

## 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"** means 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 Harrow Youth Football 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.

**"Executive Officer"** (also known as the secretary) means such a person or persons appointed or elected to carry out the administration of the Competition.

**"Fees Tariff"** means a list of fees approved by the Clubs at a general meeting and required to be levied by the Management Committee for any matter for which a fee is payable under the Rules.

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

**"Ground"** means the ground on which the Club's Team(s) plays its Competition Matches.

**"Management Committee"** means in the case of a Competition which is an unincorporated association, the management committee elected by the Clubs at a general meeting to manage the running of the Competition; and when 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 11s.

**"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 with a Club.

**"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, Officer, Official, Match Official, Management Committee member, member or employee of a Club and all such persons who are from time-to-time participating in any activity sanctioned either directly or indirectly by the Affiliated Association.

**"Player"** means any Contract Player, Non Contract Player or other player (boys and girls) who plays or who is eligible to play for a Club.

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

**"PRS"** means the Competition's on-line player registration system and the procedures for the completion thereof as determined by the Competition from time-to-time.

**"Rules"** means the rules under which the Competition is administered.

**"Sanctioning Authority"** means the Middlesex County Football Association Limited.

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

**"SGM"** means a special general meeting held in accordance with the constitution of the Competition.

**"Team"** means a team affiliated to a Club.

**"Team Sheet"** means an on-line form provided by the Competition on which the names of the Players taking part in a Competition Match and other information are listed.

**"The FA"** means The Football Association Limited.

“**WGS**” means The FA’s whole game system and the procedures for the completion thereof as determined by The FA from time-to-time.

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

“**Youth Football**” means those participating at ages under 12s 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. In the event of any omissions from the Standard Code the requirements of the Standard Code shall be deemed to apply, in so far as they are applicable and relevant, to the Competition.
- (C) 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.
- (D) The Competition will be known as the Harrow Youth Football League (or such other name as the Competition may adopt at its sole discretion). 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.
- (E) The administration of the Competition under these Rules shall 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.
- (F) Unless stated otherwise, terms referring to natural persons are applicable to both genders. Any term in the singular applies to the plural and vice-versa.

#### NAME AND CONSTITUTION

- 2. (A) This Competition shall consist of not more than 200 Clubs or 1,000 Teams 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 geographical area covered by the Competition membership shall be playing grounds within a ten-mile radius of St Mary’s Parish Church, Harrow-on-the Hill, Middlesex.  
This Competition shall apply annually for sanction to the Sanctioning Authority and the constituent Teams of member Clubs may be grouped in divisions.
- (C) Inclusivity and Non-discrimination
  - (i) The Competition and each member Club must be committed to promoting inclusivity and 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) The 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 Sanctioning Authority for investigation.
- (D) Clubs must comply with the provisions of any initiatives of The FA which are adopted by the Competition including, but not limited to, Charter Standard and RESPECT programmes. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

All Participants shall abide by The Football Association Regulations for Safeguarding Children as determined by The FA from time-to-time.

- (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 The FA and parent County FA competitions) except with the prior written consent of the Management Committee. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).
- (F) The Management Committee shall have the power to decide and adjust the compilation of the divisions at their sole discretion and their decision shall be final and binding.

#### 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 Executive Officer and must be accompanied by an entry fee as set out in the Fees Tariff per Club 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 SGM or on a date agreed by the Management Committee. The Management Committee shall have the power to accept new applications by Clubs/Teams after the date of the AGM or SGM. In all cases the entry fee as set out in the Fees Tariff shall apply.

- (B) An annual subscription shall be payable in accordance with the Fees Tariff per Team on or before 1<sup>st</sup> September in each year.
- (C) A Deposit as set out in the Fees Tariff shall be payable per Team and shall be payable on or before 1<sup>st</sup> September each year.

The Deposit shall be returnable, on written request, to Clubs on their respective Team(s) leaving the Competition, providing that the Club and the Team(s) have fulfilled all of the fixtures for the season, complied with all the Rules of the Competition and all the orders of the Management Committee, and such request is made by 30<sup>th</sup> June of the pertaining season.

- (D) A Club shall not participate in this Competition until the entry fee, annual subscription, Deposit and Player registration fee (see Rule 8D) have been paid in full.
- (E) Clubs must advise the Executive Officer in writing, on the prescribed forms, of all the teams that it wishes to enter and participate in the Competition for the following Playing Season by 30th June. Failure to comply with this Rule shall result in the Club not being permitted to participate in the Competition for the forthcoming Playing Season.

Clubs must advise the Executive Officer in writing, on the prescribed forms, of details of its headquarters, Officers and any other information required by the Competition by 30th June. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

If requested by the Competition, Clubs must annually advise the Executive Officer in writing of its Sanctioning Authority affiliation number for the forthcoming Playing Season by 31st July. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff). (F) All Clubs shall annually purchase two Handbooks for each Team that they have originally entered in the Competition and one Handbook per Club. In addition, each Club shall purchase two Rule Books, per edition printed, for each Team that they have originally entered in the Competition and one Handbook per Club. The purchase cost of the books shall be determined by the Management Committee and shall be payable by 1<sup>st</sup> September.

#### MANAGEMENT, NOMINATION, ELECTION

4. (A) The Management Committee shall comprise the Officers of the Competition and up to 20 other members who shall all be elected at the AGM.

- (B) Retiring Officers shall be eligible to become candidates for re-election without nomination provided that the Officer notifies the Executive Officer in writing not later than 1st May each year.

All other candidates for election as Officers or members of the Management Committee shall be nominated to the Executive Officer in writing, signed by the secretaries of five member Clubs, not later than 1<sup>st</sup> May each year. The 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 during the Playing Season.

On receiving a requisition signed by two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Management Committee the Executive Officer shall convene a meeting of the Management Committee.

- (D) Except where otherwise mentioned, all communications shall be addressed to the Executive Officer 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 (principally the Club secretary) and sent to the Executive Officer. All communications shall principally be from the Club secretary or the one named Club fixture secretary. Clubs may name only one Club fixture secretary to the Competition. It shall be the responsibility of the one named Club fixture secretary to liaise with the Competition Fixture Secretary and Referees' Officer.

There shall be no telephone calls after 9pm.

Save as noted in this Rule, under no circumstance are any other Club members to liaise with the Competition Officers.

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

- (F) From time-to-time, during the Playing Season, the Management Committee may arrange Club meetings requiring the attendance of all member Clubs, providing at least 30 days' notice of such meetings. Each Club shall be represented by one of its Officers. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff). In addition, the Club may be dealt with at the discretion of the Management Committee.
- (G) The Officers of the Competition shall be the President, Patron, Life Members, Vice Presidents, Chairman, Vice Chairman, Executive Officer, Secretary, Treasurer, Administration Secretary, Fixture Secretary, Referees' Officer, Registration Secretary, Results' Secretary, Match Form Secretary, Welfare Officer, and such assistants to Officers as shall be deemed appropriate by the Management Committee, to be elected annually at the AGM.

#### POWERS OF MANAGEMENT

5. (A) The Management Committee may appoint sub-committees and delegate to them such of their powers as they deem appropriate or necessary. The decisions of all the sub-committees shall be reported to the Management Committee. The Management Committee shall have the power to deal only with matters within the Competition and not for any matters of misconduct that are under the jurisdiction of The FA or Affiliated Association.
- (B) Subject to the permission of the Sanctioning Authority having been obtained, the Management Committee may order a match or matches to be played each season, the proceeds to be devoted to the funds of the Competition and, if necessary, may call upon each Club (including any Club which may have withdrawn during the season) to contribute equally such sums as may be necessary to meet any deficiency at the end of the season.
- (C) Each member of the Management Committee shall have the right to attend and vote at all Management Committee meetings and have one vote thereat, but no member shall be allowed to vote on any matters directly appertaining to such member or to the Club so represented or where there may be a conflict of interest. (This shall apply to the procedure of any sub-committee).

In the event of the voting being equal on any matter, the Chairman of that meeting shall have a second or casting vote. (This shall apply to the procedure of any sub-committee).

- (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, including any matters not provided for in the Rules. Any action by the Competition must be progressed and/or taken within 28 days of the Competition being notified.

With the exception of Rules 5(I), 6(H) and 19 and with the exception where these Rules provide for the imposition of a set penalty and/or fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff), 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 take the following actions:-

- (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 in writing 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 the 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 and the Rules and Regulations of The FA shall be dealt with in accordance with FA Rules by the appropriate Affiliated 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 to those concerned within 21 days.

(F) 50% of its members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business of the Management Committee or any sub-committee thereof.

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

(H) A Club (or any of its Teams) must comply with an order or instruction of the Management Committee and/or sub-committee and/or Officer, 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).

In addition, the Management Committee may determine that the Club, or any of its Teams, shall not be allowed to play, participate, or take part in the business of the Competition until such matter(s) has been fully complied with and resolved to the satisfaction of the Management Committee. Where the Club or any of its Teams shall not have been allowed to play then the withdrawal of such fixture(s) shall be deemed as a defaulted fixture under Rule 10(E)(i).

(I) Subject to the right of appeal in accordance with Rule 16, all fines and charges shall be paid in full within 14 days of the date 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 from a Club or any of its Teams until the outstanding fines are paid in full. Such withdrawal of fixtures shall be deemed as a defaulted fixture under Rule 10(E)(i). For the purposes of this Rule, the fines due have to be received on or before noon-Thursdays preceding a fixture.

(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 SGM called to decide the constitution and the commencement of the Competition's Playing Season.

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

(M) All Clubs are responsible to the Competition for the conduct of their Teams, Players, Officials, members and spectators. The Management Committee shall be empowered to take any disciplinary action, as considered appropriate, against any Club or Team found guilty of misconduct.

#### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

6. (A) The AGM shall be held not later than 30<sup>th</sup> June each year. At this meeting the following business shall be transacted provided that at least 15 members are present and entitled to vote:-

- (i) Receive and confirm the minutes of the preceding AGM.
  - (ii) Receive and adopt the Statement of Accounts.
  - (iii) Election of Clubs.
  - (iv) Election of Officers and Management Committee.
  - (v) Appointment of Auditors.
  - (vi) Alteration of Rules, if any (see Rule 20).
  - (vii) Fix the date for the commencement of the Playing Season.
  - (viii) Fix the date for the end of the Playing Season.
  - (ix) Other business of which due notice shall have been given and accepted as being relevant to an AGM.
- (B) A copy of the Agenda and duly verified Statement of Accounts shall be forwarded to each Club at least 7 days prior to the meeting.
- (C) A copy of the duly verified 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 the AGM. Each Club shall be entitled to only one vote. 14 days' notice shall be given of any Meeting.
- (E) Clubs which have withdrawn their membership from the Competition during the Playing Season being concluded or who are not continuing membership shall be entitled to attend but shall vote only on the 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 of that meeting so decides.
- (G) No individual shall be entitled to represent and/or 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 shall result in the Club not being permitted to participate in the Competition for the forthcoming Playing Season and will also result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff). In addition, the Club may be dealt with at the discretion of the Management Committee.
- (I) Officers and Management Committee members shall be entitled to attend and vote at the AGM.
- (J) Where a Competition is an incorporated entity, the Officers of the Competition shall ensure that the articles of association of the Competition are consistent with the requirements of these Rules.

**AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED**

7. Each Club shall complete and sign the following agreement (along with any additional forms that the Competition so request) 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, but in any event no later than 30<sup>th</sup> June.

“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 the following:

- (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 the 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 Executive Officer.

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

## QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

8. (A)(i) A registered youth playing member of the Club is one who, being in all other respects eligible, has submitted a fully and correctly completed Player registration through the PRS in accordance with the format and all of the instructions as determined by the Competition from time-to-time.

Clubs must access the PRS in order to complete the Player registration process.

If a Club attempts to register a Player via the PRS but does not fully and correctly complete all the necessary information via the PRS, the registration will not be processed.

Clubs may register players via the PRS up to midnight Saturday prior to the Sunday Competition Match (subject to Rule 8(B)(iii)).

(ii) The information submitted via the PRS must incorporate, inter alia, a current (taken within 4 to 6 week of registration) passport-size and minimum quality (all as determined by the Competition) photograph of the Player seeking registration, together with proof of the Player's date of birth. This proof of date of birth can include the Player's birth certificate, passport or other official documents as determined by the Management Committee at its sole discretion. The Management Committee may also call for evidence of the proof of date of birth of a Player at any time during the Playing Season.

(iii) No Player shall be regarded as registered or may take part in any match within the Competition until the registration has been fully processed as detailed in Rule 8(A)(i) and (ii) and the Club has received a valid player registration number.

(iv) Following completion of all elements and aspects of Rule 8(A) (i), and (ii), and (iii), the Club shall have the facility to print from the PRS a detailed listing of all Players registered for each Team.

In addition, the Competition will subsequently provide each Club with an individual Player laminate ID card for each Player registered.

All Player laminate ID cards issued by the Competition shall remain the sole property of the Competition.

Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff). In addition, the Club may be dealt with at the discretion of the Management Committee.

(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 3 days before the Playing Season starts:

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).

(iv) No Player shall be eligible to be registered with the Competition where that Player is currently registered to play for any club or team within any other football competition whose normal day for playing fixtures is on a Sunday. If it is subsequently discovered that a Player, registered under Rule 8(A), has registered with another club or team whose day for playing fixtures is a Sunday the registration shall be immediately cancelled.

(v) No Team shall be permitted to have more than 20 Players currently registered with the Competition at any time, except the Under 17 and the Under 18 age groups where a maximum 25 Players shall be currently registered.

(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<sup>st</sup> August of the relevant Playing Season i.e. children who are aged 6 at midnight on 31<sup>st</sup> 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 at midnight on 31<sup>st</sup> 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<sup>st</sup> 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 <sup>st</sup> 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	4
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	82.3x45.75	100x60	91.44 x 54.9	21x7	4
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	110x70	100.58 x	24x8	5



				45.75		64				
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		100.58 x 64				
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				
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				

Players under the statutory school-leaving age are not permitted to play more than one full-duration match (as defined in Rule 10(A)) in any one-day, except when playing double-headed fixtures in the Competition and/or where provision exists for the playing of such fixtures.

(D) A fee, as set out in the Fees Tariff, shall be paid by each Club/Team for a minimum of 20 or 25 players (see Rule 8(B)(v)) on or before 1st September. A fee, as set out in the Fees Tariff, shall be paid by each Club/Team for each subsequent Player registered, if applicable.

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

In the event of a Player submitting or having a registration submitted for more than one Club/Team, priority (being date and time) of registration shall decide for which Club/Team the Player shall be registered. The Registration Secretary shall seek, as far as is possible and practicable, to notify the Club/Team last submitting the Player registration of the fact of the previous registration.

(F) It shall be deemed a breach of these Rules for a Player (and/or Club) to:-

- (i) Play for more than one Club or Team in the Competition in the same Playing Season without first being transferred.
- (ii) Having registered for one Club or Team in the Competition, for another Club or team in the Competition in that Playing Season, except for the purpose of a transfer or the first club to whom the Player played having cancelled the registration.
- (iii) Submit a registration through the PRS that the Player and/or the Club 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, at 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 fully completed transfer form (in a format as determined by the Competition) to the Competition accompanied by a fee as set out in the Fees Tariff. Such transfer shall be referred by the Competition to the Club for which the Player is registered. Should this Club object to the transfer it should state its objections in writing to the Competition and to the Player and the Club concerned within 5 days of receipt of the notification. Upon receipt of the Club's consent, or upon its failure to give written objection within 5 days, the Registration Secretary may, on behalf of the Management Committee, transfer the Player who shall be deemed eligible to play for the new Club/Team upon written confirmation from the Registration Secretary. Until such written confirmation is received from the Registration Secretary, the Player shall still be deemed to be a registered player for the original current Club/Team in accordance with the Rules. In the event of an objection to a transfer, the matter shall be referred to the Management Committee for a final decision.

Subject to the above, a Player can be transferred provided that the following has been fully complied with:

- (i) a fully completed transfer form has been submitted by the Player's proposed new Club/Team and the Player's current Club/Team; and
- (ii) the Player's current and original laminate ID card is returned to the Competition.

Transfer of Players between Teams within the same Club are permitted, subject to the full provision of Rules 8(A) and 8(H). However, this will be limited to two occasions/transfers (per Player) during the course of the Playing Season.

(I) A Player may not be registered for a Club nor transferred to another Club or Team in the Competition after 28<sup>th</sup> February, except by special permission of the Management Committee.

(J) A Club shall keep a list of the Players it registers and a record of all matches in which those Players have played for the Club, and shall produce such records upon demand by the Management Committee.

In the event that a Club has more than one Team in an age group, each Team must be clearly identifiable. In such cases, Players will be registered for one Team only. A Player so registered will be allowed to play for his Club in a younger or older age group within the provisions of Rule 8(C).

(K) A register containing the names of all the Players registered for each Club, with the date of registration, shall be kept by the Registration Secretary and shall be open to inspection by any duly appointed Club representative at 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) A Player shall not be eligible to play for a Team in any special championship, promotion or relegation deciding match (as specified in Rule 12(A)) unless the Player has played four Competition Matches for that Team in this Competition in the current Playing Season.

(M) (i) Subject to Rule 8(M)(ii), any Club found to have played an unregistered and/or ineligible Player in a match or matches where points are awarded shall have the points gained from that match deducted from its record and shall have levied upon it a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff) and, in addition, the Club may be dealt with at the discretion of the Management Committee.

- (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 unregistered and/or ineligible player in accordance with Rule 8(M)(i) above, the Management Committee shall also, at its sole 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; and/or
  - (b) Levy penalty points against the Club in default; and/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 except on a Sunday. 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<sup>st</sup> 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) The Team manager or his/her deputy shall print and retain a current copy of all the Players registered on the PRS and also retain all the individual Player laminate ID cards (see Rule 8(A)(iv)).  
 All Player laminate ID cards are required to be made available at all Competition Matches.  
 Where the Player laminate ID card has not yet been received by the Club, a printed copy report of the details of all Players currently registered by the Team (printed directly from the PRS without amendment) is required to be made available at all Competition Matches.  
 All Teams are required to make available such documents noted above, prior to the commencement of all Competition Matches, to the Club secretary, or Team manager, of the opposing team.  
 All Teams are required to check all their opponent's Player registration details.  
 These documents must be returned by the conclusion of the match at the latest.  
 All such documents must also be produced upon the request by a member of the Management Committee.  
 All Clubs must co-operate with each other (and with the Management Committee) and provide reasonable assistance in the checking of each Player's registration details.  
 Such documents noted above must be the original Player laminate ID card and/or the actual document printed from the PRS.  
 For the avoidance of doubt, copies of such cards/documents provided to the opposing team or Management Committee via a computer, iPad, iPhone, or any other electronic device is not acceptable.  
 If a Club/Team fails to produce the Player(s) original laminate identity card(s) or original (printed from the PRS) copies of Player registration details, the matter shall be reported by the opposing Club/Team to the Registration Secretary within two days of the match. The offending Team shall be fined (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).  
 For the avoidance of doubt, if the Club/Team fails to produce such documents, the Competition Match must still be played. However, the Club/Team in default shall arrange, in the presence of the opposing team Club secretary/Team manager, for each Player playing in the match, to write his/her name on a piece of paper, along with his/her date of birth, and to provide such a document to the opposing team Club secretary/Team manager, who shall, within 2 days of the match, send such document(s) to the Registration Secretary for checking.
- (P) All registrations shall be cancelled at the conclusion of the Playing Season in which the registrations were effective. A Club may cancel the registration of any Player at any time by informing the Registration Secretary in writing and at the same time returning the original Player laminate ID card. Until this is fully complied with, and the Registration Secretary has actioned such cancellation, the Player shall still be deemed to be a registered player for that Club in accordance with the Rules.

#### CLUB COLOURS. CLUB NAME

- 9. (A) Every Club and/or Team must register the colour of its shirts and shorts with the Executive Officer by 30<sup>th</sup> June 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 5 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. Clubs in default shall be fined (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

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

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

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, with suitable changing and toilet facilities provided for Players and Match Officials. If through any fault of the home Team Competition Match has to be replayed, the Management Committee shall have the power to order the venue to be changed.

The Management Committee shall have power to decide whether a Ground and/or pitch and/or the facilities are suitable for Competition Matches and to order the Club concerned to play the Competition Matches 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 the Participants of footwear requirements when confirming match arrangements in accordance with Rule 10(C).

All Competition Matches shall have a duration as set out below.

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

<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Minimum duration of play per half (minutes)</b>	<b>Maximum duration of play per half (minutes)</b>	<b>Maximum playing time in one day in all organised development fixtures (minutes)</b>	<b>Maximum playing time in one day in all tournaments and trophy events / festivals (minutes)</b>	<b>Competition structure</b>
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	25	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.

The home Team shall decide a.m. or p.m. kick off times. The time for a.m. kick offs shall not be earlier than 10.30 a.m. unless mutually agreed between the two Teams at least 7 days prior to the match. The time for p.m. kicks offs shall not be later than 2.30 p.m.

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

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 Executive Officer if the footballs are unsuitable. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

The home Team must also provide one of three FA approved pitch interventions (a) barriers; or (b) cones; or (c) additional marked lines. Failure to comply 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 Fixture 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 days' notice of the match (unless otherwise mutually agreed).

Clubs must submit vacant home date of their Grounds for the ensuing season, together with any other information required by the Competition, on the specified form, to the Fixture Secretary by 31<sup>st</sup> July. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

Clubs may request to close a date in the Playing Season where any of its Teams does not seek a fixture to be set by the Competition. During the Playing Season such request shall be limited to one Sunday in any one-month with a maximum of three Sunday's during the Playing Season. Such request must be made in writing to both the Fixture Secretary and the Executive Officer and be received at least 30 days prior to any date on which a fixture is not sought to be set by the Competition.

Clubs may request postponement of any match in the Competition if they have two or more Players playing in an officially designated County Association representative competition match. If a goalkeeper is playing then postponement

may be requested if no other Player is playing. Request for postponement must be directed to the Fixture Secretary and will be granted as long as the above conditions prevail and the request has been submitted at least 10 days prior to the match.

The Fixture Secretary shall have the power to order Teams to play mid-week evening and/or Saturday matches and/or double (back-to-back) matches where he, at his sole discretion, considers it necessary or appropriate. Mid-week and/or Saturday and/or double (back-to back) matches may also be mutually agreed and arranged by two Teams. Failure to play matches arranged under this Rule shall be deemed to have been defaulted under Rule 10(E)(i).

- (C) An Officer of the home Club must give notice of full particulars of the location of, and access to, the Ground 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 Executive Officer. The away Club and the Match Officials shall acknowledge receipt of such particulars at least 3 days prior to the playing of the match. 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:

<b>Format</b>	<b>Minimum Number</b>
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).

Teams with the minimum number of Players not starting within 30 minutes of the official kick off time shall be deemed have defaulted the Competition Match under Rule 10(E)(i).

- (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 (a) shall impose a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff), (b) shall deduct points from the defaulting Club, (c) shall award the points from the match in question to the opponents, and (d) may otherwise deal with them except the award of goals. Notwithstanding the foregoing home and away provision, the Management Committee shall have power to order a match to be played on a neutral ground or on the opponent's Ground if they are satisfied that such action is warranted by the circumstances.
- (ii) Any Club unable to fulfil a fixture or where a fixture has been postponed for any reason must, without delay, give notice to the Fixture Secretary, the Referees' Officer, the secretary of the opposing Club and the Match Officials. Both the Clubs shall also submit a written report of the circumstances in the prescribed form to the Executive Officer within 2 days of the match. The Management Committee shall have the power to act upon the disclosures made within these reports for the purposes of Rule 10(E)(i). Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).
- (iii) 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 set by the Fixture Secretary.
- Where it is to the advantage of the Competition and the Clubs involved both agree, the Management Committee shall also be empowered to order the score at the time of an abandonment to stand.
- (iv) The Management Committee shall review all matches abandoned in cases where it is consequent upon the conduct of either or both Teams.

Where it is to the advantage of the Competition and does no injustice to either Club, the Management Committee shall be empowered to order the score at the time of the abandonment to stand.

In all cases where the Management Committee is satisfied that a match was abandoned owing to the conduct of one Team or its Club member(s) or any Participant they shall award the points for the match to the opponent. In all 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 Participants they shall rule all points for the match null and void and the match shall not be replayed.

No fine(s) can be applied by the Management Committee for an abandoned match.

(v) The Management Committee shall review any match that has taken place where either or both Teams were under a suspension imposed upon them by The FA or Affiliated Association. In each case the Team that was under suspension would be dealt with in the same manner as if they had participated with ineligible players in accordance with Rule 8(M)(i) above. Where both Teams were under suspension the match must be declared null and void and shall not be replayed.

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

Where a Competition does allow return substitutes:

For Under 11s to 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 Mini-Soccer – Any number of substitutions may be used at any time, unless otherwise specified by the Competition, with the permission of the Match Official. Entry onto the field of play will only be allowed during a stoppage in the 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 5 minutes before the start of the Competition Match and a Player not so named may not take part in the Competition 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 match shall not be considered to have been a Player in the Competition Match within the meaning of Rule 8 of this Competition.

(G) The half time interval shall be of 10 minutes' duration, but it shall not exceed 15 minutes. The half time interval may only be altered with the consent of the referee.

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

(I) An adult over the age of 18 must be present with each individual Team at all Competition Matches. A Club must ensure that a female adult over the age of 18 is present with each individual Team at all Competition Matches when a female Player is participating in the Team.

(J) A fully equipped first aid-kit must be carried and be immediately available by each Team at all Competition Matches.

(K) In all Competition Matches, each Team must nominate a responsible adult to act on the Club's behalf as a match delegate. The responsibilities of the match delegate shall be to (a) report to the Match Officials at least 15 minutes before the scheduled kick off time and introduce himself/herself; (b) ensure that the appropriate and reasonable needs of the Match Officials are met before, during and immediately after the match; (c) ensure the appropriate behaviour of all Club members, parents and spectators before, during and immediately after the match; and (d) assist the Match Officials, as requested, in dealing with any matters that may arise.

## REPORTING RESULTS

11. (A) The Match Form Secretary must receive from each Club within 2 days of the date played, the Team Sheet and the result of each Competition Match in the prescribed manner. This must include the forename(s) and surname of each of the Team Players who played in the match and also the referee markings required by Rule 13, and any other information required by the Competition. Failure to do so will incur a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff). Clubs will be fined an additional amount (in accordance with the Fines Tariff) on a weekly basis until the Team Sheet is submitted.

(B) Both Clubs shall telephone or SMS or email the result of each Competition Match (including any County FA cup matches in which Clubs are competing) and, for the avoidance of doubt, also include postponed, cancelled or abandoned matches,

to the Competition results' service by 5.30pm on the day of the match in the prescribed manner. Clubs in default shall be fined (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

- (C) The Team Sheet, fully and correctly completed, shall be signed by an Officer of the Club, and as prescribed by the Competition. Failure to do so will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff). By so doing the Officer of the Club certifies that all information is correct and accurately records the details of the match. A fine shall be levied (in accordance with the Fines Tariff) for each any entry that is incomplete or incorrect. In addition, the Management Committee shall have the power to take any action they deem suitable against any Club and/or Officer which/who submits an incorrect and/or incomplete Team Sheet.
- (D) The Competition and Clubs are permitted to collect but NOT publish results or any grading tables for fixtures involving the following age groups: 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) shall be imposed for a breach of this Rule.

#### DETERMINING CHAMPIONSHIP

12. (A) In Competitions where points are awarded, Team rankings in 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 of the Playing Season shall be adjudged the winners. Matches must not be played for double points.

In the event of two or more Teams being equal on points for the position of division winners or runners-up only, Team rankings shall be determined by deciding match(es) played under conditions determined by the Management Committee.

(B) and (C) Not used

- (D) In the event of a Team withdrawing from the Competition before completing 75% of its fixtures for the Playing Season, all points obtained or recorded against such defaulting Team shall be expunged from the Competition table.  
In the case of a Team completing 75% but not 100% of its fixtures for the Playing Season the outstanding matches shall be awarded by the Management Committee at its sole discretion to the Teams not in default.  
For the purposes of this Rule 12(D) completed fixtures shall include any Competition Matches(s) which have been awarded by the Management Committee.

#### MATCH OFFICIALS

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 Authority
- (B) In cases where there are no officially appointed Match Officials in attendance, it is the duty and responsibility of the home Club to obtain a person to referee. An individual thus obtained upon shall, for that match, 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 referees, in any Under 17 or Under 18 match. Individuals between the ages of 14 and 16 are only eligible to officiate in a Competition Match where the Players' age banding is at least one year younger than the age of the referee or assistant referee. For example, a 15 year old may only officiate in a Competition Match where the age banding is 14 or younger.  
Individuals under the age of 14 must not participate either as a referee or assistant referee in any Competition Match.  
Failure to comply with this Rule shall result in the match being deemed to have been defaulted under Rule 10(E)(i).
  - (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. An assistant referee provided by a Team, unless a registered referee, must be at least one year older than the age group in which the match is played, but under no circumstance shall be below the age of 14.
  - (D) The appointed referee shall have power to decide the fitness of the Ground in all matches and the decision shall be final subject to the right of the ground authority to declare the pitch unfit for play. This right shall not apply where the home Team are the pitch owners or have control over the pitch.
  - (E) Subject to any limits/provisions laid down by the Sanctioning Authority, Match Officials appointed under this Rule shall be paid their fees in accordance with the Fees Tariff.



Match Officials will be paid their fees by the home Club (prior to the commencement of the match) unless otherwise ordered by the Management Committee. All assistant referee fees are to be shared equally between the two Clubs. 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 actual travelling expenses only. 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. Failure to comply with the Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).
- (G) Match Officials 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 (out of 100) to the referee for each match and the name of the referee and the marks awarded shall be submitted to the Competition in the prescribed manner. Clubs awarding a mark of 60 or less in a match shall submit a detailed report to the Referees' Officer explaining why such mark has been awarded within 2 days of the match. Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be fined (in accordance with the Fines Tariff) and 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 a report form, supplied by the Competition, giving the result of the match, the number of Players in each Team, the time of kick-off and such other information as is requested by the Competition to the Executive Officer within 2 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 Competition.

#### CONTINUATION OF MEMBERSHIP, 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 deal with a Team unable to start or complete its fixtures for a Playing Season by, 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(I), in the event of a member Club failing to discharge all its financial obligations to the Competition in excess of £50, the Management Committee are empowered to refer the debt under The FA Football Debt Recovery provisions.

#### PROTESTS AND COMPLAINTS

- 15. (A) (i) All questions of eligibility, qualifications of Players or interpretations of the Rules shall be referred to the Management Committee or a sub-committee duly appointed by the Management Committee.
- (ii) Objections relevant to the dimensions of the pitch, goals, flag posts or other facilities of the venue will not be entertained by the Management Committee unless a protest is lodged with the referee before the commencement of the match.
- (B) Except in cases where the Management Committee decide that there are special circumstances, protests and complaints (as set out more fully at Rule 15(A) above) (which must also contain full particulars of the grounds upon which they are founded) must be lodged in duplicate with the Executive Officer within 5 days (excluding Sundays) of the match or occurrence to which they refer. A protest or complaint shall not be withdrawn except by the 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/her Club) when such protest or complaint is being determined.
- (C) No protest of any kind shall be considered by the Management Committee unless the complaining Club shall have deposited with the Executive Officer a sum 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 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 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 £25 to the Executive Officer and indicate so when forwarding the written response.

The Management committee shall also have the power to compel any party to the protest to pay such expenses as the Management Committee shall direct.

(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 to the Executive Officer. Such determination shall be final and binding upon the parties concerned. The procedure for such determination shall be determined by the Management Committee.

#### APPEALS

16. (A) Any appeal against a decision of the Management Committee must be lodged with the Sanctioning Authority within 14 days of notification of the decision causing the appeal and be 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, at the same time, be sent to the Executive Officer.

The procedure for the appeal shall be determined by the Sanctioning Authority and 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 deemed appropriate.

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

(B) No appeal can be lodged against a decision taken at an AGM or SGM unless this is on the ground of unconstitutional conduct.

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

17. (A) At the AGM, or a SGM called for the purpose in accordance with the provisions of Rule 19, notice of motion having been duly circulated on the agenda by the direction of the Management Committee, 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 a SGM called for the purpose in accordance with the provisions of Rule 19, the accredited delegates present shall have the power to exclude and Club or Team from further participation in the Competition whose conduct has, in their opinion, been undesirable, and 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 a 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.

#### 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 Executive Officer on or before the next 31<sup>st</sup> January. 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 with the above will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

It is the responsibility of the winners of the Cup or Trophy to have it engraved and cleaned (at the discretion of the Management Committee) prior to its return to the Competition.

A fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff) shall be imposed for each week (or part of a week) a cup or trophy is retained by a Club after the due date for its return to the Competition.

- (B) At the close of each Competition awards may be made to the winners and runners-up if the funds of the Competition permit. The number of awards made shall be at the sole discretion of the Management Committee. The Management Committee shall also have the power to withhold awards for any other reason.

#### SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

19. Upon receiving a request signed by two-thirds (2/3) of the Clubs in membership the Executive Officer shall call a SGM. The Management Committee may call a SGM at any time.

At least 7 days' notice shall be given for 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 SGMs. Each Club shall be entitled to one vote only. Officers and Management Committee members shall be entitled to attend and vote at all SGMs.

Any continuing member Club failing to be represented at a SGM without satisfactory reason being given shall be fined (in accordance with the Fines Tariff). In addition, the Club may be dealt with at the discretion of the Management Committee.

#### ALTERATION TO RULES

20. Alterations, for which consent has been given by the Sanctioning Authority, shall be made to these Rules only at the AGM or a SGM 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 Executive Officer by 31<sup>st</sup> March each year, signed by the secretaries of at least five Clubs. The proposals, together with any proposals by the Management Committee, shall be circulated to Clubs by 30<sup>th</sup> April and any amendments thereto shall be submitted to the Executive Officer by 15<sup>th</sup> May. The proposals and proposed amendments thereto shall be circulated to Clubs with the notice of the AGM. A proposal to change a Rule shall be carried if more than two-thirds (2/3) 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 SGM shall be submitted to the Sanctioning Authority or The FA (as applicable) at least 14 days prior to the date of the meeting.

#### 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 £500 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 31<sup>st</sup> May.
- (D) The books, or a certified balance sheet, of a Competition shall be prepared and verified annually by a suitably qualified person(s) who shall be appointed at the AGM.

#### INSURANCE

22. (A) All Clubs must have a 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 Sanctioning Authority.

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

## DISSOLUTION

23. (A) Dissolution of the Competition shall be by means of a resolution approved at a SGM by a majority of three quarters (3/4) of the members present and shall take effect from the date of the relevant SGM.
- (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 institution in the locality of the Competition as determined by the resolution at or before the time of winding up and approved in writing by the Sanctioning Authority.
  - (ii) If a Competition is discontinued for any reason the 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 Authority may decide.

## **FEES TARIFF**

<b>RULE NUMBER</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>		<b>FEE</b>
3 (A)	ENTRY FEE		£20.00
3 (B)	ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION		£30.00
3 (C)	DEPOSIT		£50.00
8 (D)	REGISTRATION FEE		£1.80 per Player
8 (H)	TRANSFER FEE		£5.00
13 (E)	REFEREE FEES		Under 11 and Under 12: £25.00; Under 13 and Under 14: £27.00; Under 15 and Under 16: £29.00; Under 17 and Under 18: £32.00.
13 (E)	ASSISTANT REFEREE FEES		Under 11 and Under 12 and Under 13 and Under 14: £16.00; Under 15 and Under 16 and Under 17 and Under 18: £20.00.
15 (C), 16 (A)	PROTEST/APPEAL FEES		£25.00
Cup (3)	ENTRY FEE		£7.00

## **FINES TARIFF**

<b>RULE NUMBER</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>FINE</b>
2 (B)	FAILURE TO AFFILIATE	£50.00
2 (D)	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH FA INITIATIVES	£50.00 to £100.00
2 (E)	UNAUTHORISED ENTRY OF TEAMS INTO COMPETITIONS	£50.00 to £100.00

3 (E)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE AFFILIATION NUMBER/DETAILS FORM	£25.00
4 (E)	COMMUNICATIONS CONDUCTED BY PERSONS OTHER THAN NOMINATED OFFICERS	£25.00
4 (F)	FAILURE TO ATTEND MEETING(S)	£60.00 ON FIRST OCCASION; £80.00 ON SECOND OCCASION; AND £100.00 FOR EACH SUBSEQUENT OCCASION
5 (H)	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH AN INSTRUCTION OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	£10.00 to £100.00
5 (I)	FAILURE TO PAY A FINE WITHIN 14 DAYS OF NOTICE	DOUBLE THE ORIGINAL FINE UP TO £100.00
6 (H)	FAILURE TO BE REPRESENTED AT THE AGM	£100.00
7	FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED WRITTEN AGREEMENT / FORMS OR TO NOTIFY CHANGES TO SIGNATORIES	£25.00
8 (A)	FAILURE TO CORRECTLY REGISTER A PLAYER	£40.00
8 (B)(iii)	FAILURE TO HAVE THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF REGISTERED PLAYERS PRIOR TO THE SEASON COMMENCING	£20.00
8 (F)	SIGNING OR PLAYING FOR MULTIPLE CLUBS/TEAMS, OR INACCURATE COMPLETION OF A REGISTRATION FORM	£25.00
8 (G)(ii)	REGISTRATION IRREGULARITIES	£50.00 to £100.00
8 (M)(i)	PLAYING AN UNREGISTERED/INELIGIBLE PLAYER	£50.00
8 (N)(i)	FAILURE TO GIVE PRIORITY TO SCHOOL ACTIVITIES	£20.00
8 (O)	NON-PRODUCTION OF PLAYER ID CARDS / DOCUMENTS	£2.00 per Player
9 (A)	DELAYING KICK OFF	£20.00
9(A)	FAILURE TO NUMBER SHIRTS	£5.00 (per shirt, up to an aggregate maximum of £30)
9 (B)	FAILURE TO OBTAIN CONSENT FOR A CHANGE OF CLUB NAME/COLOURS	£20.00
10 (A)	NO NETS/ NO CORNER FLAGS/FOOTBALLS	£25.00
10 (A)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE PITCH INTERVENTIONS	£25.00
10 (B)	FAILURE TO PLAY MATCHES ON THE DATE FIXED	£25.00
10 (B)	FAILURE TO SUBMIT FORM	£25.00
10 (C)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE DETAILS OF A FIXTURE	£20.00
10 (D)	FAILURE TO HAVE MINIMUM NUMBER OF PLAYERS THAT WILL CONSTITUTE A TEAM	£15.00
10 (E) (i)	FAILURE TO PLAY FIXTURE	£25.00
10 (E) (ii)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE NOTICE	£20.00
10 (E) (ii)	FAILURE TO SUBMIT FORM	£10.00
10 (H)	NO CAPTAIN'S ARMBAND	£10.00
11 (A)	LATE TEAM SHEET	£10.00
11 (B)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE RESULT	£10.00
11 (C)	INCORRECT COMPLETION OF TEAM SHEET	£5.00 PER ENTRY
11 (D)	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH RULE	£50.00
11 (E)	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH RULE	£10.00
13 (C)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE CLUB ASSISTANT REFEREE	£10.00
13 (E)	FAILURE TO PAY MATCH OFFICIALS' FEES AND EXPENSES	£20.00
13 (F)	FAILURE TO PAY MATCH OFFICIALS WHERE A MATCH IS NOT PLAYED	£20.00
13 (H)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE REFEREE'S MARK OR REPORT	£10.00
14 (A)	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH RULE	£50.00
14 (B)	FAILURE TO COMMENCE OR COMPLETE FIXTURES	£100.00
18 (A)	FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED WRITTEN AGREEMENT REGARDING THE	£15.00

	CUP/TROPHY	
18 (A)	FAILURE TO RETURN THE CUP/TROPHY	£25.00
19	FAILURE TO BE REPRESENTED AT A SGM	£100.00
22 (A), (B)	FAILURE TO HAVE THE REQUIRED INSURANCE	£10.00