

SURREY YOUTH LEAGUE RULES 2017 / 2018

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SURREY YOUTH LEAGUE RULES 2017 / 2018

1 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 **Surrey Youth 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.

"Football Turf Pitches" also previously known as 3G Artificial Pitches.

"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 dates 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 Surrey 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.

"WGS" means the Whole Game System and the procedures for the operation thereof as determined by The FA from time to time

"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) The Rules are taken from the Standard Code of Rules for Youth Competitions (the "Standard Code") determined by The FA from time to time. 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 Surrey Youth 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.

2 NAME AND CONSTITUTION

- 2. (A) This Competition shall consist of not more than Two Hundred and Fifty Clubs approved by the Sanctioning Authority.
- (B) All 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 within the parameters set by the Management Committee. It shall be displayed on the Surrey Youth League's web site – www.wsyl.org.uk New Clubs must be from within this area, existing clubs must play within the area unless special dispensation is granted in advance in writing by the management committee. All home matches must be played at the nominated venue as listed on Prawnsandwich unless league dispensation is granted. Clubs who fail to comply with this rule may be denied fixtures at this venue and the club dealt with as the management committee deem fit. If in doubt we ask that the club speak to the league at the earliest opportunity to seek clarification and application for the dispensation.

This Competition shall apply annually for sanction to the Surrey County Football Association(s) and the constituent Teams of member Clubs may be grouped in divisions, *each not exceeding 14 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.
 - I. The League embraces all aspects of the Respect Programme utilising best practice, education and potential sanctioning as defined in the FA Respect Codes of Conducts for Players, Spectators, Managers and Officials. The Competition will utilise the Standard Code of Youth Rules as adopted by the League and further will use the Charter Standard League Respect Tool Kit Publication.
 - II. Clubs will be required to ensure that each Parent or Official Carer for any player in the Competition, signs the FA Respect Codes of Conduct as published on the Competitions Web Site upon applying for membership to a club. These Codes of Conduct must be retained by the Clubs.
 - III. It will be deemed best practice for all spectators **NOT** to stand behind the opposition assistant referee (Linesman). If this means that spectators have to move at before kick-off and / or at Half Time then they must do so.
 - IV. Pitch Marshalls are to be appointed by Teams for each game. Their primary role is to act as a liaison point for the referee conduct Pre and Post match briefings / debriefings and if required as a point of contact during the game to explain their own team's supporters that a referee's threshold of disrespect has been breached and that everyone should calm down and that they will now be reported. Pitch Marshalls are not to enter into any confrontation with opposing team supporters or management, but they can report respect issues to the League. Pitch Marshalls will need to be clearly identifiable to the referee.
 - V. Pitch Marshall's will be asked to complete a simple online form to report respect breaches, or nil return.

- VI. Clubs will be required to appoint Pitch Marshalls for all games involving U7 – U18 football inclusive, this is per team, at each game there will be two Pitch Marshalls one from each Team. If no Pitch Marshall is available then the responsibility falls back to the Team manager to act in this capacity, as they would normally outside of the Pilot.
- VII. If it is reported to the League by the referee that a team failed to supply a Pitch Marshall then the League Respect manager will in the first instance ask for an explanation, and issue formal notification that it has been noted. Subsequent failures to supply a Pitch Marshall will result in the Club being called to a League Management Meeting to further explain their position. The League will deal with this under the Powers of Management in the Competition rule set.
- VIII. Referees will be required to report disrespect shown to them and to any disrespect shown towards assistant referees qualified or otherwise. The process on the pitch is to stop the game, call the Pitch Marshalls to them and inform them of the spectator, or group of spectators or Manager that has breached Respect levels. Pitch Marshalls then act as above. Referee makes reference in his notebook of time of incident and nature of the Respect Breach.
- IX. Post-Match debrief with Pitch Marshalls can identify individuals and names provided where possible.
- X. Referees will be required on their match result card, Prawn Sandwich online form, to indicate Respect Breaches.
- XI. The League Respect Manager on receiving a Respect Breach will inform the club that action needs to be taken in line with the Codes of Conduct Education and Sanction. The League and Sanctioning Authority will develop, with the clubs a process of various educational sanctions that can/must be applied.
- XII. The clubs will then have to report back within 10 days of the Notice of Respect Breach being issued, as to what action was taken. Along with supplying any proof of this action, online respect certificates, copies of written warnings etc.
- XIII. Failure for clubs to respond and provide evidence will result in the Competition following steps available in the Charter Standard League Respect Tool Kit, which may lead to Teams having fixtures withheld on the grounds that the league are not satisfied that a safe and fun environment could be assured in which the players could participate.

An accumulation of Respect Breaches by Clubs or Teams will be dealt with by the league as per main competition

Failure to comply with this Rule may 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 One 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).
- (F) As an FA Charter Standard League this Competition requires all its Clubs to have achieved FA Charter Standard status or be regarded by their Parent County FA as being in a position whereby they have a realistic chance of receiving it. The League Management Committee will review the FA Charter Standard status of all member clubs and those who have not achieved FA Charter Standard status by 30th March 2018 or who are regarded by their Parent County FA as not being in a position whereby they have a realistic chance of achieving it by the last day of May 2018 may have their application for the 2018 / 2019 season rejected and will not be considered for re-election to the league for the 2018 / 2019 season.

The League has the right to decline applications for membership to this competition to a new Club if it does not have FA Charter Standard status and it fails to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Management Committee a commitment to achieving the award and / or the club is regarded by its Parent County FA as being a club in a position whereby they have a realistic chance of achieving it.

- (G) Applications will not be accepted from clubs who have no toilet facilities, changing facilities, access to playing fields of sufficient size and quality to hold matches for this competition, or that the facilities don't meet the standards required by the management committee.

3 ENTRY FEE, SUBSCRIPTION, DEPOSIT

- 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 set out in the Fees Tariff 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 AGM or a Special General Meeting or on a date agreed by the Management Committee.

(B) Not Adopted

(C) Not Adopted

- (D) A Club shall not participate in this Competition until the entry fee, annual subscription and Deposit (if required) have been paid.
- (E) If requested by the Competition, Clubs must advise annually to the Secretary in writing by 30th September each year 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.
- (F) Annual Subscriptions from Youth Football Teams and Mini Soccer Teams (U9 & U10) received after the AGM will incur a further supplement in accordance with the Fees Tariff per Team

4 MANAGEMENT, NOMINATION, ELECTION

- 4. (A) The Management Committee shall comprise the Officers of the Competition 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 provided that the Officer notifies the Secretary in writing not later than 1st May 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 1st May in each year. Names of the candidates for election shall be circulated with the notice of the AGM. 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 each meeting.
On receiving a requisition signed by two-thirds (2/3) 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 who 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 and sent to the Secretary.
Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

5 POWERS OF MANAGEMENT

- 5. (A) The Management Committee may appoint sub-committees and delegate such of their powers as they deem necessary. The decisions of all sub-committees shall be reported to the Management Committee for ratification. 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.

The Management Committee may appoint a Disciplinary Sub-Committee with powers to determine and deal with disputes or complaints regarding interpretation of Competition Rules, the behaviour of Clubs and alleged misconduct regarding activities connected to the Competition. It will consist of the Disciplinary Secretary plus a minimum of TWO (2) and up to a maximum of FIVE (5) further members of the Management Committee. The Disciplinary Sub-Committee shall elect a Chairman for each of its hearings and meetings. All decisions of the Disciplinary Sub Committees shall be reported to the Management Committee.

The business of the Disciplinary Sub-Committee shall be conducted in accordance with the Procedures set out in Appendix 4

The Management Committee may appoint a Sub-Committee to interview Officers of all new Clubs applying to the League including Clubs who were previous Members of the League but whose membership has lapsed. Attendance at this Sub-Committee Meeting will be obligatory. The Sub-Committee may require evidence of authorisation of the Club to apply to the League by production of the Club Minute Book, Membership and financial arrangements. Where appointed, the Sub-Committee shall assess all entries and report to the Management Committee.

The Management Committee shall appoint an Executive Sub Committee consisting of the Chairman, General Secretary and TWO (2) Members of the Management Committee. It shall have the full powers of the Management Committee and will only be convened for matters of urgency which have to be resolved prior to a Management Committee Meeting or Special General Meeting. The decisions the Executive Sub Committee shall be reported to the Management Committee.

The cost of any venue and any expenses incurred by the League or League Officers attending any such Meeting may be borne in part by Club(s) involved at the discretion of the Management Committee

(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 5(I), 6(H) & 19 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 10 days.

(F) 5 members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business of the Management Committee and 3 for 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 the decision.

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 outstanding 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.

- (M) Member Clubs must to notify to the General Secretary any changes of their Club Officials (including Club Welfare Officer). Clubs in breach of this Rule shall be charged and the Management Committee may impose a fine or otherwise deal with the matter at their discretion.
- (N) Any document or Notice served under these Rules will be served personally or by first class post, registered post, facsimile transmission or e-mail. In the absence of proof to the contrary, any document or Notice served by first class post or by registered post shall be deemed to have been served on the third day after the date of posting or, in the case of any document or Notice served by facsimile transmission or e-mail, it will be deemed to have been served on that day.
- (O) The General Secretary shall have the power on behalf of the Management Committee to convene a Meeting of the Disciplinary SubCommittee and request the attendance of a Club, Club Official, Player or Individual who has been formally charged. Any Club, Official, Player or Individual having been given SEVEN (7) days' notice to attend a Disciplinary Sub Committee Meeting and failing to attend may have the matter heard in their absence and fined according to the fines tariff.
- (P) The Management Committee will consider an accumulation of cautions and/or sending offs attributable to a Club / Team as conduct of an unacceptable level and will have the power to instruct the Disciplinary Secretary to request the attendance of any such formally charged Club, Team, Official or Player to attend a meeting of the Disciplinary Sub-Committee or a meeting convened by the General Secretary for that purpose. Management Committee may decide. At such a meeting the Management Committee will have the power to consider the disciplinary record, overall behaviour and previous conduct of the Club / Team. The Club / Team will have the opportunity to offer an explanation for the record and outline measures for future improvement. Subject to Rule 16 (BOARD OF APPEAL).

The Disciplinary Sub-Committee will have the power to consider the Respect Programme Marks, disciplinary record, overall behaviour and previous conduct of the Club / Team. The Club / Team will have the opportunity to offer an explanation for the poor record and outline measures for future improvement. The individual mark awarded by each Team will be deemed as confidential and will not be divulged under any circumstances. Any Club, Team, Official or Player having been given SEVEN (7) days' notice of such a Meeting and failing to attend may have the matter heard in their absence and may be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff or be otherwise dealt with as the Management Committee may determine.

The Disciplinary Sub-Committee will have the power to recommend to the Annual General Meeting that any such Club / Team which has failed to satisfactorily answer for their record and/or failed to make a satisfactory plan for future improvement may be considered for non-election into the Competition for the forthcoming season.

- (Q) There shall not be more than THREE (3) persons elected to the Management Committee who have connections with the same Club.

6 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

6. (A) The AGM shall be held not later than the end of June in each year. At this meeting the following business shall be transacted provided that at least [] 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 New Clubs.
 - (iv) List of teams of the Competition for ensuing Playing Season.
 - (v) Election of Officers and Management Committee.
 - (vi) Appointment of Auditors.
 - (vii) Alteration of Rules, if any.
 - (viii) Fix the date for the commencement of the Playing Season and kick off times applicable to the Competition.
 - (ix) 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 Balance Sheet, Statement of Accounts and Agenda shall be forwarded to each Club at least 7 days prior to the meeting together with any proposed changes.
- (C) A signed copy of the duly audited 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. 7 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.

7 AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED

7. 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), (name) [] of (address) [] (Chairman)/Director and (B) (name) [] of (address) [] (Secretary/Director) of [] Football Club (Limited) 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 [] County Football Association(s) 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).

8 QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

8. (A) (i) A registered youth playing member of a Club is one who, being in all other respects eligible, has:-

Signed a fully and correctly completed Competition registration form in ink, countersigned by his /her parent or guardian and by an official of the Club including team manager, and who has been registered with the (Registrations) Secretary prior to playing and whose Valid League Registration ID Card detailing the Team(s) that the player may play for has been received by the Club prior to playing. The registration document must incorporate a current passport-size photograph of the Player seeking registration together with proof of the Player's date of birth.

If a Player's age is required for registration purposes a Competition must accept an original birth certificate or a photocopy. In cases where the birth certificate is not available a Competition is required to accept a photocopy of the Player's passport or other official document issued by a Government Agency attesting to the Player's date of birth.

The league will not hold, store or in any way retain any such document produced to us for this purpose. A previous Surrey Youth League Registration ID Card issued to the player is considered sufficient proof of date of birth.

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

- (ii) A Player does not become eligible to play for any Team in this Competition until the Club is in possession of a valid SYL Player Registration ID Card detailing the Team(s) that the player may play for. Such ID cards remain the property of the League and must, upon request by a Management Committee Official, be returned to the League. They must not be destroyed during the current season of issue. Any Club failing to return such an ID card may be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff and/or dealt with as the

Management Committee may determine. Lost or damaged Player ID Cards can be replaced by making another Application for Registration at a cost as set out in the Fees Tariff.

- (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 registered to the Club has, where necessary, the required International Transfer Certificate. Clearance is required for any Player aged 10 and over crossing borders including 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) Each Team must have the following number of Players registered 30 days 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:

Age on 31 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		30x20	27.45 x 18.3	40x30	36.3 x 27.45	12x6	3
7	Under 8	5v5	30x20	27.45 x 18.3	40x30	36.3 x 27.45	12x6	3
	Under 9	7v7	50x30	45.75 x 27.45	60x40	54.9 x 36.6	12x6	3

8	Under 9	7v7	50x30	45.75 x 27.45	60x40	54.9 x 36.6	12x6	3
	Under 10		50x30	45.75 x 27.45	60x40	54.9 x 36.6	12x6	4
9	Under 10	7v7	50x30	45.75 x 27.45	60x40	54.9 x 36.6	12x6	4
	Under 11		9v9	70x40	64 x 36.6	80x50	73.15 x 45.75	16x7
10	Under 11	9v9	70x40	64 x 36.6	80x50	73.15 x 45.75	16x7	4
	Under 12		70x40	64 x 36.6	80x50	73.15 x 45.75	16x7	4
11	Under 12	9v9	70x40	64 x 36.6	80x50	73.15 x 45.75	16x7	4
	Under 13		11v11	90x50	82.3x45.7 5	100x60	91.44 x 54.9	21x7
12	Under 13	11v11	90x50	82.3 x 45.75	100x60	91.44 x 54.9	21x7	4
	Under 14		90x50	82.3 x 45.75	100x60	91.44 x 54.9	21x7	4
13	Under 14	11v11	90x50	82.3 x 45.75	100x60	91.44 x 54.9	21x7	4
	Under 15		90x50	82.3 x 45.75	110x70	100.58 x 64	24x8	5
14	Under 15	11v11	90x50	82.3 x 45.75	110x70	100.58 x 64	24x8	5
	Under 16		90x50	82.3 x 45.75	110x70	100.58 x 64	24x8	5
15	Under 16	11v11	90x50	82.3 x 45.75	110x70	100.58 x 64	24x8	5
	Under 17		100x50	91.44 x 45.75	130x100	118.87 x 91.44	24x8	5
	Under 18		100x50	91.44 x 45.75	130x100	118.87 x 91.44	24x8	5
16	Under 17	11v11	100x50	91.44 x 45.75	130x100	118.87 x 91.44	24x8	5
	Under 18		100x50	91.44 x 45.75	130x100	118.87 x 91.44	24x8	5
	Open Age		100x50	91.44 x 45.75	130x100	118.87 x 91.44	24x8	5

(D) A fee as set out in the Fees Tariff shall be paid by each Club/Team for each Player registered, if applicable.

(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 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 these Rules for a Player to:-

- (i) Play for more than one team in the Competition in the same Playing Season without first being transferred. The transfer of a player between teams in the same club will be free of charge whilst all other transfers will be charged at a rate as defined by the fees tariff.
 - (ii) Having registered for ONE (1) Club in the Competition, to register for another Club 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 the 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 FA. 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 in a format as determined by the Competition accompanied by a fee as set out in the Fees Tariff, which will be waived if the transfer is between teams in the same club. 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?

NOTE: The SEVEN (7) days begins on the date when the Registration Secretary sends the transfer request notification to the Club the player is transferring from.

Upon receipt of the Club's consent, or upon its failure to give written objection within 7 days, the Registrations 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 that the duly transferred valid League Registration ID card has been received and is in the possession of the new club. In the event of an objection to a transfer the matter shall be referred to the Management Committee for a decision.

- (I) A Player may not be registered for a Club in the Competition after the last day of **March** except by special permission of the Management Committee. A player may not be transferred to another Club in the Competition after the last day of **February** except by special permission of the Management Committee. Note: Special permission will only be granted in exceptional circumstances. Shortage of players through injury, unavailability or de-registration alone or collectively would not necessarily constitute exceptional.
- (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. The register must incorporate 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 Competition.

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) but only after a registration transfer has been completed by the registration secretary and the club are in physical possession of the correct SYL Registration card detailing the Team(s) that the

player may play for. In all Development Football i.e. U7-U11 inclusive a player will be shown on their SYL Registration Card as being eligible for any team in the age group they are first registered i.e. a player duly registered for an U10 team in a club with more than one team at U10 could play for any of teams in the U10 age group in Development matches. Note: this does not extend to Football Development Trophy Events where a player can only represent one team in each specific event. Please see Cup and Development Football Trophy Event rules for clarification.

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

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) Not Adopted

(M) (i) Subject to Rule 8(M)(ii), any Club found to have played an unregistered or otherwise 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.

(O) A Player desiring to de-register from his Club or a Club wishing to de-register a Player must submit to the Registration Secretary a Notice of De-Registration Form signed by the Club Secretary and one other Club Officer together with the Player's SYL Registration ID Card. A Player being de-registered shall not play for his relinquishing Team on or after the date the Deregistration is posted. Any Club requiring official Notice of De-Registration from the Registration Secretary must enclose a stamped, addressed envelope for its return. No De-Registered Player may re-register after the last day of February. A De-Registered Player wishing to play for another Team/Club within the League will be treated as a transfer.

(P) Prior to the start of the season Clubs are required to attend a Meeting specially convened by the Management Committee for the distribution of SYL Player Registration ID Cards. The date of the Meeting will be determined by the Management Committee. Any Club that fails to attend the Meeting or fails to collect their SYL Player Registration ID Cards will incur a fine in accordance with Fines Tariff.

9 CLUB COLOURS. CLUB NAME

9. (A) Every Club must register the colour of its shirts and shorts with the Secretary by 31st August 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 home 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). Shirts must be numbered.

(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).

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

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 Rules 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.

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 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.

Age Group	Minimum duration of play per half (minutes)	Maximum duration of play per half (minutes)	Maximum playing time in one day in all organised development fixtures (minutes)	Maximum playing time in one day in all tournaments and trophy events / festivals (minutes)	Competition structure
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 6 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

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.

With the exception of matches arranged by the Management Committee any kick off prior to 10.00am or after 2.00pm on Sundays must be mutually agreed by both teams and the match official. Once the kick-off time has been notified to the opposing Team, it cannot be changed by more than ONE (1) hour except by mutual consent or by order of the Management Committee. Any match not played as a consequence will be treated as an unplayed fixture.

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

If the appointed kick off is delayed by the absence of one Team, the referee and the opposing Team is required to remain in the vicinity of the pitch until THIRTY (30) minutes has elapsed after which it will be treated as an unplayed fixture. Both Clubs and the referee shall report the facts to the Secretary as required under League Rules. If the Management Committee consider a delayed kick off to be the result of a deliberate act by any Club / Team, the Club shall be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

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 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).

Where there are no free Sundays remaining in the Season and there remains fixtures to be played the Fixture Secretary may order matches to be played on days other than Sundays, provided that SEVEN (7) days' notice is given, or may order the playing of TWO (2) matches between the TWO (2) Clubs / Teams on the same day ("double header"). These will be of shorter duration of TWO (2) equal halves, only to be played if the home and away fixtures remain as unplayed. The Fixture Secretary will decide upon which ground the TWO (2) games shall be played.

For clarification, a "double header" is TWO (2) separate matches of equal halves. For the purposes of recording the result, the first match will be considered the home team's "home" fixture and the second match will be considered the away team's "home" fixture. The minimum playing time for each match is defined in League Rules. Any League appointed referee will be deemed as covering both games otherwise teams will agree upon a referee as per League Rules with both teams sharing the cost of the referee as per Rule 13.

Any Club failing to comply with the Rules relating to Double Header fixtures may incur a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff and/or otherwise be dealt with as the Management Committee deem fit.

(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 5 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	6
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.

NOTE: All Clubs / Teams will be deemed to be available to play every Sunday both for AM and PM kick offs.

There will be no such thing as a friendly or unofficial match to take the place of appointed fixtures.

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

(v) In the event of a match not being played or abandoned owing to causes over which neither Club has control, it should 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 [7] 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. Where it is to the advantage of the Competition and the Clubs involved agree, the Management Committee shall also be empowered to order the score at the time of an abandonment to stand.

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

(vi) 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.

(vii) The Management Committee shall review all abandoned matches. In cases where the Management Committee are satisfied that a match was abandoned owing to the conduct of BOTH teams or their Club member(s) or Supporters the Management Committee may order the score at the time of the abandonment to stand or may render the match null and void and shall not be replayed with neither team being awarded points for the match or otherwise deal with as they see fit. . No fine(s) can be applied by the Management Committee for an abandoned match.

(viii) 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.

For Under 13s - Under 18s – 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 Under 11s - Under 12s – up to 4 may be selected from 4 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 directly 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 5 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 U12 –U18 Teams taking part in this league 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. The Teams taking part in Under 7s to Under 11 or Youth Football may identify a Team captain who *may* wear an armband and offer to support in the management of the on-field discipline of his/her teammates where appropriate and possible given the circumstances. . Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

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

(I) Immediately prior to the commencement of the match an appointed Club Representative from each Team must be in possession of the SYL Player Registration ID Cards of all the players and substitutes the Club intends to be using in the match and shall present themselves to the opposition Club Representative to exchange and check the validity of the opponents SYL Player ID Cards. The Cards will remain in the possession of the opposition Club Representative for the duration of the match. Prior to the kick-off of a fixture the Teams must line up in order that the SYL Player ID Cards may be inspected by the Club Representative from the opposing Team (except where this task is carried out by a Management Committee Officer). Any team that fails to correctly check the eligibility of players through this process shall be liable to a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

(J) Upon request by a Management Committee Official, all SYL Player Registration ID Cards relevant to a fixture shall be made available for inspection by a member of the League Management Committee. Any Club that fails to produce an SYL Player Registration ID Card without good cause shall be dealt with by the Management Committee and be liable to a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff

(K) In the event that the SYL Player Registration ID Cards are not available for production, the opposition Club Representative MUST, prior to kick off, witness the completion of the Team Check Form (available for download from the League's website) by the team who do not have the Player Registration ID Cards available. The following process must be strictly followed:-

- (i) Each player, including all substitutes, MUST print their own name, fill in their date of birth and sign the Form;
- (ii) No player information can be completed before or during the witnessing of this by anyone other than the player(s)
- (iii) The completed Form MUST then be fully completed by the OPPOSING team's Club Representative (witness) and any comments must be made in the comments box, including any doubts about a player authenticity. The Form MUST be sent by the OPPOSING team to the Registration Secretary within THREE (3) days of the date of the match. Any team that fails to correctly complete a Team Check Form will be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff

(L) A team that has failed to produce the SYL Player Registration ID Cards and fails or refuses to complete the Team Check Form shall be treated as serious misconduct and may be charged with bringing the League into disrepute or otherwise dealt with by the Management Committee.

(M) The Competition shall require all players and Club officials to have signed the FA's Respect Codes of Conduct and produce these if so requested by the League Management Committee.

Prior to each match the participating teams and officials shall conduct the 'Respect' handshake and/or participating teams to offer 'three cheers' and handshakes to the opposing team after the match.

Each home club shall make arrangements for the provision of designated areas for spectators. This area can be marked by a roped off area or temporary spectator barrier. The area for spectators should ideally be on one side of the pitch and the other used for coaches / substitutes etc. Ideally this would be 1-2 meters from the touchline. It is recognised, however, that the alignment of some pitches does not allow for this arrangement in which case exemption must be sought from the management committee prior to season start. Failure to comply with these provisions may incur a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff or otherwise be dealt with as the Management Committee see fit.

The Management Committee view the good reputation of the League as paramount and therefore shall have the power to require a Club, Club Official, Player or Individual to attend a Meeting to answer to allegations of breaches of the Respect Programme Codes of Conduct.

(N) Applications for leave of absence from the Competition for such reasons as Easter Tours etc. must be made in writing to the Secretary provided that a minimum of TWENTY SEVEN (27) days' notice has been given for such Application. The granting of 'Leave of Absence' is at the discretion of the Management Committee and will only be permitted to a Club / Team on TWO (2) separate occasions in any ONE (1) season.

(O) Teams must make every effort to fulfil their fixture on the day of the match. Where the Home Team is unable to supply a venue to fulfil its appointed fixture, no matter what the reason, they shall inform the Fixture Secretary as soon as possible and MUST offer their opponents the opportunity to play the game at the opponents ground or at an alternative venue on the same day provided the kick-off time can be arranged within ONE (1) hour of the original time set by the Home team. Failure to comply with this Rule will be dealt with as an unplayed fixture under Rule 10 (F) (i).

(P) A Club who having TWO (2) or more players from one team selected for a County or School Representative football match may apply for a postponement of League or Cup fixtures. The interest of the competition will always be paramount and any decision of the Management Committee shall be final.

(Q) Where breaches of Rule 10(E) (i) are found proved the following criteria will be used to determine the appropriate level of punishment:-

(i) Clubs who are unable to fulfil a fixture with less than SEVEN (7) days' notice will be referred via the Fixture Secretary to the General Secretary of the League on an unplayed Fixture Form. For the avoidance of doubt, there must be at least SIX (6) clear days between the date the notice is given and the date the fixture was scheduled, e.g. if the match is scheduled for next Sunday, the notice must have been provided prior to midnight on the previous Sunday.

(ii) Clubs who are unable to fulfil a fixture having notified the relevant parties prior to 8.00 pm on Tuesday preceding the fixture will incur no fine. The points for the game may be awarded to the opponents of the Team causing the unfulfilled fixture at the discretion of the Management Committee.

(iii) Clubs who are unable to fulfil a fixture that notify the relevant parties later than 8.00 pm on Tuesday preceding the fixture will incur a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff) not exceeding TEN POUNDS (£10.00) and the points for the game may be awarded to the opponents of the team causing the postponement at the discretion of the Management Committee.

(iv) Unless there are exceptional circumstances, Clubs who are unable to fulfil a fixture that advise the relevant parties AFTER 12 noon on the Saturday preceding the fixture will incur a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff) and the points for the game shall be awarded to the opponents of the team causing the postponement. Shortage of Players through illness, injury or suspension will not be an acceptable reason for failing to fulfil a fixture.

(R) Club Secretaries MUST immediately inform the General Secretary of any Club suspension imposed by The Football Association or any County Football Association. Any Club in breach of this Rule will be reported to the Management Committee. Any match which is unfulfilled as the result of such Club suspension not being lifted by 8pm on the Thursday preceding the match shall be awarded to the opponents.

(T) Any Team failing to fulfil their fixtures on more than THREE (3) occasions in any one playing season will be treated as misconduct to be dealt with by the Management Committee who may take action they deem necessary

11 REPORTING RESULTS

11. (A) The Competition must receive by 23.59 Hrs on the day of the match the result of each Competition Match in the prescribed manner. This must include the forename(s) and surname of the Team Players (in block letters) and also the referee markings required by Rule 13, or any other information required by the Competition. Failure to do so will incur a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).
- (B) NOT ADOPTED
- (C) The match result notification, correctly completed, shall be electronically signed by an Officer of the Club, or as prescribed by the Competition. Failure to do so will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).
- (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
- (F) Club / Team Respect Programme Marks will be submitted as part of the Match Result Notification and by each team as part of the Result Card notification marking of the opponents. The Club / Team Respect Programme Marks will be monitored throughout the season by the Management Committee. A low mark is an indication that a Club / Team has fallen below the acceptable standard of the Competition. Therefore a Club / Team whose Mark is deemed to be in this category may be required to attend a Disciplinary Sub Committee Meeting (SEE RULE 5 POWERS OF MANAGEMENT) or may receive written notice of their mark with a warning that, should it not improve, they will be requested to attend a Meeting of the Disciplinary Sub-Committee to answer for their record.
- (G) All County Cup & FA Cup results, abandonments or postponements must be communicated by BOTH the home and away Clubs to the relevant Fixture Secretary on the day of the match. A Team in default will be fined (in accordance with the Fines Tariff)

12 DETERMINING CHAMPIONSHIP

12. (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 (2) or more teams being equal on point's team rankings may be determined by deciding match(s) played under conditions determined by the Management Committee. This shall be interpreted by the management committee by the following sequence of factors:-
- (i) The team winning the most games
 - (ii) If teams still remain equal, only the results of the league matches played between these teams shall be considered, ranking determined by the number of matches each team has won or drawn.
 - (iii) If still equal, the aggregate number of goals scored in the matches only between these teams shall be taken into consideration.
 - (iv) If the team rankings remain equal after the foregoing, the trophy will be shared for half the holding period each.
- (B) In the event of a Team withdrawing from the Competition before 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. For the purposes of this Rule 12 (B) a completed fixture shall include any Competition Match (es) which has been awarded by the Management Committee.

13 REFEREES

13. (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).
- In cases where the Referee's Secretary has not been able to appoint a Referee it is incumbent on the Home Club to engage the services of a registered Referee. If the Home Club is unable to appoint such a Referee they MUST notify their opponents of the facts and allow their opponents the opportunity to engage the services of their own registered Referee.
- Note: For the avoidance of doubt, a referee appointed by the Referee's Secretary takes precedence over any appointment made by a

Club or Team

(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. Individuals under the age of 16 must not participate either as a Referee or Assistant Referee in any open age competition and individuals under the age of 14 must not participate either as a Referee or Assistant Referee in any competition. Referees between the ages of 14 and 16 are only eligible to officiate in competitions where the players' age band is at least one year younger than the age of the Referee, for example a 15 year old Referee may only officiate in competitions where the age banding is 14 or younger.

Matches that are NOT PLAYED because both or either team(s) can't agree a referee as described above will be reviewed by the Management Committee who may render the match null and void or award the points for the match to either team depending on the circumstances.

Note: for the avoidance of doubt the League expect games to be played and this rule not to be used as an excuse to not play a fixture.

(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.

Note: The Management Committee may, if they consider it desirable, or upon application by either of the TWO (2) competing Teams, appoint Assistant Referees. In this instance the costs should be shared by the competing teams or met in whole or part by the League at the discretion of the League Management Committee.

(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.

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).

(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. 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. 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.

(I) The Competition shall keep a record of the markings and, on the form provided by the prescribed date each Playing Season, shall submit a summary to The FA/County FA.

(J) The referee shall submit an electronic report form, supplied by the Competition, giving the result of the match, the number of Players in each Team, Fairplay Marks, notifications of numbers of Cautions, Sending's Off, Misconduct, Respect Breaches and the time of kickoff to the Competition within two days of the match.

(K) Match Officials shall be supplied, each Playing Season, with a copy of the Competition Rules free of charge.

(L) Match Officials shall have undertaken a RESPECT briefing offered by The FA/County FA or the League.

14 CONTINUATION OF MEMBERSHIP OR WITHDRAWAL OF A CLUB

14. (A) **Any** Club wishing to resign from the Competition must do so at least 30 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.

- (D) Where a Team or Club takes a new name, the Management Committee shall have discretionary powers to consider them as an existing Team or Club, providing that the playing membership is at least 75% of the previous season's Team.

15 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 SEVEN 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 FIFTY POUNDS in accordance with the Fees 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 inquiry 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 SEVEN 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 FIFTY POUNDS, in accordance with the Fees Tariff, 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.

16 APPEALS

16. (A) 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.
- (B) 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.

17 EXCLUSION OF CLUBS OR TEAMS MISCONDUCT, CLUBS, OFFICIALS, PLAYERS

17. (A) At the AGM 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 (2/3) of those present and voting. Voting on this point shall be conducted by ballot.
- (B) At the AGM, 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* whose conduct has, in their opinion, been undesirable, which must be supported by (more than) two-thirds (2/3) 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.

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

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

“We A [name] and B [name], the Chairman and Secretary of [] FC (Limited), 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 []. 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 (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(B) At the close of each Competition awards may/shall be made to the winners and runners-up if the funds of the Competition permit limited to 16 for 11v11, 13 for 9v9 and 10 for mini soccer i.e. U10

(C) Non-attendance of a Trophy Ceremony without giving a satisfactory explanation in writing to the Secretary within TWENTY EIGHT (28) days of the Trophy Ceremony will result in a Club receiving a charge for breach of Competition Rules and the Club may forfeit their right to the trophies or awards. Any fine imposed will be in accordance with the Fines Tariff..

(D) In addition a Team attending with less than EIGHT (8) players for 11v11, SIX (6) for mini soccer, SEVEN (7) players for 9v9 shall be deemed not to have attended for the purposes of this Rule and will be subject to the same penalties.

(E) Clubs must return trophies / shields by the last day in February. The trophies must have been suitably engraved with the details of the winning Club and be in a clean and presentable state. They must be returned to any League Officer. Failure to return the trophies / shields by the due date will result in the Club being charged and may receive a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff). Trophies must be returned to the Competition in good order and correctly engraved. Failure to do so will result in a Club charge with a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff). A Club failing to return any trophy / shield will be responsible for the full replacement cost of such trophy / shield in addition to the above-mentioned fines.

(F) Any Club / Team not continuing in the League for the following season, having won a League or League Cup Trophy in the preceding season must return the same fully engraved and in a clean and presentable state before the AGM

19 SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

19. Upon receiving a requisition signed by two-thirds (2/3) 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 7 days' notice shall be given of a 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 Committee 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).

20 ALTERATION TO RULES

20. Alterations, for which consent has been given by the Sanctioning Association, shall be made to these Rules only at the AGM 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 AGM shall be submitted to the Secretary by 1st April in each year. The proposals, together with any proposals by the Management Committee, shall be circulated to the Clubs by email and any amendments thereto shall be submitted to the Secretary by email the proposals and proposed amendments thereto shall be circulated to Clubs prior to the AGM. A proposal to change a Rule shall be carried if a majority of those present, entitled to vote and voting are in favour.

A copy of the proposed alterations to Rules to be considered at the AGM or Special General Meeting shall be submitted to the Sanctioning Authority or The FA (as applicable) at least 7 days prior to the date of the meeting.

21 FINANCE

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 £ [3000] 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 [28th February].

(D) The books, or a certified balance sheet, of a Competition shall be prepared and shall be *audited/verified* annually by some suitably qualified person(s) who shall be appointed at the AGM.

22 INSURANCE

22. (A) All Clubs must have valid public liability insurance cover of at least ten million pounds (£10,000,000) at all times.

(B) All Clubs must have valid personal accident cover for all Players registered with them from time to time. The Players' personal accident insurance cover must be in place prior to the Club taking part in any Competition match and shall be at least equal to the minimum recommended cover determined from time to time by The Association.

Failure to comply with Rule 22(A) or 22(B) will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

23 DISSOLUTION

23. (A) Dissolution of the Competition shall be by resolution approved at a Special General Meeting by a majority of three quarters (3/4) 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 & Fines 2017/2018

FEES TARIFF		
RULE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM FEE
3 (A)	Youth Football	£25.00
	Mini Soccer U9 & U10	£20.00
	Mini Soccer U7 & U8	No Fee
3 (F)	Late Entry Team Supplement	£10.00
8 (A) (ii)	Replacement ID Card	£5.00
8 (D)	PLAYER REGISTRATION FEES	
	U7 / U8 Free Until 30th November thereafter	£2.50
	U9 / U10 / U11 UNTIL 30 TH JUNE	Free then the same as all other ages
	All age groups until 31st July	£2.50
	All age groups 31st July until 15th August	£5.00
	Postal Applications 16th August till 11th September	£7.50
	Postal Applications after 11th September	£5.00
8 (H)	TRANSFER FORM	£15.00
13 (E)	REFEREE FEES	
	Mini Soccer 5v5 & 7v7	£15 (Double Header £20)
	U11 & U12 9v9	£20 (Double Header £30)
	U13 - U15 11 v 11	£25 (Double Header £35)
	U16 - U18 11 v 11	£30 (Double Header £45)
13 (E)	ASSISTANT REFEREE FEES	£15 (Double Header £20)
15 ©	PROTEST/APPEAL FEES	£50.00
15 (D)	PROTEST/APPEAL FEES	£50.00
16	PROTEST/APPEAL FEES	£25.00

FINES TARIFF		
RULE	DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM FINE
2 (B)	FAILURE TO AFFILIATE	£50.00
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 (NOT ADOPTED)	£100.00
3 (E)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE AFFILIATION NUMBER/DETAILS FORM	£20.00
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
5 (M)	FAILURE TO NOTIFY CHANGES TO CLUB OFFICIALS	£25.00
5 (O)	FAILURE TO ATTEND DISCIPLINARY MEETING	£40.00
5 (P)	FAILURE TO ATTEND RESPECT DISCIPLINARY MEETING	£40.00
6 (H)	FAILURE TO BE REPRESENTED AT AGM	£50.00
7	FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED WRITTEN AGREEMENT OR TO NOTIFY CHANGES TO SIGNATORIES	£25.00
8 (A) (i)	FAILURE TO CORRECTLY REGISTER A PLAYER	£40.00
8 (A) (ii)	FAILURE TO RETURN AN ID CARD £3PER CARD	£30.00
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 (N)(i)	FAILURE TO GIVE PRIORITY TO SCHOOL ACTIVITIES	£50.00
8 (P)	FAILURE TO ATTEND COLLECTION MEETING FOR ID CARDS	£35.00
8(M)(i) & Cup Rule G	PLAYING AN INELIGIBLE PLAYER	£100.00
9 (A),10 (A)	DELAYING KICK OFF/NO NETS/ NO CORNER FLAGS	£30.00

9 (B)	FAILURE TO OBTAIN CONSENT FOR A CHANGE OF CLUB NAME	£30.00
9 (A)	FAILURE TO NUMBER SHIRTS	£10.00 (per shirt, up to £30)
10 (A)	DELIBERATELY DELAYING A KICK OFF	£50.00
10 (B)	FAILURE TO PLAY MATCHES ON THE DATE FIXED	£100.00
10 (B)	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH DOUBLE HEADER DIRECTIVES	£50.00
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	£50.00
10 (E) (i)	FAILURE TO PLAY FIXTURE	£30.00
10 (E) (ii)	FAILURE TO NOTIFY ALL PARTIES OF CANCELLED FIXTURE	£30.00
10 (E) (iii)	FAILURE TO AGREE NEW DATE FOR CANCELLED FIXTURE	£30.00
10 (H)	NO CAPTAIN'S ARMBAND	£10.00
10 (M)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE A RESPECT BARRIER	£25.00
10 (Q)	FAILURE TO PLAY FIXTURE GIVING NOTICE AFTER 8PM TUESDAY PRIOR TO GAME	£10.00
10 (Q)	FAILURE TO PLAY FIXTURE GIVING NOTICE AFTER 12 NOON SATURDAY PRIOR TO GAME	£25.00
10(I)	FAILURE TO CHECK ID CARDS	£50.00
10(J)	FAILURE TO PRODUCE ID CARDS TO A MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OFFICIAL	£20.00
10(K) (iii)	FAILURE TO COMPLETE CORRECTLY A TEAM ID CHECK FORM	£20.00
11 (A) (B) (E)	FAILURE TO COMPLETE RESULT CARD FIRST OFFENCE	£5.00
11 (A) (B) (E)	FAILURE TO COMPLETE RESULT CARD SECOND OFFENCE	£20.00
11 (G)	FAILURE TO INFORM LEAGUE OF COUNTY CUP RESULT FIRST OFFENCE	£5.00
11 (G)	FAILURE TO INFORM LEAGUE OF COUNTY CUP RESULT SECOND OFFENCE	£20.00
11(D)	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH RULE	£50.00
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 (C)	NON ATTENDANCE AT TROPHY CEREMONY	£50.00

18 (E)	FAILURE TO RETURN TROPHIES	£35.00
18 (E)	FAILURE TO ENGRAVE TROPHIES	£20.00
18 (A)	FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED WRITTEN AGREEMENT REGARDING THE TROPHY	£25.00
19	FAILURE TO BE REPRESENTED AT A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING	£50.00
22 (A) & (B)	FAILURE TO HAVE THE REQUIRED INSURANCE	£100.00

SURREY YOUTH LEAGUE CUP COMPETITIONS AND DEVELOPMENT FOOTBALL TROPHY EVENTS AND COMPETITIONS

- (A) The Cup competitions and Development Football Trophy events will be governed by the League Competition Rules where appropriate, with the addition of the following:-
- (i) All Cup Competitions shall be competed for annually on a knockout basis by all Teams within membership of the League.
 - (ii) The Competition, including the draw for ties, shall be carried out by the Management Committee and their decision shall be final on all matters, the right of appeal to the Surrey County Football Association being reserved. The Management Committee shall determine which Divisions at each age group enter the SYL Challenge Cup & which Divisions at each age group enter the SYL Invitation Cup each season.
 - (iii) The configuration, draw and organisation of the playing groups of all Development Football Trophy Events will be carried out by the League Management Committee and their decision shall be final on all matters, the right of appeal to the Surrey County Football Association being reserved.

Note: for the avoidance of doubt ALL League and Cup Rules unless specifically mentioned below will apply to all Football Development Trophy Events irrespective of the age group or classification of the event.

QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

- (A) In any U12 –U18 Cup Competition No player may play for more than one Team in any Cup Competition in any one season. (The Challenge Cup and the Invitation Cup at all Age Groups are deemed to be one Competition.) This means, once transferred, a player will be deemed to be cup-tied if he has played in either Competition at any Age Group.
- (B) In any U12 –U18 Cup Competition A Player or nominated substitute shall not be ineligible to play in the semi-final or final round of the competition unless he has played in a previous round or he has played at least TWO League and/or County Cup matches in the current season. Participants who were named substitutes in previous matches but didn't play are considered as having played for the purposes of this Rule.
- (C) In any U12 –U18 Cup Competition A Player registered or transferred after the last day of February may not participate in a League/Invitation Cup Final
- (D) A player will only be permitted to play for one team in a specific Development Football Trophy Event and will for the purpose of that specific event be effectively cup tied if they were to move to another club or team within the same club for that event only. Where in some age groups a 2nd or 3rd Football Development Trophy Event is staged in the same season then the team for which the player is registered on the first day of the event will be the only team they can play for in that specific event. Note: The purpose of this rule is to prevent clubs with multiple teams in an age group moving the best players around to enhance their chances of winning an event at the detriment of the existing team players, the development all the players in the age group and the ethos of such Development Football Trophy Events.

PLAYING OF TIES & DRAWN MATCHES

- (A) In any U12 –U18 Cup Competition All ties up to but excluding the final shall be played on the first-named Team's ground on a date specified by the Fixture Secretary. In the event of the first-named Team not having a ground available on the determined date, the second-named Team shall have the option of staging the match on that date and shall assume status of the home Team.
- (B) In any knock-out or final stage of any Development Football Trophy Event match in the event of level scores at full time the match will be decided by a format as defined by the Management Committee.
- (c) In any U12 –U18 Cup Competition In the event of level scores at full time the match will be decided on Penalties (Except for Semi Finals and Finals)
Kicks from the Penalty Mark Subject to the conditions below, both teams take FIVE (5) kicks
 - The kicks are taken alternately by the teams
 - If, before both teams have taken five kicks, one has scored more goals than the other could score, even if it were to complete its five kicks, no more kicks are taken
 - If, after both teams have taken five kicks, both have scored the same number of goals, or have not scored any goals, kicks continue to be taken in the same order until one team has scored a goal more than the other from the same number of kicks

For Semi Finals & Finals extra time will be played IF TIME PERMITS at the discretion of the Referee.

Under 12 - 7 minutes each way

Under 13 to Under 16 - 10 minutes each way

Under 17 to Under 18 - 15 minutes each way.

After extra time has been played in the Semi Final & Final the match will be decided on penalties as described above in (c)

(D) Postponed matches shall take place as directed by the Fixture Secretary.

(E) In the event of the Teams having the same colours in the Final, The first named team will be required to change.

(F) In finals the admission fee, venue & kick off time will be decided by the Management Committee. All expenses will be met by the League and the proceeds will be retained for League funds

(G) Any Club found to have played an unregistered or otherwise ineligible Player in any Cup Competition match or Development Football Trophy Event match shall be removed from that competition and have levied upon it a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

The Appendices form part of the SYL Rules and have the same force and effect as if expressly set out in the body of the Rules

APPENDIX 1

CHARITY RULES

1. The name of the Association is the Surrey Youth League (“the Charity”).
2. Subject to the matters set out below the Charity and its property shall be administered and managed in accordance with this Constitution by the members of the Management Committee constituted by Rule 3 (OFFICERS).
3. The Charity object (“the Object”) is to provide children of school age and young people under the age of 21 in the Home Counties and Greater London with facilities for playing football with the object of improving their condition of life.
4. In furtherance of the Object but not otherwise the Management Committee may exercise the following powers:-
 - (a) Power to raise funds and to invite and receive contributions provided that in raising funds the Management Committee shall not undertake any substantial permanent trading activities and shall conform with any relevant requires of the law;
 - (b) Power to employ such staff (who shall not be members of the Management Committee) as are necessary for the proper pursuit of the Object and to make all reasonable and necessary provision for the payment of pensions and superannuating for staff and their dependants;
 - (c) Power to co-operate with other charities, voluntary bodies and statutory authorities operating in furtherance of the Object or of similar charitable purposes and to exchange information and advice with them;
 - (d) Power to establish or support any charitable trusts, associations or institutions formed for all or any of the Object;
 - (e) Power to appoint and constitute such advisory Committees as the Management Committee may think fit;
 - (f) Power to do all such other lawful things as are necessary for the achievement of the Object.
5. Membership of the Charity shall be open to:-
 - (a) Member Clubs who must be affiliated to an affiliated County Football Association;
 - (b) Individuals over the age of 18 years who are interested in furthering the work of the Charity and who have paid an Annual Subscription laid down from time to time by the Management Committee;
 - (c) Any corporate body or unincorporated association which is interested in furthering the Charity’s work and has paid any Annual Subscription (“a Member Organisation”)

6. The proceedings of the Management Committee shall not be invalidated by any vacancy among their number or by any failure to appoint or any defect in the appointment or qualification of a Member.
7. No person shall be appointed as a Member of the Management Committee who is aged under 18 or who would if appointed be disqualified under the provisions of the following Clause:-
8. No person shall be entitled to act as a Member of the Management Committee whether on the first or on any subsequent entry into office until signing in the Minute Book of the Management Committee a declaration of acceptance and of willingness to act in the trusts of the Charity.
9. A Member of the Management Committee shall cease to hold office if he or she:-
 - (a) is disqualified from acting as a Member of the Management Committee by virtue of Section 72 of the Charities Act 1993 (or any statutory re-enactment or modification of that provision); or
 - (b) becomes incapable by reason of mental disorder, illness or injury of managing and administering his or her own affairs; or
 - (c) is absent without permission of the Management Committee from all their meetings held within a period of 6 months and the Management Committee resolve that his or her office be vacated; or
 - (d) notifies the Management Committee of a wish to resign (but only if at least 3 Members of the Management Committee will remain in office when the notice of resignation is to take effect).
10. The funds of the Charity, including all donations, contributions and bequests shall be paid into an account operated by the Management Committee in the name of the Charity at such bank as the Management Committee shall from time to time decide. A cheque drawn on the account must be signed by at least 2 members of the Management Committee. The fund belonging to the Charity shall be applied only in furthering the Object.
11. Subject to the provisions of Clause 13 of this Rule no Member of the Management Committee shall acquire any interest in property belonging to the Charity (otherwise than as a Trustee for the Charity) or receive remuneration or be interested (otherwise than as a Member of the Management Committee) in any Contract entered into by Management Committee.
12. The Trustees may pay reasonable remuneration to the General Secretary for work undertaken in the administration of the Charity or any person holding office as General Secretary whilst holding that office, notwithstanding that he/she is a Trustee of the Charity PROVIDED THAT any Trustee withdraws from a Meeting of the Trustees whilst his/her remuneration is being discussed.
13. Any member of the Management Committee for the time being who is a Solicitor, Accountant or other person engaged in a profession may charge and be paid all the usual professional charges for business done by him or her or his or her firm when instructed by other members of the Management Committee to act in a professional capacity on behalf of the Charity PROVIDED THAT at no time shall a majority of the Members of the Management Committee benefit under this provision and that a Member of the Management Committee shall withdraw from any Meeting at which his or her own instruction or remuneration, or that of his or her firm, is under discussion.
14. Subject to the provisions of Clause 15 of this Rule, the Management Committee shall cause the title to all land held by or in trust for the Charity which is not vested in the Official Custodian for Charities and all investments held by or on behalf of the Charity to be vested either in a corporation entitled to act as Custodian Trustee or in not less than 3 individuals appointed by them as Holding Trustees. Holding Trustees may be removed by the Management Committee at their pleasure and shall act in accordance with the lawful directions of the Management Committee PROVIDED THAT if they act only in accordance with the lawful directions of the Management Committee the Holding Trustees shall not be liable for the acts and defaults of its Members.
15. If a corporation entitled to act as Custodian Trustee has not been appointed to hold the property of the Charity, the Management Committee may permit any investments held by or in trust for the Charity to be held in the name of a clearing bank, trust corporation or any stock broking company which is a member of the International Stock Exchange (or any subsidiary of any such stock broking company) as nominee for the Management Committee and pay such nominee reasonable and proper remuneration for acting as such.

16. There shall be an Annual General Meeting of the Charity which shall be held in the month of June in each year or as soon as practicable thereafter. The General Secretary shall give at least 21 days' notice of an Annual General Meeting to all the Members of the Charity. All the Members of the Charity shall be entitled to attend and vote at the Meeting. The Management Committee shall present to each Annual General Meeting the report and accounts of the Charity for the preceding year. Nominations for election to the Management Committee must be made by Members of the Charity in writing and must be in the hands of the General Secretary of the Management Committee at least 14 days before the Annual General Meeting. Should nominations exceed vacancies, election shall be by ballot.
17. The Management Committee may call a Special General Meeting of the Charity at any time. If at least 10 Members request such a meeting in writing stating the business to be considered the General Secretary shall call such a Meeting. At least 21 days' notice must be given. The notice must state the business to be discussed.
18. The General Secretary or other person specially appointed by the Management Committee shall keep a full record of proceedings at every General Meeting of the Charity. There shall be a quorum when at least one tenth of the number of Members of the Charity for the time being or 10 members of the Charity, whichever is the greater, are present at any General Meeting.
19. Any notice required to be served on any Member of the Charity shall be in writing and shall be served by the General Secretary or the Management Committee on any Member either personally or by sending it through the post in a prepaid letter addressed to such Member at his or her last known address in the United Kingdom, and any letter so sent shall be deemed to have been received within 10 days of posting.
20. The Management Committee shall comply with their obligations under the Charities Act 1993 (or any statutory re-enactment or modification of that Act) with regard to the keeping of accounting records for the Charity, the preparation of annual statements of account for the Charity, the auditing or independent examination of the statements of account of the Charity and the transmission of the statements of account of the Charity to the Commission.
21. The Management Committee shall comply with their obligations under the Charities Act 1993 (or any statutory re-enactment or modification of that Act) with regard to the preparation of an annual report and its transmission to the Commission.
22. Subject to the following provisions of this Clause the Constitution may be altered by a resolution passed by not less than two thirds of the Members present and voting at a General Meeting. The notice of the General Meeting must include notice of the resolution, setting out the terms of the alteration proposed.
 - (a) No amendment may be made to Clause 1 of the Charity Rules (the name of the Charity), Clause 3 of the Charity Rules (the Object), Clause 11 of the Charity Rules (Management Committee Members not to be personally interested), Clause 23 of the Charity Rules (the dissolution Clause) or this Clause without the prior consent in writing of the Commissioners.
 - (b) No amendment may be made which would have the effect of making the Charity cease to be a Charity at law.

The Management Committee should promptly send to the Commission a copy of any amendment made under this Clause.

23. If the Management Committee decides that it is necessary or advisable to dissolve the Charity it shall call a meeting of all Members of the Charity, of which not less than 21 days' notice (stating the terms of the Resolution to be proposed) shall be given. If the proposal is confirmed by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting the Management Committee shall have power to realise any assets held by or on behalf of the Charity. Any assets remaining after the satisfaction of any proper debts and liabilities shall be given or transferred to such other charitable institution or institutions having objects similar to the Object of the Charity as the Members of

the Charity may determine or, failing that, shall be applied for some other charitable purpose. A copy of the statement of accounts, or account and statement, for the final accounting period of the Charity must be sent to the Commission.

APPENDIX 2

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN POLICY

1. Child Protection Policy Statement

The Surrey Youth League ("the League") recognises its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children and young people (defined as any person under the age of 18) involved in football which it organises or which it supervises and is committed to working to provide them with a safe environment. The League subscribes to The Football Association's Child Protection Best Practice Policy and Procedures, Safeguarding Children and Young People in Football (Revised Edition 2006) and endorse and adopt the Policy Statement contained in that document namely:-

"Every child or young person, defined as any person under the age of 18, who plays or participates in football should be able to take part in an enjoyable and safe environment and should be protected from abuse. This is the responsibility of every adult involved in football.

The FA recognises its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children and young people by protecting them from physical, sexual or emotional harm and from neglect or bullying. The FA is, therefore, committed to working to provide a safe environment for all children and young people to participate in the sport to the best of their abilities so long as they choose to do so".

2. Key Principles

The key principles of this Safeguarding Children Policy and that of the FA are that:-

- The child's welfare is, and must always be, the paramount consideration
- All children and young people have the right to be protected from abuse regardless of their age, gender, disability, culture, language, racial origin, religious beliefs or sexual orientation
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately
- Working in partnership with other organisations, children and young people and their parents/carers is essential

3. Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that every child or young person who plays or participates in football should be able to take part in an enjoyable safe environment and be protected from poor practice and abuse. The League recognises that this is the responsibility of every adult involved in football organised or supervised by the League.

4. Role

The League has a role to play in safeguarding the welfare of all children and young people by protecting them from physical, sexual or emotional harm and from neglect or bullying. It is noted and accepted that the Football Association regulations (set out in Appendix 2A hereto) apply to all persons involved in football whether in a paid or voluntary capacity. This means whether you are a volunteer, match official, helper on club tours, coach, club official or medical staff.

The League endorses and will apply the Football Association regulations and will treat any infraction of those regulations as misconduct which will be the subject of the disciplinary procedures set out in the League Rules in addition to any other procedures which may be undertaken by any other body or authority.

The League also endorses and adopts the FA's Safeguarding Children and Best Practice Guidelines for recruiting volunteers and will:-

- Develop a role profile
- Request identification documents
- As a minimum, meet and discuss with the applicants and where possible will conduct interviews before appointing
- Request and follow up with 2 references before appointing
- Require an FA CRB Unit Enhanced Disclosure where appropriate in line with FA Guidelines

All current League officials with direct access to children and young people will be required to complete a CRB Enhanced Disclosure via the FA CRB Unit. If there are concerns regarding the appropriateness of an individual who is already involved or who has approached the League to become one of its officials, guidance will be sought from the Football Association. It is noted and accepted that the FA will consider the relevance and significance of the information obtained via the FA CRB Unit and that all decisions will be made in the best interests of children and young people. It is accepted that the FA aims to prevent people with a history of relevant and significant offending from having contact with children or young people and the opportunity to influence policies or practice with children or young people. This is to prevent direct sexual or physical harm to children and young people and to minimise the risk of "grooming" within football.

5. Whistle Blowing

The League supports the FA's whistle blowing policy. Any adult or young person with concerns about a colleague can whistle blow by contacting the FA County Welfare Officer or by writing to the or by going direct to the police, social services or the NSPCC. The League encourages member clubs to familiarise themselves with the FA whistle blowing policy and to adopt it.

6. Youth League & Club Welfare Officer

The League has appointed a Youth League Welfare Officer (YLWO) and requires each member club to have appointed a Club Welfare Officer (CWO) in line with the FA's guidance as the appropriate profile for this role and following completion by the relevant individual of the FA Safeguarding Children workshop (formerly known as Child Protection and Best Practice workshop). The YLWO & CWO will also be required to complete the FA's Welfare Officer Workshop (WOW). The YLWO & CWO will be the first point of contact for parents/carers regarding concerns for the welfare of any child or young person. They liaise directly with the County FA Child Protection Officer (CFAWO) and will be familiar with the procedures for referring any concerns. They will also play a proactive role in increasing an awareness of poor practice and abuse within the League, in the case of the YLWO and within their respective clubs in the case of the CWO.

7. Bullying

We acknowledge and endorse the FA's identification of bullying as a category of abuse. Bullying of any kind is not acceptable within the League. If bullying does occur, all parents or parents/carers should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly. Incidents need to be reported to the YLWO and/or CWO or alternatively in cases of serious bullying, contact may be made with the CFAWO.

8. Codes of Conduct

Codes of Conduct for coaches, players, officials and parents/carers have been implemented by the League and are contained in Appendix 2B. Failure to comply with the Code of Conduct constitutes misconduct which may be the subject of disciplinary sanction in accordance with the League rules.

9. Further Advice

Further advice on Safeguarding Children matters can be obtained from:-

- The Surrey County Football Association Welfare Officer, whose details can be found in the County Handbook
- The FA/NSPCC Child Protection 24 hour Helpline 0808 800 5000
- www.TheFA.com/goal
- The FA Child Protection team

APPENDIX 2A

Regulations on Child Protection (as implemented by the Football Association and adopted by the League)

1. Any act, statement, conduct, or other matter which harms a child or children, or poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children shall constitute behaviour which is improper and brings the game into disrepute.
2. (a) In these Regulations the expression "offence" shall mean any one or more of the offences contained in the Schedules of the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000 and any other criminal offence which reasonably causes the League or the FA to believe that the person accused of the offence poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children.

(b) All persons in such positions that the League or the FA deems it relevant that their normal duties include caring for, training, supervising or being in sole charge of children are required to obtain an enhanced disclosure via the FA's CRB process.
3. Upon receipt by the League of:-
 - 3.1 Notification that an individual has been charged with an Offence; or
 - 3.2 Notification that an individual is the subject of an investigation by the police, social services or any other authority relating to an Offence; or
 - 3.3 Any other information which causes the League or the FA reasonably to believe that a person poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children then the League shall have the power to order that the individual be suspended from all or any specific football activity organised or supervised by the League for such period and on such terms and conditions as the Management Committee of the League shall think fit.
4. In reaching its determination as to whether an Order under Regulation 3 should be made the League shall give consideration, among other things, to the following factors:-
 - 4.1 Whether a child is or children are or may be at risk of harm;
 - 4.2 Whether the matters are of a serious nature;
 - 4.3 Whether an Order is necessary or desirable to allow the conduct of any investigation by the League or the FA or any other authority or body to proceed unimpeded having regard to the need for any action to be proportionate.
5. Where an Order is imposed on an individual under paragraph 3, the League shall bring and conclude any disciplinary proceedings under its rules against the person concerned as soon as is reasonably practicable.
6. Where a person is convicted, or is made the subject of a caution in respect of an Offence, that shall constitute a breach of the rules of the League and the League shall have the power to order the suspension or exclusion of the person concerned from all or any specific football activity organised or supervised by the League for such a period (including indefinitely) and on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit.

Best Practice on Child Protection

(This statement of Best Practice follows and adopts the Football Association's Safeguarding Children Best Practice Guidelines)

1. Each member club of the League should acknowledge its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of every child and young person who has been entrusted to its care and be committed to working to provide a safe environment for all members. A child or young person is anyone under the age of 18 engaged in any club football activity.
2. Each member club should subscribe to the Football Association's Safeguarding Children Policy and Procedures and endorse and adopt the policy statement contained in that document.
3. The key principles of the FA Safeguarding Children Policy are that:-
 - The child's welfare is, and must always be, the paramount consideration
 - All children and young people will have the right to be protected from abuse regardless of their age, gender, disability, culture, language, racial origin, religious beliefs or sexual orientation
 - All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately
 - Working in partnership with other organisations, children and young people and their parents or carers is essential
 - Each member club should acknowledge that every child or young person who plays or participates in football should be able to take part in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from poor practice and abuse
 - Each member club should recognise that this is the responsibility of every adult involved in the club
4. Each member club has a role to play in the safeguarding of the welfare of all children and young people by protecting them from physical, sexual or emotional harm and from neglect or bullying. It should be noted and accepted that the Football Association's Safeguarding Children Regulation (see the FA Handbook) applies to everyone in football whether in a paid or voluntary capacity. This includes those who are volunteers, match officials, helpers on club tours, football coaches, club officials or medical staff.
5. Each member club should endorse and adopt the FA's Safeguarding Children Guidelines for recruiting volunteers and will:-
 - Develop a role profile
 - Request identification documents
 - As a minimum, meet and chat with the applicants and where possible conduct interviews before appointing
 - Request and follow up with two references before appointing
 - Require an FA CRB unit enhanced disclosure where appropriate in line with FA Guidelines

All current member clubs whose members have direct access to children and young people should be required to complete a CRB enhanced disclosure via the FA CRB unit. If there are concerns regarding the appropriateness of an individual who is already involved who has approached the club to become a member or involved in its activities, guidance will be sought from the Football Association. It should be noted and accepted that the FA will consider the relevance and significance of the information obtained via the FA CRB unit enhanced disclosure and that all decisions will be made in the best interests of children and young people.

It should be accepted that the FA aims to prevent people with a history of relevant and significant offending from having contact with children or young people and the opportunity to influence policies or practice with children or young people. This is to prevent direct sexual physical harm to children and to minimise the risk of "grooming" within football.

6. Each member club should support the FA's whistle blowing policy. Any adult or young person with concerns about a colleague should be encouraged to "whistle blow" by contacting the FA Child Protection Manager or by writing to the FA Case Manager at the Football Association, 25 Soho Square, London W1D 4FA or by going directly to the police, social services, or the NSPCC.

Each member club should encourage everyone to know about these procedures and use them if necessary.

7. Each member club should appoint a Club Welfare Officer (CWO) in line with the FA's role profile and required completion of the safeguarding children workshop. The post-holder will be involved with designated persons with training provided by the FA. The CWO should be the first point of contact for all club members and parents or guardians regarding concerns for the welfare of any child or young person. They should liaise directly with the County Football Association Welfare Officer and be familiar with procedures for referring any concerns. They should also play a proactive role in increasing an awareness of poor practice and abuse amongst club members.
8. Each member club should acknowledge and endorse the FA's identification of bullying as a category of abuse. Bullying of any kind should not be acceptable at any club. If bullying does occur players, parents or guardians should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly.

Incidents should be reported to the Club Welfare Officer of each member club, a member of the committee of the club or, in cases of serious bullying, contact should be made with the Youth League Welfare Officer or the County FA Welfare Officer.

9. The code of conduct for players, parents or spectators, officials and coaches should have been implemented by each member club. In order to validate these codes of conduct the club should have clear sanctions to deal with any misconduct at club level and should acknowledge the possibility of potential sanctions which may be implemented by the League or by the relevant County Football Association in more serious circumstances. All prospective members should be informed of these codes.

APPENDIX 3

RESPECT CODE OF CONDUCT

Football is the national game. All those involved with the game at every level and whether as a player, match official, coach, owner or administrator, have a responsibility, above and beyond compliance with the law, to act according to the highest standards of integrity, and to ensure that the reputation of the game is, and remains, high. This Code applies to all those involved in football under the auspices of The Football Association.

Community

Football, at all levels, is a vital part of a community. Football will take into account community feeling when making decisions.

Equality

Football is opposed to discrimination of any form and will promote measures to prevent it, in whatever form, from being expressed.

Participants

Football recognises the sense of ownership felt by those who participate at all levels of the game. This includes those who play, those who coach or help in any way, and those who officiate, as well as administrators and supporters. Football is committed to appropriate consultation.

Young People

Football acknowledges that public confidence demands the highest standards of financial and administrative behaviour within the game, and will not tolerate corruption or improper practices.

Trust and Respect

Football will uphold a relationship of trust and respect between all involved in the game, whether they are individuals, clubs or other organisations.

Violence

Football rejects the use of violence of any nature by anyone involved in the game.

Fairness

Football is committed to fairness in its dealings with all involved in the game.

Integrity and Fair Play

Football is committed to the principle of playing to win consistent with Fair Play.

RESPECT CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COACHES

Coaches are key to the establishment of ethics in football. Their concept of ethics and their attitude directly affects the behaviour of players under their supervision. Coaches are, therefore, expected to pay particular care to the moral aspect of their conduct.

Coaches have to be aware that almost all of their everyday decisions and choices of actions, as well as strategic targets, have ethical implications.

It is natural that winning constitutes a basic concern for coaches. This code is not intended to conflict with that. However, the code calls for coaches to disassociate themselves from a "win-at-all-costs" attitude.

Increased responsibility is requested from coaches involved in coaching young people. The health, safety, welfare and moral education of young people are a first priority, before the achievement or the reputation of the club, school, coach or parent.

Set out below is The FA Coaches Association Code of Conduct (which reflects the standards expressed by the National Coaching Foundation and the National Association of Sports Coaches), which forms the benchmark for all involved in coaching:-

1. Coaches must respect the rights, dignity and worth of each and every person and treat each equally within the context of the sport.
2. Coaches must place the well-being and safety of each player above all other considerations, including the development of performance.
3. Coaches must adhere to all guidelines laid down by governing bodies.
4. Coaches must develop an appropriate working relationship with each player based on mutual trust and respect.
5. Coaches must not exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward.
6. Coaches must encourage and guide players to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance.
7. Coaches must ensure that the activities they direct or advocate are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of players.
8. Coaches should, at the outset, clarify with the players (and, where appropriate, parents) exactly what is expected of them and also what they are entitled to expect from their coach.
9. Coaches must co-operate fully with other specialists (e.g. other coaches, officials, sports scientists, doctors, physiotherapists) in the best interests of the player.
10. Coaches must always promote the positive aspects of the sport (e.g. Fair Play) and never condone violations of the Laws of the Game, behaviour contrary to the spirit of the Laws of the Game or relevant rules and regulations or the use of prohibited substances or techniques.

11. Coaches must consistently display high standards of behaviour and appearance.
12. Not to use or tolerate inappropriate language.

RESPECT CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PLAYERS

Players are the most important people in the sport. Playing for the team, and for the team to win, is the most fundamental part of the game. But not winning at any cost – Fair Play and respect for all others in the game is fundamentally important.

This Code focuses on players involved in top-class football. Nevertheless, the key concepts in the Code are valid for players at all levels.

Obligations towards the game

A player should:-

1. Make every effort to develop his own sporting abilities, in terms of skill, technique, tactics and stamina.
2. Give maximum effort and strive for the best possible performance during a game, even if his team is in a position where the desired result has already been achieved.
3. Set a positive example for others, particularly young players and supporters.
4. Avoid all forms of gamesmanship, and time-wasting.
5. Always have regard to the best interests of the game, including where publicly expressing an opinion on the game and any particular aspect of it, including others involved in the game.
6. Not use inappropriate language.

Obligations towards one's own team

A player should:-

1. Make every effort consistent with Fair Play and the Laws of the Game to help his own team win.
2. Resist any influence which might, or might be seen to, bring into question his commitment to the team winning.

Respect for the Laws of the Game and competition rules

A player should:-

1. Know and abide by the Laws, rules and spirit of the game, and the competition rules.
2. Accept success and failure, victory and defeat, equally.

3. Resist any temptation to take banned substances or use banned techniques.

Respect towards Opponents

A player should:-

1. Treat opponents with due respect at all times, irrespective of the result of the game.
2. Safeguard the physical fitness of opponents, avoid violence and rough play, and help injured opponents.

Respect towards the Match Officials

A player should:-

1. Accept the decisions of the Match Official without protest.
2. Avoid words or actions which may mislead a Match Official.
3. Show due respect towards Match Officials.

Respect towards Team Officials

A player should:-

1. Abide by the instructions of his Coach and Team Officials, provided they do not contradict the spirit of this code.
2. Show due respect towards the Team Officials of the opposition.

Obligations towards the Supporters

A player should:-

1. Show due respect to the interests of supporters.

RESPECT CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MATCH OFFICIALS

(Referees, Assistant Referees, Fourth Officials and Substitute Referees)

Under the Laws of the Game the decisions of a referee on points of fact connected with the play are final as far as the result of the game is concerned. A referee also has wide-ranging powers defined in Law 5.

The exercising of such power requires a high level of ethics from referees and assistant referees (referred to in this Code together as “referees”).

In addition to the quality of refereeing, the behaviour of the referee has an impact, either directly or indirectly, on the conduct of all others involved in the game. Respect for referees and their decisions is a fundamental part of the game. A Code of Conduct for Match Officials is a proper response to those expectations.

While the Code focuses primarily on referees involved in top-class football, with few exceptions the basic ideas are valid for match officials at all levels, be they on the National List, or registered with County Football Associations and only involved in local football.

These Codes are applicable to match officials at all levels of the game.

Obligations towards the game

The referee has a duty to the game in its widest sense.

One of those duties is to help the game to keep moving, compatible with Fair Play, and to seek to ensure it is attractive and is not subject to unnecessary halts.

The referee should:-

1. Make every effort to prepare fully for a match, both physically and mentally. On a physical level, a referee must be able to keep up with the speed of the modern game, and be alert and close enough to take correct decisions from credible locations on the field of play.
2. Not be afraid to take decisions. A referee should be fair and firm and must resist any possible influence from protests on the part of players, team officials or spectators.
3. Show respect towards players and team officials.
4. Be honest and completely impartial at all times, irrespective of the teams, players or team officials involved in the match.
5. Decline to be appointed to a match if not completely physically or mentally fit to referee that match (because of illness, injury, or for family or other reasons).
6. Inform The Football Association and/or County Association and/or league or competition directly responsible if unable to referee a team or teams for any reason.

7. Refrain from requesting hospitality of any kind, or accept any hospitality offered and considered to be excessive.
8. Always have regard to the best interests of the game, including where publicly expressing an opinion on the game or any particular aspect of it, including others involved in the game.
9. Not tolerate inappropriate language from players and/or officials.

Obligations towards the Players

The powers of a referee must be used with wise judgement and care. Authority and a firm approach must be combined with respect.

1. A referee should have regard to protecting the players.
2. A referee should show due respect when speaking with the players, even in the event of infringements.
3. In reports, a referee should set out the true facts and not attempt to justify any decisions.

Obligations towards fellow Referees, Assistant Referees, Fourth Officials and Substitute Referees

It is necessary for the referee's authority to be protected, not only for the sake of the game, but also in the interest of fellow referees, assistant referees, fourth officials and substitute referees. This protection should, however, not influence the over-riding regard for protection of the players.

1. A referee should refrain from publicly expressing any criticism of fellow referees, assistant referees or other match officials.
2. A referee should assist with the development of less experienced referees and assistant referees.
3. An assistant referee should give his total support to the referee, but without undue interference or insistence.

RESPECT CODE OF CONDUCT FOR TEAM OFFICIALS

This Code applies to all team/club officials (although some items may not apply to all officials).

Obligations towards the game

The team official should:-

1. Set a positive example for others, particularly young players and supporters.
2. Promote and develop his own team having regard to the interest of the players, supporters and reputation of the national game.
3. Share knowledge and experience when invited to do so, taking into account the interest of the body that has requested this rather than personal interests.
4. Avoid all forms of gamesmanship.
5. Show due respect to Match Officials and others involved in the game.
6. Always have regard to the best interests of the game, including where publicly expressing an opinion of the game and any particular aspect of it, including others involved in the game.
7. Not use or tolerate inappropriate language.

Obligations towards the team

The team official should:-

1. Make every effort to develop the sporting, technical and tactical levels of the club/team, and to obtain the best results by the team, using all permitted means.
2. Give priority to the interests of the team over individual interests.
3. Resist all illegal or unsporting influences, including banned substances and techniques.
4. Promote ethical principles.
5. Show due respect to the interests of players, coaches and other officials, at his own club/team and others.

Obligations towards the Supporters

The team official should:-

1. Show due respect to the interests of supporters.

Respect towards the Match Officials

A team official should:-

1. Accept the decisions of the Match Official without protest.
2. Avoid words or actions which may mislead a Match Official.
3. Show due respect towards Match Officials.

APPENDIX 4

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

1. Complaints by Member Clubs regarding the behaviour of other Member Clubs, howsoever arising shall be submitted to the General Secretary within 14 days of the relevant event. The complaint must:-
 - (i) be in writing signed by the Club Secretary;
 - (ii) provide full details of the matters complained of;
 - (iii) be accompanied by the written statement of any witness to the event or other evidence which the complainant seeks to rely upon.
2. Where misconduct is alleged or a complaint is made against a Club or individual ("a Respondent") the General Secretary shall if applicable send the complaint to the relevant County Football Association or in the case of a matter deemed by the General Secretary suitable to be dealt with by the league notify the Club or individual concerned and request a response thereto.
3. Within 7 days after such notification the Respondent shall provide any response to the General Secretary in writing signed in the case of a Club, by the Club Secretary, and accompanied by the written statement of any witness to the event or other evidence which the complainant seeks to rely upon.
4. In the absence of any response or in the absence of a response which satisfies the General Secretary that the allegation is unsubstantiated, the matter shall be referred by the General Secretary to the Disciplinary Committee.
5. The Disciplinary Committee shall thereafter consider the matter and shall:-
 - (i) determine the matter on paper if it considers that the matter can properly be so determined; or
 - (ii) determine the matter following a hearing.
6. Where the complaint involves any breach of league rule other than for which a fixed penalty allows the club / team shall receive a formal charge notice and follow the procedure outlined in league rule 5(D)
7. In the event that the matter is to be determined at a hearing the General Secretary shall notify the parties concerned of the date thereof so as to provide them with 7 days' notice.
8. 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 7 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 £50.00 and indicate such when forwarding the written response.
9. At the hearing before the Disciplinary Committee:-
 - (i) Each party shall be permitted a defined time by the Disciplinary Committee within which he or his representative shall be permitted to open his case;
 - (ii) Each party shall be permitted to call such witnesses as he wishes to rely upon to give evidence and to put reasonable questions, through the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee, by way of cross-examination of any other party's witness; and
 - (iii) After the conclusion of the evidence, each party shall be permitted a defined time by the Disciplinary Committee within which he or his representative may make a closing submission

10. Provided that the Disciplinary Committee shall nevertheless retain the power to alter or add to such procedures as it considers appropriate in the particular circumstances.
11. The Disciplinary Committee shall have the power to extend or abridge time in relation to any matter within its jurisdiction and to adjourn a hearing from time to time as it considers appropriate.
12. Following a determination the decision of the Disciplinary Committee shall be notified to the Respondent.
13. The Respondent may appeal against any decision of the Disciplinary Committee to the relevant County Football Association in accordance with Rule 16 if the Rules of the relevant County Football Association permit.