

## LEAGUE RULES

**2022-23** 

#### **INTRODUCTION**

This publication is comprised of two parts:

• Part One – League Rules. (Commences on next page.)

League Rules are formulated as follows:

- a. Mandatory content from the FA Standard Code of Rules Youth (SCORY). This is reproduced in BLACK font.
- b. Content specific to the Selby & District Junior Football League. This is reproduced in RED font.
- Part Two The Rules of the Cup Competitions. (Commences on page 42.)

The Rules of the Cup Competitions are specific to the Selby & District Junior Football League in their entirety.



# **PART ONE**

# **LEAGUE RULES**

### **INDEX**

No	TITLE	<b>PAGE</b>	
1	DEFINITIONS	5	
2	COMPETITION NAME & CONSTITUTION	7	
3	CLUB NAME	9	
4	ENTRY FEE, SUBSCRIPTION, DEPOSIT	10	
5	MANAGEMENT, NOMINATION, ELECTION	11	
6	POWERS OF MANAGEMENT	12	
7	PROTESTS, CLAIMS, COMPLAINTS, APPEALS	14	
8	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	16	
9	SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS	17	
10	AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED	18	
11	CONTINUATION OF MEMBERSHIP OR WITHDRAWL OF A CLUB	19	
12	EXCLUSION OF CLUBS, TEAMS. MISCONDUCT OF CLUBS, OFFICERS, PLAYERS AND / OR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	20	
13	TROPHY: LEGAL OWNERS, CONDITIONS OF TAKING OVER, AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED, AWARDS	21	
14	ALTERATION TO RULES	22	
15	FINANCE	23	
16	INSURANCE	24	
17	DISSOLUTION	25	
18	QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS	26	
19	CLUB COLOURS	31	
20	PLAYING SEASON, CONDITIONS OF PLAY, TIMES OF KICK OFF, POSTPONEMENTS & SUBSTITUTES	32	
21	REPORTING RESULTS	38	
22	DETERMINING CHAMPIONSHIP	39	
23	MATCH OFFICIALS	40	
Schedule			
Α	FEES TARIFF	42	
В	FINES TARIFF	43	

#### 1 DEFINITIONS

#### (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 Selby & District Junior Football League.
- "Competition Match" means any match played or to be played under the jurisdiction of the Competition.
- "Contract Player" means any Player (other than a Player on a Scholarship) who is eligible to play under a written contract of employment with a Club.
- "Deposit" means a sum of money deposited with the Competition as part of the requirements of membership of the Competition.
- "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 in 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 in Schedule A
- "Ground" means the ground on which the Club's Team(s) plays its Competition Matches.
- "Management Committee" means in the case of a Competition which is an unincorporated association, the management committee elected to manage the running of the Competition and where the Competition is incorporated it means the Board of Directors appointed in accordance with the articles of association of that company.
- "Match Officials" means the referee, the assistant referees and any fourth official appointed to a Competition Match.
- "Mini Soccer" means those participating at ages under 7s to under 10s.
- "Non-Contract Player" means any Player (other than a Player on a Scholarship) who is eligible to play for a Club but has not entered into a written contract of employment.
- "Officer" means an individual who is appointed or elected to a position in a Club or Competition which requires that individual to make day to day decisions.
- "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.
- "Playing Season" means the period between the date on which the first competitive fixture in the Competition is played each year until the date on which the last competitive fixture in the Competition is played.
- "Rules" means these rules under which the Competition is administered.

- "Sanctioning Authority" means The FA the [West Riding County Football Association Limited].
- "Scholarship" means a Scholarship as defined in The FA rules.
- "Season" Means the period of time between an AGM & the subsequent 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.
- **"WGS"** means the Whole Game System and the procedures for the operation thereof as determined by The FA from time to time.
- "Written" or "in writing" means the representation or reproduction of words or symbols or other information in a visible form by any method or combination of methods, whether sent or supplied in electronic form or otherwise.
- "Youth Football" means those participating at ages under 11s to under 18s.
- (B) Unless stated otherwise, terms referring to natural persons are applicable to both genders. Any term in the singular applies to the plural and vice-versa.

2	COMPETITION NAME &					
2	CONSTITUTION					
(A)	The Competition will be known as the (Selby & District Junior Football League sponsored by Macron) (or other such name as the Competition may adopt). The Clubs participating in the Competition must be members of the Competition. A Club which ceases to exist or which ceases to be entitled to play in the Competition for any reason whatsoever shall thereupon automatically cease to be a member of the Competition.					
(B)	This Competition shall consist of not more than (80) Clubs or (500) teams approved by the Sanctioning Authority.					
(C)	The Geographical area covered by the Competition membership shall be (within 20 miles radius of Selby Abbey). The seven season 2021-22 member Clubs listed below which are situated outside the 20-mile radius shall be entitled to retain their membership from 1 Jun 22 onwards for so long as they maintain continuous membership in each successive season thereafter: Beeston Juniors FC, Bottesford Town FC, Branton Juniors FC, Dearne & District FC, Ossett Town Juniors FC, Staincross Rangers FC & Wombwell Town FC.					
(D)	The Administration of the Competition under these rules will be carried out by the Competition acting (save where otherwise specifically mentioned herein) through the Management Committee in accordance with the rules, regulations & policies if the FA.					
(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 thereto, subject to the provisions of Rule 7.					
(F)	The Rules are taken from the Standard Code of Rules for Youth Competitions (the "Standard Code") determined by The FA from time to time. In the event of any omissions from the Standard Code then the requirements of the Standard Code shall be deemed to apply to the Competition.					
(G)	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.  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					
4.0	number.					
(H)	(i) The Competition and each member Club must be committed to promoting inclusivity and to eliminating all forms of discrimination and should abide and adhere to The FA Equality Policy and any legislative requirements (to include those contained in the Equality Act 2010).					
	(ii) This Competition and each Club must make every effort to promote equality by treating people fairly and with respect, by recognising that inequalities may exist, by taking steps to address them and by providing access and opportunities for all members of the community, irrespective of age, gender, gender reassignment, sexual orientation,					

	marital status, race, nationality, ethnic origin, colour, religion or belief, ability or disability or otherwise.
	(iii) Any alleged breach of the Equality Act 2010 legislation must be referred to the appropriate Sanctioning Authority for investigation.
(1)	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.
(J)	All Participants of this competition shall abide by The Football Association Regulations for Safeguarding Children as determined by the FA from time to time.
(K)	Clubs shall not enter any of their Teams playing at a particular age group in the Competition in any other competition (with the exception of FA and County FA Competitions) except with the written consent of the Management Committee. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
(L)	At the AGM or a SGM called for the purpose, a majority of the delegates present shall have power to decide or adjust the compilation of the divisions at their discretion. When necessary this Rule shall take precedence over Rule 22.

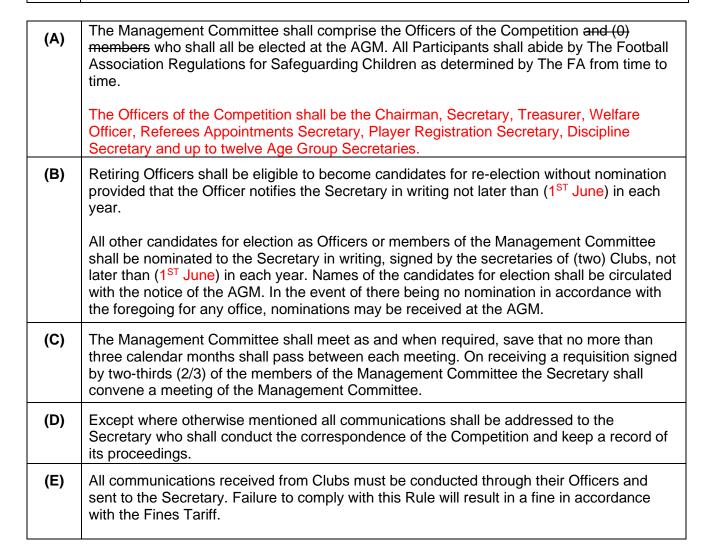
#### 3 CLUB NAME

Any Club wishing to change its name must obtain permission from the Sanctioning Authority and from the competition management committee. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

4 ENTRY FEE, SUBSCRIPTIONS & DEPOSIT

Applications by Clubs for admission to the Competition or the entry of an additional (A) Team(s) from the same Club must be made in writing to the Secretary by (4th June) 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. An annual subscription shall be payable in accordance with the Fees Tariff per Club (or (B) per Team where a Club provides more than one Team in membership of the Competition) and shall be payable on or before (4th June) in each year. A Deposit of (£100) shall be payable per Club (or per Team where a Club provides more (C) than one Team in membership of the Competition) and shall be payable on or before (31st May) in each year. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines ariff. Where it is alleged by the Management Committee that a Club is in breach of a chargeable Rule, the Club will be charged in accordance with Rule 6(D). Where a fine is consequently levied, the financial penalty will be deducted from the Club's Deposit Balance and the Club notified accordingly. If a club's Deposit balance subsequently reduces to £20 or less then a further deposit of £100 is payable within 14 days of notification. Failure of the Club to replenish its Deposit by the due date will result in the suspension of the Club's fixtures with effect from 2359hrs on the first Saturday after the end of the fourteen day period. Any fixtures which are cancelled as a result of such a suspension shall not be rescheduled. In the U12-U18 age groups the match results of those fixtures shall be automatically awarded as a Walkover to the opposing team. The suspension shall be lifted immediately that the required replenishment of the Deposit is received by the League and subsequent fixtures will be reinstated. (Rule 20Eii(b) shall apply.) The details regarding deposit balances for each club will be provided within 7 days by the League Treasurer following a formal written request. Any deductions and supporting paperwork will also be made available. All remaining Deposit balances will be returned to clubs on completion of the playing A Club shall not participate in this Competition until the entry fee, annual subscription (D) and deposit have been paid. If requested by the Competition, Clubs must advise annually to the Secretary in writing (E) by (30th June) 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. 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.)

MANAGEMENT, NOMINATION, ELECTION



#### 6 POWERS OF MANAGEMENT

- (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.
- (B) Subject to the permission of the Sanctioning Authority having been obtained the Management Committee may order a match or matches to be played each season, the proceeds to be devoted to the funds of the Competition and, if necessary, may call upon each Club (including any Club which may have withdrawn during the season) to contribute equally such sums as may be necessary to meet any deficiency at the end of the season.
- Each member of the Management Committee shall have the right to attend and vote at all Management Committee meetings and have one vote thereat, but no member shall be allowed to vote on any matters directly appertaining to such member or to the Club so represented or where there may be a conflict of interest. (This shall apply to the procedure of any sub-committee).

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

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

With the exception of Rules 6(I), 8(H) and 9 and in relation to any alleged breaches of a Rule the Management Committee shall issue a formal written charge to the Club concerned. The Club charged is required to respond to the charge within 7 days from the date of notification of the charge. In such reply, a Club may: -

- (i) Accept the charge and submit in writing a case of mitigation for consideration by the Management Committee on the papers; or
- (ii) Accept the charge and notify that it wishes to put its case of mitigation at a hearing before the Management Committee; or
- (iii) Deny the charge and submit in writing supporting evidence for consideration by the Management Committee on the papers; or
- (iv) Deny the charge and notify that it wishes to put its case of mitigation at a hearing before the Management Committee.

Where the Club charged fails to respond within 7 days, the Management Committee shall determine the charge in such manner and upon such evidence as it considers appropriate. The standing determination of the Management Committee is that the sanction detailed in the charge notification (i.e. fine and/or award of match result to the opposition) will be levied automatically if the Club charged has failed to respond within the required seven days.

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

Having considered the reply of the Club (whether in writing or at a hearing), the Management Committee shall make its decision and, if the charge is accepted or

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	proven, decide on the appropriate penalty (with reference to the Fines Tariff where applicable).
	The maximum fine permitted for any breach of a Rule is £100 and, when setting any fine, the Management Committee must ensure that the penalty is proportional to the offence, taking into account any mitigating circumstances. No Participant under the age of 18 can be fined.
	All breaches of the Laws of the Game, Rules and Regulations of The FA shall be dealt with in accordance with FA Rules by the appropriate Association.
(E)	All decisions of the Management Committee shall be binding subject to the right of appeal in accordance with Rule 7. Decisions of the Management Committee must be notified in writing to those concerned within 7 days.
(F)	(50%) of its members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business by the Management Committee or any sub-committee thereof.
(G)	The Management Committee, as it may deem necessary, shall have power to fill, in an acting capacity, any vacancies that may occur amongst their number.
(H)	A Club must comply with an order or instruction of the Management Committee and must attend to the business and/or the correspondence of the Competition to the satisfaction of the Management Committee. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
(1)	Subject to its right of appeal in accordance with Rule 7 below, all fines and charges shall be paid within 14 days of the date of posting of notification of the decision.
	Any Club failing to do so, will be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff. Further failure to pay the fine including the additional sum within a further 14 days will result in fixtures being withdrawn until the outstanding fines are paid.
(J)	A member of the Management Committee appointed by the Competition to attend a meeting or match may have any expenses incurred refunded by the Competition.
	See Rules 15(E) & (F).
(K)	The Management Committee shall have the power to fill any vacancy that may occur in the membership of the Competition between the AGM or SGM called to decide the constitution and the commencement of the Competition Playing Season.
(L)	The business of the Competition as determined by the Management Committee may be transacted by electronic mail or facsimile.

# PROTESTS, CLAIMS, COMPLAINTS & APPEALS.

(A) (i) All questions of eligibility, qualifications of Players or interpretations of the Rules shall be referred to the Management Committee or a sub-committee duly appointed by the Management Committee. (ii) Objections relevant to the dimensions of the pitch, goals, flag posts or other facilities of the venue will not be entertained by the Management Committee unless a protest is lodged with the Referee before the commencement of the Competition Match. (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 League Secretary within (14) days (excluding Sundays) of the match or occurrence to which they refer. A protest or complaint shall not be withdrawn except by permission of the Management Committee. A member of the Management Committee who is a member of any Club involved shall not be present (except as a witness or representative of his Club) when such protest or complaint is being determined. (C) No protest of whatever kind shall be considered by the Management Committee unless the complaining Club shall have deposited with the League 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. (D) All parties to a protest or complaint must receive a copy of the submission and must be afforded an opportunity to make a statement at least 7 days prior to the protest or complaint being heard. (i) All parties must have received (7) days' notice of the hearing should they be instructed to attend. (ii) Should a Club elect to state its case in person then they should forward a deposit of (£25) and indicate such when forwarding the written response. The Management committee shall also have power to compel any party to the protest to (E) pay such expenses as the Management Committee shall direct. (F) 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 League Secretary. The procedure for the appeal shall be determined by the Sanctioning Authority, in such respect the Sanctioning Authority may (but is not obliged to): (i) Invite submissions by the parties involved; or (ii) Convene a hearing to hear the appeal; or (iii) Permit new evidence; or (iv) Impose deadlines as are appropriate. Any appeal shall not involve a rehearing of the evidence considered by the Management Committee.

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

#### 8 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

	<u> </u>					
(A)	The AGM shall be held not later than (30 <sup>th</sup> June) in each year. At this meeting, the following business shall be transacted provided that at least (50%) of the members are present and entitled to vote: -					
	<ul> <li>(i) To receive and confirm the Minutes of the preceding AGM.</li> <li>(ii) To receive and adopt the Annual Report, Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts.</li> </ul>					
	<ul> <li>(iii) Election of Clubs to fill vacancies.</li> <li>(iv) Constitution of the Competition for ensuing Season.</li> <li>(v) Election of Officers of the Competition and Management Committee.</li> </ul>					
	<ul> <li>(vii) Appointment of Auditors.</li> <li>(viii) Alteration of Rules, if any (See Rule 14).</li> <li>(viii) Fix the date for the commencement of the Playing Season and kick off times applicable to the Competition.</li> <li>(ix) Fix the date for the end of the Playing Season.</li> <li>(x) Other business of which due notice shall have been given and accepted as being</li> </ul>					
(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.					
(C)	A signed copy of the duly audited/verified Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts shall be sent to the Sanctioning Authority within 14 days of its adoption by the AGM.					
(D)	Each Club shall be empowered to send two delegates to an AGM. Each Club shall be entitled to one vote only. 14 days' notice shall be given of any AGM.					
(E)	Clubs who have withdrawn their membership of the Competition during the Playing Season being concluded or who are not continuing membership shall be entitled to attend but shall vote only on matters relating to the Playing Season being concluded. This provision will not apply to Clubs expelled in accordance with Rule 12.					
(F)	All voting shall be conducted by a show of voting cards unless a ballot be demanded by at least 50% of the delegates qualified to vote or the Chairman so decides.					
(G)	No individual shall be entitled to vote on behalf of more than one Club.					
(H)	Any continuing Club must be represented at the AGM. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.					
(1)	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).					
(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.					

#### 9 SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

(A)	Upon receiving a requisition signed by two-thirds (2/3) of the Clubs in membership the Secretary shall call a SGM.
(B)	The Management Committee may call a SGM at any time.
(C)	At least seven days' notice shall be given of a meeting under this Rule, together with an agenda of the business to be transacted at such meeting.
(D)	Each Club shall be empowered to send two delegates to all Special General Meetings.  Each Club shall be entitled to one vote only.
(E)	Any Club failing to be represented at a SGM shall be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
(F)	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 9.D).

#### 10 AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED

Each Club shall complete and sign the following agreement which shall be deposited with the Competition together with the application for membership for the coming Playing Season, or upon indicating that the Club intends to compete.
"We,
(A) (name)of (address) (Chairman/Director)
and
(B) (name)of (address) (Secretary/Director)
ofFootball Club (Limited)
have been provided with a copy of the Rules and Regulations of the (Selby & District Junior Football League) 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."
The agreement shall be signed by:
i. Where a Club is an unincorporated Association, the Club Chairman and Secretary;
or
ii. Where a Club is an incorporated entity, two Directors of the Club.
Any alteration of the Chairman and/or Secretary of the Club on the above agreement must be notified to the County Football Association to which the Club is affiliated and to the League Secretary.
Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

# CONTINUATION OF MEMBERSHIP OR WITHDRAWL OF A CLUB

(A) Any Club intending, or having a provisional intention, to withdraw a Team from the Competition must do so at least (14) days before the AGM. 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.
 (B) The Management Committee shall have the discretion to deal with a Team being unable to start or complete its fixtures for a Playing Season, including but not limited to, issuing a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
 (C) In addition to the powers of the Management Committee pursuant to Rule 6(I), in the event of a member Club failing to discharge all its financial obligations to the Competition in excess of £50, the Management Committee are empowered to refer the debt under The FA Football Debt Recovery provisions.

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

(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 i. remove a member of the Management Committee from office ii. exclude any Club or Team from further 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 the voting. (B) At the AGM, or at a 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 or Team whose conduct has, in their opinion, been undesirable, which must be supported by more than two-thirds (2/3) of those present and voting. Voting on this point shall be conducted by ballot. A Club whose conduct is the subject of the vote being taken shall be excluded from voting. (C) Any Officer or member of a Club proved guilty of either a breach of Rule, other than field offences, or of inducing or attempting to induce a Player or Players of another Club in the Competition to join them shall be liable to expulsion or such penalty as a General Meeting or Management Committee may decide, and their Club shall also be liable to

expulsion in accordance with the provisions of Clauses (A) and/or (B) of this Rule.

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

(A)	This Rule is not applicable to S&DJFL Competitions.					
	All trophies are for the clubs to keep.					
	The following agreement shall be signed on behalf of the winners of the Cup or Trophy:					
	"We,					
	(A) (name)					
	and					
	(B) (name)					
	the Chairman & Secretary of					
	Football Club (Limited)					
	members of and representing the Club, having been declared winners of					
	Cup or Trophy,					
	and it having been delivered to us by the Competition, do hereby on behalf of the Club jointly and severally agree to return the Cup or Trophy to the Competition Secretary on or before (date).					
	If the Cup or Trophy is lost or damaged whilst under our care, we agree to refund to the Competition the amount of its current value or the cost of its thorough repair."					
	Failure to comply will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.					
(B)	At the close of each Competition awards shall be made to the winners and runners-up if the funds of the Competition permit.					

#### 14 ALTERATION TO RULES

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 where approved by Sanctioning Authority and The FA.

Notice of proposed alterations to be considered at the AGM shall be submitted to the League Secretary by (28th February) in each year. The proposals, together with any proposals by the Management Committee, shall be circulated to the Clubs by (31st March) and any amendments thereto shall be submitted to the League Secretary by (30th April). The proposals and proposed amendments thereto shall be circulated to Clubs with the notice of the AGM. A proposal to change a Rule shall be carried if [two-thirds] of those present and entitled to vote, and voting, are in favour.

A copy of the proposed alterations to Rules to be considered at the AGM shall be submitted to the Sanctioning Authority no later than 28 days prior to the date of the meeting.

#### 15 FINANCE

(A)	The Management Committee shall determine with which bank or other financial institution the funds of the Competition will be lodged.
(B)	All expenditure in excess of £200 shall be approved by the Management Committee.  Cheques shall be signed by at least two Officers nominated by the Management  Committee. Clause not applicable to SDJFL due to use of Online Banking.
(C)	The financial year of the Competition will end on (30 Apr).
(D)	The books, or a certified balance sheet, of a Competition shall be prepared and shall be verified annually by some suitably qualified person(s) who shall be appointed at the AGM.
(E)	The Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Child Welfare Officer, Referees Appointments Officer, Player Registration Secretary and Discipline Secretary are each to receive £50 per season from League Funds to offset their expenses accrued in their administration of the League.
(F)	The Secretary of each Age Group is each to receive £25 per season from League Funds to offset their expenses accrued in their administration of the League.

#### 16 INSURANCE

(A)	All Clubs must have valid public liability insurance cover of at least ten million pounds (£10,000,000) at all times.
(B)	All Clubs must have valid personal accident cover for all Players registered with them from time to time. The Players' personal accident insurance cover must be in place prior to the Club taking part in any Competition Match and shall be at least equal to the minimum recommended cover determined from time to time by Sanctioning Authority.
(C)	Failure to comply with Rule 16(A) or 16(B) will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

#### 17 DISSOLUTION

- (A) Dissolution of the Competition shall be by resolution approved at a SGM by a majority of three quarters (3/4) of the members present and shall take effect from the date of the relevant SGM.
- (B) In the event of the dissolution of the Competition, the members of the Management Committee are responsible for the winding up of the assets and liabilities of the Competition.
- (C) The Management Committee shall deal with any surplus assets as follows:
  - (i) Any surplus assets, save for a Trophy or any other presentation, remaining after the discharge of the debts and liabilities of the Competition shall be transferred only to another Competition or Affiliated Association or The Football Association Benevolent Fund or to such other charitable or benevolent 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.
  - (ii) If a Competition is discontinued for any reason a Trophy or any other presentation shall be returned to the Donor if the conditions attached to it so provide or, if not, dealt with as the Sanctioning Authority may decide.

#### 18 QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

(A) (i) A Player is one who, being in all other respects eligible, has registered through the Whole Game System and been attached to the League by the League's Player Registrations Secretary.

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

Clubs must access WGS in order to complete the registration process.

(ii). The WGS player registration must incorporate a current passport-size photograph of the Player seeking registration together with confirmation that the Player's proof of date of birth has been checked by the Club and is accurate.

Each player's photograph must be updated on WGS during the 'closed' season of each even-numbered calendar year e.g. 2022, 2024 etc etc.

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

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

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

- (ii) A Player registered with a Premier League or English Football League Academy under the Elite Player Performance Plan contained within Youth Development Rules will not be permitted to play in this Competition. Details of the Youth Development Rules are published on The FA website. A Player registered with a FA Girls' Regional Talent Club may play in this Competition subject to the FA Programme for Excellence (Female) Regulations.
- (iii) Each Team must have the following number of Players registered (by 2359hrs on the Wednesday evening immediately) before the start of each Playing Season:

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

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

(C) A child who has not attained the age of 6 shall not play, and shall not be permitted or encouraged to play, in a match of any kind.

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

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

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

Age on the 31st August of the relevant Playing	Eligible Age Format Groups		Minimum Pitch Sizes		Maximum Pitch Sizes		Recommended Goal Sizes in feet	Ball Size	
Season			Yards	Metres	Yards	Metres			
6	Under 7 Under 8	5v5	30x20	27.45 x 18.3	40x30	36.3 x 27.45	12x6	3	
7	Under 8	5v5	30x20	27.45 x 18.3	40x30	36.3 x 27.45	12x6	2	
7	Under 9	7v7	50x30	45.75 x 27.45	60x40	54.9 x 36.6	12x6	3	
8	Under 9 Under 10	7v7	50x30	45.75 x 27.45	60x40	54.9 x 36.6	12x6	3	
0	Under 10	7v7	50x30	45.75 x 27.45	60x40	54.9 x 36.6	12x6	2	
9	Under 11	9v9	70x40	64 x 36.6	80x50	73.15 x 45.75	16x7	3	
10	Under 11 Under 12	9v9	70x40	64 x 36.6	80x50	73.15 x 45.75	16x7	4	
	Under 12	9v9	70x40	64 x 36.6	80x50	73.15 x 45.75	16x7		
11	Under 13	11v11	90x50	82.3 x 45.75	100x60	91.44 x 54.9	21x7*	4	
12	Under 13 Under 14	11v11	90x50	82.3 x 45.75	100x60	91.44 x 54.9	21x7*	4	
40	Under 14	11v11	44.44	0050	00.0 45.75	100x60	91.44 x 54.9	21x7*	4
13	Under 15		90x50	82.3 x 45.75	110x70	100.58 x 64	24x8	5	
14	Under 15	Jnder 15	90x50	82.3 x 45.75	110x70	100.58 x 64	24x8	5	
14	Under 16 11v11	11011	90,00	02.3 X 43.73	110070	100.56 X 04	2480	5	
	Under 16		90x50	82.3 x 45.75	110x70	100.58 x 64			
15	Under 17	11v11	100x50	91.44 x 45.75	130x100	118.87 x 91.44	24x8	5	
	Under 18		100,00	51.44 X 40.75	100/100	110.07 × 31.44			
16	Under 17								
	Under 18 11v11 1	100x50	91.44 x 45.75	130x100	118.87 x 91.44	24x8	5		
	Open Age								

<sup>\*</sup> Please note U13/U14 if 21x7 goals are not available then 24x8 goals may be used.

- (D) A fee as set out in the Fees Tariff shall be paid by each Club/Team for each player registered, if applicable.
- (E) The Management Committee shall decide all registration disputes taking into account the following:
  - (i) A player shall not be permitted to register for more than one Club subject to the exceptions set out in Rule 18(E)(iii) below.
  - (ii) In the event of a Player 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 subject to the exceptions set out in Rule 18(E)(iii) below.
  - (iii) A player is only permitted to register for more than one Club provided that:
  - a) The team(s) in which the player plays are not in the same age group, or
  - b) Except for the purpose of a transfer.

And the player meets the requirements in Rule 18(C).

- **(F)** It shall be deemed a breach of these Rules for a Player to:
  - (i) Play for more than one Team in the Competition in the same Playing Season without first being transferred.
  - (ii) Having registered for one Club in the Competition, register for another Club in the Competition in that Playing Season, except If the provisions set out in Rule 18(E)(iii) apply or where the Competition adopts Rule 18(P).
  - (iii) Submit a registration through WGS for a registration that the Player had wilfully neglected to accurately or fully complete.

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

- (G) (i) The Management Committee shall have the power to accept the registration of any Player subject to the provisions of Rule 18(G)(ii) and (iii) below.
  - (ii) The Management Committee shall have power to refuse, cancel or suspend the registration of any Player, the exercise of such power being without prejudice to the Management Committee's ability to fine a Club at its discretion (in accordance with the Fines Tariff) that has been charged and found guilty of registration irregularities (subject to Rule 7).
  - (iii) The Management Committee shall also have the power to refuse or cancel the registration of any Player charged and found guilty of undesirable conduct (subject to Rule 7) subject to the right of appeal to the Sanctioning Authority or The FA. Where the Management Committee does not have enough information to enable it to make a decision pursuant to the above power, it may apply, in its absolute discretion, to the Sanctioning Authority or The FA for further information.

Undesirable conduct shall mean an incident of repeated proven misconduct, which may deter a Participant from being involved in this Competition.

(iv) For a Player who has previously had a registration removed in accordance with Rule 18(G)(iii) but has a registration accepted at the expiry of exclusion will be considered to be under a probationary period of 12 months. Whilst under a probationary period, should the Player commit a further act of proven misconduct under the jurisdiction of the

	Competition, (excluding standard dismissals), the Competition would be empowered to
	consider a further charge of bringing the Competition into disrepute.
	(Note: Action under Rule 18(G)(iii) shall only be taken against a Player in cases of the Player bringing the Competition into disrepute and will in any event be subject to an appeal to the Sanctioning Authority or The FA. All decisions must include the period of restriction. For the purpose of this Rule, bringing the Competition into disrepute can only be considered where the Player has received in excess of 112 days' suspension, or 10 matches in match-based discipline, in any competition (and is not restricted to the Competition) in a period of two years or less from the date of the first offence.)
(H)	Subject to compliance with FA Rule C when a Club wishes to register a Player who is already registered with another Club it shall submit a transfer request via WGS.
	All Player registration requests (both new and transfers), must be submitted to the League by the Club via WGS no later than 2359hrs on each Wednesday for the Player to be eligible to play in matches from the following Saturday through to the following Wednesday evening inclusive.
	These registration requests must then have been accepted on WGS by the League's Player Registrations Secretary in order for the Player to be eligible to play in Competition matches for the registering Club.
	In the event of an objection to a transfer the matter shall be referred to the Management Committee for a decision.
(I)	A Player may not be registered for a Club nor transferred to another Club in the Competition after (31st January) of the relevant season concerned except by special permission of the Management Committee.
	This Rule does not apply to the U7 to U11 age groups.
(1)	A Club shall keep a list of the Players it registers and a record of the games in which they have played and shall produce such records upon demand by the Management Committee.
(1)	they have played and shall produce such records upon demand by the Management
(K)	they have played and shall produce such records upon demand by the Management Committee.  In the event a Club has more than one Team in an age group, each Team must be clearly identifiable but not designated 'A' or 'B' or 1st or 2nd. In such cases, Players will be registered for one Team only. A Player so registered will be allowed to play for
	they have played and shall produce such records upon demand by the Management Committee.  In the event a Club has more than one Team in an age group, each Team must be clearly identifiable <b>but not designated 'A' or 'B' or 1st or 2nd</b> . In such cases, Players will be registered for one Team only. A Player so registered will be allowed to play for his Club in a younger or older age group within the provisions of Rule 18(C).  A register containing the names of all Players registered for each Club, with the date of registration, shall be kept by the Registrations Secretary and shall be open to the inspection of any duly appointed member Club representative at all Management Committee meetings or at other times mutually arranged. Registrations are valid for one
	they have played and shall produce such records upon demand by the Management Committee.  In the event a Club has more than one Team in an age group, each Team must be clearly identifiable <b>but not designated 'A' or 'B' or 1st or 2nd</b> . In such cases, Players will be registered for one Team only. A Player so registered will be allowed to play for his Club in a younger or older age group within the provisions of Rule 18(C).  A register containing the names of all Players registered for each Club, with the date of registration, shall be kept by the Registrations Secretary and shall be open to the inspection of any duly appointed member Club representative at all Management Committee meetings or at other times mutually arranged. Registrations are valid for one Playing Season only.  In the event of a Non-Contract Player changing his status to that of a Contract Player with the same Club, another Club in the Competition or with a Club in another Competition his registration as a Non-Contract Player will automatically be cancelled
(K)	they have played and shall produce such records upon demand by the Management Committee.  In the event a Club has more than one Team in an age group, each Team must be clearly identifiable <b>but not designated 'A' or 'B' or 1st or 2nd</b> . In such cases, Players will be registered for one Team only. A Player so registered will be allowed to play for his Club in a younger or older age group within the provisions of Rule 18(C).  A register containing the names of all Players registered for each Club, with the date of registration, shall be kept by the Registrations Secretary and shall be open to the inspection of any duly appointed member Club representative at all Management Committee meetings or at other times mutually arranged. Registrations are valid for one Playing Season only.  In the event of a Non-Contract Player changing his status to that of a Contract Player with the same Club, another Club in the Competition or with a Club in another Competition his registration as a Non-Contract Player will automatically be cancelled and declared void unless the Club conforms to the exception detailed in Rule 18(B)(i).  A Player shall not be eligible to play for a Team in any special championship, promotion or relegation deciding match (as specified in Rule 22(A)) unless the Player has played (4) Competition Matches for that Team in this Competition in the current Playing

- (N) (i) Subject to Rule 18(N)(ii), 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 match deducted from its record, up to a maximum of 12 points, and have levied upon it a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
  - (ii) The Management Committee may vary the sanction as relates to the deduction of points set out at Rule 18(N)(i) only in circumstances where the ineligibility is due to the failure to obtain an International Transfer Certificate or where the ineligibility is related to the Player's status.
  - (iii) Where a Club is found to have played an ineligible player in accordance with Rule 18(N)(i) above, the Management Committee may also, at its discretion:
  - (a) Award the points available in the Competition Match in question to the opponents, subject to the Competition Match not being ordered to be replayed; or
  - (b) Levy penalty points against the Club in default; or
  - (c) Order that such match or matches be replayed (on such terms as are decided by the Management Committee).
  - (iv) Player WGS registrations MUST be shown to the opposing Team at pitch-side prior to the commencement of each Match. These may be shown from a smartphone. Any Player for whom proof of WGS registration is not available at the pre-Match check shall not be eligible to participate in the Match. ('No card, no play'.) In the event that a Team is consequently unable to field the minimum number of Players required by the Laws of the Game for that particular age-group, the Match shall not commence. The Team shall have levied upon it a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff and the Match will be awarded to the opposition. In the event that **both** Teams are consequently unable to field the minimum number of Players required by the Laws of the Game for that particular age-group, the Match shall not commence. Both Teams shall have levied upon them a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff and the Match will be Voided completely and no points awarded. In the event that the Match does not proceed Rule 23(F) shall also apply.
  - (v) Player eligibility disputes must be made known to the Match referee before the game commences. Player eligibility disputes subsequently submitted to the Management Committee will NOT be considered if the pre-match Player registration check was not undertaken and any dispute as to a Player's eligibility to participate in the fixture made known to the Match Referee prior to its commencement.
- (i) Priority must be given at all times to school and school organisations activities. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
  - (ii) The availability of children must be cleared with the head teachers (except for Sunday League competitions).
  - (iii) A child under the age of 15 as at midnight on the 31st August in the relevant Playing Season shall not be permitted to play in a Competition Match during that Playing Season where any other Player is older or younger than that child by two years or more.
- (P) Rule 18(P) in the SCORY is non-mandatory and is not adopted by this League using the SCORY wording. League Rule 18(H) applies.

The maximum **registered** squad size (i.e. the maximum number of players which may be registered per team at any one time) and the maximum **match day** squad size (i.e. the maximum number of players permitted to participate on each match day) are shown in the table below:

AGE GROUP	TEAM SIZE	MAXIMUM MATCHDAY SQUAD	MAXIMUM REGISTERED SQUAD
UNDER 7	5	10	12
UNDER 8	5	10	12
UNDER 9	7	14	16
UNDER 10	7	14	16
UNDER 11	9	14	18
UNDER 12	9	14	18
UNDER 13	11	16	20
UNDER 14	11	16	20
UNDER 15	11	16	20
UNDER 16	11	16	20
UNDER 17	11	16	20
UNDER 18	11	16	22

#### 19 CLUB COLOURS

(A) Every Club must register the colour of its shirts and shorts with the Secretary by (30<sup>th</sup> June) who shall decide as to their suitability.

Any Club wishing to change its colours during the Playing Season must obtain permission from the Management Committee.

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

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

Any Team not being able to play in its normal colours as registered with the Competition shall notify its opponents the colours in which they will play (including the colours of the goalkeeper jersey) at least (5) days before the match.

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

Shirts must be numbered, failing which a fine will be levied in accordance with the Fines Tariff. This clause does not apply to the U7-U10 age groups.

#### PLAYING SEASON, CONDITIONS OF 20 PLAY, TIMES OF KICK OFF, POSTPONEMENTS & SUBSTITUTES

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

Clubs must take all reasonable precautions to keep their Grounds in a playable condition. All Competition Matches shall be played on pitches deemed suitable by the Management Committee. If through any fault of the home Team a match has to be replayed, the Management Committee shall have power to order the venue to be changed.

If the home team pitch is not fit for play, every effort must be made by both parties to play the fixture at the away team's pitch (if fit for play and available). Notification must be given to the Age Group Secretary to acknowledge the change of venue on the Full-Time website as appropriate.

The Management Committee shall have power to decide whether a pitch and/or facilities are suitable for matches in the Competition and to order the Club concerned to play its fixtures on another ground.

Football Turf Pitches (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 must be tested (by a FIFA accredited test institute) every 3 years and the results passed to The FA. The FA will give a decision on the suitability for use and add the pitch to the Register.

The home Club is also responsible for advising Participants of footwear requirements when confirming match arrangements in accordance with Rule 20(C).

Overhead netting is allowed for 5v5 and 7v7 mini soccer if the overhead netting height is at a minimum of 6m.

No overhead netting is allowed for 9v9 and 11v11 affiliated matches.

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 with the laws of the game.

All Competition matches shall have a duration as set out below unless a shorter time is mutually arranged by the two Clubs in consultation with the Referee prior to the commencement of the match, and in any event shall be of equal halves.

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

Age Group	Minimum duration of play per half (minutes)	Maximum duration of play per half (minutes)	Maximum playing time in one day in all organised development fixtures (minutes)	Maximum playing time in one day in all tournaments and trophy events/festival s (minutes)	Competition structure
Under 7 & Under 8	10	20	40	60	Development focussed with a maximum of 3 trophy events per season over 2 week periods (6 weeks)
Under 9 & Under 10	20	30	60	90	Development focussed with a maximum of 3 trophy events per season over 4 week periods (12 weeks)
Under 11	20	30	80	120	Development focussed with a maximum of 3 trophy events per season over 6 week periods (18 weeks)
Under 12	20	30	80 (if applicable)	120	Any varieties including one season long league table
Under 13 & Under 14	25	35	100	150	Any varieties including one season long league table
Under 15 & Under 16	25	40	100	150	Any varieties including one season long league table
Under 17 & Under 18	25	45	120	180	Any varieties including one season long league table

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

For trophy events, the Competition may award mementos.

The times of kick-off shall be fixed at the AGM.

Matches will kick off at 10.30 unless a minimum 7 days' notice has been given by the Home team to the Age Group Secretary that an alternative kick off time is required, which is to be between the hours of 9.30 & 11.30AM.

Any alteration to kick off time at **less** than 7 days' notice will only be by mutual consent with the Away team, which must be confirmed by the Home team when informing the Age Group Secretary of the change. If the Away team does not agree to the change then the original KO time will remain in place.

Notwithstanding the above, the Age Group Secretary may order the kick-off time to be amended up to 48 hours before the previously agreed kick off time. In this event the kick-off time may be brought forward or put back by a maximum of 30 minutes. This would only be in the League's interests to facilitate a fixture that would otherwise be cancelled or rearranged or during times of fixture congestion due to bad weather or any other circumstances.

With the consent of both teams **and** the Age Group Secretary matches in the U12-U18 age groups may be played in mid-week in order to enable all fixtures to be completed.

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

The home Team must provide goal nets, four corner posts with flags attached. (All age groups).

The home Team must provide two Assistant Referees flags and at least two footballs fit for play and the Referee shall make a report to the Secretary if the footballs are unsuitable. (U12-U18 age groups only.) Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

Each home club shall arrange for the provision of a designated area for parents and spectators at one side of the pitch. This area may be designated/marked by a Respect Barrier, roped/coned or line marked area, or other suitable barrier markings. Parents and spectators must watch the match from within the designated spectator area.

Coaches and substitutes of both participating Teams must be positioned on the opposite side of the pitch to the designated spectator area. Each home Club shall mark out a Technical Area either side of the half-way line for the purposes and use of the Coaches and Players and from where Player substitutions shall be made. Only Coaches, Players and Match Officials will be permitted to enter this area.

The recommended sizes of the technical areas are as per the Laws of the Game appropriate to the age group concerned. This area may be designated /marked by a Respect Barrier, roped/coned or line marked area, or other suitable barrier markings. Line markings, space markers or safety cones outlining the Technical area are deemed sufficient.

Spectators/coaches are not permitted to stand behind or to the side of either goal.

Failure to provide the required designated areas will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

(B) Except by permission of the Management Committee all Competition Matches must be played on the dates originally fixed but priority shall be given to The FA and parent County Association Cup Competitions. All other matches must be considered secondary. Clubs may mutually agree to bring forward a match with the consent of the relevant Age Group Secretary. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

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

In U7-U11 trophy events, where the League must adhere to time constraints as laid out in the FA Youth Development Review, knockout rounds may be played on consecutive weekends and it therefore may not be possible to give due notice of the following weeks' fixture. The League will nonetheless endeavour to provide a minimum of 5 days' notice. In this instance, if Teams also share pitches then the League may designate a certain kick-off time to enable other games to be played at the same venue. This rule may also be applied for any end of season/supplementary cups in the U12-U18 age groups.

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 (i.e. Tuesday prior to a Saturday fixture). If not so provided, the away Club shall seek such details and report the circumstances to the Competition.

<u>U11-U15 Age Groups</u>. The Home Club must also notify the Away Club & the Referees Appointments Officer of the Name & FAN number of the Match Referee.

Each Team in the Competition must have a registered Club Official with an in-date FA CRC check in attendance at every game.

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

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

FORMAT	MINIMUM NUMBER
5v5	4
7v7	5
9v9	6
11v11	7

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

- (i) In Competitions where points are awarded, home and away matches shall be played. In the event of a Club failing to keep its engagement the Management Committee shall have the power to impose a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff, deduct points from the defaulting Club, award the points from the match in question to the opponents, order the defaulting Club to pay any expenses incurred by the opponents or otherwise deal with them except the award of goals. Notwithstanding the foregoing home and away provision, the Management Committee shall have power to order a 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 circumstances.
  - (ii) Any Club unable to fulfil a fixture or where a fixture has been postponed for any reason must, without delay, give notice to the relevant Age Group Secretary, the Referees Appointments Secretary, the opposing Club and the Match Officials.
  - (a) All Saturdays during the Playing Season are considered as 'open' unless they are declared otherwise by the League. Teams shall inform their Age Group Secretary in writing of any non-availability to participate in fixtures on an 'open' matchday, giving no less than TEN full days' notice (e.g. 2359hrs on Wednesday 1st for Saturday 11th). This is regardless of whether a fixture is already scheduled for the matchday concerned.
  - <u>U12-U18 Age Groups</u>. When providing the required minimum ten days' notice in writing, Teams are allowed a maximum of TWO declarations of non-availability during the Playing Season without penalty. On the third and each subsequent occasion, the match result and points shall be awarded to the opposition. No fine will be applicable. This does not include matches postponed due to weather-related playing conditions.
  - <u>U12-U18 Age Groups</u>. In the event that a Team provides less than ten days' notice of non-availability for a previously scheduled fixture the match result shall be awarded to the opposition and the defaulting Club will be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff. This does not include matches postponed due to weather-related playing conditions.
  - (b) In the event that the League provides less than fourteen days' notice of revised fixture dates (e.g. following postponements late in the season), the participating Clubs shall have 24 hours from receipt of the notice to be able to request a postponement without penalty. If revised dates are continually rejected the League will decide on a date which will be final.
  - (c) Where matches are postponed by Clubs due to weather-related playing conditions, the Management Committee may investigate the circumstances of the postponement. If the investigation concludes that the fixture should have taken place, then the defaulting Club shall be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff and the Match awarded to the opposition.

- (iii) In the event of a match not being played or abandoned owing to causes over which neither Club has control, it should be played in its entirety on a date to be mutually agreed by the two Clubs and approved by the Management Committee. Failing such agreement and notification to the Age Group Secretary within (3) days the Management Committee shall have the power to order the match to be played on a named date or on or before a given date. Where it is to the advantage of the Competition and the Clubs involved agree, the Management Committee shall also be empowered to order the score at the time of an abandonment to stand. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
- (iv) The Management Committee shall review all matches abandoned in cases where it is consequent upon the conduct of either or both Teams. Where it is to the advantage of the Competition and does no injustice to either Club, the Management Committee shall be empowered to order the score at the time of the abandonment to stand. In all cases where the Management Committee are satisfied that a match was abandoned owing to the conduct of one Team or its Club member(s) they shall be empowered to award the points for the match to the opponent. No fine(s) can be applied by the Management Committee for an abandoned Competition Match.
- (v) The Management Committee shall review any match that has taken place where either or both Teams were under a suspension imposed upon them by The FA or Affiliated Association. In each case the Team that was under suspension would be dealt with in the same manner as if they had participated with ineligible players in accordance with Rule 18(N)(i) above. Where both Teams were under suspension the match must be declared null and void and shall not be replayed.
- (F) A Club may at its discretion and in accordance with the Laws of the Game use substitute Players as detailed below in any match in this Competition.

#### Youth Football Under 11s - Under 18s:

A Club may use up to (5 from 5 substitute Players). A Player who has been substituted becomes a substitute and may replace any Player at any time subject to the substitution being carried out in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of Association Football.

#### Mini-Football Under 7s – U10s:

Any number of substitutions may be used at any time with the permission of the Match Official. Entry onto the field of play will only be allowed during a stoppage in play. A Player who has been replaced may return to the play as a substitute for another Player. A Team must not have a match day squad greater than double the size of its Team in an age group.

#### Youth Football Under 11s - Under 18s:

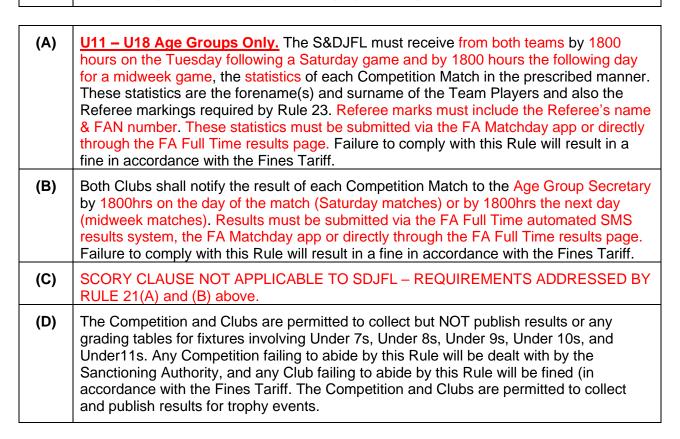
The Referee shall be informed of the names of the substitutes not later than (10) minutes before the start of the Competition Match and a Player not so named may not take part in the Competition Match.

A Player who has been named as a substitute before the start of that Competition Match but does not actually play in the game shall not be considered to have been a Player in that Competition Match within the meaning of Rule 18 of this Competition.

(G) The half time interval shall be of (5) minutes' duration, but it shall not exceed 15 minutes. The half time interval may only be altered with the consent of the referee.

(H)	The Teams taking part in Youth Football shall identify a Team captain who shall wear an armband and shall have a responsibility to offer support in the management of the on-field discipline of his/her team-mates. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
(1)	<u>U7s and U8s Age Groups Only</u> . The Power Play Law, as detailed in the FA's Mini-Soccer and Youth Futsal Handbook is adopted by this League for these age groups.

#### 21 REPORTING RESULTS



#### 22 DETERMINING CHAMPIONSHIP

(A) In Competitions where points are awarded, Team rankings within the Competition will be decided by points, with three points to be awarded for a win and one point for a drawn 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.

In the event of two or more Teams being equal on points Team rankings will be determined by deciding matches played under conditions determined by the Management Committee, or the position shared.

In the event that after the completion of all fixtures two Teams finish level on points for first place in a Division, neither goal difference nor head-to-head records will apply and a deciding Match will be played.

In the event that after the completion of all fixtures two Teams finish level on points for second place in a Division, neither goal difference nor head-to-head records will apply and a deciding Match will be played.

All other placings will be as per the Division's final table.

In the event that more than two teams finish level on points for either first or second place the Management Committee will decide on the structure of the play-off(s). This may involve matches at a single venue with reduced playing time (as per Rule 20(A)) and a maximum of two matches per team (subject to the maximum playing time for the particular age group, also as per Rule 20(A)).

In the event that the Playing Season is curtailed at the direction of either the Sanctioning Authority or The FA, the winner of each competitive age-group's Divisions shall be decided by ranking the participating Teams by calculation of the average number of points each has gained per game they have already played. This method shall only be used in Divisions in which *all* participating Teams have completed a minimum of 50% of their fixtures, including Walkovers awarded as a result of default by opponents. In any Division where one or more Teams have completed less than 50% of their fixtures at the time of the curtailment, then the Division shall be cancelled and no winner declared.

#### (B)/(C)

The number of Promotion and Relegation places available in each Division shall be decided by the Management Committee following the election of Clubs' and the Constitution of the Competition as decided by the Clubs' at the Annual General Meeting. (Due to the number of Teams leaving the Competition and new Teams entering the Competition each season, promotion and relegation issues can only be decided once the structure of the Competition has been determined).

(D)

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.

In the event of a Team withdrawing from the competition having completed 75% or more of its fixtures, the remaining fixtures shall be considered to have been conceded and each will be automatically awarded as a Walkover to the opposing team.

#### 23 MATCH OFFICIALS

Registered Referees (and Assistant Referees where approved by the West Riding (A) County Football Association) for all Competition Matches shall be appointed in a manner approved by the Management Committee and by the Sanctioning Authority. **U11-U18 Age Groups**. Registered referees must be used for all fixtures in the age groups Under 11 and above. U11-U15 Age Groups. It is the responsibility of the Home team to source and arrange a registered referee for each fixture. (Rule 20C also refers.) As a last resort, the Referees Appointments Secretary will assist them to do so if they are unsuccessful. **U16-U18 Age Groups.** A registered referee will be allocated and appointed to each fixture by the Referees Appointments Secretary. (B) All Age Groups. In cases where there are no officially appointed Match Officials in attendance, or an officially registered referee is not available, the Clubs shall agree upon a referee. (This course of action is only to be taken after exhausting all reasonable options to identify and appoint a registered 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 Open Age competition and individuals under the age of 14 must not participate either as a Referee or Assistant Referee in any Competition Match. Referees between the ages of 14 and 16 are only eligible to officiate in competitions where the players' age band is at least one year younger than the age of the Referee. For example, a 15-year-old Referee may only officiate in competitions where the age banding is 14 or younger. (C) U11-U18 Age Groups. Where Assistant Referees are not appointed each Team shall provide a Club Assistant Referee. The referee has sole decision on what the Assistant Referees may adjudicate, (WRCFA do not allow unqualified Assistant Referees to adjudicate on offside decisions.) Failure to do so will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff being imposed on the defaulting Club. (D) The appointed Referee shall have power to decide as to the fitness of the Ground in all 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. Subject to any limits or provisions laid down by the Sanctioning Authority, Match (E) Officials appointed under this Rule shall be paid a Match Fee and travel expenses in accordance with the Fees Tariff. Match Officials will be paid their fees and expenses by the home Club immediately after the competition fixture, unless otherwise ordered by the Management Committee. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff. n the event of a match not being played because of circumstances over which the Clubs (F) have no control, the Match Officials, if present, shall be entitled to half fee only. Where a match is not played, owing to one Club being in default, that Club shall be ordered to pay the Match Officials, if they attend the Ground, their full fee. Failure to comply with the Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff. A Referee not keeping his or her engagement and failing to give a satisfactory (G) explanation as to their non-appearance, may be reported to the Affiliated Association with which he or she is registered.

(H)	Each Club shall, in a manner prescribed from time to time by The FA, award marks to the Referee for each Competition Match and the name of the Referee and the marks awarded shall be submitted to the Competition on the prescribed Form provided. (See Rule 21(A).) Clubs/Teams 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.  Where a mark of 50 or less is awarded to the Referee, a written explanation, signed by the Secretary and the Chairman of the Club concerned, must be submitted to the League Secretary & the Sanctioning Authority (WRCFA) within five days of the match. A Club failing to comply will be fined for each breach of the Rule in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
<b>(I)</b>	The Competition shall keep a record of the markings and, on the form provided by the prescribed date each Playing Season, shall submit a summary to the West Riding County Football Association.
(J)	SCORY CLAUSE NOT APPLICABLE TO THIS LEAGUE – REQUIREMENTS THEN ADDRESSED BY RULE 21(A).
(K)	Match Officials shall be supplied, each Playing Season, with a copy of the Competition Rules free of charge. (These are published on, and can be downloaded from, the League homepage on the FA Full Time website.)
(L)	Match Officials shall have undertaken a County Football Association RESPECT briefing.

# A FEES TARIFF

RULE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	FEE
4(A)	TEAM ENTRY FEE	£40.00
4(B)	CLUB ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION	£40.00
4(C)	DEPOSIT	£100.00 refundable less any Fines paid
7(C)	PROTEST FEE - CORRESPONDENCE	£25.00
7(D)(ii)	PROTEST FEE – PERSONAL HEARING	£25.00
7(F)	APPEAL FEE – WEST RIDING COUNTY FA	£25.00
15(E)	ANNUAL EXPENSE PAYMENT TO CLUB OFFICERS	£50.00
15(F)	ANNUAL EXPENSE PAYMENT TO AGE GROUP SECRETARIES	£25.00
18(D)	REGISTRATION FORM (Per Player)	£0
18(H)	TRANSFER FORM	£0
23(E)	REFEREE FEES	9v9 Divisions: £25.00 U13-U16: £30.00 U17/18: £40.00
23(E)	ASSISTANT REFEREES FEES	£15.00
23(E)	REFEREE & ASSISTANT REFEREES TRAVEL EXPENSES	25p per mile to a maximum of £10.00 per fixture.

# B FINES TARIFF

RULE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM FINE		
2(G)	FAILURE TO AFFILIATE WITH AFFILIATED ASSOCIATION	£20.00		
2(I)	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH FA INITIATIVES	£20.00		
2(K)	UNAUTHORISED ENTRY OF TEAMS INTO COMPETITIONS	£20.00		
3	FAILURE TO OBTAIN CONSENT FOR A CHANGE OF CLUB NAME	£20.00		
4(C)	FAILURE TO PAY A DEPOSIT	£20.00		
4(E)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE AFFILIATION NUMBER/DETAILS FORM	£10.00		
5(E)	NOMINATED OFFICERS			
6(H)	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH AN INSTRUCTION OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	£25.00		
6(I)	FAILURE TO PAY A FINE WITHIN REQUIRED TIMEFRAME	ORIGINAL FINE DOUBLED (Max £100)		
8(H)	FAILURE TO BE REPRESENTED AT AGM	£50.00		
9	FAILURE TO BE REPRESENTED AT SGM	£50.00		
10	FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED WRITTEN AGREEMENT OR TO NOTIFY CHANGES TO SIGNATORIES	£20.00		
11(A)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL BEFORE DEADLINE	£25.00		
11(B)	FAILURE TO COMMENCE OR COMPLETE FIXTURES	£50.00		
13(A)	FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED WRITTEN AGREEMENT REGARDING THE TROPHY	NA		
16(A)	FAILURE TO HAVE THE REQUIRED INSURANCE	£100.00		
16(B)	FAILURE TO HAVE THE REQUIRED INSURANCE	£100.00		
18(A)	FAILURE TO CORRECTLY REGISTER A PLAYER	£10.00		
18(B)(iii)	FAILURE TO HAVE THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF REGISTERED PLAYERS PRIOR TO THE SEASON COMMENCING	£25.00		
18(F)	REGISTERING OR PLAYING FOR MULTIPLE CLUBS, OR INACCURATE COMPLETION OF A REGISTRATION FORM	£10.00		
18(G)(ii)	REGISTRATION IRREGULARITIES	£10.00		
18(N)(i)	PLAYING AN INELIGIBLE PLAYER (PER PLAYER)	£10.00		
18(N)(iv)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE SQUAD LIST PRIOR TO KICK OFF	£30.00		
18(O)(i)	FAILURE TO GIVE PRIORITY TO SCHOOL ACTIVITIES	£25.00		
19(A)	FAILURE TO NUMBER SHIRTS	£10.00 (per shirt). Max £30.		
19(A)	DELAYING KICK OFF DUE TO NO CHANGE OF COLOURS	£10.00		
20(A)	DELAYING KICK OFF DUE TO FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED EQUIPMENT	£10.00		
20(A)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE RESPECT BARRIER OR TECHNICAL AREA	£20.00		
20(B)	FAILURE TO PLAY MATCHES ON THE DATE FIXED	£25.00		
20(C)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE DETAILS OF A FIXTURE	£10.00		
20(D)	PLAYING MATCH WITH LESS THAN THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF PLAYERS	£5.00 per missing Player		
20(E)(i) & (iii)	FAILURE TO PLAY FIXTURE	£25.00		
20(H)	NO CAPTAIN'S ARMBAND	£5.00		
21(A)	FAILURE TO SUBMIT TEAM SHEET	£10.00		
21(B)	FAILURE TO SUBMIT MATCH RESULT	£20.00		
21(D)	PUBLISHING RESULTS/GRADING TABLES FOR FIXTURES INVOLVING U7s, U8s, U9s, U10s OR U11s	£10.00		
23(C)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE CLUB ASSISTANT REFEREE	£10.00		
23(E)	FAILURE TO PAY MATCH OFFICIALS' FEES AND EXPENSES	£10.00		
23(F)	FAILURE TO PAY MATCH OFFICIALS - MATCH NOT PLAYED	£10.00		
23(H)	FAILURE TO SUBMIT REFEREE MARKS	£20.00		



# PART TWO

# THE RULES OF THE CUP COMPETITIONS

#### 1 INTRODUCTION

- (A) The League shall play Cup at least one Cup competition in each age group each season. The holding of a second or further competition is at the discretion of the Management Committee and will be dependent upon the time available to undertake and complete such a competition within the normal Playing Season.
- (B) Less for those Rules specifically detailed in Part Two of these Rules (i.e. this Part), all Rules detailed in League Rules Part One also apply to Cup Competitions.

# 2 | CUP ENTRY FEES

The entry fee for each Cup Competition is included in the Annual Subscription and Team entry fees in accordance with Part 1 Rule 4.

# 3 CONTROL OF THE COMPETITIONS

- (A) Each age group's Competition(s) will be administered by the respective Age Group Secretary on behalf of the Management Committee, which shall have ultimate control and management of the Competitions. This shall include the authority to adjudicate upon all queries, protests and complaints in respect of the interpretation of the Competition Rules.
- (B) The Management Committee shall have the right to appoint a Cup Competitions subcommittee to manage any aspect of the Cup Competitions as it sees fit. The decisions of the Management Committee and any appointed Cup sub-committee will be final and binding on all participants but remain subject to the appeals procedure introduced in Part One Rule 7.

## 4 COMPETITION FORMATS

- (A) (i) <u>U12-U18 Age Group Challenge Cups</u>. A knock-out Cup Competition for each age group. All teams registered for the age group will be entered automatically.
  - (ii) <u>U12-U18 Age Group Invitation Cups</u>. Generally, such Invitation Cups will be most likely to be held towards the end of the season and include only those teams projected to complete their League fixture schedule early and/or which are no longer involved in the age-group's Challenge Cup Competition. Participation in these Competitions, where held, will by invitation of the Management Committee. The Competition format will be decided by the Management Committee and will be dependent upon the number of teams invited and the time available for it to be completed.
  - (iii) <u>U7-U11 Age Group Trophy Events</u>. During the course of the season, teams in the subject age-groups are permitted by The FA to take part in short-duration trophy events as detailed in Rule 20(A). All teams registered for the age group will be entered automatically. The format(s) of each age-group's events will be decided by the Management Committee dependent upon the number of teams participating.

# 5 QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

- (A) League Rules Part One Rule 18 applies in all respects except in the circumstances detailed in Cup Rule 5(B).
- (B) (i) A Player who has played in the Cup Competition and subsequently transferred to another Team in the Cup Competition is deemed to be cup-tied and may not play for his/her new team in the Cup Competition.
  - (ii) A Player who was named as a substitute for his/her previous Team but who did not actually play in any Cup Competition matches is deemed not to be cup-tied.
  - (iii) Any Club found to have played an ineligible Player or Players in a Cup Competition Match or Matches shall be expelled from the Cup Competition and be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff for each offending Player. The Management Committee shall have the power to reinstate at its discretion a Team or Teams which may have been otherwise knocked out of the Cup Competition by the expelled Team.

#### 6 CUP DRAW

(A) The date of each round shall be fixed by the Management Committee. For knockout Cups, the Teams shall be drawn in pairs, each pair shall play-off, the winners shall again be drawn in pairs and these pairs shall compete with each other, as in the first round and so on until the last pair shall play each other in the Final Match. The winning Club shall hold the Cup under conditions provided for by these Rules. The Team drawn first in each match shall have the choice of ground. Postponed matches shall be played on a date fixed by the Management Committee.

#### (B) <u>U12-U18 Age Group Cups</u>.

- (i) In the Semi-Finals of the Cup Competitions the first named Team for each tie shall have home advantage. In the event of the first named Team's ground being either unavailable or unsuitable for play on two named occasions the fixture shall be reversed and the second named Team shall then be deemed the first named Team and gain home advantage.
- (ii) The League will appoint a Referee for all Semi-Finals with the Home Team paying the Match Officials' Fee which will be reimbursed to the Club by the League Treasurer.

#### 7 MATCH DURATION

#### (A) <u>U12-U18 Age Group Cups</u>.

All matches shall be played in two equal halves in accordance with the times listed in the Playing Timetable (shown below) and shall be concluded on the day. In the event of a game being drawn in the Under 12s to Under 16s age groups extra time of 10 minutes each way shall be played. In the event of a game being drawn in the Under 17s & Under 18s age groups extra time of 15 minutes each way shall be played.

If the scores remain level after extra time the game shall be decided by the taking of penalty kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the International Football Association Board procedure. Any team failing to comply with this Rule shall be duly expelled from the Competition.

#### **PLAYING TIMETABLE**

I EXTINO TIMETABLE					
AGE GROUP	MINUTES PLAYED	EXTRA TIME MINUTES PLAYED			
UNDER 12	60	20			
UNDER 13	70	20			
UNDER 14	70	20			
UNDER 15	80	20			
UNDER 16	80	20			
UNDER 17	90	30			
UNDER 18	90	30			

# 8 THE FINAL MATCH

#### (A) <u>U12-U18 Age Group Cups</u>.

- (i) Cup Finals shall be played on neutral grounds as determined by the Management Committee, with Officials appointed and paid for by the League.
- (ii) The Management Committee shall fix a charge for Spectator admission to the Final at its discretion and the League shall retain the proceeds in order to offset the costs of staging the Match.
- (iii) The League will appoint Match Officials for all Finals and settle their Fees and Expenses directly.
- (iv) In addition to the Cup, the League shall present medals or mementoes to the Players in the Final match. A player sent from the field of play by the Referee shall not be allowed to attend the presentation ceremony & his memento may be withheld at the discretion of the Management Committee.
- (v) The Match Officials shall receive a suitable memento from the League plus traveling expenses of 25p per mile.

## 9 OWNERSHIP OF TROPHIES

(A) All Cups are presented for permanent retention by the winning Club. Once presented, the the cost of any repair or replacement in the event of subsequent damage or loss is the responsibility of the receiving Club.