

# **THE DERBYSHIRE GIRLS AND LADIES FOOTBALL LEAGUE.**

## **COMPETITION RULES 2022-23**



## **OPEN AGE RULES**

## STANDARD CODE OF RULES

This document contains the Standard Code of Rules developed by The Football Association for open age football (the "Standard Code").

The Standard Code is mandatory for all Competitions at Regional NLS Feeder League level and below, and The FA Women's Pyramid excluding the FAWSL, FAWC and the FA Women's National League.

Competitions seeking sanction must draft their Rules in conformity with the Standard Code, using the same numbering and standard headings.

The mandatory rules are printed in normal text and the *optional rules in italics*.

It should be noted that in many cases rules are so printed because they are alternatives and the procedure to apply should be retained and the others omitted.

In all cases where a [ ] is shown the necessary name, address, number or wording to complete that rule must be inserted.

Competitions may add to the core of the Standard Code, which is mandatory, providing the additions are approved by the Sanctioning Authority and do not conflict with the mandatory rules or any relevant principles and policies established by The FA. Competitions at Tiers 5 and 6 of The FA Women's Pyramid must also have any additions or optional rules approved by The Women's Football Board prior to seeking approval from the Sanctioning Authority.

Guidance from the Sanctioning Authority should be sought in advance if there is any doubt as to the acceptability of additional rules.

### 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 DERBYSHIRE GIRLS AND LADIES 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, as set out at Schedule A.

"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, as set out at Schedule A.

"GotFootball" means the GotFootball System and the procedures for the operation thereof as determined by The DGLL from time to time

"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.

"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.

"Participant" shall have the same meaning as set out in the rules of The FA from time to time.

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

"Player Registration System" means The FA system to register players as determined by The FA from time to time. In addition, it also refers to any additional registration used by the Competition, currently GotFootball.

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

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

"Sanctioning Authority" means the Derbyshire County Football Association Limited.

"Scholarship" means a Scholarship as defined in FA Rules.

"Season" means the period of time between one AGM and the next AGM

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

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

"Team" means a team affiliated to a Club, including where a Club provides more than one team in the Competition in accordance with the Rules.

"The FA" means The Football Association Limited.

"Virtual Meetings" means meetings held electronically

"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.

1.B	Unless stated otherwise, terms referring to natural persons are applicable to both genders. Any term in the singular applies to the plural and also the other way around
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## GOVERNANCE RULES

### 2. COMPETITION NAME, CONSTITUTION

2.A	The Competition will be known as The Derbyshire Girls and Ladies 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 automatically cease to be a member of the Competition.
2.B	This Competition shall consist of not more than 90 Clubs approved by the Sanctioning Authority.
2.C	The geographical area covered by the Competition membership shall be Derbyshire and its surrounding Counties
2.D	The administration of the Competition under these Rules will be carried out by the Management Committee in accordance with the rules, regulations, and policies of The FA.
2.E	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 to them subject to the provisions of Rule 7.
2.F	The Rules are taken from the Standard Code of Rules (the "Standard Code") determined by The FA from time to time. In the event of any omissions from the Standard Code then the requirements of the Standard Code shall be deemed to apply to the Competition.
2.G	<p>1. 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.</p> <p>2. This Competition shall apply annually for sanction to the Sanctioning Authority and the constituent Teams of Clubs may be grouped in divisions, each not exceeding 12 in number.</p>
2.H	<p>Inclusivity and Non-discrimination:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Competition and each 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 (including those contained in the Equality Act 2010).</li> <li>2. This Competition and each Club must make every effort to promote equality by treating people fairly and with respect, by recognizing 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.</li> <li>3. Any alleged breach of the Equality Act 2010 legislation must be referred to the appropriate Sanctioning Authority for investigation.</li> </ol>
2.I	Clubs must comply with the provisions of any initiatives of The FA which are adopted by the Competition including, but not limited to, England Football Accredited and RESPECT programmes. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
2.J	All Participants shall abide by The Football Association Regulations for Safeguarding Children and Regulations for Safeguarding Adults at Risk as determined by The FA from time to time.
2.K	Clubs shall not enter any of their Teams playing in the Competition in any other competitions (with the exception of FA and County FA Competitions) except with the written consent of the Management Committee. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
2.L	At the AGM or an SGM called for the purpose, a majority of the delegates present shall have power to decide or adjust the constitution of the divisions at their discretion. When necessary, this Rule shall take precedence over Rule 22.
2.M	Only one Team from a Club shall be permitted to participate in a single division unless there is no viable alternative because of logistical issues and/or reasons linked to participation and geographical boundaries in which case the Competition will obtain the prior approval of the Sanctioning Authority. This Competition will ensure that, where permission is given, Teams from a Club operating in the same division are run as separate entities with no interchange of players other than by transfers of registration in accordance with these Rules.

### 3. CLUB NAME

3.A	Any Club wishing to change its name must obtain permission from the Sanctioning Authority following consultation with the Competition. In the event that permission is granted, the Club must advise the Competition Secretary. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
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### 4. ENTRY FEE, SUBSCRIPTION, DEPOSIT

4.A	<p>Applications by Clubs for admission to the Competition or the entry of an additional Team(s) from the same Club must be made in writing to the Secretary by September 1<sup>st</sup> and must be accompanied by an Entry Fee for each Team as set out in the Fees Tariff, which shall be returned in the event of non-election.</p> <p>Applications, of which due notice has been given, will be received at the AGM or an SGM if confirmed by a majority of the accredited voting members present.</p> <p>When Rule 22.B is applied or a Team seeks a transfer or is compulsorily transferred to another division, no Entry Fee</p>
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	shall be payable
4.B	The annual subscription shall be payable, in accordance with the Fees Tariff for each team payable—at a date agreed at the AGM or set by the Competition.
4.C	In the event of any issue concerning the membership of any Club with the Competition the Management Committee may require a Deposit to be paid (in accordance with the Fees Tariff) by or on behalf of the Club on such terms and for such period as it may in its entire discretion think fit. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
4.D	A Club shall not participate in this Competition until the entry fee, annual subscription, and deposit (if required) have been paid.
4.E	Clubs must advise the Secretary annually in writing by August 31 <sup>st</sup> of its Sanctioning Authority affiliation number for the forthcoming Playing Season. Clubs must advise the Secretary in writing, or on the prescribed form, of details of its headquarters, its Officers and any other information required by the Competition. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff. Failure to pay fee invoices (all subscriptions, pitch fees, player registration fees, transfer fees etc.) but not including fines (dealt with under 6(J)) by the due date will incur a £10 mandatory administration fee per invoice.
<b>5. MANAGEMENT, NOMINATION, ELECTION</b>	
5.A	The Management Committee shall comprise the Officers of the Competition and members who shall all be elected at the AGM.
5.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 June 1st in each year. All other candidates for election as Officers of the Competition or members of the Management Committee shall be nominated to the Secretary in writing, signed by the secretaries of two Clubs, not later than June 1st 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 for any office by the date stated in the earlier part of this Rule, nominations may be received at the AGM.
5.C	The Management Committee shall meet a minimum of twice a season or as and when required,  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.
5.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.
5.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.
<b>6. POWERS OF MANAGEMENT</b>	
6.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.
6.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 on each Club to contribute equally such sums as may be necessary to meet any deficiency at the end of the Season.
6.C	Each member of the Management Committee shall have the right to attend and vote at all Management Committee meetings and have one vote at all such meetings, but no member shall be allowed to vote on any matters directly relating -to that -member or to the Club so represented -where there may be a conflict of interest. (This shall also apply to the procedure of any sub-committee)
6.D	In the event of the voting being equal on any matter, the Chair shall have a second or casting vote.
6.E	<p>The Management Committee shall have powers to apply, act upon and enforce these Rules 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.</p> <p>With the exception of Rules 6.J, 8.H, and 9, for all alleged breaches of a Rule the Management Committee shall issue a formal written charge to the Club concerned. The Club charged shall be given 7 days from the date of notification of the charge to reply. In such reply a Club may:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Accept the charge and /or submit in writing a case of mitigation for consideration by the Management Committee; or</li> <li>2. Accept the charge and notify the Competition that it wishes to put its case of mitigation at a hearing before the Management Committee; or</li> <li>3. Deny the charge and submit in writing supporting evidence for consideration by the Management Committee; or</li> <li>4. Deny the charge and notify the Competition that it wishes to have a hearing before the Management Committee.</li> </ol>

	<p>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.</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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.</p> <p>With the exception of Teams playing at Regional NLS Feeder League of the National League System, the maximum fine permitted for any breach of a Rule is £250 and, when setting any fine, the Management Committee must ensure that the penalty is proportional to the offence, taking into account any mitigating circumstances.</p> <p>The maximum fine permitted for a breach of a Rule by a Team playing at Regional NLS Feeder League level is £500.</p> <p>No Participant under the age of 18 can be fined.</p> <p>All breaches of the Laws of the Game, or the Rules and Regulations of The FA shall be dealt with in accordance with FA Rules by the appropriate sanctioning Association.</p>
6.F	<p>All decisions of the Management Committee shall be binding subject to the right of appeal in accordance with Rule 7.</p> <p>Decisions of the Management Committee must be notified in writing to those concerned within 7 days.</p>
6.G	A minimum of 33% of its members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business by the Management Committee or any of its sub-committees
6.H	The Management Committee, as it may deem necessary, shall have power to fill any vacancies that may occur in their number.
6.I	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.
6.J	Subject to a Club's right of appeal in accordance with Rule 7 below, all fines and charges must be paid 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 fine within a further 14 days will result in fixtures being withdrawn until such time as the outstanding fines are paid.
6.K	A member of the Management Committee appointed by the Competition to attend a meeting or Competition Match may have any reasonable expenses incurred refunded by the Competition.
6.L	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 Playing Season. subject to the provisions of the National League System Regulations or Women's Football Pyramid Regulations (which shall take precedence if applicable).
6.M	The business of the Competition as determined by the Management Committee may be transacted by electronic mail or facsimile.
<b>7. PROTESTS, CLAIMS, COMPLAINTS, APPEALS</b>	
7.A	<p>1. All questions of eligibility, qualification of Players or interpretations of the Rules shall be referred to the Management Committee or a sub-committee duly appointed by the Management Committee.</p> <p>2. Objections relevant to the dimensions of the pitch, goals, flag posts or other facilities will not be entertained by the Management Committee unless a protest is lodged with the referee prior to the commencement of the Match.</p>
7.B	Except in cases where the Management Committee decide that there are special circumstances, protests, and complaints (which must contain full particulars of the grounds upon which they are founded) must be lodged with the Secretary within 7 days (excluding Sundays) of the Competition 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.
7.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 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.
7.D	<p>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 before the protest or complaint being heard.</p> <p>1. All parties must have received a minimum of 7 days' notice of the hearing should they be instructed to attend.</p> <p>2. Should a Club elect to state its case in person then it should indicate such when forwarding the written response.</p>
7.E	The Management Committee shall also have power to compel any party to the protest to pay such expenses as the

	Management Committee shall direct.
7.F	<p>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, and the Sanctioning Authority may (but is not obliged to):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. invite submissions by the parties involved.</li> <li>2. convene a hearing to hear the appeal.</li> <li>3. permit new evidence; or</li> <li>4. impose appropriate deadlines.</li> </ol> <p>Any appeal shall not involve a rehearing of the evidence considered by the Management Committee.</p>
7.G	No appeal can be lodged against a decision taken at an AGM or SGM unless this is on the ground of unconstitutional conduct
7.H	<p>All protests, claims or complaints relating to these Rules and appeals arising from a Player's contract shall be heard and determined by the Management Committee, or a sub-committee duly appointed by the Management Committee. The Clubs or Players protesting, appealing, claiming, or complaining must send a copy of such protest, appeal, claim or complaint and deposit a fee (as set out in the Fees Tariff) which shall be forfeited in the event of the protest, appeal, claim or complaint not being upheld, and in these circumstances may, in addition, be ordered to pay the costs at the direction of the Management Committee.</p> <p>All such protests, claims, complaints, and appeals must be received in writing by the Secretary within 14 days of the event or decision causing any of these to be submitted.</p>
<b>8. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING</b>	
8.A	<p>The AGM shall be held not later than July 1st in each year. At this meeting the following business shall be transacted provided that at least 15 members are present and entitled to vote:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Confirm-the minutes of the last AGM.</li> <li>2. Adopt the annual report, balance sheet and statement of accounts from the previous season or accounting period.</li> <li>3. Election of Clubs to fill vacancies.</li> <li>4. Constitution of the Competition for the ensuing Season.</li> <li>5. Election of Competition Officers and Management Committee members.</li> <li>6. Appointment of auditors/verifiers.</li> <li>7. Alteration of Rules, if any (see Rule 14).</li> <li>8. Agree the date for the beginning of the Playing Season and kick off times applicable to the Competition.</li> <li>9. Agree the date for the end of the Playing Season (save for Regional NLS Feeder League which shall be determined by The FA).</li> <li>10. Other business of which due notice shall have been given and accepted by the Chair as being relevant to an AGM.</li> </ol>
8.B	A copy of the duly audited/verified balance sheet, statement of accounts and agenda shall be forwarded to each Club at least 14 days prior to the meeting, together with any proposed Rule changes.
8.C	A signed copy of the duly audited/verified balance sheet and statement of accounts shall be sent to the Sanctioning Authority within 14 days of its adoption by the AGM.
8.D	Each Club shall be empowered to send two delegates to an AGM. Each Club shall be entitled to one vote only. 14 days' notice shall be given of any AGM.
8.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 Season being concluded. This provision will not apply to Clubs expelled in accordance with Rule 12
8.F	All voting shall be conducted by a show of hands or count of email or virtual responses (for virtual meetings), unless a ballot be demanded by at least 50% of the delegates qualified to vote or the Chair so decides.
8.G	No individual shall be entitled to vote on behalf of more than one Club.
8.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.
8.I	Officers of the Competition and Management Committee members shall be entitled to attend and vote at an AGM. but cannot also cast a vote on behalf of a club (See Rule 8.G)
8.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.
<b>9. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS</b>	
9.A	On receiving a requisition signed by two-thirds (2/3) of the Clubs in membership the Secretary shall call an SGM.

9B	The Management Committee may call an SGM at any time
9C	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.
9D	Each Club shall be empowered to send two delegates to all SGMs. Each Club shall be entitled to one vote only.
9E	Any Club failing to be represented at an SGM shall be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
9F	Officers of the Competition and Management Committee members shall be entitled to attend and vote at all SGMs. but cannot also cast a vote on behalf of a club (See Rule 8.G)
<b>10. AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED</b>	
10.	<p>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 Season,</p> <p>"We, (A) (name) [ ] of (address) [ ] (Chair)/(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 7."</p> <p>The agreement shall be signed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. where a Club is an unincorporated association, by the Club Chair -and Secretary; or</li> <li>2. where a Club is an incorporated entity, by two directors of the Club.</li> </ol> <p>Any change of Chair Secretary or Directors of the Club as named on the above agreement must be notified to the [ ] County Football Association to which the Club is sanctioned and to the Secretary of this Competition.</p> <p>Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.</p>
<b>11. CONTINUATION OF MEMBERSHIP, WITHDRAWAL OF A CLUB</b>	
11.A	Any Club intending, or having a provisional intention, to withdraw a Team from the Competition on completion of its fixtures and fulfilment of all other obligations to the Competition must notify the Secretary in writing of such intention by 31 <sup>st</sup> March each season. This does not apply to a Club moving in accordance with Rule 22.B. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
11.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.
11.C	Notwithstanding the powers of the Management Committee pursuant to Rule 6.I, in the event of a Club failing to discharge all its financial obligations to the Competition in excess of £50, the Management Committee shall be empowered to refer the debt under The FA Football Debt Recovery provisions.
<b>12. EXCLUSION OF CLUBS, TEAMS. MISCONDUCT OF CLUBS, OFFICERS, PLAYERS, MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE</b>	
12.A	At the AGM or SGM called for the purpose in accordance with the provisions of Rule 9, notice of motion having been duly circulated on the agenda by direction of the Management Committee, the accredited delegates present shall have the power to:
	(1) remove a member of the Management Committee from office; (2) exclude any Club or Team from membership. both of 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 member of the Management Committee or Club which is the subject of the vote being taken shall be excluded from voting.
12.B	At the AGM, or at an SGM called for the purpose in accordance with the provisions of Rule 9, the accredited delegates present shall have the power to exclude from further participation in the Competition any Club whose conduct has, in their opinion, been undesirable, provided this is 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
12.C	Any Officer or member of a Club found 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 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 12.A and/or 12.B of this Rule.
<b>13. TROPHY</b>	
13.A	<p>The following agreement shall be signed on behalf of the winners of the cup or trophy:</p> <p>"We (A) (name) and (B) (name), the Chair and Secretary of [ ] FC (Limited), members of and representing the Club, having been declared winners of cup or trophy, and the cup or trophy 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."</p> <p>Failure to comply will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.</p>
13.B	At the close of each Competition awards shall be made to the winners and runners-up if the funds of the Competition permit.
<b>14. ALTERATION TO RULES</b>	
14.A	Alterations, for which consent has been given by the Sanctioning Authority, shall be made to these Rules only at the



	AGM or at an SGM specially convened for the purpose called in accordance with Rule 9. Any alteration made during the Playing Season to these Rules shall not take effect until the following Playing Season. except in exceptional circumstances and approved by Sanctioning Authority or The FA.
14.B	Notice of proposed alterations to be considered at the AGM shall be submitted to the Secretary by 31 <sup>st</sup> March in each year. The proposals, together with any proposals by the Management Committee, shall be circulated to the Clubs by 30 <sup>th</sup> April and any amendments to these proposals shall be submitted to the Secretary by 7 <sup>th</sup> May. The proposals and proposed amendments to these proposals shall be circulated to Clubs with the notice of the AGM. A proposal to change a Rule shall be carried if a majority of those present and entitled to vote and voting are in favour.
14.C	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 28 days prior to the date of the meeting.
<b>15. FINANCE</b>	
15.A	The Management Committee shall determine with which bank or other financial institution the funds of the Competition will be lodged.
15.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.
15.C	The financial year of the Competition will end on 31 <sup>st</sup> May.
15.D	The accounting records or a certified balance sheet, of a Competition shall be prepared and shall be verified annually by a suitably qualified person(s) who shall be appointed at the AGM.
<b>16. INSURANCE</b>	
16.A	All Clubs must have valid Public Liability Insurance cover for a minimum of ten million pounds (£10,000,000) at all times.
16.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. In instances where The FA is the Sanctioning Authority, the minimum recommended cover will be the cover required by the Affiliated Association to which a Club affiliates.
16.C	Failure to comply with Rules 16.A or 16.B will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
<b>17. DISSOLUTION</b>	
17.A	Dissolution of the Competition shall be by resolution approved at an SGM by a majority of three quarters (3/4) of the members present and shall take effect from the date of the relevant SGM.
17.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.
17.C	<p>The Management Committee shall deal with any surplus assets as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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 Authority.</li> <li>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 Authority may decide.</li> </ol>

## MATCH RELATED RULES

<b>18. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS</b>	
18.A	<p>A Player is one who, being in all other respects eligible, has:</p> <p>-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Registered through the Player Registration Systems and received approval from the Competition. Except in the case of a Player who has been registered on the day of a match. For any players registered on the day of a match, a Club Officer must email the Registration Secretary with details of the registration 3 hours prior to the scheduled kick off time in order for the player to be eligible to play in that match. The Player shall not play again in any subsequent match in the Competition until the Club has registered the player through The FA Player Registration system and GotFootball and is in possession of the approval from the Competition. A maximum of 2 Players may be registered in this manner.</li> </ol> <p>Or</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>signed a fully and correctly completed Competition registration form in ink on a match day prior to playing which is countersigned by an Officer of the Club and witnessed by an Officer of the opposing Club and submitted to the Competition within two days (Sundays excluded) subsequent to the Competition Match. The Player shall not play again on a in a subsequent match in the Competition until the Club has registered the player through The FA Player Registration System and is in possession of the approval from the Competition. A maximum of 2 Players may be registered in this manner</li> </ol> <p>Any registration that is not fully and correctly completed will be returned to the Club unprocessed and the player classed as unregistered. If a Club attempts to register a player via the Player Registration Systems but does not fully and correctly complete the necessary information via-the Player Registration Systems, the registration will not be processed.</p> <p>For Clubs registering Players under Rule 18.A.2. registration forms will be provided in a format to be determined by the Competition. For Clubs registering Players by the Player Registration Systems, Clubs must access the Player Registration Systems in order to complete the registration process.</p>



	<p>As from Season 2022-23 Player registrations are MANDATORY in the FA Player Registration System. However, to facilitate a smooth transfer between the DGLL Current Player Registration system (GotFootball) and the FA System, the DGLL will continue to run GotFootball registrations in tandem with the FA System until further notice.</p> <p>Players MUST be registered in both systems and approved by the Competition before becoming eligible to play in the Competition.</p> <p>Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.</p>
18.B	<p>1. 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. or Tiers 1-4 of the Women Pyramid System.</p> <p>2. 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.</p> <p>3 Each team must have at least 11 Players registered 7 days before the start of each Playing Season. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.</p> <p>4 in the event of a Non Contract Player changing his status to that of a Contract Player with the same Club, or with a Club in another Competition their registration as a Non Contract Player will automatically be cancelled and declared void unless the Club conforms to the exception detailed in Rule 18.B.1.</p>
18.C	<p>A Player that owes a Football Debt (as defined under the Football Debt Recovery Regulations) shall be permitted to register for a Club but may be suspended from football activities if the Player does not comply with the terms of the Football Debt Recovery Regulations in respect of that Football Debt.</p>
18.D	<p>A fee as set out in the Fees Tariff shall be paid by each Club/Team for each Player registered.</p>
18.E	<p>The Management Committee shall decide all registration disputes.</p> <p>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.</p>
18.F	<p>It shall be a breach of Rule for a Player to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Play for more than one Club in the Competition in the same Playing Season without first being transferred.</li> <li>2. Having registered for one Club in the Competition, register for another Club in the Competition in that Playing Season except for the purpose of a transfer. or where the Competition adopts rule 18.P</li> <li>3. Submit a signed registration form as per Rule 18 A.2 or submit a registration through the Player Registration System -that the Player had willfully neglected to accurately or fully complete.</li> </ol> <p>Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.</p>
18.G	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Management Committee shall have the power to accept the registration of any Player subject to the provisions of Rules 18.G.2 and 18.G.3 below.</li> <li>2. The Management Committee shall have power to refuse, cancel or suspend the registration of any Player or may fine any Player, at their discretion (in accordance with the Fines Tariff) who has been charged and found guilty of registration irregularities (subject to Rule 7).</li> <li>3. The Management Committee shall have power to make application to refuse or cancel the registration of any Player charged and found guilty of undesirable conduct (subject to Rule 7) subject to the right of appeal to the Sanctioning Authority. Application should be made to the parent County of the Club the Player is registered or intending to be registered with.</li> </ol> <p>Undesirable conduct shall mean an incident of repeated proven misconduct, which may deter a Participant from being involved in this Competition.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. A Player who has previously had a registration removed in accordance with Rule 18.G.3 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 may consider a further charge of bringing the Competition into disrepute.</li> </ol> <p>(Note: Action under Rule 18.G.3 shall not be taken against a Player for misconduct until the matter has been dealt with by the Sanctioning Authority, and then only 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.)</p>
18.H	<p>Subject to compliance with FA Rule C when a Club wishes to register a player who is already registered with another</p>

	<p>club it shall submit a transfer notification to the Competition via the Player Registration System. A fee as set out in the Fees Tariff will be required.</p> <p>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 3 days of receipt of the notification. Upon receipt of the club's consent, or upon its failure to give written objection within 3 days, the Secretary may, on behalf of the Management Committee, transfer the player who shall be deemed eligible to play for the new Club from such date or 7 days after receipt of such transfer.</p> <p>In the event of an objection to a transfer the matter shall be referred to the Management Committee for a decision.</p>
18.I	A Player may not be registered for a Club nor transferred to another Club in the Competition after 31 <sup>st</sup> March except by special permission of the Management Committee
18.J	Registrations are valid for one Playing Season only.
18.K	A Player shall not be eligible to play for a Team in any special championship, promotion or relegation deciding Competition Match (as specified in Rule-22.A) unless the Player has played 3 Competition Matches for that Team in the current Playing Season.
18.L	<p>A Team shall not include any Players who has/have taken part in 1 or more senior Competition Matches during the current Playing Season unless a period of 21 days has elapsed since they last played.</p> <p>For the purpose of this Rule a senior competition(s) is Football at Regional League Level or above (this includes any Reserve section not in the FA Pyramid).</p> <p>Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.</p>
18.M	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subject to Rule 18.M.2 any Club found to have played an ineligible Player in a Competition Match or Matches where points are awarded shall have the points gained from that Competition 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).</li> <li>2. The Management Committee may vary the sanction as relates to the deduction of points set out at Rule-18.M.1 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.</li> <li>3. Where a Club is found to have played an ineligible Player in accordance with Rule 18.M.1 above, the Management Committee may also, at its discretion: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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; or</li> <li>b) Levy penalty points against the Club in default; or</li> <li>c) Order that such Competition Match or Matches be replayed (on such terms as are decided by the Management Committee).</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
18.N	<p>The following clause applies to Competitions involving Players in full-time secondary education:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Priority must be given at all times to activities of schools and school organizations. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.</li> <li>2. The availability of children and young people must be cleared with the Head Teachers or Principals (except for Sunday leagues competitions).</li> <li>3. To play open age football the player must have achieved the age of 16.</li> </ol>
18.O	A Player who has played for a Team in the 1st division 6 times or more shall not in that Playing Season be eligible to play in a lower division except by permission of the Management Committee.
18.P	<p>If a Club wishes to cancel a Player's registration within the Competition, it must make a request via The FA's electronic player registration system giving the reasons for the request. The Competition may either approve or decline the request.</p> <p>If a Player's registration is cancelled he/she will not be eligible to re-register in the Competition for a period of 1 days from the date of cancellation.</p>
<b>19. CLUB COLOURS</b>	
19	Every team must register the colour of its shirts and shorts with the Secretary by 31 <sup>st</sup> July and the Competition Secretary shall decide as to their suitability.
19.B	Any team changing its colours during the Playing Season must notify the Competition Secretary immediately.
19.C	Goalkeepers must wear colours which distinguish them from all other Players and the Match Officials.
19.D	No Player, including the goalkeeper, shall be permitted to wear black or very dark shirts.
19.E	Any Team not being able to play in its normal colours as registered with the Competition shall notify its opponents of the colours in which they will play (including the colours of the goalkeeper's jersey) at least 4 days before the Competition Match.
19.F	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 will be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

19.G	Shirts must all be numbered, and no two shirts shall have the same number, failing which a fine will be levied in accordance with the Fines Tariff
<b>20. PLAYING SEASON. CONDITIONS OF PLAY, TIMES OF KICK-OFF. POSTPONEMENTS. SUBSTITUTES</b>	
20.A	<p>All Competition Matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game as determined by the International Football Association Board.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The Management Committee shall have power to decide whether a pitch and/or facilities are suitable for Competition Matches and to order the Club concerned to play its Competition Match(es) on another ground.</p> <p>Football Turf Pitches (3G) are allowed in this Competition provided they meet the required performance standards and are listed on the FA's Register of Football Turf Pitches. All Football Turf Pitches used must be tested (by a FIFA accredited test institute) every three 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.</p> <p>The home Club is also responsible for advising Participants of footwear requirements when confirming match arrangements in accordance with Rule 20.C.</p> <p>Within the National League System ("NLS") and Regional NLS Feeder Leagues, all Competition Matches shall have a duration of 90 minutes. All other Competition Matches outside of the NLS shall have duration of 90 minutes unless a shorter time (not less than sixty (60) minutes) is mutually arranged by the two Clubs in consultation with the referee prior to the commencement of the match, and in any event shall be of equal halves. Two matches involving the same two Teams can be played on the same day providing the total playing time is not more than 120 minutes.</p> <p>The times of kick-off shall be agreed at the AGM and can only be altered by the mutual consent of the two competing Clubs and the Competition. Referees must order matches to commence at the appointed time and must report all late starts to the Competition.</p> <p>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 Competition If not provided. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.</p> <p>No overhead netting is allowed for 9v9 and 11v11 affiliated matches</p> <p><u>Regional NLS Feeder Leagues:</u> Overhead wires used to support pitch divider netting are removed for all affiliated matches in the NLS and at Regional NLS Feeder League level</p> <p><u>For those leagues which are not Regional NLS Feeder Leagues:</u> Overhead wires used to support pitch divider netting are ideally removed for affiliated matches but if they cannot be removed then discretion is given to the match official to restart the match in accordance of the laws of the game.</p> <p>Evening Kick offs will only be fixtured for September, April &amp; May unless clubs have access to floodlit facilities. Floodlit games will kick off at 7-45pm</p>
20.B	<p>Except by permission of the Management Committee all Competition Matches must be played on the dates originally agreed 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 Competition match with the consent of the Competition. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.</p> <p>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).</p>
20.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 an Officer of the opposing Club at least [4 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.
20.D	In accordance with the Laws of the Game, the minimum number of Players which will constitute a Team for a Competition Match is 7.
20.E	<p>1. Home and away matches shall be played. In the event of a Club failing to keep its engagement the Management Committee shall have power to impose a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff), deduct points from the defaulting Club, award the points from the Competition Match in question to the opponents, order the defaulting Club to pay any reasonable expenses incurred by the opponents or otherwise deal with them except by the award of goals. Notwithstanding the foregoing home and away provision, the Management Committee shall have power to order a Competition 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</p>

	<p>circumstances.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any Club with more than one Team in the Competition shall always fulfil its fixture, within the Competition, in the following order of precedence:- First Team, Reserve Team, A Team.–</li> <li>Any Club unable to fulfil a fixture or where a Competition Match has been postponed for any reason must, without delay, give notice to the Competition, 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.</li> <li>In the event of a Competition Match not being played or being 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 Competition. Failing such agreement and notification to the Competition within 3 days the Competition shall have the power to order the Match to be played on or before a given date. Where it is to the advantage of the Competition- 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.</li> <li>The Management Committee shall review all Competition 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 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 award the points for the Match to the opponent. In cases where a Match has been abandoned owing to the conduct of both Teams or their Club member(s), the Management Committee shall rule that neither Team will be awarded any points for that Match, and it shall not be replayed. No fine(s) can be applied by the Management Committee for an abandoned Match.</li> </ol> <p>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 18.M above. Where both Teams were under suspension the game must be declared null and void and shall not be replayed.</p>
20.F	<p>A Club may at its discretion and in accordance with the Laws of the Game use substitute Players in any Competition Match. A Club may name up to 5 substitute Players of whom not more than 5 may be used.</p> <p>A Player who has been substituted becomes a substitute and may replace a Player at any time subject to the substitution being carried out in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of Association Football.</p> <p>Where a Competition does allow return substitutes, a –Team may use up to 5 from 5 substitute Players in a Competition Match. The DGLL permits return substitutes</p> <p>The referee and a representative of the opposing Club shall be informed of the names of the Players taking part in the match (including 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 that Competition Match.</p> <p>A Player who has been named as a substitute before the start of the Competition Match but does not actually play in that game shall not be considered to have been a Player in that Competition Match within the meaning of Rule 18 of this Competition.</p>
20.G	The half time interval shall be of 15 minutes' duration, but it shall not exceed 15 minutes. The half time interval may only be altered with the consent of the referee.
20.H	The Teams taking part in a Competition Match 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 their teammates. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
<b>21. REPORTING RESULTS</b>	
21.A	The Competition must receive within 2 days of the date played, 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 23, or any other information required by the Competition. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
21.B	The Home Club/both Clubs shall use telephone/SMS/email/ GotFootball /FA Full Time / FA Matchday as directed by the Competition to notify the result of each Competition Match to the competition within 4 hours of the game. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
21.C	The match result notification, correctly completed, shall be signed by an Officer of the Team, or as prescribed by the Competition. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
<b>22. DETERMINING CHAMPIONSHIP</b>	
22.A	<p>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 Competition Match. The Teams gaining the highest number of points in their respective divisions at the end of the Playing Season shall be adjudged the winners. Competition Matches must not be played for double points.</p> <p>In the event of two or more Teams being equal on points at the end of the Playing Season, rankings shall be determined by goal difference (where the goals scored against each Team shall be deducted from the goals scored by that Team and the Team with the most favourable goal difference shall be placed highest).</p>

	<p>In the event of two or more Teams still being equal, the Team which has scored the most goals during the Playing Season shall be placed highest.</p> <p>In the event of two or more Teams still being equal, the Team that has won the most matches during the Playing Season shall be placed highest.</p> <p>In the event of two or more Teams still being equal, the Team which has the better playing record against the other Team in their head-to-head Competition Matches during the Playing Season will be placed highest.</p> <p>If the records of two or more Teams are still equal and it is necessary for any reason to determine the position of each then the Teams affected shall play a deciding match or matches under conditions as determined by the Management Committee.</p>
22.B	<p>Automatic promotion shall be applied for the first 2 Teams and automatic relegation shall be applied for the last 2 Teams in each division except as provided for below subject to the provisions of Rule 2.L.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Should one or more Teams withdraw from any one division after the Playing Season has commenced an equal number of Teams to those withdrawing in that division shall not be automatically relegated.</li> <li>Vacancies occurring after the conclusion of the Playing Season may be filled in any of the following ways: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>retention of otherwise relegated Team(s); or</li> <li>additional promotion of the next ranked Team(s) from the division below; or</li> <li>election.</li> </ol> </li> <li>The last 2 Teams in the lowest division shall retire, but be eligible for re-election except as below, and be subject to the conditions of Rule 22.B.1 above.</li> <li>When a senior Team is relegated to a lower division of which its reserve Team is a member, or entitled to be a member, such reserve Team must accept relegation to, or retain its position in, the next lower division; and should the senior Team be relegated to the lowest division its reserve Team automatically retires from the Competition.</li> <li>Should either or both of the leading Teams in any of the divisions have its senior Team in the next higher division, promotion shall fall, at the discretion of the General Meeting, to the next highest Team or Teams in the division concerned.</li> </ol>
22.C	<p>In addition to the Team(s) automatically promoted under Rule 22.B, a maximum of one further Team shall be promoted by virtue of being the winner of a play-off match or series of matches (the "Play-Offs"). The eligibility criteria and format of the Play-Offs are to be determined by the Management Committee ].</p>
22.D	<p>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 22.D a completed fixture shall include any Competition Match(es) which has been awarded by the Management Committee. The DGLL however also has a no forfeit policy, teams must complete their season, in the event of non-completion of a season that team's record will be disregarded for the purposes of determining champions, promotion and or relegation. A team not playing all its matches will not be promoted or proclaimed champions but may be relegated.</p> <p>Clubs will be allowed to nominate weekends that they do not wish to be considered for fixtures. These must be notified to the Fixtures Secretary prior to the issuing of original fixtures on August 1<sup>st</sup>. No guarantee will be given that the dates requested will be permitted. PERMISSION MAY BE GRANTED by the LEAGUE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.</p> <p>No "bye" weeks are available to teams after the start of the season; however, the league will permit teams to request postponement of games in the event there are professional games they wish to attend that fall on a Sunday. The Management Committee may grant permission based on the submission provided by the club. Teams must submit any request 28 days before the game they wish to postpone.</p> <p>No games will be scheduled on the Sunday between Christmas and New Year nor on those dates should they be a Sunday.</p>
22.E	<p><b>NOT APPLICABLE TO DGLL</b> Where a promotion and/or relegation link exists between Competitions [ ] Clubs, providing they meet the appropriate grading criteria, will be eligible to make application to the [ ] Competition at their AGM. Should the champion Club not wish for promotion or alternatively, not have the necessary grading criteria, then the [ ] or [ ] placed Club will be eligible under the same conditions.</p> <p>At the end of each Season and depending on the geographical location of Clubs gaining promotion to or being relegated from the [ ] Competition, it may be necessary for the Competition either (a) to accept a Club from the [ ] Competition, or (b) have a Club transferred to the same Competition.</p> <p>The bottom [ ] Clubs in the [ ] Competition will be relegated. Each relegated Club will be allocated either to the [ ] Competition or to the Competition recommended as most appropriate by the Joint Liaison Committee.</p> <p>REGIONAL NLS FEEDER LEAGUES ONLY: The bottom [ ] Clubs in the [ ] Competition will be relegated; Any Club not maintaining the ground grading set for the Competition may be relegated at the end of the Playing Season. Each relegated Club will be allocated to the highest division in either [ ] Competition or the Competition recommended as most appropriate by the Joint Liaison Committee.</p>

	<p>[ ] Clubs will be promoted to the [ ] Competition from the [ ] Competition, and the [ ] Competition providing that each Club is either the Champion Club or Runner-up or [ ] placed Club and has the necessary grading criteria.</p> <p>In the event of there being no eligible Club wishing promotion or not having the necessary grading criteria from any of the Competitions, this will reduce the number of Clubs to be relegated from the [ ] Competition.</p> <p>If only [ ] Clubs are eligible or wish for promotion, the bottom [ ] Clubs in the [ ] Competition will be relegated. If only [ ] Club is eligible or wishes promotion, only the bottom Club in the [ ] Competition will be relegated.</p> <p>If no Clubs are eligible, or wish for promotion, no Clubs will be relegated from the [ ] Competition.</p> <p>In the event of a [ ] Competition Club not being placed in the bottom [ ] Clubs at the end of the Playing Season, wishing to resign from the Competition at the end of the Playing Season, or having been excluded under Rule [ ] only [ ] Clubs will be relegated at the end of the Playing Season.</p> <p>In the event of a [ ] Competition Club opting to be relegated or being relegated under Rule [ ] such Club or Clubs will replace the Club or Clubs otherwise due for relegation.</p>
<b>23. MATCH OFFICIALS</b>	
23.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.
23.B	<p>1..In the event of the non-appearance of the appointed referee the appointed senior assistant referee shall take charge and a substitute assistant referee appointed by the competing Teams.</p> <p>2. 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 Competition 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 referee in any Competition Match.</p>
23.C	Where assistant referees are not appointed each Team shall provide a Club assistant referee. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
23.D	<p><u>Regional NLS Feeder Leagues</u>: No Club shall postpone a Competition match on account of the apparent state of the ground. In the event that such circumstances prevail, Clubs should comply with procedures provided for in the document published by The FA "Recommended procedure for the guidance of Clubs and Referees in determining the suitability of grounds in adverse weather conditions". Should the ground be declared unfit it is the responsibility of the home Club to immediately advise the Competition, the Appointing Authority, the visiting Club, and the Match Officials.</p> <p><u>For those leagues which are not Regional NLS Feeder Leagues</u>: The appointed referee shall have power to decide as to the fitness of the Ground in all Competition Matches and that decision shall be final, subject to the determination of the Local Authority or the owners of a Ground, which must be accepted.</p>
23.E	<p>Subject to any limits/provisions laid down by the Sanctioning Authority, Match Officials appointed under this Rule shall be paid a match fee in accordance with the Fees Tariff</p> <p>Match Officials will be paid their fees and/or expenses by the home Club before the Competition Match. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.</p>
23.F	In the event of a Competition Match not being played because of circumstances over which the Clubs have no control, the Match Officials, if present, shall be entitled to expenses only. Where a Competition 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 this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
23.G	A referee not keeping their engagement and failing to give a satisfactory explanation as to their non-appearance, may be reported to the Affiliated Association with which he or she is registered.
23.H	Each Club shall, in a manner prescribed from time to time by The FA, award marks to the referee for each Competition 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.
23.i	The Competition shall keep a record of the markings and, on the form provided by the prescribed date each Season, shall submit a summary to . the Sanctioning Authority.
23.J	<p><b>NOT APPLICABLE TO DGLL</b></p> <p>The referee shall submit a report form, supplied by the Competition, giving the result of the Competition Match, the number of Players in each Team and the time of kick-off to the (Registration) Secretary within two days of the Competition Match.</p>

23.K	Match Officials shall be supplied, each season, with a copy of the Competition Rules free of charge.
23.L	Match Officials shall comply with the provisions of any initiatives of The FA and/or Sanctioning Authority adopted by the Competition



## SCHEDULE A

FEES TARIFF		
RULE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM FEE
4 A	CLUB ENTRY FEE	£50
4 B	CLUB/TEAM ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION	£150
4 C	DEPOSIT	£100
7 C, 7 E, 7 G	PROTEST/APPEAL FEES	£30
18 D	PLAYER REGISTRATION FEE	£10 per player
18 H	TRANSFER FEE	£25
23 E	REFEREE FEES	£37
23 E	ASSISTANT REFEREE FEES	£20

FINES TARIFF		
RULE	DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM FINE
2 G	FAILURE TO AFFILIATE	£100
2 I	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH FA INITIATIVES	£100
2 K	UNAUTHORISED ENTRY OF TEAMS INTO COMPETITIONS	£100
3	FAILURE TO OBTAIN CONSENT FOR A CHANGE OF CLUB NAME	£100
4 C	FAILURE TO PAY A DEPOSIT	£100
4 E	FAILURE TO PROVIDE AFFILIATION NUMBER/DETAILS FORM	£100
5 E	COMMUNICATIONS CONDUCTED BY PERSONS OTHER THAN NOMINATED	£100
6 I	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH AN INSTRUCTION OF THE MANAGEMENT	£100
6 J	FAILURE TO PAY A FINE WITHIN REQUIRED TIMEFRAME	Fine Doubled
8 H	FAILURE TO BE REPRESENTED AT AGM	£100
9E	FAILURE TO BE REPRESENTED AT SGM	£100
10	FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED WRITTEN AGREEMENT OR TO NOTIFY CHANGES TO SIGNATORIES	£100
11 A	FAILURE TO PROVIDE NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL BEFORE DEADLINE	£100
11 B	FAILURE TO COMMENCE/COMPLETE FIXTURES	£100
13 A	FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED WRITTEN AGREEMENT REGARDING THE TROPHY	£100
16 A	FAILURE TO HAVE THE REQUIRED INSURANCE	£100
16 B	FAILURE TO HAVE THE REQUIRED INSURANCE	£100
18 A	FAILURE TO CORRECTLY REGISTER A PLAYER	£100
18 B 3	FAILURE TO HAVE THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF REGISTERED PLAYERS PRIOR	£100
18 F	REGISTERING OR PLAYING FOR MULTIPLE CLUBS, OR INACCURATE	£100
18 G 2	REGISTRATION IRREGULARITIES	£100
18 K	FIELDING MORE THAN THE PERMITTED NUMBER OF PLAYERS WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN SENIOR COMPETITIONS MATCHES	£100
18 L	PLAYING AN INELIGIBLE PLAYER	£100
18 M	FAILURE TO GIVE PRIORITY TO SCHOOL ACTIVITIES	£100
19 F	DELAYING KICK OFF DUE TO NO CHANGE OF COLOURS	£100
19 G	FAILURE TO NUMBER SHIRTS	£100
19 G	FAILURE TO HAVE DIFFERENT NUMBER SHIRTS	£100
20 A	DELAYING KICK OFF DUE TO FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED EQUIPMENT	£100
20 B	FAILURE TO PLAY MATCHES ON THE DATE FIXED	£100, 3-point deduction (Mandatory) Game Rescheduled (League Games).  £100, removal from competition (Cup Games).  £100 & Forfeit of game in Round Robin Cup Matches
20 C	FAILURE TO PROVIDE DETAILS OF A FIXTURE	£100
20 D	PLAYING MATCH WITH LESS THAN REQUIRED NUMBER OF PLAYERS	£100
20 E 1 & 4	FAILURE TO PLAY FIXTURE	£100, 3-point deduction (Mandatory) Game Rescheduled (League Games)  £100, removal from competition (Cup Games)  £100 & Forfeit of game in Round Robin Cup Matches

20 H	NO CAPTAIN'S ARMBAND	£100
21 A	LATE RESULT NOTIFICATION FORM	£100
21 B	FAILURE TO PROVIDE RESULT	£100
21C	RESULT NOTIFICATION NOT SIGNED BY APPROPRIATE SIGNATORIES	£100
23 C	FAILURE TO PROVIDE CLUB ASSISTANT REFEREE	£100
23 E	FAILURE TO PAY MATCH OFFICIALS' FEES AND EXPENSES	£100
23 F	FAILURE TO PAY MATCH OFFICIALS WHERE A MATCH IS NOT PLAYED	£100
23 H	FAILURE TO PROVIDE REFEREE'S MARK	£100

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## **APPENDIX A**

### **SAFEGUARDING AND VULNERABLE GROUPS ACT 2006**

From September 2008 it is a criminal offence for anyone to be in a paid/unpaid role working with children/vulnerable adults if they have not completed an enhanced DBS disclosure (via the FA /Media Group) and been "accepted" into football. This means that any such person is not to engage in regulated activity (close contact) until they have been cleared. Persons affected include referees, coaches, managers, assistant managers, welfare officers and medics.

All Child Welfare Officers, managers, assistant managers, coaches, and medics must have an enhanced CRB and be accepted into the game. Evidence to be submitted to the Management Committee before a club is eligible to register with the League for competition, commencing season 2008/9

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.

In these Regulations the expression "Offence" shall mean any one or more of the offences contained in Schedule 1 to the Children and Young Persons Act 1933 and any other criminal offence which reasonably causes Management Committee to believe that the person accused of the offence poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children

Upon receipt by the Management Committee of:

Notification that an individual has been charged with an Offence; or  
Notification that an individual is the subject of an investigation by the Police, Social Services or any other authority relating to an Offence; or  
Any other information which causes The Association reasonably to believe that a person poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children then The Association shall have the power to order that the individual be suspended from all or any specific football activity for such period and on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit.

In reaching its determination as to whether an order under Regulation 4 should be made the Management Committee shall give consideration, inter alia, to the following factors:

Whether a child is, or children are or may be at risk of harm.  
Whether the matters are of a serious nature.  
Whether an order is necessary or desirable to allow the conduct of any investigation by the Management Committee or any other authority or body to proceed unimpeded.

The period of an order referred to in 4. shall not be capable of lasting beyond the date upon which any charge under the rules of the League or any offence is decided or brought to an end.

Where an order is imposed on an individual under rule 4. the Management Committee shall bring and conclude any proceedings under the rules of League against the person relating to the matters as soon as reasonably practicable.

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 Management Committee shall have the power to order the suspension of the person from all or any specific football activity for such a period (including indefinitely) and on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit.

For the purposes of these rules, the Management Committee shall act through its Exec or any committee or sub-committee thereof.

Notification in writing of an order referred to above shall be given to the person concerned and/or any club with which he is associated as soon as reasonably practicable.

#### **CHILD PROTECTION**

The League is committed to ensuring all young people, who either play football or carry out some associated role for teams in this League, have a safe and positive experience. The following information has been provided in the interests of sharing 'fit for purpose' and best practice guidelines.

#### **FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES**

All Young People within the care of people associated with this League (be they Managers, Coaches, Exec Members, Referees, Parents of other Players), regardless of age, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, ability, or disability, have the right to be protected

All Young People participating in football have a right to do so in a safe environment

Adults working within the framework of this League will provide a safe, positive, and fun experience

Managers, Coaches, and adult volunteers will understand and be supported in their role and responsibility about the duty of care for Young People

Individuals will receive support through education and training, to be aware of and understand best practice and how to manage any welfare issues which may arise

All suspicions and allegations will be taken seriously, managed, and dealt with in a prompt and efficient manner

The League recognizes the responsibility of the statutory agencies and is committed to complying with the complying with Child Protection Procedures as determined by the FA and other governing bodies

#### **DUTY OF CARE**

This is defined as the duty an individual or Club must ensure the safety and welfare of any Young Person involved in

related activities, to safeguard them and protect them from reasonably foreseeable forms of harm

#### GOOD PRACTICE

It is important that all individuals working with Young People behave in an appropriate manner, operating within an accepted ethical framework. This will protect both the Young People and the adults. To this end we will do the following-

Ensure that football is fun, enjoyable, and fair play is promoted

Treat all Young People equally, and with respect

Always put the welfare of Young People first

Recognize that all Young People develop and learn differently

Build a balanced relationship based on mutual trust

Give enthusiastic and positive feedback at all times

Ensure that there is regular communication with parents/guardians

Ensure that if there is any necessary physical contact (e.g., first aid), that this is done openly and with the permission of the parents\guardians

Maintain player profile records in a confidential manner

#### BAD PRACTICE

All individuals within the League working with Young People should never do the following:

Spend time alone with Young People away from others

Engage in rough, physical, or sexually provocative games

Allow or engage in any form of inappropriate touching

Sanction the use of bad language

Make sexually suggestive comments

Allow allegations made by a Young Person to go unchallenged

Reduce a Young Person to tears as a form of control

Transport Young People in their car alone

#### CONSEQUENCES

Child Welfare issues are of ever-increasing importance. In the event of any issues occurring which you may feel relevant please contact your Welfare Officer within your Club. The Welfare Officer has responsibility for collecting all relevant evidence in connection with any issues and discussing them privately with the League Welfare Officer.

The most common examples of welfare issues concern conduct of parents, supporters or players towards other players and match officials.

In the event of what is deemed to be serious misconduct by players, parents, or supporters there are serious implications on the Club concerned up to and including ban from involvement with football. This course of action is not taken lightly and would always follow a full investigation and would need to be proven before any action is taken. What is deemed to be serious misconduct: Abuse of match officials; Abuse of opposition players; Abuse of Managers; Foul language; this list is not exhaustive.

#### PROTESTS AND COMPLAINTS

Throughout the season there may be times when misunderstandings occur and Managers, parents, players feel they wish to make a complaint or a protest.

These should be dealt with as fairly, and efficiently as possible, in sport and always with the development of girls' football first and foremost. This guideline explains the process that should be followed should a complaint or a protest arise, (e.g., if there are issues between Managers, issues concerning parents and players, issues relating the laws of the game). Wherever possible the League recommends that issues should be settled informally, at the time, before entering the League formal procedure. However, there are times when a more formal approach may need to be adopted.

#### PROCEDURE

If a manager, player, match official or parent has a grievance about a situation, which they feel has affected their team's performance, brought the game into disrepute, or has affected the dignity of player, supporter or official, either during a game or outside the game; they should be encouraged to talk to their Club CWO to resolve the situation promptly and informally.

As per the rules of the League, objections relevant to the pitch, goals, flag posts or other facilities of the venue need to be referred to the Referee before the commencement of the match. The manager should only progress to a formal

grievance below if a satisfactory resolution has not been reached via the informal route.

If the concerns are particularly sensitive, or involve the Manager, then the issue may be discussed in the first instance with the Club CWO. If this first discussion does not resolve the situation, then the following will apply:

The Manager of the team or the Secretary of the Club needs to put the grievance in writing (letters from players or parents cannot be considered; all communication must come through the Club)

The grievance form submitted needs to be countersigned by the Club Secretary and/or their CWO, clearly indicating that they support the Manager's wish to begin the formal grievance process (and, where applicable, stating what informal steps have been taken to resolve the situation)

All grievances should be sent in the first instance to the League Welfare Officer

If the grievance is a welfare issue – please ensure that this is sent in a sealed envelope – clearly marked 'welfare issue'

The League Welfare Officer will determine from the grievance who is best placed to deal with this and will pass it on to the most appropriate person

The League Welfare Officer will endeavour to acknowledge the grievance within 5 days of receipt and will also advise who has been asked to investigate the complaint from the League's perspective. League Welfare Officer will provide information on the progress of the matter on a regular basis (please note some issues may need forwarding to the League Welfare Officer or the County FA Welfare Officer for resolution and it is then difficult for the League to track progress and influence the speed of response)

If the matter is one that the League Management Committee need to consider, then this will be raised at the next League Management Committee meeting and response will follow straight after that meeting in terms of what action is being taken

A final response will not be given until all parties involved have been given the opportunity to provide their views on the situation

If appropriate a meeting will be arranged between the Club Secretary/person raising the concern and the most appropriate forum to consider the matter and to reach a solution

There is an appeal process in place and within 14 days of receiving written confirmation of the outcome of a grievance the appeal should be made to the FA (see rules for further information)

## RESOURCES

The FA Safeguarding Resources are available at the link below

<http://www.thefa.com/football-rules-governance/safeguarding/section-1-footballs-safeguarding-framework>

ALL OF THESE DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE TO VIEW ON THE DGLL APP FOR SMARTPHONES AND TABLETS

## APPENDIX B

### Manager's Check List – Pre and Post Match

#### Pre-Match:

- Refer to the fixtures list on the website in suitable time to check the fixture (who and where)
- The Fixture Secretary is responsible for managing fixtures and will use the website and e mail as a means of communicating any changes
- Monday evening prior to the following Saturday's fixture: Home Manager to contact the opposition to set up the following Saturday's fixture. Tuesday evening prior to the following Sunday's fixture: Home Manager to contact the opposition to set up the following Sunday's fixture.
- Kick off time to be confirmed, at Central Venues the DGLL determines Kick off times and pitches and will provide referees, for all other Youth games the home team determines Kick off which MUST be between 0930 & 1230 UNLESS permission has been granted by the DGLL prior to the season for a later kick off. No team travelling more than 30 miles shall kick off earlier than 1100 unless agreed with both teams. Open Age Kick offs are 1330 for Division 1 & all cup fixtures (except finals) and either 1030 or 1330 in Division 2. Division 2 teams must declare which kick off time they require prior to season start.
- Directions to ground to be communicated
- Check kit both teams playing in; Any colour clash then the AWAY team need to change
- It is the Home Managers responsibility to provide a referee if there is no League appointed Referee, and this should be done in suitable time before the match. Teams from U13 through U18 provide their own FA registered Referees except at Central Venues.
- The name of the referee should be confirmed to the opposition – please also indicate whether the referee is a qualified official or a parent\helper
- If the appointed referee does not turn up for the match, the home team can offer in a substitute referee however the away team can reject the substitute referee
- If for any reason a neutral referee is required; Home or Away Manager to contact the Referee's Secretary to arrange giving at least 14 days' notice

#### Match Day:

- Home Manager to ensure the pitch meets League standards; corner flags, goal posts\nets etc. are of the right standard and match balls are available
- Both Home and Away Managers must check player registrations
- If a team does not have any registration cards, then the game cannot be played under the rules of the League; the game can be played as a friendly – this game would however be classed as an unauthorized cancellation
- Managers need to familiarize themselves with the cutoff date for eligibility to play at the relevant age group
- A match report form must be completed by both the Home and Away Manager, using the GotFootball Portal within 48 hours of the final whistle
- The match result must be reported to the GotFootball Portal, by both Managers (or representatives) by 6.00 p.m. on the Day of the game; in the event of a midweek game by 6.00 pm, the following day
- Failure to input the result will incur a £20 fine
- Home and Away Manager to check the website to ensure correct result has been recorded and to start process for the following week's game
- All matches are to be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game as determined by the International Football Association Board or for Mini Soccer the Laws of Mini Soccer as set down by the Football Association

U14-U18 games and above to be on pitches 90 yards by 50 minimum with 7ft by 21ft goals minimum.

Players, other than the goalkeeper are NOT permitted to wear tracksuit bottoms or hats during a game. Gloves may be worn at any time by any player and cycle style shorts may be worn under football shorts as may tights or leggings. Socks and Shin pads to be worn over any tights or leggings. The management committee may decide to relax the rule about headgear in very severe weather. Snoods, scarves hoodies are prohibited from being used by any player.

- Please see the FA Website for more information and downloads

#### Match Cancellations:

- Except by permission of the fixture's secretary, all fixtures must be completed in line with the fixture list posted on the website, teams should be aware that league fixtures are dynamic i.e., liable to change with a minimum of 5 days' notice.



- Where fixtures are not completed in line with the fixture list, and the League have not been notified or approved a change in fixture then appropriate fines will be issued
- Managers should review the original fixture list prior to the start of the season and ascertain where there might be an issue and contact the fixtures secretary
- The Manager who is requesting a cancellation or has the need to cancel must contact the relevant Fixture Secretary, whatever the situation before cancelling the match
- There may be times when Managers don't know until arriving at the pitch that the game cannot be played – they still need to contact the Fixture Secretary to advise the game has not been played and the reason (i.e., waterlogged, frost etc.)
- The Fixture Secretary will rearrange fixtures to allow the game to be played – this will be posted on the fixture list on the website

#### Identification cards:

Prior to the commencement of the match, managers shall satisfy themselves that the opposition players are registered.

Each team should be identified by their photos with each manager present.

This should be done in a non-obtrusive manner and one that would promote dignity of the players.

Each team must provide a first aid kit adequate to cover minor injuries such as cuts, abrasions, and bruises etc. Failure to do so may result in the suspension of a Club.

The Officials and Committee members of each Club are responsible for the actions of players, officials, members, and spectators always where a Club business is concerned. Clubs are further required to ensure that all precautions are taken to prevent players, officials, members, and spectators causing trouble during or at the conclusion of matches.

Video and still photography at all DG&LL League or Cup matches or unique events may only be used with the permission of the managers involved in those matches or unique events.

Individual's cup trophies are only provided in the Main Challenge Cup Competitions. Team Trophies only will be presented in the League & Secondary Cups.

Teams should be aware that mid-week games will be scheduled for September, April & May.

All teams will be invoiced for their pitch fees for the season (REGARDLESS OF THE NUMBER OF HOME GAMES THEY HAVE PLAYED) for the full season with payment due on the following date, September 1<sup>st</sup>. A further 2nd reconciliation invoice will be sent to teams who have played additional matches i.e., cup games.

Team rankings will be decided in any one or more of the following ways: -

#### **OPEN AGE FOOTBALL ONLY**

Goal Difference in accordance with SCOR

#### **YOUTH LEAGUES ONLY**

If the first and second placed teams are level on points, then a deciding match played to a conclusion- extra time and kicks to be taken from the penalty mark in accordance with the prescribed rules will decide the league winners

In the event of more than 2 teams finishing level on points and teams cannot be separated by goal difference then the following will apply to determine positions

Goals Scored  
Number of Wins  
Results against each other  
Drawing of Lots

Once the first and second placed teams are determined a deciding match played to a conclusion- extra time and kicks to be taken from the penalty mark in accordance with the prescribed rules will decide the league winners

For deciding matches, in the event of the scores in a special championship match, played under conditions determined by the management committee, being level at the end of the game, ten minutes' extra time shall be played in two equal periods of five minutes for mini soccer, twenty minutes in two equal periods of ten minutes for 9/11 a side up to age group U16. Games at U17/U18 will have thirty minutes' extra time in two equal periods of fifteen minutes. In the event of scores remaining level after extra time, up to and including age group U16, the championship will be shared between the 2 teams. U17/U18 championship games if level after extra time will be settled by penalty kicks.

#### **Player Registration System**

As from Season 2022-23 Player registrations are MANDATORY in the FA Player Registration System. However, to facilitate a smooth transfer between the DG&LL Current Player Registration system (GotFootball) and the FA System, the DG&LL will continue to run GotFootball registrations in tandem with the FA System until further notice. Players MUST be registered in both systems and approved by the Competition before becoming eligible to play in the Competition.

## Appendix C

### DERBYSHIRE GIRLS AND LADIES LEAGUE CUP RULES

Standard Rules will apply with the following variations.

This Competition shall be designated the Derbyshire Girls and Ladies League Challenge Cup and known as the same and shall consist of teams who have paid the annual subscription for the season and are members of the Derbyshire Girls and Ladies League. No other teams will be allowed to enter.

The competition will provide 11 a side OPEN AGE football, 11/ 9-a-side football for players who have attained the age of 12 as at midnight 31st August in a playing season and Mini-Soccer for players who have attained the age of 7 years as at midnight on 31st August in a playing season.

The DG&LL Cup will be treated a single competition but will consist of a separate cup for each of the age groups competing in the Derbyshire Girls and Ladies League.

The DG&LL may run the following Cup Competitions at the management committee's discretion.

- Ladies Challenge Cup
- Ladies Challenge Plate
- Ladies League Cups (per Division)
- Ladies Regional League Invitational Trophy
- Ladies Secondary Cup
- Youth Challenge Cup, all age groups including Mini Soccer
- Youth League Cup, all age groups
- Mini Soccer Challenge Plate

Plate Competitions will be limited to those teams knocked out in their first game of the challenge cup (but excluding semi-finalists).

The Youth Challenge Cup competition will be a knockout cup, all games will be settled by extra time and penalty kicks where necessary. In the event the DG&LL run a youth league cup competition the initial group stages may include a round robin competition with a final knockout stage. In the event teams are level on points in the group stages then the result between the teams will determine positions in the table. If result was a draw a further game will be played to determine the positions in the group stages under conditions to be determined by the DG&LL. Goal difference will not count in this stage as games can be forfeited in the group stages.

The Ladies Challenge Cup competition will be a knockout cup, The League Cup competition, should it be held, will also be a knockout competition. All games in the Challenge Cup prior to the semi-final stage ending in a draw at the end of normal time in the first game will be replayed at a date to be determined by the fixture's secretary. The replay will be settled by extra time and penalty kicks where necessary. Semi Finals & Finals will have extra time & penalties if required. All other Ladies Cup Competitions will be settled on the day of the first tie with extra time & penalties if required.

The Ladies Plate will consist of teams, who have been knocked out in their first game in the Ladies Challenge Cup Competition, playing a knockout format. Knockout phase games will be determined by extra time and penalties if required.

The Ladies Secondary Cup will consist of teams, who have been knocked out in their first game in the Ladies League Cup Competition, playing a knockout format. Knockout phase games will be determined by extra time and penalties if required.

In the event of teams who fold prior to the next round of any competition they will automatically be replaced by their opponent from the previous round. Teams who fail to play any given tie will be excluded from the competition and fined in accordance with the set fees. In the event any team cannot play on a scheduled FINALS date then that team will be replaced by their semi-final opponent, who shall take their place on the date scheduled AND any other date should the finals be postponed.

ALL Challenge Cup Semi Finals & Finals will be played on neutral venues. Neutral Venues will include Central Venue sites. All other Cup Semi-finals will be held at the venue of the home drawn team

All cup draws from first round to final ties will be made at a special management meeting, only players eligible to play in the original tie will be eligible to play in any replayed game. Open Age teams applying for membership after the AGM will NOT be eligible to compete in those cup competitions but will be entered into the Plate & Secondary Cup Competition.

A player who is eligible to play for her team in the league competition shall be eligible to play for that team in the cup competition provided she has been registered and approved as a player for that team for at least 7 days before participating in the Cup Competition in the current season. All players MUST be registered to a club 7 days before the original fixture date for each round and prior to playing in a semi-final or final must have played a minimum combination of 3 league or cup games for the team in the competition.

Players are only "Cup Tied" in the same cup competition, i.e., a player having played for a team in the challenge cup may not play in the challenge cup for another team. However, the player may play for their "new" team in the league cup if she did not play for her previous club in the league cup. The Ladies Plate will however be classed as the same competition as the Ladies Challenge Cup and any player having played in the Challenge Cup for one team may NOT play for another team in the Plate Competition.

A player previously registered with a team that folded during the season is ineligible to play in the same competition for her current team if she played in a cup tie for the team that ceased to exist. Players MUST be eligible to play for a team on the original date of any tie. In the event of a postponement for any reason players registered after the original date for games will not be eligible to play in the rescheduled game or any replay (this to include any replay of a rescheduled game).

A team playing an ineligible player will be removed from the competition and may be fined or otherwise dealt with by the Management Committee

The duration of games shall be the maximum time as set out in the standard code. The option to reduce the playing time does not apply in the Cup Competition.

Except by permission of the Management Committee all matches must be played on the dates originally fixed, but priority shall be given to The Football Association and all relevant County Association Cup Competitions. All other matches must be considered secondary.

Any team failing to keep its engagement will be removed from the competition.

In Cup Finals or Cup Games played on a neutral ground each team must provide the referee with 2 match standard footballs.

All Cup Finals will be played at a suitable neutral venue supplied by the League. Teams will be required to share the official's fees, pitch fees, and share any cost of stewarding the event. The league will set starting times for Cup Finals.

The Designated Home teams are responsible in all Cup Competitions for the pitch & referee fees up to and including quarter final stage.

For Challenge Cup Semi Finals, the charges will be shared.

For League Cup, Plate & Secondary Cup Semi Finals the Home team is responsible for all payments

Should penalty kicks be required to determine any cup competition games the referee will follow the current laid down procedure from the International Board with the exception that the minimum number of kicks from the penalty mark in the round will be as follows:

11v11	5 penalty kicks each and then rounds of 1 penalty each until a winner is determined
9v9	5 penalty kicks each and then rounds of 1 penalty each until a winner is determined
7v7	3 penalty kicks each and then rounds of 1 penalty each until a winner is determined
Mini Soccer	3 penalty kicks each and then rounds of 1 penalty each until a winner is determined

Both Teams, shall notify the result of each match to the Got Football Portal by 6:00 p.m. on the day of the match for Saturday/Sunday games and by 6:00 p.m. on the day following the match for mid-week games. Failure to do so will incur a fine of £20.

# DERBYSHIRE GIRLS & LADIES LEAGUE

## GOTFOOTBALL

### "HOW TO" DOCUMENTS

THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR YOU TO DOWNLOAD

#### FULL CLUB ADMIN INSTRUCTIONS

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/i8rpy9sir3p3ooh/Club-Instructions.pdf?dl=0>

#### FULL TEAM INSTRUCTIONS

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/q517n8dpiev5q05/TeamInstructions.pdf?dl=0>

#### HOW TO REGISTER A NEW PLAYER

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/00mt0wtzsp3qm2p/register%20new%20player.pdf?dl=0>

#### HOW TO VIEW **ALL** OF YOUR FIXTURES

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/m9nmalt58ot4dk8/How%20to%20view%20ALL%20of%20your%20fixtures.pdf?dl=0>

#### Mobile Results and Inputting of Match Statistics

##### Part 1

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/bk56fww2c49edec/LDRL%20Match%20Score%20and%20Statistics%20Entry%20Instructions%20part%201.pdf?dl=0>

##### Part 2

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/9fk4ur88rvmqvtp/LDRL%20Match%20Score%20and%20Statistics%20Entry%20Instructions%20part%202.pdf?dl=0>

#### REFEREE LISTS

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/jpb4tqc011216u5/referees.pdf?dl=0>

#### HOW TO CLAIM A BYE WEEK

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/p8bpx2ee8b90nun/How%20to%20claim%20a%20bye%20week.pdf?dl=0>

#### HOW TO PRINT YOUR TEAM LISTS

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/irszlq3qsty2wz/How%20to%20Print%20your%20Team%20List.pdf?dl=0>

INVOICING AND HOW TO PAY OPTIONS

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/l6vvznhdpecimmd/Invoicing%20Information%20and%20options%20to%20pay.pdf?dl=0>

HOW TO SUBSCRIBE TO “GET SCORES”

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/c2xx09jgwbx6pec/How%20to%20subscribe%20to%20Get%20Scores.pdf?dl=0>

HOW TO VIEW YOUR PLAYERS AND ENTER A MATCH REPORT, VIDEO FILE

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/e291g2iv12vr8z5/How%20to%20view%20your%20team%20and%20enter%20a%20match%20report...mov?dl=0>