

**REPLACE WITH** (i) Each Club must complete the requirements of results and statistics recording including “Respect” marks, on FA/FULL-TIME within 2 working days of the Match. Clubs in default shall be fined (in accordance with the Fines Tariff.) Failure to complete match reporting correctly on 3 consecutive occasions may result in the team being dealt with under rule 5H and the teams suspension.

~~DELETE C (ii)) At times the league may request Sporting Mark reports or Referees reports and Match day forms—if these are requested they must be sent with 3 days of the request or the team may be charged under rule 5H—see appendix page~~

**(D) The Competition and Clubs are permitted to collect but NOT publish results or any grading tables for fixtures involving Under 7s, Under 8s, Under 9s, Under 10s, and Under 11s. Any Competition failing to abide by this Rule**

**will be dealt with by the Sanctioning Authority, and any Club failing to abide by this Rule will be fined (in accordance with the Fines Tariff). The Competition and Clubs are permitted to collect and publish results for trophy events.**

**(E)The Competition may require a Club to confirm that a set fixture has been played. A fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff) may be imposed for a breach of this Rule.**

## **DETERMINING CHAMPIONSHIP**

**(A) In Competitions where points are awarded Team rankings within the Competition will be decided by points with three points to be awarded for a win and one point for a drawn match. The Teams gaining the highest number of points in their respective Divisions at the conclusion shall be adjudged the winners. Matches must not be played for double points. In the event of two or more teams being equal on points the championship shall be divided.**

~~DELETE~~

~~(B) There is no automatic promotion and relegation within the League. Teams will be allocated to divisions at the discretion of the Management Committee. Once the divisions are published clubs have a maximum of 14 days in which to request amendments, after this no amendments will be considered—No application from a club for promotion shall be considered unless submitted in writing prior to July 1st.—these are only a request and~~

cannot be guaranteed — the final decision is the management committees, there is no right of appeal.

REPLACE WITH:

(B) There is no automatic promotion and relegation within the League. Teams will be allocated to divisions at the discretion of the Management Committee and based upon assessed strength. Clubs may submit requests to the Fixture Secretary in writing prior to July 1st. Once the divisions are published clubs have a maximum of 14 days in which to submit an appeal.

(C) In the event of a Team not completing 75% of its fixtures for the Playing Season all points obtained by or recorded against such defaulting team shall be expunged from the Competition table. In the event of 75% of the fixtures having been completed the points for the unplayed matches shall be awarded to the opponents. Any Teams failing to complete their fixture programme after 1<sup>st</sup> April each season may be deemed to have withdrawn from the league, thus will not be eligible for League honours or League Cup entry – Fines will apply.

### 13. REFEREES

(A) Registered/Referees (and Assistant Referees where approved by the FA or County FA) for all Competition Matches shall be appointed in a manner approved by the Management Committee and by the Sanctioning Association(s).

(B) In cases where there are no officially appointed Match Officials in attendance the Clubs shall agree upon a Referee.

An individual thus agreed upon shall, for that game, have the full powers, status and authority of a registered Referee.

All teams shall use a County Registered Referee or a League appointed referee who is available in preference to an unregistered person.

(C) Where Assistant Referees are not appointed each Team shall provide a Club Assistant Referee. Failure to do so will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff) being imposed on the defaulting Club.

(D) The appointed Referee shall have power to decide as to the fitness of the Ground in all matches and the decision shall be final subject to either in the case of a ground of a Local Authority or the owners of a Ground, the Representative of that body is the sole arbiter and whose decision must be accepted.

(E) Subject to any limits/provisions laid down by the Sanctioning Association Match Officials appointed under this Rule shall be paid their fees and expenses in accordance with the Fees Tariff.

~~DELETE NO referee can claim any more than £10 pounds in travelling expenses within this league—~~

~~to a maximum of ten pounds.~~

~~Referee £15 (under 11/14), £20 (under 15/16) and £25 (under 17/18), Assistant Referees shall be paid half fees—~~

~~All Non Registered or Unqualified Referees/Club referees can ONLY claim half the above fees and full travelling expenses—~~

Match Officials will be paid their

fees and/or expenses by the home Club unless otherwise ordered by the Management Committee. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff). Payment will be made before the kick-off unless the referee requests otherwise.

(F) In the event of a match not being played because of circumstances over which the Clubs have no control, the Match Officials, if present, shall be entitled to half fee plus expenses. Where a match is not played owing to one Club being in default, that Club shall be ordered to pay the Match Officials, if they attend the ground, their full fee and expenses. Failure to comply with the Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(G) A Referee not keeping his or her engagement, and failing to give a satisfactory explanation as to their non-appearance, may be reported to the Association with which he or she is registered.

(H) Each Club shall, in a manner prescribed from time to time by The FA, award marks to the Referee for each match and the name of the Referee and the marks awarded shall be submitted to the Competition on the prescribed Form provided **ADD and on FULL-TIME**. Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be liable to be fined (in accordance with the Fines Tariff) or dealt with as the Management Committee shall determine.

#### **DELETE**

Any Club awarding a referee less than

fifty marks shall submit a report within three days to the Referees Appointments Secretary.

(I) The Competition shall keep a record of the markings and, on the Form provided by the prescribed date each season, shall submit a summary to The FA/County Football Association.

#### **DELETE**

*(J) Any person that Referees any fixture in this league aged over 16 years of age, are required by law, to obtain a CRC Check. Unless one is obtained and documentation supplied to the league, this person will not be allowed to referee any fixtures until one is obtained. Failure to adhere to this rule will be dealt with by the Management Committee.*

*(J) (i) Every fixture taking place must provide the full name of the referee, 7 days prior to the commencement of the fixture, any changes in the nominated person, must be notified to the referees secretary immediately. All referees names must be entered onto the full time system by managers, should a referees name be incomplete. Failure to comply may result in a fine. See appendix page.*

*(ii) Should a fixture take place with Rule (J)(i) and J(ii) not in place, this fixture could be postponed and dealt with under Rule 10(F) and Rule 5(H).*

*(iii) Any League Official attending a match, can request to see the Referees CRC card or proof that procedure has been commenced. Failure to provide this could result in the match being abandoned, and the club will be dealt with under Rule 5H.*

**(K) Referees and Assistant Referees shall be supplied, each Season, with a copy of the Competition Rules free of charge.**

**(L) DELETE** All teams must submit the name of a qualified referee able to control home games. Failing this a person willing to act as referee for home matches must have attended a Support Evening provided free by the League., each person attending will be issued with a certificate of attendance – this certificate is valid for 2 season at which point it must be renewed. Failure to attend may result in a fine. See appendix page.

**REPLACE WITH**

**(L)** All teams must submit the name of a qualified referee able to control home games. Failing this a person willing to act as referee for home matches must have attended a Support Evening provided free by the League

## **CONTINUATION OF MEMBERSHIP OR WITHDRAWAL OF A CLUB**

14.(A) Any Club wishing to resign from the Competition must do so at least 21 days before the AGM. Failure to do so will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(B) The Management Committee shall have the discretion to deal with a Team being unable to start or complete its fixtures for a Playing Season, including but not limited to, issuing a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(C) In addition to the powers of the Management Committee pursuant to

Rule 5(l), in the event of a member Club failing to discharge all its financial obligations to the Competition in excess of £50, the Management Committee are empowered to refer the debt under The FA Football Debt Recovery provisions.

## **PROTESTS AND COMPLAINTS**

**15(A)(i)** All questions of eligibility, qualifications of Players or interpretations of the Rules shall be referred to the Management Committee or a sub-committee duly appointed by the Management Committee.

**(ii)** Objections relevant to the dimensions of the pitch, goals, flag posts or other facilities of the venue will not be entertained by the Management Committee unless a protest is lodged with the Referee before the commencement of the match.

**(B)** Except in cases where the Management Committee decide that there are special circumstances, protests and complaints as set out more fully at Rule 15(A) above (which must contain full particulars of the grounds upon which they are founded) must be lodged in duplicate with the Secretary within three days (excluding Sundays) of the match or occurrence to which they refer. A protest or complaint shall not be withdrawn except by permission of the Management Committee. A Member of the Management Committee who is a member of any Club involved shall not be present (except as a witness or representative of his Club) when such protest or complaint is being

determined.

(C) No protest of whatever kind shall be considered by the Management Committee unless the complaining Club shall have deposited with the Secretary a sum of **ten pounds**. (in accordance with the Fines Tariff) This may be forfeited in whole or in part in the event of the complaining or protesting Club losing its case. The Competition shall have power to order the defaulting Club or the Club making a losing or frivolous protest or complaint to pay the expenses of the enquiry or to order that the costs to be shared by the parties.

(D) All parties to a protest or complaint must receive a copy of the submission and must be afforded an opportunity to make a statement at least 7 days prior to the protest or complaint being heard.

(i) All parties must have received **three days'** notice of the Hearing should they be instructed to attend.

(ii) Should a Club elect to state its case in person then they should forward a deposit of ten pounds (by cheque only) and indicate such when forwarding the written response.

(E) If so requested by all parties concerned, the Management Committee may determine any disputes, protests, appeals, claims or complaints between two Clubs in which event both Clubs shall send a non-returnable fee. Such determination shall be final and binding upon the parties concerned. The procedure for such determination shall be determined by the Management Committee.

## APPEALS

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16. Any appeal against a decision of the Management Committee must be lodged with the Sanctioning Authority within 14 days of the posting of the written notification of the decision causing the appeal, accompanied by a fee as set out in the Fees Tariff, which may be forfeited in the event of the appeal not being upheld. A copy of the appeal must also be sent to the Secretary. The procedure for the appeal shall be determined by the Sanctioning Authority, in such respect the Sanctioning Authority may (but is not obliged to):

(i) Invite submissions by the parties involved;

(ii) Convene a hearing to hear the appeal;

(iii) Permit new evidence; or

(iv) Impose deadlines as are appropriate.

Any appeal shall not involve a rehearing of the evidence considered by the Management Committee.

No appeal can be lodged against a decision taken at an Annual or Special General Meeting unless this is on the ground of unconstitutional conduct.

## **EXCLUSION OF CLUBS.OR TEAMS, MISCONDUCT, CLUBS, OFFICIALS, PLAYERS**

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17(A) At the Annual General Meeting, or Special General Meeting called for the purpose in accordance with the provisions of Rule 19, Notice of Motion having been duly circulated on the Agenda, the accredited delegates present shall have the power to exclude any Club or Team from further membership which must be supported by (more than) two-thirds (⅔) of those present and voting. Voting on this point shall be conducted by ballot.

(B) At the Annual General Meeting, or at a Special General Meeting called for the purpose, in accordance with the provisions of Rule 19, the accredited delegates present shall have the power to exclude from further participation in the Competition any Club or Team of a Club whose conduct has, in their opinion, been undesirable, which must be supported by (more than) two-thirds (2/3rds) of those present and voting. Voting on this point shall be conducted by ballot. A Club whose conduct is the subject of the vote being taken shall be excluded from voting.

(C) Any Officer or member of a Club proved guilty of either a breach of Rule, other than field offences, or of inducing or attempting to induce a Player or Players of another Club in the Competition to join them shall be liable to expulsion or such penalty as a General Meeting or Management Committee may decide, and their

Club shall also be liable to expulsion in accordance with the provisions of Clauses (A) and (B) of this Rule.

### **DELETE**

~~(D) Any Club or Team failing to complete all of its fixtures in any season may (unless the conditions are beyond their control, or the accredited delegates present at the Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting decide otherwise by a majority of two-thirds of the votes cast) be debarred from membership the following season.~~

~~(E) Social Networking, Websites, Mobile phones and other Email Communications, must not contain Offensive, Insulting, Abusive, Threatening, Racist, Discrimination or any other reference that may cause offense or harm to others. Any club or individual found in breach of this rule will be dealt with under Rule 5H by the management committee.~~

## **TROPHY:- LEGAL OWNERS, CONDITIONS OF TAKING OVER, AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED. AWARDS.**

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18(A) The following agreement shall be signed on behalf of the winners of the Cup or Trophy:-

“We A \_\_\_\_\_ and  
B \_\_\_\_\_,  
the Chairman and Secretary of  
\_\_\_\_\_ FC,  
members of and representing the  
Club, having been declared winners of

\_\_\_\_\_ **Cup or Trophy,**  
and it having been delivered to us by  
the Competition, do hereby on behalf  
of the Club jointly and severally agree  
to return the Cup or Trophy to the  
Competition Secretary on or before the  
third Monday in February. If the Cup or  
Trophy is lost or damaged whilst under  
our care we agree to refund to the  
Competition the amount of its current  
value or the cost of its thorough repair.”

**Failure to comply will result in a fine  
as determined by the Management  
Committee.**

**(B) At the close of each Competition  
awards may be made to the winners  
and runners-up if the funds of the  
Competition permit.**

(C) Where a cup or shield is won jointly  
the clubs shall toss a coin to decide  
who keeps the trophy initially. The  
other joint winner shall be handed the  
trophy at or before the first mid-season  
general meeting. Cups and shields shall  
be returned in a clean condition failing  
which a charge of ten pounds will be  
made. A shield or cup not returned  
by the deadline shall incur a fine , See  
appendix Page.

### **SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS**

19. Upon receiving a requisition signed  
by two-thirds of the Clubs in membership  
the Secretary shall call a Special General  
Meeting.

The Management Committee may call a  
Special General Meeting at any time.

At least seven days notice shall be  
given of either meeting under this Rule,  
together with an agenda of the business

to be transacted at such meeting.

Each Member Club shall be empowered  
to send two delegates to all Special  
General Meetings. Each Club shall be  
entitled to one vote only. Officers and  
Management members shall be entitled  
to attend and vote at all Special General  
Meetings.

Any continuing Member Club failing  
to be represented at a Special General  
Meeting without satisfactory reason  
being given shall be fined (in accordance  
with the Fines Tariff,)

Three general meetings shall be held  
during the season, one in August, one in  
October or November and one in January  
or February at which all clubs must be  
represented.

~~DELETE – Failure to be represented at  
these meeting – Fines will apply – See  
appendix page~~

~~Disciplinary Meetings will be held on  
a Monthly basis between September to  
April each season~~

### **REPLACE WITH**

Failure to be represented at two meetings  
without satisfactory explanation accepted  
by those present at the second meeting  
will lead to a requirement to make a fresh  
application for membership at the end of  
the season.

### **ALTERATION TO RULES INCLUDES ALTERED DATES**

20. Alterations, for which consent  
has been given by the Sanctioning  
Association, shall be made to these Rules  
only at the Annual General Meeting or  
at a Special General Meeting specially



convened for the purpose called in accordance with Rule 19. Any alteration made during the Playing Season to the Rule relating to the qualification of Players shall not take effect until the following Playing Season.

Notice of proposed alterations to be considered at the Annual General Meeting shall be submitted to the Secretary by **1st March** in each year. The proposals, together with any proposals by the Management Committee, shall be circulated to the Clubs **by 31st March** and any amendments thereto shall be submitted to the Secretary **within seven days**. The proposals and proposed amendments thereto shall be circulated to Clubs with the notice of the Annual General Meeting. A proposal to change a Rule shall be carried if **a majority** of those present and entitled to vote are in favour.

A copy of the proposed alterations to Rules to be considered at the Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting shall be submitted to the Sanctioning Authority **as notified**.

## **FINANCE**

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21(A) The Management Committee shall determine with which bank or other financial institution the funds of the Competition will be lodged.

(B) All expenditure in excess of **£200** shall be approved by the Management Committee. Cheques shall be signed by at least two Officers nominated by the Management Committee.

(C) The financial year of the Competition will end on **30th April**.

(D) The books, or a certified balance sheet, of a Competition shall be prepared and shall be audited annually by some suitable person(s) who shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting.

## **INSURANCE**

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22 All Clubs must have public liability insurance cover of at least ten million pounds (£10,000,000). Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff.)

## **DISSOLUTION**

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23(A) Dissolution of the Competition shall be by resolution approved at a Special General Meeting by a majority of three quarters of the members present and shall take effect from the date of the relevant Special General Meeting.

(B) In the event of the dissolution of the Competition, the members of the Management Committee are responsible for the winding up of the assets and liabilities of the Competition.

(C) The Management Committee shall deal with any surplus assets as follows:

(i) Any surplus assets, save for a Trophy or any other presentation, remaining after the discharge of the debts and liabilities of the Competition shall be transferred only to another Competition or Affiliated Association or The Football Association Benevolent Fund or to such other charitable or benevolent object in the locality of the Competition as determined by resolution at or before the time of winding up, and approved in writing by the sanctioning Association.



(ii) If a Competition is discontinued for any reason a Trophy or any other presentation shall be returned to the Donor if the conditions attached to it so provide or, if not, dealt with as the sanctioning Association may decide.



FEES TARIFF		
RULE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM FEE
3 (A)	ENTRY FEE	£50.00 <del>£10.00</del>
3 (B)	ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION	£150.00 11v11 & 9v9 £50.00 Mini-soccer £40.00
3 (C)	DEPOSIT	£100.00 <del>£5.00</del>
8 (D)	REGISTRATION FORM	£10.00 per player NIL
8 (H)	TRANSFER FORM	£10.00
13 (E)	REFEREE FEES	As agreed with Sanctioning Authority
13 (E)	ASSISTANT REFEREE FEES	As agreed with Sanctioning Authority
15 (C),16	PROTEST/APPEAL FEES	£25.00
FINES TARIFF		
RULE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM FINE
2 (B)	FAILURE TO AFFILIATE	£100.00
2 (D)	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH FA INITIATIVES	£100.00
2 (E)	UNAUTHORISED ENTRY OF TEAMS INTO COMPETITIONS	£100.00
3 (C)	FAILURE TO PAY A DEPOSIT	£100.00
3 (E)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE AFFILIATION NUMBER/ DETAILS FORM	£100.00
4 (E)	COMMUNICATIONS CONDUCTED BY PERSONS OTHER THAN NOMINATED OFFICERS	£25.00
5 (H)	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH AN INSTRUCTION OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	£100.00
5 (I)	FAILURE TO PAY A FINE WITHIN 14 DAYS OF NOTICE	DOUBLE THE ORIGINAL FINE UP TO £100.00
6 (H)	FAILURE TO BE REPRESENTED AT AGM	£100.00

7	FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED WRITTEN AGREEMENT OR TO NOTIFY CHANGES TO SIGNATORIES	£25.00
8 (A)	FAILURE TO CORRECTLY REGISTER A PLAYER	£40.00
8 (B)(iv)	FAILURE TO HAVE THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF REGISTERED PLAYERS PRIOR TO THE SEASON COMMENCING	£25.00
8 (F)	SIGNING OR PLAYING FOR MULTIPLE CLUBS, OR INACCURATE COMPLETION OF A REGISTRATION FORM	£25.00
8 (G) (ii)	REGISTRATION IRREGULARITIES	£100.00
8(M)(i)	PLAYING AN INELIGIBLE PLAYER	£100.00
8 (N)(i)	FAILURE TO GIVE PRIORITY TO SCHOOL ACTIVITIES	£50.00
9 (A),10 (A)	DELAYING KICK OFF/NO NETS/ NO CORNER FLAGS	£30.00
9(A)	FAILURE TO NUMBER SHIRTS	£10.00 (per shirt, up to an aggregate maximum of £30)
9 (B)	FAILURE TO OBTAIN CONSENT FOR A CHANGE OF CLUB NAME	£30.00
10 (B)	FAILURE TO PLAY MATCHES ON THE DATE FIXED	£100.00
10 (C)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE DETAILS OF A FIXTURE	£50.00
10 (D)	FAILURE TO HAVE MINIMUM NUMBER OF PLAYERS THAT WILL CONSTITUTE A TEAM	£100.00
10 (E) (i) & (iii)	FAILURE TO PLAY FIXTURE	£100.00
10 (H)	NO CAPTAIN'S ARMBAND	£10.00
11 (A) & 11 (C)	LATE TEAM SHEET	£20.00
11 (B)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE RESULT	£20.00 <span style="color: blue;">£20</span>
11(D)	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH RULE	£50.00
11(E)	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH RULE	£20.00
13 (C)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE CLUB ASSISTANT REFEREE	£25.00

13 (E)	FAILURE TO PAY MATCH OFFICIALS' FEES AND EXPENSES	£25.00
13 (F)	FAILURE TO PAY MATCH OFFICIALS WHERE A MATCH IS NOT PLAYED	£25.00
13 (H)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE REFEREE'S MARK	£25.00
14 (A)	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH RULE	£100.00
14 (B)	FAILURE TO COMMENCE OR COMPLETE FIXTURES	£100.00
18 (A)	FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED WRITTEN AGREEMENT REGARDING THE TROPHY	£25.00
19	FAILURE TO BE REPRESENTED AT A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING	£100.00 £40
22	FAILURE TO HAVE THE REQUIRED INSURANCE	£100.00





