

**THE SSCOTTISH HIGHLAND FOOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH  
DEVELOPMENT**

**COMPETITION RULES**

**UNDER 19**

**ALL COMPETITIONS**

- 1 All matches shall be played in the terms of the Laws of the Game as recognised by the Scottish Football Association Limited.
- 2 The season may commence as agreed by the Youth Committee.
- 3 The Secretary shall draw up a fixture list for the season which should be adhered to by the clubs at all times. Matches will normally be played on a Tuesday, except where the home club do not have floodlights, when they will be played on a Sunday. Clubs may, subject to their mutual agreement, move the date of any match to either the previous Sunday or any date up to the Wednesday of the following week. In the event of any dispute then the matter should be reported to the Secretary. He will then liaise with the Chairman and two other Committee Members who will adjudicate between them and stipulate when the game will be played.
- 4 All games must commence promptly at the mutually agreed time.
- 5 Clubs must play in distinguishing colours, which must be intimated to the Secretary before the first day of June. If the colours of the teams drawn together are similar the away club shall change.
- 6 Any club who subsequently withdraws from a competition after having commenced playing or fails to complete its match programme shall be deemed as having failed in fulfilling their obligations to the Under 19 match programme. The circumstances surrounding any such action will be considered by the Youth Committee and, where considered appropriate, referred to the League Management Committee for disciplinary action to be taken against the offending club.
- 7 In the event of a club withdrawing, being expelled or suspended from a Competition, all fixtures in the competition from which they have withdrawn, been expelled or suspended will be declared null and void.
- 8 Any match not completed may be ordered to stand as a completed match or replayed for the full ninety minutes as determined by the Youth Development Sub Committee.

**SCOTTISH HIGHLAND FOOTBALL LEAGUE UNDER 19 LEAGUE  
CHAMPIONSHIP**

- 9 Two leagues will be formed from those competing, split on a geographical basis. The composition of each league to be determined by the Youth Development Sub-Committee.
- 10 Each club shall play one another home and away.
- 11 No club will be asked to undertake a midweek match outwith the distance of 75 miles from their home ground.
- 12 The winning of the league will be determined by the results of the matches between the clubs. Three points will be awarded for a win, one for a draw. At the end of each competition the club scoring the highest number of points shall be declared the league winner.
- 13 In the event of two or more clubs being equal on points, goal difference will decide the league winners. If the goal difference is the same a play-off will take place between the clubs involved at a venue decided upon by the Youth Development Sub-Committee.
14. The winner of the Championship will be determined by the winner of either section playing each other at a neutral venue to decided upon by the Sub-Committee.
15. If at the end of ninety minutes both teams remain equal two periods of extra time of 15 minutes duration will be played. If the teams still remain equal the winners shall be determined by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the system laid down by the International Board.
- 16 The Champion club shall be entitled to the League Championship Trophy and mementos for the players, such mementos to consist of up to 20 medals struck to an approved pattern.

**SCOTTISH HIGHLAND FOOTBALL LEAGUE UNDER 19 CUP**

- 17 The trophy shall be called the “ Scottish Highland Football League Under 19 Cup” and shall be open for competition annually to all clubs in membership of the Youth development Programme.
- 18 The competition shall be conducted by the Youth Development Committee. The dates of all ties shall be decided by the Youth Development Committee.
- 19 In Round 1 the clubs that make up each geographical section shall be placed in their own group. Ties will be drawn to ensure that a team from one section will play a team from the other. The first team drawn from the North Section will be the home team in the first tie, the second team will be the away team and so on

until the draw is completed. The opposite will apply for teams drawn for the East Section group.

- 20 In Round 1 sufficient ties will be drawn to reduce the competing number of clubs to 8.
- 21 Clubs not drawn in Round 1 will progress into Round 2.
- 22 In Round 2 the teams will be drawn from a communal group. The first drawn in each tie will be the home club.
- 23 The Final tie will be played at a neutral venue to be decided upon by the Sub Committee.
- 24 All ties will be completed without any replay. If at the end of ninety minutes the scores are level extra time of fifteen minutes each way will be played. If at the end of extra time there is still equality, the winners shall be determined by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the system laid down by the International Board.
- 25 The winning club shall be entitled to the Under 19 Cup Trophy and mementoes for the players, such mementoes to consist of up to 16 medals, struck to an approved pattern.

## **PLAYERS**

- 26 All players must be registered according to the Terms of Reference and Principles of the Scottish Highland Football League Under-19 Youth League.

## **TEAM SHEETS**

- 27 Each team shall, prior to kick-off, present in triplicate to the match referee the name, addresses and dates of birth of each participating player, and such details to be completed on the official team lines of the League. The referee should retain one copy of the team lines and the others submitted to the competing clubs.
- 28 Notice of the result of each match, together with a copy of both clubs' team lines, should be submitted by the referee to the Secretary to arrive by the fourth day following the match.
- 29 All clubs shall wear numbered strips; such numbers to correspond with those designated to the players on the team lines.
- 30 Each team shall consist of a maximum of 16 players, five of which shall be named as substitutes. Three of the five players named as a substitute may take part in the match.

## **MATCH OFFICIALS**

- 31 The Secretary shall keep a list of Referees approved by The Scottish Football Association, from which Referees shall be appointed for all League matches.

In the event of a Referee being unable to fulfill an appointment he must notify the Secretary immediately, who then shall have the power to appoint a substitute Referee.

Assistant Referees shall be appointed by the same Referees Association as the match referee.

- 32 The referee shall have power in all matches to decide as to the fitness of the ground.
- 33 The referee shall be required to arrive at the ground of the home club at least 45 minutes prior to the stipulated kick-off time.
- 34 The tariff for Referees & Assistant Referees shall be fixed by the Scottish Highland Football League Management Committee, and shall be paid by the ground Club on the day of the match.
- 35 In the event of the home club failing to advise the match officials of any change in the arrangements for a match or its postponement and they travel to the venue then they will be entitled to receive half their match fee plus expenses.

## **PROTESTS**

- 36 Any objection relative to the ground, goal posts or other appurtenance of the game, must be lodged with the Referee before the start of the game. In the case of protests against players, these lodged in writing by recorded delivery with the Secretary, in writing, within four (4) days of the match.

Protests must be accompanied with a deposit of Five Pounds £5.00 which shall be forfeited to the funds of the League should the Youth Development Sub-Committee consider the protest to be frivolous or groundless.

The Secretary shall notify the Secretary of the Club against which a protest has been lodged, in writing, that such a protest has been received and shall invite the club to submit a written report on the subject within fourteen (14) days.

- 37 On points of fact connected with the play, the decision of the referee shall be final. On question of interpretation of Rules or of the Laws of the Game, an appeal maybe made to the Management Committee, but the Referee's decision, although under protest, must be acted upon on the field of play.

## **INSPECTION OF GROUNDS**

- 38 Where necessary, the Home Club shall appoint a Ground Inspector, such inspector to be a Referee affiliated to a Referees Association, whose fee shall be two pounds £2.00 plus expenses. When the officiating referee acts as a ground inspector he shall receive his fee and expenses in addition to the fee as referee of the game, should the game take place, provided that the inspection took place not less than two hours before the start of the game.

In the event of the match Referee declaring the ground unplayable less than two hours before the kick-off, he will be entitled to half fee plus expenses provided that he has arrived at the ground not less than one hour before kick-off.

- 39 If because of the prevailing weather conditions, it is doubtful whether the ground will be fit for play, the Home Club must arrange an inspection, not later than 6 hours before the match.
- 40 Should the ground be declared unplayable, the Referee making the inspection must advise the Secretary, in writing, giving the exact time of the inspection. The Home Club shall be held responsible for advising all parties officiating, also the visiting Club, without delay.

## **DISCIPLINE**

- 41 The Scottish Football Association Disciplinary Procedures will apply. The Scottish Football Association will administer the Disciplinary System.

With the exception of matches in the Specified Cup Competition Procedures and unless the relevant qualification applies players under suspension by the Scottish Football Association shall be debarred from participating in any of the competitions organised or controlled through this League until such suspension has expired or been uplifted.

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