**SUSSEX COUNTY WOMEN & GIRLS**

**FOOTBALL LEAGUE**

**(Formed: 2004)**



[**www.scwgfl.com**](http://www.scwgfl.com)

[**@SCWGFL**](http://www.twitter.com/SCWGFL) **/** [**Facebook**](http://www.facebook.com/SCWGFL) **/** [**G+**](http://www.google.com/+Scwgfl)

**COMPETITION DIRECTORATE & HANDBOOK**

**SEASON – 2018/2019**

*Affiliated to the Sussex County Football Association*

|  |
| --- |
| **INDEX** |

**PAGE COMPETITION INFORMATION**

1. 2 Index

3 Directorate of Competition – Season 2018/2019

4 Committees, Sub-Committees and Delegates / General Information

5 Chairman’s Annual Report – Season 2017/2018

6 Annual Accounts – Season 2017/2018

**oOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOo**

**PAGE COMPETITION CONSTITUTION**

7-25 SECTION A1 - Standard Code of Rules (Adult)

26-28 SECTION A2 - League Challenge Cup Rules (Adult)

29-48 SECTION A3 - Standard Code of Rules (Youth)

49-52 SECTION A4 - League Challenge Cup Rules (Youth)

53-55 SECTION A5 - Supplementary Trophy Rules (All Competitions)

56 SECTION B - Anti-Discrimination Policy

SECTION C - The FA Concussion Guidelines

57 SECTION D - Safeguarding Children

58 SECTION E - League Awards [Respect/Club Administration]

59 SECTION F - Approaching of Players

60 SECTION G - Guide to Markings (Referee)

61 SECTION H - National League System Regulations

62-63 Constitution of the Joint Liaison Committee

64 SECTION I - Competition Policy Statement

65-71 SECTION J - Codes of Conduct

72 SECTION K - Respect: Guidance for Team Sportsmanship Marks

73 - Amendments/Notes

|  |
| --- |
| **DIRECTORATE OF COMPETITION – SEASON 2018/2019** |

**LIFE MEMBERS Alan Knight** (2013), **Brian Shacklock** (2013), **Bob Rashbrook** (2016), **Chris Cooper** (2017)

**VICE-PRESIDENTS Paul Baston** (2010) and **Keveena Mosen** (2008)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **General League Enquiries** |  | [**contactus@scwgfl.com**](mailto:contactus@scwgfl.com) |
| **Player Registration Enquiries** |  | [**playerregistrations@scwgfl.com**](mailto:playerregistrations@scwgfl.com) |
| **President & Age Group Officer** | **Clare NICHOLS** | **01903 766855 (Business Hours)**  [**clare@scwgfl.com**](mailto:clare@scwgfl.com) |
| **Chairman &**  **Age Group Officer** | **Kevin GRIMSHAW** | **07905 871270**  [**kevin@scwgfl.com**](mailto:kevin@scwgfl.com) |
| **Deputy Chairman**  **Age Group Officer** | **Sarah POYNTZ** | **07871 592411**  [**sarah@scwgfl.com**](mailto:sarah@scwgfl.com) |
| **Competition Secretary (\*)** | **Paul PRESTON** | **01903 610020 / 07594 858187**  [**paulp@scwgfl.com**](mailto:paulp@scwgfl.com) |
| **Treasurer** | **VACANT** |  |
| **Fixture Secretary** | **Cyrena LOWNDS** | [**cyrena@scwgfl.com**](mailto:cyrena@scwgfl.com) |
| **Registration Secretary** | **Russell BROOKS** | **01273 624941 / 07703 291568**  [**russell@scwgfl.com**](mailto:russell@scwgfl.com) |
| **Referees Appointments Secretary** | **Angela BENNETT** | **07761 545507**  [**angela@scwgfl.com**](mailto:angela@scwgfl.com) |
| **Respect & Welfare Officer** | **Allie HONEYWOOD** | **07980 508512**  [**allie@scwgfl.com**](mailto:allie@scwgfl.com) |
| **Marketing Officer** | **Lucy SPENCER-DAVIDSON** | **07957 356579**  [**lucy@scwgfl.com**](mailto:lucy@scwgfl.com) |
| **Fundraising Officer & Trophy Secretary** | **Martin SYMONDS** | **07821 515431**  [**martin@scwgfl.com**](mailto:atkinsn1@sky.com) |
| **Fines Secretary** | **VACANT** |  |
| **Minutes Secretary** | **VACANT** |  |
| **Rules Secretary** | **VACANT** |  |

**PLEASE AVOID TELEPHONING MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS AFTER 8.30PM**

**The Management Committee welcome anyone who is willing to help the competition develop and grow and are especially keen to hear from any players wanting to help shape the future of the league.**

|  |
| --- |
| **COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITTEES AND DELEGATES – SEASON 2018/2019** |

**League Management Committee**

**Attendance:** The Competition Officers, Club Representatives and Committee Members.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Monday 13th August 2018*** | *All meetings take place at SCFA Headquarters, Culver Road, LANCING, West Sussex. BN15 9AX.* |
| ***Monday 10th September 2018*** |
| ***Monday 15th October 2018*** |
| ***Monday 12th November 2018*** |
| ***Monday 10th December 2018*** |
| ***Monday 14th January 2019*** |
| ***Monday 11th February 2019*** |
| ***Monday 11th March 2019*** |
| ***Monday 15th April 2019*** |
| ***Monday 13th May 2019*** |
| ***Monday 10th June 2019*** |

*[All meetings to commence at 7.15pm]*

**Annual General Meeting**

**Attendance:** The Management Committee, Life-Members, Vice-Presidents and two representatives from each elected Club.

**15th Annual General Meeting – 7.30pm**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Monday 8th July 2019*** | *SCFA Headquarters, Culver Road, LANCING, West Sussex. BN15 9AX* |

**Special General Meeting/Club Meeting *[League Council]***

**Attendance:** The Management Committee, Life-Members, Vice-Presidents and two representatives from each elected Club.

**Other Sub-Committees**

**Attendance:** No less than three members of the Competition Management Committee

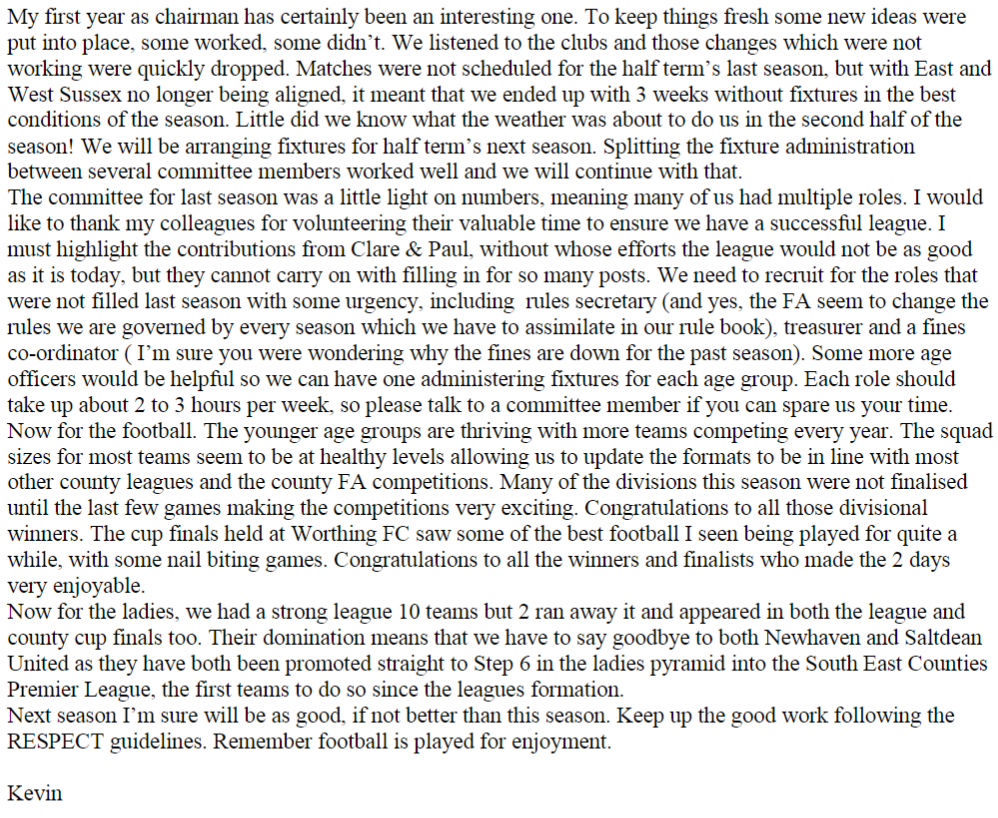
**Women’s Joint Liaison Committee**

**Attendance:** No more than one member of the Competition Management Committee

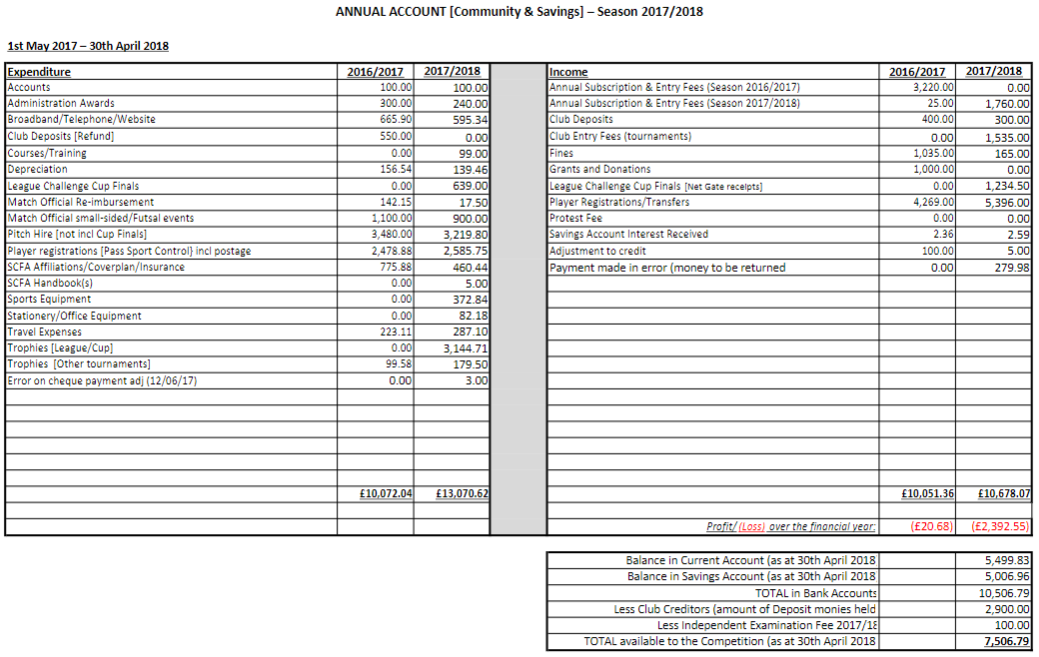
**Sussex County FA Central Appointments Representative**

**Attendance:** Referee Appointments Officer

|  |
| --- |
| **CHAIRMAN’S ANNUAL REPORT – SEASON 2017/2018** |



|  |
| --- |
| **ANNUAL ACCOUNTS – SEASON 2017/2018** |



**►►► REPORTING OF RESULTS (TELEPHONE) ◄◄◄**

**Results should be made using the SMS text service but if you are having problems they can be telephoned to the following number:**

**01903 610020**

|  |
| --- |
| **SECTION A1 – STANDARD CODE OF RULES (ADULT)** |

**STANDARD CODE OF RULES (ADULT)**

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

The Standard Code is mandatory for all Competitions at Step 7 of the National League System and below, and The FA Women’s Pyramid excluding FA Women’s Super League and FA Women’s Championship.

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

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

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

In all cases where a [ ] is shown the necessary name, address, number or wording to complete that rule must be inserted **and is shown in bold purple text. Local amendments to the SCOR that have been approved by the Sussex County Football Association are shown in bold purple text. Dates are highlighted in red text for information purposes only**.

Competitions may add to the core of the Standard Code, which is mandatory, providing the additions are approved by the Sanctioning Authority and do not conflict with the mandatory rules or any relevant principles and policies established by The FA. Guidance from the Sanctioning Authority should be sought in advance if there is any doubt as to the acceptability of additional rules.

**DEFINITIONS**

1. (A) In these Rules:

“Affiliated Association” means an Association accorded the status of an Affiliated Association under the rules of The FA.

“AGM” shall mean the annual general meeting held in accordance with the constitution of the Competition.

“Club” means a club for the time being in membership of the Competition.

“Competition” means the [**Sussex County Women and Girls 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 at Schedule A.

“Fines Tariff” means a list of fines approved by the Clubs at a general meeting to be levied by the Management Committee for any breach of the Rules, as set out at Schedule A.

“Ground” means the ground on which the Club’s Team(s) plays its Competition Matches.

“Management Committee” means in the case of a Competition which is an unincorporated association, the management committee elected to manage the running of the Competition and where the Competition is incorporated it means the Board of Directors appointed in accordance with the articles of association of that company.

“Match Officials” means the referee, the assistant referees and any fourth official appointed to a Competition Match.

“Non Contract Player” means any Player (other than a Player on a Scholarship) who is eligible to play for a Club but has not entered into a written contract of employment.

“Officer” means an individual who is appointed or elected to a position in a Club or Competition which requires that individual to make day to day decisions.

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

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

“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 **Sussex** County Football Association Limited].

“Scholarship” means a Scholarship as set out in Rule C 3 (a) (i) of the rules of The FA.

“Season” means the period of time between an AGM and 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.

1. 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.

**GOVERNANCE RULES**

**COMPETITION NAME, CONSTITUTION**

* 1. The Competition will be known as [“**Sussex County Women and Girls Football League**”] (or such other name as the Competition may adopt). The Clubs participating in the Competition must be members of the Competition. A Club which ceases to exist or which ceases to be entitled to play in the Competition for any reason whatsoever shall thereupon automatically cease to be a member of the Competition.
  2. This Competition shall consist of not more than [**30**] Clubs *~~and/or [ ] Teams~~* approved by the Sanctioning Authority.
  3. The geographical area covered by the Competition membership shall be [**the counties of West Sussex and East Sussex**]. **Any club from outside the specified area wishing to participate in the Competition must play at a venue not exceeding 20 miles by road to the nearest Sussex county boundary.**
  4. The administration of the Competition under these Rules will be carried out by the Competition acting (save where otherwise specifically mentioned herein) through the Management Committee in accordance with the rules, regulations and policies of The FA.
  5. 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.
  6. The Rules are taken from the Standard Code of Rules (the “Standard Code”) determined by The FA from time to time. In the event of any omissions from the Standard Code then the requirements of the Standard Code shall be deemed to apply to the Competition.
  7. 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* [**16**] *in numbe*r.

1. Inclusivity and Non-discrimination
2. The Competition and each Club must be committed to promoting inclusivity and to eliminating all forms of discrimination and should abide and adhere to The FA Equality Policy and any legislative requirements (to include those contained in the Equality Act 2010).
3. 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.
4. Any alleged breach of the Equality Act 2010 legislation must be referred to the appropriate Sanctioning Authority for investigation.
5. Clubs must comply with the provisions of any initiatives of The FA which are adopted by the Competition including, but not limited to, Charter Standard and RESPECT programmes. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
6. All Participants shall abide by The Football Association Regulations for Safeguarding Children as determined by The FA from time to time.
7. Clubs shall not enter any of their Teams playing in the Competition in any other competitions (with the exception of FA and County FA Competitions) except with the written consent of the Management Committee. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
8. At the AGM or a SGM called for the purpose, a majority of the delegates present shall have power to decide or adjust the constitution of the divisions at their discretion. When necessary this Rule shall take precedence over Rule 22.
9. Only one Team shall be permitted from any Club to participate in the same division as another Team from the same Club unless there is no viable alternative because of logistical issues and/or reasons linked to participation and geographical boundaries. The Competition will obtain the prior approval of the Sanctioning Authority in the event of a division comprising of more than one Team from the same Club. This Competition will ensure that, where permission is given, Teams from a Club operating in the same division are run as separate entities with no interchange of players other than via transfers of registration in accordance with these Rules.

**CLUB NAME**

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

**ENTRY FEE, SUBSCRIPTION, DEPOSIT**

1. (A) Applications by Clubs for admission to the Competition or the entry of an additional Team(s) from the same Club must be made in writing to the Secretary and must be accompanied by an Entry Fee per Team as set out in the Fees Tariff, which shall be returned in the event of non-election.

At the discretion of a majority of the accredited voting members present applications, of which due notice has been given, may be received at the AGM or an SGM.

When Rule 22(B) is applied or a Team seeks a transfer or, is compulsorily transferred to another division, no Entry Fee shall be payable.

1. The annual subscription shall be payable in accordance with the Fees Tariff per *Club/Team* payable on or before the AGM of the Competition in each year.
2. In the event of any issue concerning the membership of any Club with the Competition the Management Committee may require a Deposit to be paid (in accordance with the Fees Tariff) by or on behalf of the Club on such terms and for such period as it may in its entire discretion think fit. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
3. A Club shall not participate in this Competition until the entry fee, annual subscription and deposit (if required) have been paid.
4. Clubs must advise annually to the Secretary in writing by [**1st August**] of its Sanctioning Authority affiliation number for the forthcoming Playing Season. Clubs must advise the Secretary in writing, or on the prescribed form, of details of its headquarters, its Officers and any other information required by the Competition. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

**MANAGEMENT, NOMINATION, ELECTION**

1. (A) The Management Committee shall comprise the Officers of the Competition and [**6**] members who shall all be elected at the AGM.
2. Retiring Officers shall be eligible to become candidates for re-election without nomination provided that the Officer notifies the Secretary in writing not later than [**31st May**] in each year.

All other candidates for election as Officers of the Competition or members of the Management Committee shall be nominated to the Secretary in writing, signed by the secretaries of two Clubs, not later than [**31st May**] in each year. Names of the candidates for election shall be circulated with the notice of the AGM. In the event of there being no nomination in accordance with the foregoing for any office, nominations may be received at the AGM.

1. The Management Committee shall meet as and when required, save that no more than three calendar months shall pass between each meeting.

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

1. Except where otherwise mentioned all communications shall be addressed to the Secretary who shall conduct the correspondence of the Competition and keep a record of its proceedings.
2. All communications received from Clubs must be conducted through their Officers and sent to the Secretary.

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

**POWERS OF MANAGEMENT**

1. (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.
2. 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.
3. 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 also apply to the procedure of any sub-committee).

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

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

With the exception of Rules 6(I), 8(H), and 9, for all alleged breaches of a Rule the Management Committee shall issue a formal written charge to the Club concerned. The Club charged shall be given 7 days from the date of notification of the charge to reply. In such reply a Club may:

* + 1. Accept the charge and submit in writing a case of mitigation for consideration by the Management Committee on the papers; or
    2. Accept the charge and notify that it wishes to put its case of mitigation at a hearing before the Management Committee; or
    3. Deny the charge and submit in writing supporting evidence for consideration by the Management Committee on the papers; or
    4. Deny the charge and notify that it wishes to put its case at a hearing before the Management Committee.

Where the Club charged fails to respond within 7 days, the Management Committee shall determine the charge in such manner and upon such evidence as it considers appropriate.

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

Having considered the reply of the Club (whether in writing or at a hearing), the Management Committee shall make its decision and, in the event that the charge is accepted or proven, decide on the appropriate penalty (with reference to the Fines Tariff where applicable).

With the exception of Teams playing at Step 7 of the National League System, the maximum fine permitted for any breach of a Rule is £250 and, when setting any fine, the Management Committee must ensure that the penalty is proportional to the offence, taking into account any mitigating circumstances.

The maximum fine permitted for a breach of a Rule by a Team playing at Step 7 of the National League System is £500.

No Participant under the age of 18 can be fined.

All breaches of the Laws of the Game, or the Rules and Regulations of The FA shall be dealt with in accordance with FA Rules by the appropriate Association.

1. 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.

1. [**33**%] of its members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business by the Management Committee or any sub-committee thereof.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. Subject to a Club’s right of appeal in accordance with Rule 7 below, all fines and charges must be paid within 14 days of the date of notification of the decision. Any Club failing to do so will be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff. Further failure to pay the fine including the additional fine within a further 14 days will result in fixtures being withdrawn until such time as the outstanding fines are paid.
5. A member of the Management Committee appointed by the Competition to attend a meeting or Competition Match may have any reasonable expenses incurred refunded by the Competition.
6. The Management Committee shall have the power to fill any vacancy that may occur in the membership of the Competition between the AGM or SGM called to decide the constitution and the commencement of the Playing Season.
7. The business of the Competition as determined by the Management Committee may be transacted by electronic mail or facsimile.

**PROTESTS, CLAIMS, COMPLAINTS, APPEALS**

1. (A) (i) All questions of eligibility, qualification of Players or interpretations of the Rules shall be referred to the Management Committee or a sub-committee duly appointed by the Management Committee.

(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.

1. Except in cases where the Management Committee decide that there are special circumstances, protests and complaints (which must contain full particulars of the grounds upon which they are founded) must be lodged with the Secretary within [**7**] days (excluding Sundays) of the Competition Match or occurrence to which they refer. A protest or complaint shall not be withdrawn except by permission of the Management Committee. A member of the Management Committee who is a member of any Club involved shall not be present (except as a witness or representative of his Club) when such protest or complaint is being determined.
2. No protest of whatever kind shall be considered by the Management Committee unless the complaining Club shall have deposited with the Secretary a sum in accordance with the Fees Tariff. This may be forfeited in whole or in part in the event of the complaining or protesting Club losing its case. The Competition shall have power to order the defaulting Club or the Club making a losing or frivolous protest or complaint to pay the expenses of the inquiry or to order that the costs to be shared by the parties.
3. 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.
4. All parties must have received [**14**] days’ notice of the hearing should they be instructed to attend.
5. Should a Club elect to state its case in person then it should indicate such when forwarding the written response.
6. The Management Committee shall also have power to compel any party to the protest to pay such expenses as the Management Committee shall direct.
7. Any appeal against a decision of the Management Committee must be lodged with the Sanctioning Authority within 14 days of the posting of the written notification of the decision causing the appeal, accompanied by a fee (as set out in the Fees Tariff), which may be forfeited in the event of the appeal not being upheld. A copy of the appeal must also be sent to the Secretary. The procedure for the appeal shall be determined by the Sanctioning Authority, in such respect the Sanctioning Authority may (but is not obliged to):
   1. invite submissions by the parties involved;
   2. convene a hearing to hear the appeal;
   3. permit new evidence; or
   4. impose deadlines as are appropriate

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

1. No appeal can be lodged against a decision taken at an AGM or SGM unless this is on the ground of unconstitutional conduct.
2. All protests, claims or complaints relating to these Rules and appeals arising from a Player’s contract shall be heard and determined by the Management Committee, or a sub-committee duly appointed by the Management Committee. The Clubs or Players protesting, appealing, claiming or complaining must send a copy of such protest, appeal, claim or complaint and deposit a fee (as set out in the Fees Tariff) which shall be forfeited in the event of the protest, appeal, claim or complaint not being upheld, and the party not succeeding may, in addition, be ordered to pay the costs at the direction of the Management Committee.

All such protests, claims, complaints and appeals must be received in writing by the Secretary within fourteen days of the event or decision causing any of these to be submitted.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

1. (A) The AGM shall be held not later than [**31st July**] in each year. At this meeting the following business shall be transacted provided that at least [**75%**] members are present and entitled to vote:-
   1. To receive and confirm the minutes of the preceding AGM.
   2. To receive and adopt the annual report, balance sheet and statement of accounts.
   3. Election of Clubs to fill vacancies.
   4. Constitution of the Competition for the ensuing Season.
   5. Election of Officers of the Competition and the Management Committee members.
   6. Appointment of auditors.
   7. Alteration of Rules, if any (see Rule 14).
   8. Fix the date for the commencement of the Playing Season and kick off times applicable to the Competition.
   9. Fix the date for the end of the Playing Season (save for Step 7 which shall be determined by The FA).
   10. Other business of which due notice shall have been given and accepted as being relevant to an AGM.
2. 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.
3. 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
4. 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.
5. Clubs who have withdrawn their membership of the Competition during the Playing Season being concluded or who are not continuing membership shall be entitled to attend but shall vote only on matters relating to the Season being concluded. *This provision will not apply to Clubs expelled in accordance with Rule 12.*
6. 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.
7. No individual shall be entitled to vote on behalf of more than one Club.
8. 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.
9. Officers of the Competition and Management Committee members shall be entitled to attend and vote at an AGM.
10. 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.

**SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS**

1. Upon receiving a requisition signed by two-thirds (2/3) of the Clubs in membership the Secretary shall call a SGM.

The Management Committee may call a SGM at any time.

At least seven (7) days’ notice shall be given of a meeting under this Rule, together with an agenda of the business to be transacted at such meeting.

Each Club shall be empowered to send two delegates to all SGMs. Each Club shall be entitled to one vote only.

Any Club failing to be represented at a SGM shall be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

Officers of the Competition and Management Committee members shall be entitled to attend and vote at all SGMs.

**AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED**

1. Each Club shall complete and sign the following agreement which shall be deposited with the Competition together with the application for membership for the coming Season, or upon indicating that the Club intends to compete.

“We, (A) (name) [ ] of (address) [ ] (Chairman)/(Director)and (B) (name) [ ] of (address) [ ] (Secretary)/(Director)of [ ] Football Club (Limited) have been provided with a copy of the Rules and Regulations of the [**Sussex County Women and Girls 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:

1. Where a Club is an unincorporated association, the Club chairman and secretary; or
2. 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 [**Sussex**] County Football Association(s) to which the Club is affiliated and to the Secretary.

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

**CONTINUATION OF MEMBERSHIP, WITHDRAWAL OF A CLUB**

1. (A) Any Club intending, or having a provisional intention, to withdraw a Team from the Competition on completion of its fixtures and fulfilment of all other obligations to the Competition must notify the Secretary in writing by 31st March each season. This does not apply to a Club moving in accordance with Rule 22(B). Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
2. 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.
3. Notwithstanding the powers of the Management Committee pursuant to Rule 6(I), in the event of a Club failing to discharge all its financial obligations to the Competition in excess of £50, the Management Committee shall be empowered to refer the debt under The FA Football Debt Recovery provisions.

**EXCLUSION OF CLUBS, TEAMS. MISCONDUCT OF CLUBS, OFFICERS, PLAYERS, MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

1. (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 membership, both of which must be supported by more than two thirds (2/3) of those present and voting. Voting on this point shall be conducted by ballot. A member of the Management Committee or Club which is the subject of the vote being taken shall be excluded from voting.
2. 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 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.
3. 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 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 clause (A) and/or (B) of this Rule.

**TROPHY**

1. (A) The following agreement shall be signed on behalf of the winners of the cup or trophy:-

“We (A) (name) and (B) (name), the Chairman and Secretary of [ ] FC (Limited), members of and representing the Club, having been declared winners of cup or trophy, and it having been delivered to us by the Competition, do hereby on behalf of the Club jointly and severally agree to return the cup or trophy to the Competition Secretary on or before [**31st January**]. If the cup or trophy is lost or damaged whilst under our care we agree to refund to the Competition the amount of its current value or the cost of its thorough repair.”

Failure to comply **with this Rule (either non-completion of the agreement or not returning the trophy by the specified date)** will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

(B) *At the close of each Competition awards may/shall be made to the winners and runners-up if the funds of the Competition permit.* **Written application to be made to the Secretary by 15th May each year for additional mementos. The payment of any such additional awards will/may be charged to the Club.**

**ALTERATION TO RULES**

1. Alterations, for which consent has been given by the Sanctioning Authority, shall be made to these Rules only at the AGM or at a 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.

Notice of proposed alterations to be considered at the AGM shall be submitted to the Secretary by [**31st March**] in each year. The proposals, together with any proposals by the Management Committee, shall be circulated to the Clubs by [**5th May**] and any amendments thereto shall be submitted to the Secretary by [**20th May**]. The proposals and proposed amendments thereto shall be circulated to Clubs with the notice of the AGM. A proposal to change a Rule shall be carried if [**a majority**] of those present, entitled to vote and voting are in favour.

A copy of the proposed alterations to Rules to be considered at the AGM or SGM shall be submitted to the Sanctioning Authority or The FA (as applicable) at least 28 days prior to the date of the meeting.

**FINANCE**

1. (A) The Management Committee shall determine with which bank or other financial institution the funds of the Competition will be lodged.
2. All expenditure in excess of £**[250.00**] shall be approved by the Management Committee. Cheques shall be signed by at least two Officers nominated by the Management Committee.
3. The financial year of the Competition will end on [**31st May**].
4. The books, or a certified balance sheet, of a Competition shall be prepared and shall be *~~audited/~~verified* annually by a suitably qualified person(s) who shall be appointed at the AGM.

**INSURANCE**

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

(B) All Clubs must have valid personal accident cover for all Players registered with them from time to time. The Players’ personal accident insurance cover must be in place prior to the Club taking part in any Competition Match and shall be at least equal to the minimum recommended cover determined from time to time by the Sanctioning Authority. In instances where The FA is the Sanctioning Authority, the minimum recommended cover will be the cover required by the Affiliated Association to which a Club affiliates.

Failure to comply with Rule 16(A) or 16(B) will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

**DISSOLUTION**

1. (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.
2. 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.
3. The Management Committee shall deal with any surplus assets as follows:
   1. 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.
   2. 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.

**MATCH RELATED RULES**

**QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS**

1. (A) A Player is one who, being in all other respects eligible, has:
   1. signed a fully and correctly completed Competition registration form in ink, countersigned by an Officer of the Club, which is submitted to the Competition [**5**] days prior to the Player playing and whose registration has been confirmed by the Competition prior to that Player playing in a Competition Match; **Paragraph 18(A)(i) not relevant to this Competition.**

Or

* 1. signed a fully and correctly completed Competition registration form in ink on a match day prior to playing which is countersigned by an Officer of the Club and witnessed by an Officer of the opposing Club, and submitted to the Competition within two days (Sundays excluded) subsequent to the Competition Match. The Player shall not play again on a subsequent match day until the Club is in possession of the approval of the Competition. A maximum of [] Players may be registered in accordance with this paragraph 18(A)(ii); **Paragraph 18(A)(ii) not relevant to this Competition.**

or

* 1. registered through WGS.

Any registration form which is sent by either of the means set out at Rules 18(A) (i) or (ii) above that is not fully and correctly completed will be returned to the Club unprocessed. 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.

For Clubs registering Players under Rules 18(A) (i) or (ii), registration forms will be provided in a format to be determined by the Competition. For Clubs registering Players via WGS (under Rule 18 (A) (iii)), Clubs must access WGS in order to complete the registration process.

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

**All Registered Players with the Competition will have a registration card generated and sent to the nominated team representative.  In the event of a registration card being lost or damaged, a charge as set out in the Fees Tariff will be levied against the Club.**

* + 1. Contract players are not permitted in this Competition with the exception of those Players who are registered under Contract with the same Club who have a team operating at Steps 1 to 6 of the National League System.

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

(ii) Each Club must have at least [**8**] Players registered [**14**] days before the start of each Playing Season. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

1. A Player that owes a Football Debt (as defined under the Football Debt Recovery Regulations) to any club(s) shall be permitted to register and play for a Club in Competition Matches, save that the Player may be liable to be suspended from playing for that Club should the Player fail to comply with the terms of the Football Debt Recovery Regulations in respect of that Football Debt.
2. A fee as set out in the Fees Tariff shall be paid by each Club/Team for each Player registered.
3. The Management Committee shall decide all registration disputes.

In the event of a player signing a registration form or having a registration submitted for more than one Club, priority of registration shall decide for which Club the Player shall be registered. The Secretary shall notify the Club last applying to register the player of the fact of the previous registration.

1. It shall be a breach of Rule for a Player to:-
   1. Play for more than one Club in the Competition in the same Playing Season without first being transferred.
   2. Having registered for one Club in the Competition, register for another Club in the Competition in that Playing Season except for the purpose of a transfer.
   3. Submit a signed registration form or submit a registration through WGS for registration that the Player had willfully neglected to accurately or fully complete.

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

1. (i) The Management Committee shall have the power to accept the registration of any Player subject to the provisions of Rules 18(G) (ii) and (iii) below.
2. The Management Committee shall have power to refuse, cancel or suspend the registration of any Player or may fine any Player, at their discretion (in accordance with the Fines Tariff) who has been charged and found guilty of registration irregularities (subject to Rule 7).
3. The Management Committee shall have power to make application to refuse or cancel the registration of any Player charged and found guilty of undesirable conduct (subject to Rule 7) subject to the right of appeal to the Sanctioning Authority. Application should be made to the parent County of the Club the Player is registered or intending to be registered with.

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

1. 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 not be taken against a Player for misconduct until the matter has been dealt with by the Sanctioning Authority, and then only in cases of the Player bringing the Competition into disrepute and will in any event be subject to an appeal to the Sanctioning Authority or The FA. All decisions must include the period of restriction. For the purpose of this Rule, bringing the Competition into disrepute can only be considered where the Player has received in excess of 112 days’ suspension, or 10 matches in match based discipline, in any competition (and is not restricted to the Competition) in a period of two years or less from the date of the first offence.)

1. Subject to compliance with FA Rule C2(a) when a Club wishes to register a player who is already registered with another club it shall submit a transfer form (in a format as determined by the Competition) to the Competition accompanied by a fee as set out in the Fees Tariff. Such transfer shall be referred by the Competition to the club for which the player is registered. Should this club object to the transfer it should state its objections in writing to the Competition and to the player concerned within 3 days of receipt of the notification. Upon receipt of the club’s consent, or upon its failure to give written objection within 3 days, the Secretary may, on behalf of the Management Committee, transfer the player who shall be deemed eligible to play for the new Club from such date or [**3**] days after receipt of such transfer.

In the event of an objection to a transfer the matter shall be referred to the Management Committee for a decision.

1. A Player may not be registered for a Club nor transferred to another Club in the Competition after [**31st March**] except by special permission of the Management Committee.
2. A Club shall keep a list of the Players it registers and a record of all matches in which those Players have played for the Club , and shall produce such records upon demand by the Management Committee.
3. 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 an Officer of the Club 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 without a written contract 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).

1. A Player shall not be eligible to play for a Team in any special championship, promotion or relegation deciding Competition Match (as specified in Rule 22(A)) unless the Player has played [**4**] Competition Matches for that Team in the current Playing Season.
2. A Team shall not include more than [**2**] Players who has/have taken part in [**5**] or more senior Competition Matches during the current Playing Season unless a period of 21 days has elapsed since they last played.

For the purpose of this Rule a senior competition(s) is/are [**any Competition operating at Step 6 or above**].

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

* 1. 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 Competition Match deducted from its record, up to a maximum of 12 points, and have levied upon it a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

1. 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.
2. 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:
   * 1. 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
     2. Levy penalty points against the Club in default; or
     3. Order that such Competition Match or Matches be replayed (on such terms as are decided by the Management Committee).
3. The following clause applies to Competitions involving Players in full-time secondary education:-

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.

* 1. The availability of children must be cleared with the Head Teachers (except for Sunday leagues competitions).
  2. To play open age football the player must have achieved the age of 16.

1. *A Player who has played for a Team in the [ ] division [ ] times or more shall not in that Playing Season be eligible to play in a lower division except by permission of the Management Committee.* **Rule not relevant in this Competition.**

**CLUB COLOURS**

1. Every Club must register the colour of its shirts and shorts with the Secretary by [**15th May**] 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 goalkeepers jersey) at least [**4**] days before the Competition Match.

If, in the opinion of the referee, two Teams have the same or similar colours, the *away~~/home~~* Team shall make the change. Should a Team delay the scheduled time of kick off for a Competition Match by not having a change of colours they will be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

Shirts must be numbered **and players must wear the numbered shirt submitted on the Team sheet at all times (with exception to a change of goalkeeper). Failing which a fine will be levied in accordance with the Fines Tariff**.

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

1. (A) All Competition Matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game as determined by the International Football Association Board.

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

The Management Committee shall have power to decide whether a pitch and/or facilities are suitable for Competition Matches and to order the Club concerned to play its Competition Match(es) 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 used must be tested (by a FIFA accredited test institute) every three years and the results passed to The FA. The FA will give a decision on the suitability for use and add the pitch to the Register.

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

**Ground facilities used within this Competition are required to have suitable changing and toilet facilities.**

Within the National League System (“NLS”) all Competition Matches shall have a duration of 90 minutes. All Competition Matches outside of the NLS shall have duration of 90 minutes unless a shorter time (not less than sixty (60) minutes) is mutually arranged by the two Clubs in consultation with the referee prior to the commencement of the match, and in any event shall be of equal halves. Two matches involving the same two Teams can be played on the same day providing the total playing time is not more than 120 minutes.

The times of kick-off shall be fixed at the AGM and can only be altered by the mutual consent of the two competing Clubs prior to the scheduled date of the Competition Match with written notification given to the Competition at least 7 days prior.

Referees must order matches to commence at the appointed time and must report all late starts to the Competition. **Any Team failing to commence at the appointed time shall be fined (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).**

The home Team must provide goal nets, corner flags, **Club Assistant Referee flags** and at least two footballs fit for play and the referee shall make a report to the Competition if the footballs are unsuitable. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

1. 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 Competition match with the consent of the (*Fixtures*) Secretary. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff**. If the pitch of the home club is unplayable on the date originally fixed, then the fixture must be reversed. If both the home and away pitch are deemed unplayable on the date originally fixed, then the Management Committee may determine a neutral ground for the fixture to be played**.

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).

1. 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 **and the Managers name and mobile number** to the Match Officials and an Officer of the opposing Club at least [**4**] clear days prior to the playing of the match. If not so provided, the away Club shall seek such details and report the circumstances to the Competition. **Notification must also be given to the appropriate Competition officer/s at least 4 clear days prior to the playing of the match.** Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
2. In accordance with the Laws of the Game, the minimum number of Players that will constitute a Team for a Competition Match is [**7**]. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
3. (i) Home and away matches shall be played. In the event of a Club failing to keep its engagement the Management Committee shall have power to impose a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff), deduct points from the defaulting Club, award the points from the Competition Match in question to the opponents, order the defaulting Club to pay any reasonable expenses incurred by the opponents or otherwise deal with them except 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.*
4. Any Club with more than one Team in the Competition shall always fulfil its fixture, within the Competition, in the following order of precedence:- First Team, Reserve Team, A Team.
5. Any Club unable to fulfil a fixture or where a Competition Match has been postponed for any reason must, without delay, give notice to the (Fixtures) Secretary, the Competition *Referees Appointments* Secretary, the secretary of the opposing Club and the Match Officials. **If the postponement is within 24 hours of the scheduled kick-off time, the Club must make additional contact via telephone.** **Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.**
6. In the event of a Competition Match not being played or abandoned owing to causes over which neither Club has control, it should be played in its entirety on a date to be mutually agreed by the two Clubs and approved by the Management Committee. Failing such agreement and notification to the (*Fixtures*) Secretary within [**3**] days the Management Committee shall have the power to order the Competition 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. *Providing gate money is taken and retained the visiting Club shall receive their actual standard class rail or bus fares or the equivalent for [ ] persons, or car allowance at [ ] p per mile for transporting [ ] persons, or hire charge of a coach (receipt to be submitted). The residue (if any) to be equally divided between the two Clubs after deducting the cost of advertising, printing, posting, police and Match Officials charges. The home Club shall take the whole of the proceeds of the second Competition Match.*

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

1. The Management Committee shall review all Competition Matches abandoned in cases where it is consequent upon the conduct of either or both Teams. Where it is to the advantage of the Competition and does no injustice to either Club, the Management Committee shall 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 Competition 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 Competition Match to the opponent. In cases where a Competition Match has been abandoned owing to the conduct of both Teams or their Club member(s), the Management Committee shall rule that neither Team will be awarded any points for that Competition Match and it shall not be replayed. No fine(s) can be applied by the Management Committee for an abandoned Competition Match.
2. The Management Committee shall review any Competition 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) above. Where both Teams were under suspension the game must be declared null and void and shall not be replayed.
3. A Club may at its discretion and in accordance with the Laws of the Game use substitute Players in any Competition Match. A Club may name up to [**5**] substitute Players of whom not more than [**5**] may be used.

*A Player who has been substituted himself becomes a substitute and may replace a Player at any time subject to the substitution being carried out in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of Association Football.*

*Where a Competition does allow return substitutes, a Club may use up to [****5 from 5 substitute Players]*** *in a Competition Match.*

The referee shall be informed of the names of the substitute Players not later than [**15**] minutes before the start of the Competition Match and a Player not so named may not take part in that Competition Match. **Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.**

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

1. The half time interval shall be of [**10**] minutes’ duration, but it shall not exceed 15 minutes. The half time interval may only be altered with the consent of the referee.
2. The Teams taking part in a Competition Match shall identify a Team captain who *~~may/~~shall* wear an armband and shall have a responsibility to offer support in the management of the on-field discipline of ~~his/~~her teammates. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
3. **(i) Clubs must hand team sheets listing the Players taking part in the match, including nominated substitutes and Club Assistant Referees, to the referee (White Copy) and to a representative of their opponents (Yellow Copy), in the presence of the referee, at least 15 minutes before prior to kick-off. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).**

**In the event of the Team Sheet Book being lost or damaged a charge will be levied against the Club (in accordance with the Fees Tariff).**

* 1. **Before the start of every match an opposing Club Official must inspect the Players Photo Registration Card of each of the opposing Players, including substitutes named to the referee, check that the photograph is a true likeness of the Player and that the Player’s date of birth quoted on the Card qualifies her to participate in the match.**

**If a Team does not produce its Players Photo Registration Card prior to the commencement of the match, the referee must be informed and the match will be regarded as an unfulfilled fixture as per Competition Rule 20(E). For not producing the Player Photo Registration Cards the defaulting Club will be fined (in accordance with the Fines Tariff). If a Players Photo Registration Card cannot be produced for an individual Player then she is not permitted to participate in the match unless the Registration Secretary is contacted and grants permission to both teams before play commences.**

1. **The home Club shall have a copy of Competition Rules available at all matches. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).**

**REPORTING RESULTS**

1. (A) The (*Registration~~/Fixtures~~*) Secretary must receive within [**3**] days of the date played, the result of each Competition Match in the prescribed manner. This must include the forename(s) and surname of the Team Players (in block letters) and also the *referee markings required by Rule 23, or any other information required by the Competition.* Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
2. ~~The Home Club/~~both Clubs shall telephone/SMS/email/notify the result of each Competition Match to the [**Competition**] by [**4.30pm on the day of the match, except for midweek fixtures, which must be received by 10.00pm on the day of the match**]. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
3. The match result notification, correctly completed, shall be signed by an Officer of the Club, or as prescribed by the Competition. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

**DETERMINING CHAMPIONSHIP**

1. (A) 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 circumstances where two or more teams are equal on points, the Team which has **achieved the highest number of points in their head to head Competition matches against the other Team[s] during the Playing Season will be the highest placed Team. [FA Pilot Scheme from season 2017-2018]**

If the records of two or more teams are still equal and it is necessary for any reason to determine the position of each team then the teams affected shall play a deciding match or matches as determined by the Management Committee.

* 1. *Automatic promotion shall be applied for the first [ ] Teams and automatic relegation shall be applied for the last [ ] Teams in each division except as provided for hereunder, subject to the provisions of Rule 2(L).*
     1. *Should one or more Teams withdraw from any one division after the Playing Season has commenced an equal number of Teams to those withdrawing in that division shall not be automatically relegated.*
     2. *Vacancies occurring after the conclusion of the Playing Season may be filled in any of the following ways:*
        1. *retention of otherwise relegated Team(s);or*
        2. *additional promotion of the next ranked Team(s) from the division below; or*
        3. *election.*
     3. *The last [ ] Teams in the lowest division shall retire, but be eligible for re-election except as below, and be subject to the conditions of Rule22 (B)(i) above.*
     4. *When a senior Team is relegated to a lower division of which its reserve Team is a member, or entitled to be a member, such reserve Team must accept relegation to, or retain its position in, the next lower division; and should the senior Team be relegated to the lowest division its reserve Team automatically retires from the Competition.*
     5. *Should either or both of the leading Teams in any of the divisions have its senior Team in the next higher division, promotion shall fall, at the discretion of the General Meeting, to the next highest Team or Teams in the division concerned.*

**Rule not relevant in this Competition.**

* 1. *In addition to the Team(s) automatically promoted under Rule 22(B), a maximum of one further Team shall be promoted by virtue of being the winner of a play-off match or series of matches (the “Play-Offs). The eligibility criteria and format of the Play-Offs are as follows [ ].*

**Rule not relevant in this Competition.**

* 1. 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.
  2. *Where a promotion and/or relegation link exists between Competitions [ ] Clubs, providing they meet the appropriate grading criteria, will be eligible to make application to the [ ] Competition at their AGM. Should the champion Club not wish for promotion or, alternatively, not have the necessary grading criteria, then the [] or [ ] placed Club will be eligible under the same conditions.*

*At the end of each Season and depending on the geographical location of Clubs gaining promotion to or being relegated from the[ ] Competition, it may be necessary for the Competition either (a) to accept a Club from the [ ]Competition, or (b) have a Club transferred to the same Competition.*

*The bottom [ ] Clubs in the [ ] Competition will be relegated. Each relegated Club will be allocated either to the [ ] Competition or to the Competition recommended as most appropriate by the Joint Liaison Committee.*

*[ ] Clubs will be promoted to the [ ] Competition from the [ ] Competition, and the [ ] Competition providing that each Club is either the Champion Club or Runner-up or [ ] placed Club and has the necessary grading criteria.*

*In the event of there being no eligible Club wishing promotion or not having the necessary grading criteria from any of the Competitions, this will reduce the number of Clubs to be relegated from the [ ] Competition.*

*If only [ ] Clubs are eligible or wish for promotion, the bottom [ ] Clubs in the [ ] Competition will be relegated. If only [ ] Club is eligible or wishes promotion, only the bottom Club in the [ ] Competition will be relegated.*

*If no Clubs are eligible, or wish for promotion, no Clubs will be relegated from the [ ] Competition.*

*In the event of a [ ] Competition Club not being placed in the bottom [ ] Clubs at the end of the Playing Season, wishing to resign from the Competition at the end of the Playing Season, or having been excluded under Rule [ ] only [ ] Clubs will be relegated at the end of the Playing Season.*

*In the event of a [ ] Competition Club opting to be relegated or being relegated under Rule [ ] such Club or Clubs will replace the Club or Clubs otherwise due for relegation.*

**Rule not relevant in this Competition.**

* 1. **Any Club in this Competition wishing to be promoted to Step 6 is entitled to apply to do so through the Promotion Pool System.**

**Applications must be made direct to The FA on the official FA Promotion Pool forms. These forms can be obtained from the Competition Secretary and must be submitted directly to the Football Association with a copy to the Competition Secretary by the date specified by the Football Association on the application form.**

**Clubs who finish outside of the automatic promotion positions at Step 7 in the feeder Division to Step 6 are still entitled to apply for promotion in the manner prescribed in the previous paragraph. Applications will be assessed on merit by the relevant Joint Liaison Committee and will be subject to additional spaces being available at Step 6. The final approval on all Promotion Pool applications will be made by The FA Women’s Football Committee.**

**Movements of clubs within Leagues operating at Step 7 are determined by the relevant Joint Liaison Committee. Only those Clubs finishing in the top two positions of the SCWGFL will be eligible to move to another Step 7 League. The number of clubs transferring to another Step 7 League cannot be more than the number of clubs transferring from another Step 7 League.**

**MATCH OFFICIALS**

1. (A) Registered referees (and assistant referees where approved by The FA or County FA) for all Competition Matches shall be appointed in a manner approved by the Management Committee and by the Sanctioning Authority.
2. In the event of the non-appearance of the appointed referee the appointed senior assistant referee shall take charge and a substitute assistant referee appointed by the competing Teams. In cases where there are no officially appointed Match Officials in attendance, the Clubs shall agree upon a referee. An individual thus agreed upon shall, for that Competition Match, have the full powers, status and authority of a registered referee. Individuals under the age of 16 must not participate either as a referee or assistant referee in any Competition Match. **Failure by the home Club to provide a Referee in such circumstances will be deemed as an unfulfilled fixture by the home Team. Any unfulfilled fixture will be dealt with under Rule 20(E).**
3. Where assistant referees are not appointed each Team shall provide a Club assistant referee. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
4. 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.
5. Subject to any limits/provisions laid down by the Sanctioning Authority, Match Officials appointed under this Rule shall be paid a match fee in accordance with the Fees Tariff and travel expenses of [**zero pence**] per mile/ or inclusive of travel expenses.

Match Officials will be paid their fees and/or expenses by the home Club before~~/immediately after~~ the Competition Match. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

1. In the event of a Competition Match not being played because of circumstances over which the Clubs have no control, the Match Officials, if present, shall be entitled to *~~full fee plus expenses/half fee plus expenses/~~****expenses only***. Where a Competition Match is not played owing to one Club being in default, that Club shall be ordered to pay the Match Officials, if they attend the Ground, their full fee and expenses. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
2. A referee not keeping his or her engagement, and failing to give a satisfactory explanation as to their non-appearance, may be reported to the Affiliated Association with which he or she is registered.
3. Each Club shall, in a manner prescribed from time to time by The FA, award marks to the referee for each Competition Match and the name of the referee and the marks awarded shall be submitted to the Competition on the prescribed form provided. Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be liable to be fined (in accordance with the Fines Tariff) or dealt with as the Management Committee shall determine. **Where a mark of 60 or less has been given, a written explanation of the reason for the marking must be given to the Referees Appointment Secretary within 3 days of the match played**.
4. The Competition shall keep a record of the markings and, on the form provided by the prescribed date each Season, shall submit a summary to The FA/County FA.
5. *The referee shall submit a report form, supplied by the Competition, giving the result of the Competition Match, the number of Players in each Team and the time of kick-off to the (Registration) Secretary within two days of the Competition Match.* **Rule not relevant in this Competition.**
6. *Match Officials shall be supplied, each season, with a copy of the Competition Rules free of charge.* **Rule not relevant in this Competition.**
7. *Match Officials shall have undertaken a RESPECT briefing offered by The FA/County FA or the Competition.* **Rule not relevant in this Competition.**
8. **It is permissible for match officials within this competition, and associated cup competitions under our jurisdiction, to wear a coloured referee shirt. Should the coloured referee shirt clash with either clubs kit, the referee must revert to black. I.e. the referee cannot choose to wear yellow, and make a Club change their entire kit, as the main colour for match officials remains black. It is however permissible now for a referee to wear yellow with a team in blue and a team in red for example.**

**The shirt(s) must be almost entirely of a single colour. Where a Competition appoints neutral assistant referees, only one non-black coloured shirt is permitted; the colour must be designated and competition rules must ensure that the match officials can wear black or the designated colour without clashing with the Players.**

**SCHEDULE A**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| FEES TARIFF | | | |
| RULE NUMBER | DESCRIPTION | MAXIMUM FEE | SCWGFL FEE |
| 4 (A) | CLUB ENTRY FEE | £50.00 | **£25.00** |
| 4 (B) | CLUB/TEAM ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION | £150.00 | **£30.00** |
| 4 (C) | DEPOSIT | £100.00 | **£100.00** |
| 7 (C), 7 (E), 7(G) | PROTEST/APPEAL FEES | £35.00 | **£35.00** |
| 18 (D) | PLAYER REGISTRATION FEE | £10.00 (per player) | **£4.00** |
| 18 (H) | TRANSFER FEE | £10.00 | **£2.00** |
| 23 (E) | REFEREE FEES | £35.00 | **£35.00** |
| 23 (E) | ASSISTANT REFEREE FEES | £20.00 | **£20.00** |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| FINES TARIFF | | |
| RULE NUMBER | DESCRIPTION | MAXIMUM FINE |
| 2 (G) | FAILURE TO AFFILIATE | **£100.00** |
| 2 (I) | FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH FA INITIATIVES | **£100.00** |
| 2 (K) | UNAUTHORISED ENTRY OF TEAMS INTO COMPETITIONS | **£25.00** |
| 3 | FAILURE TO OBTAIN CONSENT FOR A CHANGE OF CLUB NAME | **£30.00** |
| 4 (C) | FAILURE TO PAY A DEPOSIT | **£100.00** |
| 4(E) | FAILURE TO PROVIDE AFFILIATION NUMBER/DETAILS FORM | **£100.00** |
| 5(E) | COMMUNICATIONS CONDUCTED BY PERSONS OTHER THAN NOMINATED OFFICERS | **£25.00** |
| 6 (H) | FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH AN INSTRUCTION OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE | **£100.00** |
| 6 (I) | FAILURE TO PAY A FINE WITHIN REQUIRED TIMEFRAME | **£Double the original fine up to £100.00** |
| 8 (H) | FAILURE TO BE REPRESENTED AT AGM | **£100.00** |
| 9 | FAILURE TO BE REPRESENTED AT SGM | **£50.00** |
| 10 | FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED WRITTEN AGREEMENT OR TO NOTIFY CHANGES TO SIGNATORIES | **£25.00** |
| 11(A) | FAILURE TO PROVIDE NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL BEFORE DEADLINE | **£100.00** |
| 11 (B) | FAILURE TO COMMENCE/COMPLETE FIXTURES | **£100.00** |
| 13 (A) | FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED WRITTEN AGREEMENT REGARDING THE TROPHY | **£10.00** |
| 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 | **£25.00** |
| 18 (B) (ii) | 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 | **£25.00** |
| 18 (G)(ii) | REGISTRATION IRREGULARITIES | **£100.00** |
| 18 (M) | FIELDING MORE THAN THE PERMITTED NUMBER OF PLAYERS WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN SENIOR COMPETITIONS MATCHES | **£100.00** |
| 18 (N) | PLAYING AN INELIGIBLE PLAYER | **£100.00** |
| 18(O) | FAILURE TO GIVE PRIORITY TO SCHOOL ACTIVITIES | **£50.00** |
| 19 | DELAYING KICK OFF DUE TO NO CHANGE OF COLOURS | **£30.00** |
| 19 | FAILURE TO NUMBER SHIRTS | **£30.00** |
| 20(A) | DELAYING KICK OFF DUE TO FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED EQUIPMENT | **£30.00** |
| 20 (B) | FAILURE TO PLAY MATCHES ON THE DATE FIXED | **£100.00** |
| 20 (C) | FAILURE TO PROVIDE DETAILS OF A FIXTURE | **£50.00** |
| 20 (D) | PLAYING MATCH WITH LESS THAN REQUIRED NUMBER OF PLAYERS | **£100.00** |
| 20 (E) (i) & (iv) | FAILURE TO PLAY FIXTURE | **£100.00** |
| 20 (H) | NO CAPTAIN’S ARMBAND | **£10.00** |
| 21 (A) | LATE RESULT NOTIFICATION FORM | **£20.00** |
| 21 (B) | FAILURE TO PROVIDE RESULT | **£20.00** |
| 21(C) | RESULT NOTIFICATION NOT SIGNED BY APPROPRIATE SIGNATORIES | **£20.00** |
| 23 (C) | FAILURE TO PROVIDE CLUB ASSISTANT REFEREE | **£25.00** |
| 23 (E) | FAILURE TO PAY MATCH OFFICIALS’ FEES AND EXPENSES | **£25.00** |
| 23 (F) | FAILURE TO PAY MATCH OFFICIALS WHERE A MATCH IS NOT PLAYED | **£25.00** |
| 23 (H) | FAILURE TO PROVIDE REFEREE’S MARK | **£25.00** |

**SCHEDULE B – INDEX**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Rule 1 | Definitions |
| **GOVERNANCE RULES** | |
| Rule 2 | Name and Constitution |
| Rule 3 | Club Name |
| Rule 4 | Entry Fee, Subscription, Deposit |
| Rule 5 | Management, Nomination, Election |
| Rule 6 | Powers of Management |
| Rule 7 | Protests, Claims, Complains, Appeals |
| Rule 8 | Annual General Meeting |
| Rule 9 | Special General Meeting |
| Rule 10 | Agreement to be Signed |
| Rule 11 | Continuation of Membership, Withdrawal of a Club |
| Rule 12 | Exclusion of Clubs, Teams. Misconduct of Clubs, Officers, Players, Management Committee |
| Rule 13 | Trophy |
| Rule 14 | Alteration to Rules |
| Rule 15 | Finance |
| Rule 16 | Insurance |
| Rule 17 | Dissolution |
| **MATCH RELATED RULES** | |
| Rule 18 | Qualification of Players |
| Rule 19 | Club Colours |
| Rule 20 | Playing Season. Conditions of Play, Times of Kick-Off. Postponements. Substitutes |
| Rule 21 | Reporting Results |
| Rule 22 | Determining Championship |
| Rule 23 | Match Officials |
| **SCHEDULE A** | |
|  | Fees Tariff |
|  | Fines Tariff |

|  |
| --- |
| **SECTION A2 – LEAGUE CHALLENGE CUP RULES (ADULT)** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1.** | **CONTROL OF CUP COMPETITION** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (A) | The entire control and management of this Cup Competition shall be vested in the Management Committee, hereinafter referred to as the Committee, and their decisions shall be final. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (B) | The Rules of the Competition shall apply to this Cup Competition except where they are inappropriate or are amended by these Rules. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **2.** | **COmpetition** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | This Competition shall be designated as the Sussex County Womens’ League Challenge Cup. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **3.** | **CUP OWNERSHIP** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (A) | The Cup shall remain the property of the SUSSEX COUNTY WOMENS’ FOOTBALL LEAGUE. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (B) | Should the cup be lost, stolen, destroyed, damaged by fire or other accident whilst under the care or custody of the Club. That Club shall refund to the Competition the amount of its replacement value, or the cost of thorough repair. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (C) | The Cup can never become the absolute property of any Club, and in the event of the dissolution of this Competition, it shall again become the property of the donors. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (D) | The Chairman, Competition Secretary and Treasurer of the Competition shall be, for all intents and purposes, the legal owners of the Cup in trust for the Donors. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **4.** | **ELIGIBLE CLUBS** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Only those Clubs that are in current membership of Sussex County Womens’ Football League will be eligible to compete. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **5.** | **WITHDRAWALS AND UNFULFILLED TIES** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (A) | A Club withdrawing after entry, without a reason satisfactory to the Management Committee, may be liable to a fine not exceeding £50.00 and may not be allowed to enter the Competition the following season. This will include any Club which is under suspension by a County Association to which it is affiliated. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (B) | If any Club shall refuse, or fail to play a tie, or is under suspension by a County Association to which it affiliates on the date fixed for it (only extenuating circumstance will be considered by the Management Committee), it shall be removed from the Competition and in the Final Tie the Management Committee shall have power to reinstate the Club defeated by the defaulting Club in the semi-final. Further, and in addition, a defaulting Club failing to comply with this Rule shall be fined (in accordance with League Challenge Cup Fines Tariff) and shall pay any expenses incurred by their opponents, who will be awarded the tie. including the charge for hire of the ground, if applicable.  With regards to extenuating circumstances relating to school activities, the defaulting club must give covering details in writing to the Competition at least 7 days prior to the date set for playing the tie, with supporting evidence in writing and any certification. In cases of medical or other extenuating circumstances, this must be received within 7 days of the date set for the tie to be played, with supporting evidence in writing and any certification. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **6.** | **QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (A) | Only those Players registered with the Competition are eligible to play in the Competition. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (B) | A Player shall not play for more than one Club in the same Playing Season in this Competition, but the members of each respective Team may be changed during the series of ties.  A Player can only play in one Competition for her Club during the Playing Season.  Failing to comply to this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with League Challenge Cup Fines Tariff). |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (C) | In the case of postponed, abandoned or replayed ties, only those Players shall be allowed to play who were eligible on the date fixed for the original tie, or was to be played. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (D) | For all rounds up and including the semi-finals a Player must have been a registered playing member of her relevant Team for at least 5 days to the original date fixed for the tie to be played.  Unless approval has been given by the Management Committee a Player who is not eligible to play in the Semi-Finals will not be eligible for the Final |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (E) | Players eligible to play in the Semi-Finals of this competition shall be eligible to play in the Final. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (F) | Any Club found guilty of fielding an ineligible Player shall be removed from the Competition, their opponents being reinstated, and shall be fined (in accordance with the League Challenge Cup Fines Tariff). |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **7.** | **ORGANISATION OF COMPETITION** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (A) | The Management Committee shall have the power to select any number of Clubs to be exempt until Second or subsequent round. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (B) | The names of the Clubs entering the Competition shall be placed in one lot, or in lots at the option of the Management Committee, and shall be drawn from such lot or lots in couples at a time, the first drawn Club having home advantage. These couples shall compete with each other at the time specified by the Management Committee and the names of the winning Clubs shall be placed in a lot or lots, drawn in couples and compete as in the first tie, and so on until the final tie is reached. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (C) | The Fixture Secretary shall circulate to each Club the name of its opponent in each round and, if possible, date and time of Kick off when the tie shall be played. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **8.** | **GROUNDS FOR TIES** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | In each tie prior to the Final in this Competition the game shall be played on the ground of the Club first drawn unless determined by the Fixture Secretary. If the pitch of the home Club is unplayable on the date originally fixed, then the fixture must be reversed. If both the home and away pitch are deemed unplayable on the date originally fixed, then the Management Committee may determine a neutral ground for the fixture to be played. Should the tie be postponed, on every occasion due to poor condition of ground the Fixture Secretary shall order a change of venue to the opposition’s ground. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **9.** | **DURATION OF TIES** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (A) | The duration of each tie shall be 90 minutes (45 minutes each half) unless a shorter time (not less than 60 minutes (30 minutes each half)) is mutually agreed by the two captains in consultation with the referee prior to the commencement of the tie. Half-time interval shall be 10 minutes and may only be altered with the consent of the referee. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (B) | In any tie in which the score is level at the end of normal time an additional 30 minutes (15 minutes each half) extra time will be played. If, in the opinion of the referee prevailing circumstances would not permit the tie to be finished, 20 minutes (10 minutes each half) extra time may be played. If the referee decides to play 10 minutes each half, he must notify both Clubs. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **10.** | **POSTPONED OR ABANDONED TIES** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (A) | Ties which are abandoned for any reason, in normal or extra time, shall be dealt with by theManagement Committee which shall have the power to order the score at the time of the abandonment to stand as the result of the tie, to order the tie to be replayed and to determine on which ground the tie shall be played, or to take any further action which it sees fit to determine. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (B) | Ties which are postponed shall be rearranged by the Fixture Secretary. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **11.** | **KICK OFF TIMES AND LATE START** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (A) | All ties shall commence at a time as determined by the Management Committee in advance of the commencement of the competition. In the event of a Team not ready to commence play at that time, the referee shall order the tie to commence as soon as possible, allowing for the playing of extra time and the taking of penalties. If time does not allow, the tie will be declared null and void and will be referred to the Management Committee for a ruling. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (B) | The referee shall report any late starts to the Referees Appointments Secretary, and a defaulting team may be liable for all match expenses and a fine (in accordance with League Challenge Cup Fines Tariff). Failure to provide a satisfactory explanation by the defaulting team will result in the tie being awarded to the opposing Team, in a manner as decided by the Management Committee. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (C) | During the months of November to February inclusive ties in this Competition shall commence no later than 1.30pm. Agreement may be reached with the opponents, and the Fixture Secretary, for a later start if floodlights are available. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **12.** | **REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (A) | The Referees Appointment Secretary, if possible, will appoint referees to the earlier rounds and assistant referees in the Semi-Finals and Final. For the Final the Referees Appointment Secretary will, if possible, appoint a fourth official. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (B) | The fees and traveling expenses of all officials appointed by the Competition to officiate in any tie, prior to the Final, shall be paid by the home Club at the rate as shown in the Fees Tariff. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **13.** | **PROVISION FOR FINAL** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (A) | The Management Committee shall fix the ground, the date and time of kick off for the Final and shall have direct control of the arrangements connected with the tie. An Officer of the Competition will confirm details to both Clubs and Match Officials regarding the Final. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (B) | The Management Committee may order both Clubs to change their colours if their colours are similar. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (C) | The Competition may on the day of the Final present up to sixteen (16) plaques, medals or other suitable mementos to Players in each team and a suitable memento to the Manager of each team. A Club which has participated in a Final may apply in writing to the Competition Secretary for other Players to receive a memento. The application must contain full details of the Players involved and the reason for the request. Any such awards approved by the Management Committee shall be at the expense of the applying Club. All applications for additional awards must be posted within 7 days following the Final involved |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (D) | The Match Officials will receive mementos in lieu of fee and expenses shall be as shown in Competition Fees Tariff. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (E) | When winning Club has been ascertained, the Competition Secretary shall deliver the trophy to that club, which in return shall give written undertaking, in a form approved by the Management Committee, to return the cup in good condition to the Competition Secretary on or before the 31st January in the following season. Failing to comply with this Role will result in a fine (in accordance with League Challenge Cup Fines Tariff). |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **14.** | **CONTINGENCY** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | The Management Committee shall have the power to appropriately deal with any contingency not provided for in these Rules, including the imposition of any penalties. |

**LEAGUE CHALLENGE CUP FINES TARIFF**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| RULE NUMBER | DESCRIPTION | FINE |
| 5(B) | FAILURE TO FULFIL TIE | £20.00 |
| 6(B) | FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH RULE | £20.00 |
| 6(F) | PLAYING AN INELIGIBLE PLAYER | £50.00 |
| 11(B) | DELAYING KICK OFF | £10.00 |
| 13(F) | FAILURE TO RETURN CUP BY STIPULATED TIME | £10.00 |

|  |
| --- |
| **SECTION A3 – STANDARD CODE OF RULES (YOUTH)** |

**STANDARD CODE OF RULES FOR MINI SOCCER AND YOUTH FOOTBALL COMPETITIONS**

This document contains the Standard Code of Rules developed by The Football Association for Mini Soccer and Youth Football Competitions (the “Standard Code”).

The Standard Code is mandatory for all Mini Soccer and Youth Football Competitions.

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

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

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

In all cases where a [ ] is shown the necessary name, address, number or wording to complete that rule must be inserted **and is shown in bold purple text. Local amendments to the SCOR that have been approved by the Sussex County Football Association are shown in bold purple text. Dates are highlighted in red text for information purposes only.**

Competitions may add to the core of the Standard Code, which is mandatory, providing the additions are approved by the Sanctioning Authority and do not conflict with the mandatory rules or any relevant principles and policies established by The FA. Guidance from the Sanctioning Authority should be sought in advance if there is any doubt as to the acceptability of additional rules.

**DEFINITIONS**

* + - 1. (A) In these Rules:

“Affiliated Association” means an Association accorded the status of an Affiliated Association under the rules of The FA.

“AGM” shall mean the annual general meeting held in accordance with the constitution of the Competition.

“Club” means a club for the time being in membership of the Competition.

“Competition” means the [**Sussex County Women and Girls 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 at Schedule A.

“Fines Tariff” means a list of fines approved by the Clubs at a general meeting to be levied by the Management Committee for any breach of the Rules, as set out at Schedule A.

“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 [**Sussex**] County Football Association Limited].

“Scholarship” means a Scholarship as set out in Rule C 3 (a) (i) of the rules of The FA.

“Season” means the period of time between an AGM and 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.

1. 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.

**GOVERNANCE RULES**

**COMPETITION NAME AND CONSTITUTION**

2

1. The Competition will be known as [“**the Sussex County Women and Girls Football League**“] (or such other name as the Competition may adopt). The Clubs participating in the Competition must be members of the Competition. A Club which ceases to exist or which ceases to be entitled to play in the Competition for any reason whatsoever shall thereupon automatically cease to be a member of the Competition.
2. This Competition shall consist of not more than [**60**] Clubs *and/or* [ ] Teams approved by the Sanctioning Authority.

(C ) The geographical area covered by the Competition membership shall be [**the counties of West Sussex and East Sussex**]. **Any Club from outside the specified area wishing to participate in the Competition must play at a venue not exceeding 10 miles by road to the nearest Sussex county boundary.**

1. The administration of the Competition under these Rules will be carried out by the Competition acting (save where otherwise specifically mentioned herein) through the Management Committee in accordance with the rules, regulations and policies of The FA.

(E ) 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.

1. 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.
2. 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 [****10****] in number.*

1. Inclusivity and Non-discrimination
   * 1. The Competition and each Club must be committed to promoting inclusivity and to eliminating all forms of discrimination and should abide and adhere to The FA Equality Policy and any legislative requirements (to include those contained in the Equality Act 2010).
     2. 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.
     3. Any alleged breach of the Equality Act 2010 legislation must be referred to the appropriate Sanctioning Authority for investigation.
2. Clubs must comply with the provisions of any initiatives of The FA which are adopted by the Competition including, but not limited to, Charter Standard and RESPECT programmes. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
3. All Participants shall abide by The Football Association Regulations for Safeguarding Children as determined by The FA from time to time.
4. 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.
5. At the AGM or a SGM called for the purpose, a majority of the delegates present shall have power to decide or adjust the constitution of the divisions at their discretion. When necessary this Rule shall take precedence over Rule 22.

**CLUB NAME**

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

**ENTRY FEE, SUBSCRIPTION, DEPOSIT**

1. (A) Applications by Clubs for admission to the Competition or the entry of an additional Team(s) from the same Club must be made in writing to the Secretary and must be accompanied by an entry fee per Team as set out in the Fees Tariff, which shall be returned in the event of non-election.

At the discretion of the voting members present applications, of which due notice has been given, may be received at the AGM or a SGM or on a date agreed by the Management Committee.

1. The annual subscription shall be payable in accordance with the Fees Tariff per *Club/Team (where a Club has more than one Team in membership of the Competition)* and shall be payable on or before [**1st August**] in each year.

*(C ) A Deposit of £[****100****] shall be payable in accordance with the Fees Tariff per Club/Team (where a Club provides more than one Team in membership of the Competition) and shall be payable on or before [****1st August****] in each year. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.*

1. A Club shall not participate in this Competition until the entry fee, annual subscription and Deposit (if required) have been paid. **Failure to pay these fees will incur a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.**

(E ) If requested by the Competition, Clubs must advise annually to the Secretary in writing by [**1st August**] of its Sanctioning Authority affiliation number for the forthcoming Playing Season. Clubs must advise the Secretary in writing, or on the prescribed form, of details of its headquarters, its Officers and any other information required by the Competition. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

**MANAGEMENT, NOMINATION, ELECTION**

1. (A) The Management Committee shall comprise the Officers of the Competition and [**6**] members who shall all be elected at the AGM.
2. Retiring Officers shall be eligible to become candidates for re-election without nomination provided that the Officer notifies the Secretary in writing not later than [**31st May**] in each year.

All other candidates for election as Officers of the Competition or members of the Management Committee shall be nominated to the Secretary in writing, signed by the secretaries of two Clubs, not later than [**31st May**] in each year. Names of the candidates for election shall be circulated with the notice of the AGM. In the event of there being no nomination in accordance with the foregoing for any office, nominations may be received at the AGM.

1. The Management Committee shall meet as and when required, save that no more than three calendar months shall pass between each meeting.

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

1. Except where otherwise mentioned all communications shall be addressed to the Secretary who shall conduct the correspondence of the Competition and keep a record of its proceedings.
2. All communications received from Clubs must be conducted through their Officers and sent to the Secretary.

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

**POWERS OF MANAGEMENT**

1. (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.
2. Subject to the permission of the Sanctioning Authority having been obtained the Management Committee may order a match or matches to be played each Season, the proceeds to be devoted to the funds of the Competition and, if necessary, may call upon each Club (including any club which may have withdrawn during the Season) to contribute equally such sums as may be necessary to meet any deficiency at the end of the Season.

(C) Each member of the Management Committee shall have the right to attend and vote at all Management Committee meetings and have one vote thereat, but no member shall be allowed to vote on any matters directly appertaining to such member or to the Club so represented or where there may be a conflict of interest. (This shall also apply to the procedure of any sub-committee).

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

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

With the exception of Rules 6(I), 8(H) and 9, for all alleged breaches of a Rule the Management Committee shall issue a formal written charge to the Club concerned. The Club charged shall be given 7 days from the date of notification of the charge to reply. In such reply a Club may:-

* + 1. Accept the charge and submit in writing a case of mitigation for consideration by the Management Committee on the papers; or
    2. Accept the charge and notify that it wishes to put its case of mitigation at a hearing before the Management Committee; or
    3. Deny the charge and submit in writing supporting evidence for consideration by the Management Committee on the papers; or
    4. Deny the charge and notify that it wishes to put its case at a hearing before the Management Committee.

Where the Club charged fails to respond within 7 days, the Management Committee shall determine the charge in such manner and upon such evidence as it considers appropriate.

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

Having considered the reply of the Club (whether in writing or at a hearing), the Management Committee shall make its decision and, in the event that the charge is accepted or proven, decide on the appropriate penalty (with reference to the Fines Tariff where applicable).

The maximum fine permitted for any breach of a Rule is £100 and, when setting any fine, the Management Committee must ensure that the penalty is proportional to the offence, taking into account any mitigating circumstances.

No Participant under the age of 18 can be fined.

All breaches of the Laws of the Game or the Rules and Regulations of The FA shall be dealt with in accordance with FA Rules by the appropriate Association.

1. 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.

1. [**33**%] of its members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business by the Management Committee or any sub-committee thereof.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. Subject to a Club’s right of appeal in accordance with Rule 7 below, all fines and charges must be paid within 14 days of the date of notification of the decision.

Any Club failing to do so will be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff. Further failure to pay the fine including the additional fine within a further 14 days will result in fixtures being withdrawn until such time as the outstanding fines are paid.

1. A member of the Management Committee appointed by the Competition to attend a meeting or Competition Match may have any reasonable expenses incurred refunded by the Competition.
2. The Management Committee shall have the power to fill any vacancy that may occur in the membership of the Competition between the AGM or SGM called to decide the constitution and the commencement of the Playing Season. **The Management Committee reserves the right to change the constitution of the Competition if the number of Teams in each division changes upwards or downwards after the AGM.**
3. The business of the Competition as determined by the Management Committee may be transacted by electronic mail or facsimile.

**PROTESTS, CLAIMS, COMPLAINTS, APPEALS**

1. (A) (i) All questions of eligibility, qualification of Players or interpretations of the Rules shall be referred to the Management Committee or a sub-committee duly appointed by the Management Committee.

(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.

1. Except in cases where the Management Committee decide that there are special circumstances, protests and complaints (which must contain full particulars of the grounds upon which they are founded) must be lodged with the Secretary within [**7**] days (excluding Sundays) of the Competition Match or occurrence to which they refer. A protest or complaint shall not be withdrawn except by permission of the Management Committee. A member of the Management Committee who is a member of any Club involved shall not be present (except as a witness or representative of his Club) when such protest or complaint is being determined.
2. No protest of whatever kind shall be considered by the Management Committee unless the complaining Club shall have deposited with the Secretary a sum in accordance with the Fees Tariff. This may be forfeited in whole or in part in the event of the complaining or protesting Club losing its case. The Competition shall have power to order the defaulting Club or the Club making a losing or frivolous protest or complaint to pay the expenses of the inquiry or to order that the costs to be shared by the parties.
3. 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.
4. All parties must have received [**14**] days’ notice of the hearing should they be instructed to attend.
5. Should a Club elect to state its case in person then it should forward a deposit of £ [**30.00**] and indicate such when forwarding the written response.
6. The Management Committee shall also have power to compel any party to the protest to pay such expenses as the Management Committee shall direct.
7. Any appeal against a decision of the Management Committee must be lodged with the Sanctioning Authority within 14 days of the posting of the written notification of the decision causing the appeal, accompanied by a fee (as set out in the Fees Tariff), which may be forfeited in the event of the appeal not being upheld. A copy of the appeal must also be sent to the Secretary. The procedure for the appeal shall be determined by the Sanctioning Authority, in such respect the Sanctioning Authority may (but is not obliged to):
8. invite submissions by the parties involved; or
9. convene a hearing to hear the appeal; or
10. permit new evidence; or
11. 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 AGM or SGM unless this is on the ground of unconstitutional conduct.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

1. (A) The AGM shall be held not later than [**31st July**] in each year. At this meeting the following business shall be transacted provided that at least [**75% of**] members are present and entitled to vote:-
   * 1. To receive and confirm the minutes of the preceding AGM.
     2. To receive and adopt the annual report, balance sheet and statement of accounts.
     3. Election of Clubs to fill vacancies.
     4. Constitution of the Competition for the ensuing Season.
     5. Election of Officers of the Competition and the Management Committee members.
     6. Appointment of auditors.
     7. Alteration of Rules, if any (see Rule 14).
     8. Fix the date for the commencement of the Playing Season and kick off times applicable to the Competition.
2. Fix the date for the end of the Playing Season.
3. Other business of which due notice shall have been given and accepted as being relevant to an AGM.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. 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.
7. Clubs who have withdrawn their membership of the Competition during the Playing Season being concluded or who are not continuing membership shall be entitled to attend but shall vote only on matters relating to the Season being concluded. *This provision will not apply to Clubs expelled in accordance with Rule 12.*
8. 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.
9. No individual shall be entitled to vote on behalf of more than one Club.
10. 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.
11. Officers of the Competition and Management Committee members shall be entitled to attend and vote at an AGM.
12. 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.

**SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS**

1. Upon receiving a requisition signed by two-thirds (2/3) of the Clubs in membership the Secretary shall call a SGM.

The Management Committee may call a SGM at any time.

At least seven (7) days’ notice shall be given of a meeting under this Rule, together with an agenda of the business to be transacted at such meeting.

Each Club shall be empowered to send two delegates to all SGMs. Each Club shall be entitled to one vote only.

Any Club failing to be represented at a SGM shall be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

Officers of the Competition and Management Committee members shall be entitled to attend and vote at all SGMs.

**AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED**

1. Each Club shall complete and sign the following agreement which shall be deposited with the Competition together with the application for membership for the coming Season, or upon indicating that the Club intends to compete.

“We, (A), (name) [ ] of (address) [ ] (Chairman)/Director and (B) (name) [ ] of (address) [ ] (Secretary/Director) of [ ] Football Club (Limited) have been provided with a copy of the Rules and Regulations of the [**Sussex County Women and Girls 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:

* + 1. Where a Club is an unincorporated association, the Club chairman and secretary; or
    2. Where a Club is an incorporated entity, two directors of the Club.

Any alteration of the chairman and /or secretary of the Club on the above agreement must be notified to the [ ] County Football Association(s) to which the Club is affiliated and to the Secretary.

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

**CONTINUATION OF MEMBERSHIP, WITHDRAWAL OF A CLUB**

1. (A) *Any Club intending, or having a provisional intention, to withdraw a Team from the Competition must do so at least [****21****] 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.*
2. 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.
3. Notwithstanding the powers of the Management Committee pursuant to Rule 6(I), in the event of a Club failing to discharge all its financial obligations to the Competition in excess of £50, the Management Committee shall be empowered to refer the debt under The FA Football Debt Recovery provisions.

**EXCLUSION OF CLUBS OR TEAM. MISCONDUCT OF CLUBS, OFFICERS, PLAYERS, MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

1. (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 membership, both of which must be supported by more than two-thirds (2/3) of those present and voting. Voting on this point shall be conducted by ballot. A member of the Management Committee or Club which is the subject of the vote being taken shall be excluded from voting.
2. 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.
3. 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 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**

1. (A) The following agreement shall be signed on behalf of the winners of the cup or trophy:-

“We A [name]and B [name], the Chairman and Secretary of [ ] FC(Limited), members of and representing the Club, having been declared winners of [ ] cup or trophy, and it having been delivered to us by the Competition, do hereby on behalf of the Club jointly and severally agree to return the cup or trophy to the Competition Secretary on or before [**31st January**]. If the cup or trophy is lost or damaged whilst under our care we agree to refund to the Competition the amount of its current value or the cost of its thorough repair.”

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

1. At the close of each Competition awards may~~/shall~~ be made to the winners and runners-up if the funds of the Competition permit.

**ALTERATION TO RULES**

1. Alterations, for which consent has been given by the Sanctioning Authority, shall be made to these Rules only at the AGM or at a 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.

Notice of proposed alterations to be considered at the AGM shall be submitted to the Secretary by [**31st March**] in each year. The proposals, together with any proposals by the Management Committee, shall be circulated to the Clubs by [**5th May**] and any amendments thereto shall be submitted to the Secretary by [**20th May**]. The proposals and proposed amendments thereto shall be circulated to Clubs with the notice of the AGM. A proposal to change a Rule shall be carried if [**a majority**] of those present, entitled to vote and voting are in favour.

A copy of the proposed alterations to Rules to be considered at the AGM or SGM shall be submitted to the Sanctioning Authority or The FA (as applicable) at least 28 days prior to the date of the meeting.

**FINANCE**

1. (A) The Management Committee shall determine with which bank or other financial institution the funds of the Competition will be lodged.
2. All expenditure in excess of £[**250.00**] shall be approved by the Management Committee. Cheques shall be signed by at least two Officers nominated by the Management Committee.
3. The financial year of the Competition will end on [**30th April**].
4. The books, or a certified balance sheet, of a Competition shall be prepared and shall be *audited/verified* annually by a suitably qualified person(s) who shall be appointed at the AGM.

**INSURANCE**

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

(B) All Clubs must have valid personal accident cover for all Players registered with them from time to time. The Players’ personal accident insurance cover must be in place prior to the Club taking part in any Competition Match and shall be at least equal to the minimum recommended cover determined from time to time by the Sanctioning Authority. In instances where The FA is the Sanctioning Authority, the minimum recommended cover will be the cover required by the Affiliated Association to which a Club affiliates.

Failure to comply with Rule 16(A) or 16(B) will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

**DISSOLUTION**

1. (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.
2. 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.
3. The Management Committee shall deal with any surplus assets as follows:
   1. 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.
   2. 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.

**MATCH RELATED RULES**

**QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS**

1. (A) (i) A Player is one who, being in all other respects eligible, has:-
   * + 1. *signed a fully and correctly completed Competition registration form in ink, countersigned by his /her parent or guardian and by an Officer of the Club, and who has been registered with the (Registrations) Secretary [****5****] days prior to the Player playing and whose completed registration counterfoil has been received by the Club prior to playing in a Competition Match. The registration document must incorporate emergency contact details of the Player’s parents or guardians. These details must be available at matches and training events the Player attends within the management of the Club or Competition;*

*or*

1. *signed a fully and correctly completed Competition registration form in ink on a match day prior to playing which is countersigned by his/her parent or guardian and by an Officer of the Club and witnessed by an Officer of the opposing Club, and submitted to the (Registrations) Secretary within two days (Sundays excluded) subsequent to the Competition Match. The Player shall not play again on a subsequent match day until the Club is in possession of the completed counterfoil. A maximum of [****0****] Players may be registered in accordance with this paragraph 18 (A) (i) (b). The registration document must incorporate emergency contact details of the Players’ parents or guardians. These details must be available at matches and training events the Player attends within the management of the Club or Competition;*

*or*

1. *registered through WGS.*

Any registration form which is sent by either of the means set out at Rules 18(A) (i)(a) or (b) above that is not fully and correctly completed will be returned to the Club unprocessed. 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.

For Clubs registering Players under Rules 18(A) (i) (a) or (b) registration forms will be provided in a format to be determined by the Competition. For Clubs registering Players via WGS (under Rule 18 (A) (i) (c)) Clubs must access WGS in order to complete the registration process.

* 1. Registration forms may also be submitted to the (Registrations) Secretary by electronic mail or facsimile machine prior to the Player playing in a Competition Match. The original document must be forwarded by post to the appropriate Officer of the Competition within three days of the Competition Match.

*The registration document 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.*

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

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

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

1. 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.
2. Each Team must have the following number of Players registered [**14**] days before the start of each Playing Season:

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

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

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

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

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

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

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Age on 31 August of the relevant  Playing Season | Eligible Age Groups | Maximum Permitted Format | Minimum Pitch Sizes | | Maximum Pitch Sizes | | Recommended Goal Sizes  in feet | Ball Size |
| Yards | Metres | Yards | Metres |
| 6 | Under 7 | 5v5 | 30 x 20 | 27.45 x 18.3 | 40 x 30 | 36.3 x 27.45 | 12 x 6 | 3 |
| Under 8 | 30 x 20 | 27.45 x 18.3 | 40 x 30 | 36.3 x 27.45 | 12 x 6 |
| 7 | Under 8 | 5v5 | 30 x 20 | 27.45 x 18.3 | 40 x 30 | 36.3 x 27.45 | 12 x 6 | 3 |
| Under 9 | 7v7 | 50 x 30 | 45.75 x 27.45 | 60 x 40 | 54.9 x 36.6 | 12 x 6 |
| 8 | Under 9 | 7v7 | 50 x 30 | 45.75 x 27.45 | 60 x 40 | 54.9 x 36.6 | 12 x 6 | 3 |
| Under 10 | 50 x 30 | 45.75 x 27.45 | 60 x 40 | 54.9 x 36.6 | 12 x 6 | 4 |
| 9 | Under 10 | 7v7 | 50 x 30 | 45.75 x 27.45 | 60 x 40 | 54.9 x 36.6 | 12 x 6 | 4 |
| Under 11 | 9v9 | 70 x 40 | 64 x 36.6 | 80 x 50 | 73.15 x 45.75 | 16 x 7 |
| 10 | Under 11 | 9v9 | 70 x 40 | 64 x 36.6 | 80 x 50 | 73.15 x 45.75 | 16 x 7 | 4 |
| Under 12 | 70 x 40 | 64 x 36.6 | 80 x 50 | 73.15 x 45.75 | 16 x 7 |
| 11 | Under 12 | 9v9 | 70 x 40 | 64 x 36.6 | 80 x 50 | 73.15 x 45.75 | 16 x 7 | 4 |
| Under 13 | 11v11 | 90 x 50 | 82.3 x 45.75 | 100 x 60 | 91.44 x 54.9 | 21 x 7 |
| 12 | Under 13 | 11v11 | 90 x 50 | 82.3 x 45.75 | 100 x 60 | 91.44 x 54.9 | 21 x 7 | 4 |
| Under 14 | 90 x 50 | 82.3 x 45.75 | 100 x 60 | 91.44 x 54.9 | 21 x 7 |
| 13 | Under 14 | 11v11 | 90 x 50 | 82.3 x 45.75 | 100 x 60 | 91.44 x 54.9 | 21 x 7 | 4 |
| Under 15 | 90 x 50 | 82.3 x 45.75 | 110 x 70 | 100.58 x 64 | 24 x 8 | 5 |
| 14 | Under 15 | 11v11 | 90 x 50 | 82.3 x 45.75 | 110 x 70 | 100.58 x 64 | 24 x 8 | 5 |
| Under 16 | 90 x 50 | 82.3 x 45.75 | 110 x 70 | 100.58 x 64 | 24 x 8 |
| 15 | Under 16 | 11v11 | 90 x 50 | 82.3 x 45.75 | 110 x 70 | 100.58 x 64 | 24 x 8 | 5 |
| Under 17 | 100 x 50 | 91.44 x 45.75 | 130 x 100 | 118.87 x 91.44 | 24 x 8 |
| Under 18 | 100 x 50 | 91.44 x 45.75 | 130 x 100 | 118.87 x 91.44 | 24 x 8 |
| 16 | Under 17 | 11v11 | 100 x 50 | 91.44 x 45.75 | 130 x 100 | 118.87 x 91.44 | 24 x 8 | 5 |
| Under 18 | 100 x 50 | 91.44 x 45.75 | 130 x 100 | 118.87 x 91.44 | 24 x 8 |
| Open Age | 100 x 50 | 91.44 x 45.75 | 130 x 100 | 118.87 x 91.44 | 24 x 8 |

1. A fee as set out in the Fees Tariff shall be paid by each Club/Team for each Player registered, if applicable.
2. The Management Committee shall decide all registration disputes taking into account the following.
3. 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.
4. In the event of a Player signing a registration form or having a registration submitted for more than one Club priority of registration shall decide for which Club the Player shall be registered. The Secretary shall notify the Club last applying to register the Player of the fact of the previous registration subject to the exceptions set out in Rule 18 (E)(iii) below.
5. A Player is only permitted to register for more than one Club provided that:
   1. The Team(s) in which the Player plays in are not in the same age group; or
   2. Except for the purpose of a transfer.

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

1. It shall be a breach of these Rules for a Player to:-
   1. Play for more than one Team in the same age group in the Competition in the same Playing Season without first being transferred.
   2. 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.
   3. Submit a signed registration form or submit a registration through WGS for registration that the Player had willfully neglected to accurately or fully complete.

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

1. (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.
2. 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).
3. The Management Committee shall 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.

1. 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.)

1. Subject to compliance with FA Rule C2(a) when a Club wishes to register a player who is already registered with another club it shall submit a transfer form (in a format as determined by the Competition) to the Competition accompanied by a fee as set out in the Fees Tariff. Such transfer shall be referred by the Competition to the club for which the player is registered. Should this club object to the transfer it should state its objections in writing to the Competition and to the player concerned within 3 days of receipt of the notification. Upon receipt of the Club’s consent, or upon its failure to give written objection within 3 days, the Secretary may, on behalf of the Management Committee, transfer the player who shall be deemed eligible to play for the new Club from such date or [**3**] days after receipt of such transfer.

In the event of an objection to a transfer the matter shall be referred to the Management Committee for a decision.

1. A Player may not be registered for a Club nor transferred to another Club in the Competition after [**31st March**] except by special permission of the Management Committee.
2. A Club shall keep a list of the Players it registers and a record of all matches in which those Players have played for the Club, and shall produce such records upon demand by the Management Committee.

In the event a Club has more than one Team in an age group, each Team must be clearly identifiable but not designated ‘A’ or ‘B’ or 1st or 2nd. In such cases, Players will be registered for one Team only. A Player so registered will be allowed to play for his Club in a younger or older age group within the provisions of Rule 18(C).

1. 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 an Officer of the Club 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).

1. A Player shall not be eligible to play for a Team in any special championship, promotion or relegation deciding Competition Match (as specified in Rule 22(A)) unless the Player has played [**4**] Competition Matches for that Team in the current Playing Season.
2. A Team shall not include more than [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11] Players who has/have taken part in [ ] or more senior Competition Matches during the current Playing Season unless a period of 21 days has elapsed since they last played.

For the purpose of this Rule a senior competition(s) is /are [ ].

Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff. **Rule not applicable to this competition.**

1. (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 Competition Match deducted from its record, up to a maximum of 12 points, and have levied upon it a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
2. 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.
   1. 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:
3. 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
4. Levy penalty points against the Club in default; or
5. Order that such Competition Match or Matches be replayed (on such terms as are decided by the Management Committee).

(The following clause applies to Competitions involving Players in full-time secondary education):-

1. (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.
2. The availability of children must be cleared with their head teacher (except for Sunday league competitions).
3. A child under the age of 15 as at midnight on 31 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.

**CLUB COLOURS**

1. Every Club must register the colour of its shirts and shorts with the Secretary by [**31st August**] 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 [**4**] days before the Competition Match.

If, in the opinion of the referee, two Teams have the same or similar colours, the *away~~/ home~~* Team shall make the change. Should a Team delay the scheduled time of kick-off for a Competition Match by not having a change of colours they will be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

*Shirts must be numbered, failing which a fine will be levied in accordance with the Fines Tariff.*

**Bibs may be worn to differentiate between Teams.**

**If a match is not played because one team cannot supply the required change of colours, it will be deemed as an unfulfilled fixture and dealt with accordingly under Rule 10(F).**

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

1. (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 Competition Match has to be replayed, the Management Committee shall have power to order the venue to be changed.

The Management Committee shall have power to decide whether a pitch and/or facilities are suitable for Competition Matches and to order the Club concerned to play its Competition Matches 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 used must be tested (by a FIFA accredited test institute) every three years and the results passed to The FA. The FA will give a decision on the suitability for use and add the pitch to the Register.

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

**Ground facilities used within this Competition are required to have suitable changing and toilet facilities.**

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 Competition Match, and in any event shall be of equal halves.

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

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

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

For trophy events, the Competition may award mementos.

The times of kick-off shall be fixed at the AGM and can only be altered by the mutual consent of the two competing Clubs prior to the scheduled date of the Competition Match with written notification given to the Competition at least [**7**] days prior.

Referees must order Competition Matches to commence at the appointed time and must report all late starts to the Competition. **Any Team failing to commence at the appointed time shall be fined (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).**

The home Team must provide goal nets, corner flags, **Club Assistant Referee flags** and at least two footballs fit for play and the referee shall make a report to the Competition if the footballs are unsuitable. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

1. 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 Competition Match with the consent of the (*Fixtures*) Secretary. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

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

1. 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 Competition Match. If not so provided, the away Club shall seek such details and report the circumstances to the Competition. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
2. 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.

1. (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 Competition Match in question to the opponents, order the defaulting Club to pay any reasonable expenses incurred by the opponents or otherwise deal with them except 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.*
2. Any Club unable to fulfil a fixture or where a Competition Match has been postponed for any reason must, without delay, give notice to the (Fixtures) Secretary, the Competition Referees Appointments Secretary, the secretary of the opposing Club and the Match Officials. **Failure to comply with this part of the Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).**
3. In the event of a Competition Match not being played or abandoned owing to causes over which neither Club has control, it should be played in its entirety on a date to be mutually agreed by the two Clubs and approved by the Management Committee. Failing such agreement and notification to the (Fixtures) Secretary within [**3**] days the Management Committee shall have the power to order the Competition 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. *Providing gate money is taken and retained the visiting Club shall receive their actual standard class rail or bus fares or the equivalent for [ ] persons, or car allowance at [ ] p per mile for transporting [ ] persons, or hire charge of a coach (receipt to be submitted). The residue (if any) to be equally divided between the two Clubs after deducting the cost of advertising, printing, posting, police and Match Officials charges. The home Club shall take the whole of the proceeds of the second Competition Match.*

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

1. The Management Committee shall review all Competition Matches abandoned in cases where it is consequent upon the conduct of either or both Teams. Where it is to the advantage of the Competition and does no injustice to either Club, the Management Committee shall 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 Competition 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 Competition Match to the opponent. In cases where a Competition Match has been abandoned owing to the conduct of both Teams or their Club member(s), the Management Committee shall rule that neither Team will be awarded any points for that Competition Match and it shall not be replayed. No fine(s) can be applied by the Management Committee for an abandoned Competition Match.
2. The Management Committee shall review any Competition 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 Competition Match must be declared null and void and shall not be replayed.
3. A Club may at its discretion and in accordance with the Laws of the Game use substitute Players in any Competition Match.

Where a Competition does not allow return substitutes:

For Under 17s and Under 18s – a Club may name up to [**5**] ~~(3, 4, 5, 6, 7)~~ substitute Players of whom not more than [**5**] ~~(3, 4, 5, 6, 7)~~ may be used.

Where a Competition does allow return substitutes:

For Under 11s - Under 18s – a Club may use up to ~~[3 from 3 substitute Players] [4 from 4 substitute Players]~~ [5 from 5 substitute Players] ~~[6 from 6 substitute Players] [7 from 7 substitute Players]~~. A Player who has been substituted becomes a substitute and may replace any Player at any time subject to the substitution being carried out in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of Association Football.

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

In Youth Football only, the referee shall be informed of the names of the substitute Players not later than [**15**] minutes before the start of the Competition Match and a Player not so named may not take part in that Competition Match. **Failure to comply with this part of the Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff)**.

A Player who has 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.

1. The half time interval shall be of [**10**] minutes’ duration, but it shall not exceed 15 minutes. The half time interval may only be altered with the consent of the referee.
2. The Teams taking part in Under 7s to Under 11 or Youth Football shall identify a Team captain who *~~may/~~shall* wear an armband and shall have a responsibility to offer support in the management of the on-field discipline of his/her teammates. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
3. **Before the start of every match an opposing Club Official must inspect the Player Photo Registration Card of each of the opposing Players, including substitutes named to the referee, check that the photograph is a true likeness of the Player and that the Player’s date of birth quoted on the Card qualifies her to participate in the match.**

**If a Team does not produce its Players Photo Registration Cards prior to the commencement of the match, the referee must be informed and the match will be regarded as an unfulfilled fixture as per Competition Rule 10(E). For not producing the Player Photo Registration Cards, the defaulting Club will be fined (in accordance with the Fines Tariff). If a Player Photo Registration Card cannot be produced for an individual player and then she is not permitted to participate in the match unless the Registration Secretary is contacted and grants permission to both teams before play commences.**

1. **The Home Club shall have a copy of Competition Rules available at all matches. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).**

**REPORTING RESULTS**

1. (A) The (*Registration~~/Fixtures~~*) Secretary must receive within [**3**] days of the date played, the result of each Competition Match in the prescribed manner. This must include the forename(s) and surname of the Team Players (in block letters) *and also the referee markings required by Rule 23, or any other information required by the Competition.* Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
2. ~~The Home Club/~~both Clubs shall telephone/SMS/email/notify the result of each Competition Match **including external Cup Competitions** to the [**Competition**] by [**4.30pm on the day of the match, except for midweek fixtures, which must be received by 10.00pm on the day of the match**]. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff*.*
3. The match result notification, correctly completed, shall be signed by an Officer of the Club, or as prescribed by the Competition. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
4. The Competition and Clubs are permitted to collect but NOT publish results or any grading tables for fixtures involving Under 7s, Under 8s, Under 9s, Under 10s, and Under 11s. Any Competition failing to abide by this Rule will be dealt with by the Sanctioning Authority, and any Club failing to abide by this Rule will be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff). The Competition and Clubs are permitted to collect and publish results for trophy events.

**DETERMINING CHAMPIONSHIP**

1. (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 at the end of the Playing Season, rankings may be determined by a deciding match or matches played under conditions determined by the Management Committee, or the position shared.

1. *Automatic promotion shall be applied for the first [ ] Teams and automatic relegation shall be applied for the last [ ] Teams in each division except as provided for hereunder, subject to the provisions of Rule 2(L).*
   1. *Should one or more Teams withdraw from any one division after the Playing Season has commenced an equal number of Teams to those withdrawing in that division shall not be automatically relegated.*
   2. *Vacancies occurring after the conclusion of the Playing Season may be filled in any of the following ways:*
      1. *retention of otherwise relegated Team(s); or*
      2. *additional promotion of the next ranked Team(s) from the division below; or*
      3. *election*
   3. *The last [ ] Teams in the lowest division shall retire, but be eligible for re-election except as below, and be subject to the conditions of Rule 22 (B)(i) above.*
   4. *Should either or both of the leading Teams in any of the divisions have a Team in the next higher division, promotion shall fall, at the discretion of the General Meeting, to the next highest Team or Teams in the division concerned.*
   5. *Should either or both of the relegated Teams in any of the divisions have a Team in the next lower division, relegation shall fall, at the discretion of the General Meeting, to the next lowest Team or Teams in the division concerned.* ***Rule not applicable to the Competition.***
2. *In addition to the Team(s) automatically promoted under Rule 22(B), a maximum of one further Team shall be promoted by virtue of being the winner of a play-off match or series of matches (the “Play-Offs). The eligibility criteria and format of the Play-Offs are as follows [ ].* ***Rule not applicable to the Competition.***
3. *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.* ***Rule not applicable to the Competition.***

**MATCH OFFICIALS**

1. (A) Registered referees (and assistant referees where approved by The FA or County FA) for all Competition Matches shall be appointed in a manner approved by the Management Committee and by the Sanctioning Authority.
2. In cases where there are no officially appointed Match Officials in attendance, the Clubs shall agree upon a referee. An individual thus agreed upon shall, for that Competition Match, have the full powers, status and authority of a registered referee. Individuals under the age of 16 must not participate either as a referee or assistant referee in any 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. **Failure by the Home Club to provide a referee in such circumstances will be deemed as an unfulfilled fixture by the Home Team. Any unfulfilled fixture will be dealt with under Rule 10(E).**
3. *Where assistant referees are not appointed each Team shall provide a Club assistant referee. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff) being imposed on the defaulting Club.*
4. 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.*
5. Subject to any limits/provisions laid down by the Sanctioning Authority, Match Officials appointed under this Rule shall be paid a match fee in accordance with the Fees Tariff and travel expenses of [**zero pence**] per mile / or inclusive of travel expenses.

Match Officials will be paid their fees and/or expenses by the home Club before/immediately after the Competition Match, unless otherwise ordered by the Management Committee. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

1. In the event of a Competition Match not being played because of circumstances over which the Clubs have no control, the Match Officials, if present, shall be entitled to *~~full fee plus expenses/half fee plus expenses/~~expenses only.* Where a Competition Match is not played owing to one Club being in default, that Club shall be ordered to pay the Match Officials, if they attend the Ground, their full fee and expenses. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
2. A referee not keeping his or her engagement, and failing to give a satisfactory explanation as to their non-appearance, may be reported to the Affiliated Association with which he or she is registered.
3. 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. **Where a mark of 60 or less has been given, a written explanation of the reason for the marking must be given to the Referees Appointment Secretary within 3 days of the match played.** Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be liable to be fined (in accordance with the Fines Tariff) or dealt with as the Management Committee shall determine.
4. The Competition shall keep a record of the markings and, on the form provided by the prescribed date each Season, shall submit a summary to The FA/County FA.
5. *The referee shall submit a report form, supplied by the Competition, giving the result of the Competition Match, the number of Players in each Team and the time of kick-off to the (Registration) Secretary within two days of the Competition Match.* ***Rule not relevant to the Competition.***
6. *Match Officials shall be supplied, each season, with a copy of the Competition Rules free of charge.* ***Rule not relevant to the Competition.***
7. *Match Officials shall have undertaken a RESPECT briefing offered by The FA/County FA or the Competition.* ***Rule not relevant to the Competition.***
8. **It is permissible for match officials within this competition, and associated cup competitions under our jurisdiction, to wear a coloured referee shirt. Should the coloured referee shirt clash with either clubs kit, the referee must revert to black. I.e. the referee cannot choose to wear yellow, and make a Club change their entire kit, as the main colour for match officials remains black. It is however permissible now for a referee to wear yellow with a team in blue and a team in red for example.**

**The shirt(s) must be almost entirely of a single colour. Where a Competition appoints neutral assistant referees, only one non-black coloured shirt is permitted; the colour must be designated and competition rules must ensure that the match officials can wear black or the designated colour without clashing with the Players.**

**SCHEDULE A**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| RULE NUMBER | | DESCRIPTION | MAXIMUM FEE | **SCWGFL FEE** |
| 4 (A) | | CLUB ENTRY FEE | £50.00 | **£25.00** |
| 4 (B) | | CLUB/TEAM ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION | £150.00 | **£30.00** |
| 4 (C) | | DEPOSIT | £100.00 | **£100.00** |
| 7 (C), 7(E) | | PROTEST/APPEAL FEES | £25.00 | **£25.00** |
| 18 (D) | | PLAYER REGISTRATION FEE | £10.00 (per player) | **£4.00** |
| 18 (H) | | TRANSFER FEE | £10.00 | **£2.00** |
| 23 (E) | | REFEREE FEES | As agreed with Sanctioning Authority | **£30.00 (Youth 11v11)**  **£30.00 (Youth 9v9)**  **£25.00 (Youth 7v7)** |
| 23 (E) | | ASSISTANT REFEREE FEES | As agreed with Sanctioning Authority | **£20.00 (Youth 11v11)**  **£20.00 (Youth 9v9)**  **£15.00 (Youth 7v7)** |
|  | | | |  |
| FINES TARIFF | | | |  |
| RULE NUMBER | DESCRIPTION | | MAXIMUM FINE |  |
| 2 (G) | FAILURE TO AFFILIATE | | £100.00 |  |
| 2 (I) | FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH FA INITIATIVES | | £100.00 |  |
| 2 (K) | UNAUTHORISED ENTRY OF TEAMS INTO COMPETITIONS | | £100.00 |  |
| 3 | FAILURE TO OBTAIN CONSENT FOR A CHANGE OF CLUB NAME | | £30.00 |  |
| 4 (C) | FAILURE TO PAY A DEPOSIT | | £100.00 |  |
| 4(E) | FAILURE TO PROVIDE AFFILIATION NUMBER/DETAILS FORM | | £100.00 |  |
| 5 (E) | COMMUNICATIONS CONDUCTED BY PERSONS OTHER THAN NOMINATED OFFICERS | | £25.00 |  |
| 6 (H) | FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH AN INSTRUCTION OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE | | £100.00 |  |
| 6 (I) | FAILURE TO PAY A FINE WITHIN REQUIRED TIMEFRAME | | DOUBLE THE ORIGINAL FINE UP TO £100.00 |  |
| 8 (H) | FAILURE TO BE REPRESENTED AT AGM | | £100.00 |  |
| 9 | FAILURE TO BE REPRESENTED AT SGM | | £100.00 |  |
| 10 | FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED WRITTEN AGREEMENT OR TO NOTIFY CHANGES TO SIGNATORIES | | £25.00 |  |
| 11 (A) | FAILURE TO PROVIDE NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL BEFORE DEADLINE | | £100.00 |  |
| 11 (B) | FAILURE TO COMMENCE/COMPLETE FIXTURES | | £100.00 |  |
| 13 (A) | FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED WRITTEN AGREEMENT REGARDING THE TROPHY | | £25.00 |  |
| 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 | | £40.00 |  |
| 18 (B)(iii) | FAILURE TO HAVE THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF REGISTERED PLAYERS PRIOR TO THE PLAYING SEASON COMMENCING | | £25.00 |  |
| 18 (F) | REGISTERING OR PLAYING FOR MULTIPLE CLUBS OR INACCURATE COMPLETION OF A REGISTRATION FORM | | £25.00 |  |
| 18 (G)(ii) | REGISTRATION IRREGULARITIES | | £100.00 |  |
| 18(M) | FIELDING MORE THAN THE PERMITTED NUMBER OF PLAYERS WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN SENIOR COMPETITIONS MATCHES | | £100 |  |
| 18 (N)(i) | PLAYING AN INELIGIBLE PLAYER | | £100.00 |  |
| 18 (O)(i) | FAILURE TO GIVE PRIORITY TO SCHOOL ACTIVITIES | | £50.00 |  |
| 19 | FAILURE TO NUMBER SHIRTS | | £10.00 (per shirt, up to an aggregate maximum of £30) |  |
| 19 | DELAYING KICK OFF TO DUE TO NO CHANGE OF COLOURS | | £30 |  |
| 20(A) | DELAYING KICK OFF DUE TO FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED EQUIPMENT | | £30.00 |  |
| 20 (B) | FAILURE TO PLAY MATCHES ON THE DATE FIXED | | £100.00 |  |
| 20 (C) | FAILURE TO PROVIDE DETAILS OF A FIXTURE | | £50.00 |  |
| 20 (D) | PLAYING MATCH WITH LESS THAN REQUIRED NUMBER OF PLAYERS | | £100.00 |  |
| 20 (E) (i) & (iii) | FAILURE TO PLAY FIXTURE | | £100.00 |  |
| 20 (H) | NO CAPTAIN’S ARMBAND | | £10.00 |  |
| 21 (A) & 21 (C) | LATE RESULT NOTIFICATION FORM | | £20.00 |  |
| 21 (B) | FAILURE TO PROVIDE RESULT | | £20.00 |  |
| 21(D) | PUBLISHING RESULTS/GRADING TABLES FOR FIXTURES INVOLVING U7S, U8S, U9S, U10S OR U11S | | £50.00 |  |
| 23 (C) | FAILURE TO PROVIDE CLUB ASSISTANT REFEREE | | £25.00 |  |
| 23 (E) | FAILURE TO PAY MATCH OFFICIALS’ FEES AND EXPENSES | | £25.00 |  |
| 23 (F) | FAILURE TO PAY MATCH OFFICIALS WHERE A MATCH IS NOT PLAYED | | £25.00 |  |
| 23 (H) | FAILURE TO PROVIDE REFEREE’S MARK | | £25.00 |  |

**SCHEDULE B – INDEX**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Rule 1 | Definitions |
| **GOVERNANCE RULES** | |
| Rule 2 | Name and Constitution |
| Rule 3 | Club Name |
| Rule 4 | Entry Fee, Subscription, Deposit |
| Rule 5 | Management, Nomination, Election |
| Rule 6 | Powers of Management |
| Rule 7 | Protests, Claims, Complains, Appeals |
| Rule 8 | Annual General Meeting |
| Rule 9 | Special General Meeting |
| Rule 10 | Agreement to be Signed |
| Rule 11 | Continuation of Membership, Withdrawal of a Club |
| Rule 12 | Exclusion of Clubs, Teams. Misconduct of Clubs, Officers, Players, Management Committee |
| Rule 13 | Trophy |
| Rule 14 | Alteration to Rules |
| Rule 15 | Finance |
| Rule 16 | Insurance |
| Rule 17 | Dissolution |
| **MATCH RELATED RULES** | |
| Rule 18 | Qualification of Players |
| Rule 19 | Club Colours |
| Rule 20 | Playing Season. Conditions of Play, Times of Kick-Off. Postponements. Substitutes |
| Rule 21 | Reporting Results |
| Rule 22 | Determining Championship |
| Rule 23 | Match Officials |
| **SCHEDULE A** | |
|  | Fees Tariff |
|  | Fines Tariff |

|  |
| --- |
| **SECTION A4 – LEAGUE CHALLENGE CUP RULES (YOUTH)** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1.** | **CONTROL OF CUP COMPETITION** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (A) | The entire control and management of Cup Competitions shall be vested in the Management Committee, hereinafter referred to as the Committee, and their decisions shall be final. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (B) | The Rules of the Competition shall apply to these Cup Competitions except where they are inappropriate or are amended by these Rules. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **2.** | **COmpetition** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | At the discretion of the Management Committee all or some of the following Competitions will be organised each season and shall be known as ….  Sussex County Girls’ Football League Under 18 League Challenge Cup  Sussex County Girls’ Football League Under 17 League Challenge Cup  Sussex County Girls’ Football League Under 16 League Challenge Cup  Sussex County Girls’ Football League Under 15 League Challenge Cup  Sussex County Girls’ Football League Under 14 League Challenge Cup  Sussex County Girls’ Football League Under 13 League Challenge Cup  Sussex County Girls’ Football League Under 12 League Challenge Cup  Sussex County Girls’ Football League Under 11 League Challenge Cup  Sussex County Girls’ Football League Under 10 League Challenge Cup |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **3.** | **CUP OWNERSHIP** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (A) | The Cups shall remain the property of the SUSSEX COUNTY GIRLS’ FOOTBALL LEAGUE. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (B) | Should a Cup be lost, stolen, destroyed, damaged by fire or other accident whilst under the care or custody of the Club. That Club shall refund to the Competition the amount of its replacement value, or the cost of thorough repair. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (C) | A Cup can never become the absolute property of any Club, and in the event of the dissolution of this Competition, it shall again become the property of the donors. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (D) | The Chairman, Competition Secretary and Treasurer of the Competition shall be, for all intents and purposes, the legal owners of the Cups in trust for the Donors. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **4.** | **ELIGIBLE CLUBS** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Only those clubs that are in current membership of Sussex County Girls’ Football League will be eligible to compete. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **5.** | **WITHDRAWALS AND UNFULFILLED TIES** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (A) | A Club withdrawing after entry, without a reason satisfactory to the Management Committee, will be fined (in accordance with the League Challenge Cup Fines Tariff) not exceeding £50.00 and may not be allowed to enter the Competition the following Playing Season. This will include any Club which is under suspension by a County Association to which it is affiliated. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (B) | If any Club shall refuse, or fail to play a tie, or is under suspension by a County Association to which it affiliates on the date fixed for it (only extenuating circumstance will be considered by the Management Committee), it shall be removed from the Competition and in the Final the Management Committee shall have power to reinstate the Club defeated by the defaulting Club in the semi-final. Further, and in addition, a defaulting Club failing to comply with this Rule shall be fined (in accordance with League Challenge Cup Fines Tariff) and shall pay any expenses incurred by their opponents, who will be awarded the tie, including the charge for hire of the ground, if applicable.  With regards to extenuating circumstances relating to school activities, the defaulting club must give covering details in writing to the Competition at least 7 days prior to the date set for playing the tie, with supporting evidence in writing and any certification. In cases of medical or other extenuating circumstances, this must be received within 7 days of the date set for the tie to be played, with supporting evidence in writing and any certification. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **6.** | **QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (A) | Only those Players registered with the Competition are eligible to play in the Competition. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (B) | A Player shall not play for more than one Club in the same Playing Season in this Competition, but the members of each respective Team may be changed during the series of ties.  A Player can only play in one Competition for her Club during the Playing Season.  Failing to comply to this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with League Challenge Cup Fines Tariff). |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (C) | In the case of postponed, abandoned or replayed ties, only those Players shall be allowed to play who were eligible on the date fixed for the original tie, or was to be played. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (D) | For all rounds up and including the semi-finals a Player must have been a registered playing member of her relevant Team for at least 5 days to the original date fixed for the tie to be played.  Unless approval has been given by the Management Committee a Player who is not eligible to play in the Semi-Finals will not be eligible for the Final |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (E) | Players eligible to play in the Semi-Finals of this competition shall be eligible to play in the Final. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (F) | Any Club found guilty of fielding an ineligible Player shall be removed from the Competition, their opponents being reinstated, and shall be fined (in accordance with the League Challenge Cup Fines Tariff). |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **7.** | **ORGANISATION OF COMPETITION** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (A) | The Management Committee shall have the power to select any number of Clubs to be exempt until Second or subsequent round. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (B) | The names of the Clubs entering the Competition shall be placed in one lot, or in lots at the option of the Management Committee, and shall be drawn from such lot or lots in couples at a time, the first drawn Club having home advantage. These couples shall compete with each other at the time specified by the Management Committee and the names of the winning Clubs shall be placed in a lot or lots, drawn in couples and compete as in the first tie, and so on until the final tie is reached. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (C) | The Fixture Secretary shall circulate to each Club the name of its opponent in each round and, if possible, date and time of Kick off when the tie shall be played. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **8.** | **GROUNDS FOR TIES** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | In each tie prior to the Final in this Competition the game shall be played on the Ground of the Club first drawn unless determined by the Fixture Secretary. If the pitch of the home club is unplayable on the date originally fixed, then the fixture must be reversed. If both the home and away pitch are deemed unplayable on the date originally fixed, then the Management Committee may determine a neutral ground for the fixture to be played. Should the tie be postponed, on every occasion due to poor condition of ground the Fixture Secretary shall order a change of venue to the oppositions Ground. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **9.** | **DURATION OF TIES** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (A) | **Under 18/Under 17:**  90 minutes (45 minutes each half) unless a shorter time (not less than 60 minutes (30 minutes each half)) is mutually agreed by the two Clubs in consultation with the referee prior to the commencement of the tie. Half-time interval shall be 10 minutes and may only be altered with the consent of the referee.  **Under 16/Under 15:**  80 minutes (40 minutes each half) unless a shorter time (not less than 50 minutes (25 minutes each half) is mutually agreed by the two Clubs in consultation with the referee prior to the commencement of the tie. Half-time interval shall be 10 minutes and may only be altered with the consent of the referee.  **Under 14/Under 13:**  70 minutes (35 minutes each half) unless a shorter time (not less than 40 minutes (20 minutes each half)) is mutually agreed by the two Clubs in consultation with the referee prior to the commencement of the tie. Half-time interval shall be 10 minutes and may only be altered with the consent of the referee.  **Under 12/Under 11:**  60 minutes (30 minutes each half) unless a shorter time (not less than 40 minutes (20 minutes each half)) is mutually agreed by the two Clubs in consultation with the referee prior to the commencement of the tie. Half-time interval shall be 10 minutes and may only be altered with the consent of the referee.  **Under 10:**  50 minutes (25 minutes each half) unless a shorter time (not less than 40 minutes (20 minutes each half)) is mutually agreed by the two Clubs in consultation with the referee prior to the commencement of the tie. Half-time interval shall be 10 minutes and may only be altered with the consent of the referee. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (B) | **Under 18/Under 17:**  In any tie in which the score is level at the end of normal time an additional 30 minutes (15 minutes each half) extra time will be played. If, in the opinion of the referee prevailing circumstances would not permit the tie to be finished, 20 minutes (10 minutes each half) extra time may be played. If the referee decides to play 10 minutes each half, he must notify both Clubs.  **Under 16/Under 15/Under 14/Under 13:**  In any tie in which the score is level at the end of normal time an additional 20 minutes (10 minutes each half) extra time will be played. If, in the opinion of the referee prevailing circumstances would not permit the tie to be finished, 10 minutes (5 minutes each half) extra time may be played. If the referee decides to play 5 minutes each half, he must notify both Clubs.  For all the above Competitions, if the score is still level at the end of extra time the winner shall be determined by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the procedures adopted by The International Board.  **Under 12/Under 11/Under 10:**  No extra time shall be played and the game will be determined by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the procedures adopted by The International Board. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **10.** | **POSTPONED OR ABANDONED TIES** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (A) | Ties which are abandoned for any reason, in normal or extra time, shall be dealt with by theManagement Committee which shall have the power to order the score at the time of the abandonment to stand as the result of the tie, to order the tie to be replayed and to determine on which ground the tie shall be played, or to take any further action which it sees fit to determine. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (B) | Ties which are postponed shall be rearranged by the Fixture Secretary. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **11.** | **KICK OFF TIMES AND LATE START** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (A) | All ties shall commence at a time as determined by the Management Committee in advance of the commencement of the competition. In the event of a Team not ready to commence play at that time, the referee shall order the tie to commence as soon as possible, allowing for the playing of extra time and the taking of penalties. If time does not allow, the tie will be declared null and void and will be referred to the Management Committee for a ruling. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (B) | The referee shall report any late starts to the Referees Appointments Secretary, and a defaulting team may be liable for all match expenses and a fine (in accordance with League Challenge Cup Fines Tariff). Failure to provide a satisfactory explanation by the defaulting team will result in the tie being awarded to the opposing Team, in a manner as previously decided by the Management Committee. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (C) | During the months of November to February inclusive all Competition matches shall commence no later than 1.30pm. Agreement may be reached with the opponents, and the Fixture Secretary, for a later start if floodlights are available. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **12.** | **REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (A) | The Referees Appointment Secretary, if possible, will appoint referees to the earlier rounds and assistant referees in the Semi-Finals and Final. For the Final the Referees Appointment Secretary will, if possible, appoint a fourth official. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (B) | The fees and traveling expenses of all officials appointed by the Competition to officiate in any tie, prior to the Final, shall be paid by the home Club at the rate as shown in the Fees Tariff. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **13.** | **PROVISION FOR FINAL** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (A) | The Management Committee shall fix the ground, the date and time of kick off for the Final and shall have direct control of the arrangements connected with the tie. An Officer of the Competition will confirm details to both Clubs and Match Officials regarding the tie. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (B) | The Management Committee may order both Clubs to change their colours if their colours are similar. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (C) | The Competition may on the day of the Final present up to sixteen (16) plaques, medals or other suitable mementos to Players in each team and a suitable memento to the Manager of each team. A Club which has participated in a Final may apply in writing to the Competition Secretary for other Players to receive a memento. The application must contain full details of the Players involved and the reason for the request. Any such awards approved by the Management Committee shall be at the expense of the applying Club. All applications for additional awards must be posted within 7 days following the Final tie involved |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (D) | The Match Officials will receive mementos in lieu of fee and expenses shall be as shown in Competition Fees Tariff. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (E) | When winning Club has been ascertained, the Competition Secretary shall deliver the trophy to that club, which in return shall give written undertaking, in a form approved by the Management Committee, to return the cup in good condition to the Competition Secretary on or before the 31st January in the following season. Failing to comply with this Role will result in a fine (in accordance with League Challenge Cup Fines Tariff). |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **14.** | **CONTINGENCY** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | The Management Committee shall have the power to appropriately deal with any contingency not provided for in these Rules, including the imposition of any penalties. |

**LEAGUE CHALLENGE CUP FINES TARIFF**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **RULE NUMBER** | **DESCRIPTION** | **FINE** |
| 5(B) | FAILURE TO FULFIL TIE | £20.00 |
| 6(B) | FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH RULE | £20.00 |
| 6(F) | PLAYING AN INELIGIBLE PLAYER | £50.00 |
| 11(B) | DELAYING KICK OFF | £10.00 |
| 13(F) | FAILURE TO RETURN CUP BY STIPULATED TIME | £10.00 |

|  |
| --- |
| **SECTION A5 – SUPPLEMENTARY TROPHY RULES** |

**SUSSEX COUNTY WOMEN’S AND GIRLS FOOTBALL LEAGUE**

**SUPPLEMENTARY TROPHY COMPETITION RULES**

**Control of Competitions**

1.

(A) The League Management Committee (LMC) shall have entire control of and management of the three separate competitions (known as the Supplementary Trophy) which will be covered by these rules and each will be played for a Winner’s trophy only (individual awards may be presented at the discretion of the LMC). Each trophy shall be retained permanently by the winning team. The LMC shall also have the final decision in deciding whether any of the three competitions once started should be cancelled, suspended or shortened depending on circumstances.

The three separate competitions shall be respectively known as:

• Open Age Section Supplementary Trophy Competition - eligible to Women’s Division(s) teams only

• Combined Women/Under 18 Supplementary Trophy Competition - eligible to Women’s Division(s) teams and Under 18 teams only

• Girls' Section Supplementary Trophy Competition - which may be run for any youth age group within the Sussex County Women and Girls Football League and eligible for those teams that qualify for each age group.

(B) The appropriate League and League Challenge Cup rules shall apply to the relevant competition except when they are overridden by these rules.

**Competitions**

2.

The Competitions shall be known as the “Sussex County Women & Girls Football League Supplementary Trophy”.

**Eligible Clubs**

3.

Only those clubs that are in membership of either the Sussex County Women and Girls Football League will be invited to compete in their respective eligible competition/s.

**Player Eligibility**

4.

Players registered with the Sussex County Women and Girls Football League are eligible to participate for their team in their respective Supplementary Trophy competition based on their age eligibility outlined below:

• Open Age Section Supplementary Trophy Competition: Only players registered with their respective team will be eligible to participate in the competition.

• Combined Open Age/Under 18 Supplementary Trophy Competition: Only players that have reached the age of 16 will be eligible to participate in the competition.

• Girls Section Supplementary Trophy Competition: Only players registered with their respective team in their respective age group will be eligible to participate in the competition.

**Organisation of the Competitions**

5.

Teams competing in the Competitions shall be divided into groups or otherwise determined by the LMC.

(A) Points will be awarded as follows: 3 points for a win and 1 point for a draw. In the event of scores finishing level in a group match, each team will receive 1 point but the result will be decided by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the procedures adopted by The International Board. The team who wins the taking of kicks from the penalty mark will receive 1 additional point. The team having scored the highest number of points in each group shall be declared the group winner.

(i) Open Age Section Supplementary Trophy Competition: In circumstances where two or more teams are equal on points team rankings shall be determined in the following order:

• Result/s between the two (or more) teams with the team obtaining the most points being ranked higher than other teams.

• Goal difference where the goals scored against by each team shall be deducted from the goals scored by that team and the largest positive difference shall be placed the highest.

• Goals scored where the team scoring the most goals will be placed highest.

(ii) Combined Open Age/Under 18 Supplementary Trophy Competition: In circumstances where two or more teams are equal on points team rankings shall be determined in the following order:

• Result/s between the two (or more) teams with the team obtaining the most points being ranked higher than other teams.

• Goal difference where the goals scored against by each team shall be deducted from the goals scored by that team and the largest positive difference shall be placed the highest.

• Goals scored where the team scoring the most goals will be placed highest.

(iii) Girls Section Supplementary Trophy Competition: In circumstances where two or more teams are equal on points team rankings shall be determined in the following order:

• Result/s between the two (or more) teams with the team obtaining the most points being ranked higher than other teams.

If teams cannot be separated after the application of the conditions in their relevant competition then a play-off will be arranged under conditions determined by the LMC.

**Where the number of groups in one section is 3**:

Teams who finished in second place in each group, they will be ranked against each other using the same criteria as described above to determine who is the highest placed team of the teams that finished in second place. This team will be classified as the “highest-scoring Runner-Up” team.

The winners of each group and the highest-scoring Runner-Up shall then play in either Semi-Final and/or Final matches to determine the outright winner. These will be on a knock-out basis, over one leg, subject to Rule 1(A). In the event of the scores being level, the result will be decided by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the procedures adopted by The International Board.

**Where the number of groups in one section is 2 or 4:**

The winners of each group shall then play in either Semi-Final and/or Final matches to determine the outright winner. These will be on a knock-out basis, over one leg, subject to Rule 1(A). In the event of the scores being level, the result will be decided by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the procedures adopted by The International Board.

(B) In the event of matches being played on a knockout basis teams invited shall be placed in one lot, or in lots at the option of the LMC, and shall be drawn from such lot or lots in couples at a time, the first drawn team giving home advantage. These couples shall compete with each other at the time specified by the LMC and the names of the winning team shall be placed in a lot or lots, drawn in couples and compete as in the first tie, and so on until the final tie is reached.

In the event of the scores in these matches being level, the result will be decided by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the procedures adopted by The International Board.

(C) Any Club not being able to fulfil a fixture will forfeit the fixture and the game awarded to their opponents. Clubs will not be penalized financially for not fulfilling a fixture but will be liable to pay any expenditure that has been incurred by the other team and/or match officials.

(D) Matches not played due to postponements, weather or other unforeseen reasons (not an unfulfilled fixture), will be re-arranged by the Competition Fixture Secretary.

(E) Matches abandoned will be reviewed by the LMC and who will determine whether the result at the time of the abandonment will stand or any other action, including the replaying of the game, will be required.

**Match Officials**

6.

Where possible Match Officials will be appointed by the Referees Appointment Secretary and Clubs will pay fees and expenses in accordance with current Competition Rules.

**Contingency**

7.

The LMC shall have the power to appropriately deal with any contingency not provided for in these Rules.

|  |
| --- |
| **SECTION B – ANTI-DISCRIMINATION POLICY** |

**THE POLICY AND COMMITMENT OF THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION**  
1. As the governing body of the national game, The Football Association (The FA) is responsible for setting  
standards and values to apply throughout the game at every level. Football belongs to, and should be enjoyed  
by, everyone equally. It is The FA’s commitment to confront and eliminate discrimination whether by reason of  
sex, sexual orientation, race, nationality, ethnic origin, colour, religion or disability.  
2. The FA, being an equal opportunities employer, is committed to equality of opportunity within its own  
organisation and to encouraging similar commitment from every organisation or individual acting within the  
game.  
3. Equality of opportunity at The FA means that in all its activities The FA will not discriminate, or in any way treat  
anyone less favourably, on grounds of sex, sexual orientation, race, nationality, ethnic origin, colour, religion or  
disability.  
4. The FA will not tolerate sexual or racial-based harassment or other discriminatory behaviour, whether physical  
or verbal, and will work to ensure that such behaviour is met with appropriate disciplinary action in whatever  
context it occurs.  
5. The FA is committed to the development of a programme of on going training and awareness-raising events  
and activities in order to promote the eradication of discrimination within its own organisation and, in the wider  
context, within football as a whole.

**THE POLICY AND COMMITMENT OF THE LEAGUE**  
1. It is the commitment of the League to fully endorse and support The FA’s Anti-Discrimination Policy for Football  
as set out above.  
2. The Management Committee and the Member Clubs of the League agree to adopt The FA’s Anti-Discrimination  
Policy for Football in confronting and eliminating discrimination whether by reason of sex, sexual orientation,  
race, nationality, ethnic origin, colour, religion or disability.  
3. The Management Committee and the Member Clubs of the League in all activities will not discriminate, or in  
any way treat anyone less favourably, on grounds of sex, sexual orientation, race, nationality, ethnic origin,  
colour, religion or disability.  
4. The Management Committee and the Member Clubs of the League will promote the eradication of  
discrimination within own organisations and, in the wider context, within football as a whole.  
5. The League, like The FA, will not tolerate sexual or racial-based harassment or other discriminatory behaviour,  
whether physical or verbal, and will work to ensure that such behaviour is met with appropriate disciplinary  
action in whatever context it occurs.

|  |
| --- |
| **SECTION C – THE FA CONCUSSION GUIDELINES** |

Download available via - <http://www.thefa.com/get-involved/coach/concussion>

|  |
| --- |
| **SECTION D – SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN** |

1. Any act, statement, conduct or other matter which harms a child or children, or poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children, shall constitute behaviour which is improper and brings the game into disrepute.

2.(a) In these Regulations the expression "Offence" shall mean any one or more of the offences contained in the Schedules of the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000 and any other criminal offence which reasonably causes The Association to believe that the person accused of the offence poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children.

(b) All persons in such positions that The Association deems relevant whose normal duties include caring for, training, supervising or being in sole charge of children are required to obtain an Enhanced Disclosure via The Association’s CRB process.

3. Upon receipt by The Association of:

3.1 notification that an individual has been charged with an Offence; or

3.2 notification that an individual is the subject of an investigation by the Police, Social Services or any other authority relating to an Offence; or

3.3 any other information which causes The Association reasonably to believe that a person poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children then The Association shall have the power to order that the individual be suspended from all or any specific football activity for such period and on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit.

4. In reaching its determination as to whether an order under Regulation 3 should be made The Association shall give consideration, inter alia, to the following factors:

4.1 whether a child is or children are or may be at risk of harm;

4.2 whether the matters are of a serious nature;

4.3 whether an order is necessary or desirable to allow the conduct of any investigation by The Association or any other authority or body to proceed unimpeded.

5. The period of an order referred to in 3 above shall not be capable of lasting beyond the date upon which any charge under the Rules of The Association or any Offence is decided or brought to an end.

6. Where an order is imposed on an individual under regulation 3 above, The Association shall bring and conclude any proceedings under the Rules of The Association against the person relating to the matters as soon as reasonably practicable.

7. Where a person is convicted, or is made the subject of a caution in respect of an Offence, that shall constitute a breach of the Rules of The Association and The Association shall have the power to order the suspension of the person from all or any specific football activity for such a period (including indefinitely) and on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit.

8. For the purposes of these Regulations, The Association shall act through its Council or any committee or sub-committee thereof, including the Board.

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

10.       The applicable standard of proof shall be the civil standard, of the balance of probability. The more serious the allegation taking into account the nature of the misconduct alleged and the context of the case the greater the burden of evidence required to find the matter proved. Save that for charges pursuant to The Football Association’s Safeguarding Children Policy, where the welfare and protection of children shall be paramount and the test shall be whether more likely than not.

|  |
| --- |
| **SECTION E – LEAGUE AWARDS** |

**1. RESPECT AWARD**

1(a) Teams in each age group will be eligible for two awards based on marks received from opposing teams on each matchday. The team receiving the highest average mark in each age group in the category of Overall Behaviour and Player Behaviour will receive an award determined by the Sussex County Women & Girls Football League Management Committee on an annual basis.

1(b) The Management Committee or other appointed body or person(s) will compile data from the RESPECT marks awarding by each team. At the end of the season the Management Committee will consider the marks and declare the winner for that season. The winners will receive awards determined by the Sussex County Women & Girls Football League Management Committee at the end of season AGM.

**2. OTHER AWARDS**

1(a) The Management Committee or other appointed body or person(s) may present other awards as agreed at a previous Management Committee meeting.

|  |
| --- |
| **SECTION F – APPROACHING OF PLAYERS** |

**The Football Association – Rules of the Association (Rule 2))**

**(INFORMATION FOR THE GUIDANCE OF CLUBS)**

***1******Regulations Concerning Approaches***

Players who are not under written contract to a Club may be registered with a number of Clubs at any time, subject to the following provisions and those of the Competitions in which they play.

(i) Competitions sanctioned by The Football Association under Regulation 3 of the “Regulations for Sanction and Control of Competitions” may make their own regulations for the approach of Players between Clubs of the Competition.

(ii) During the current season\* any Club wishing to approach a Player known to be registered with or having played for any other Club must give to the Secretary of each such Club seven days’ formal written notice of the intention to approach the Player.

Formal written notice of approach need to be given by:

(A) a Saturday Club only to all Saturday Clubs

(B) **a Sunday Club only to all Sunday Clubs**

(C) a midweek Club only to all midweek Clubs

(iii) The written notice must be sent by Special Delivery or Recorded Post, or a written acknowledgement otherwise obtained from the Secretary or Chairman of the Club approached. Facsimile or email transmissions may be used provided a receipt of acknowledgment is also obtained.

(iv) Following the date of posting of the written notice of approach, or receipt of an acknowledgment: (A) the Player may be registered on or after the eighth (8th)day

(B) the Player must have been registered on or before the twenty-first (21st) day.

(v) The approaching Club:

(A) may not approach the same Player a second time in the same season

(B) may approach only one (1) Player at a Club at any time subject to (ix) below

(C) may not approach another Player at the same Club within twenty-eight (28) days of an earlier notice of approach or acknowledgement.

(vi) If an approach is made by the Player to another Club during the current season\*, that Club shall give the Club(s), for which the Player is known to be registered or has played, seven (7) days’ notice of approach as set out in (i) to (iv) above before registering the Player.

(vii) A Club which is the subject of a complaint alleging failure to give notice in accordance with this Rule may be subject to a charge of misconduct under FA Rule G2(2).

(viii) A Club proved to have breached the provisions of this Rule may have its current registration of the Player cancelled and be subject to such other penalty as The Association of Affiliated Associations deems appropriate, in accordance with Regulation 6.1 of the Regulations for FA Disciplinary Action.

(ix) During the current season\* a maximum of two (2) Players may be approached in the manner described above if invited to trial at a licensed Football Association/FA Premier League/Football League Academy or Centre of Excellence.

\* *a current season runs from 1st July to the following 31st May*

***2. Conditions***

(i) A currently registered Player shall not be allowed to register with another Club without first satisfying the Club Officials of the intended Club that all reasonable financial and other liabilities have been discharged to the Club or Clubs with which the Player is or was known to be registered in the current+ and previous season.

(ii) A Player approached on or after first (1st) May in the current season\* may not play in competitive football for the Club making the approach until the commencement of the following season.

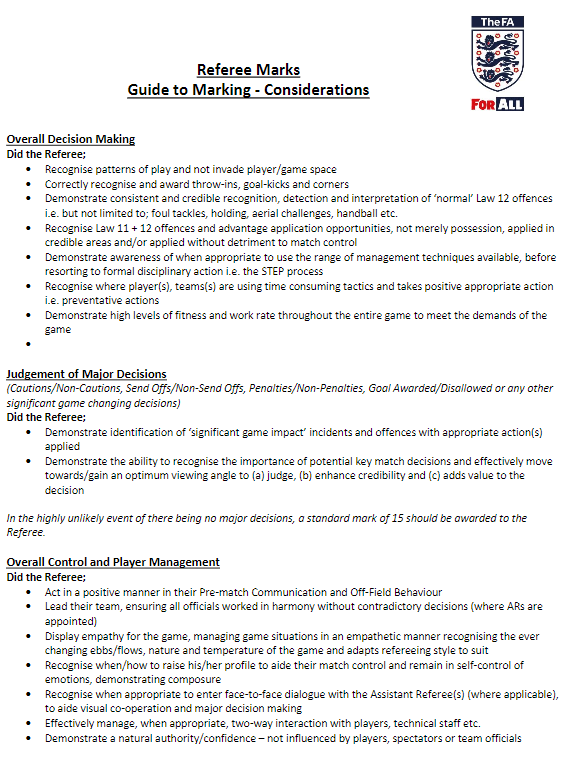
***3. Service Players***

(i) While serving in any branch of Her Majesty’s Regular Forces a Player may not hold a contract of employment with any Club under the jurisdiction of the Association or an Affiliated Association.

(ii) Neither a Club nor any person may attempt to induce a Player of a Club of any branch of Her Majesty’s Regular Forces to play for another Club during the current season+ without at least fourteen (14) days written notice of approach – in the case of the Army to the Secretary of The Army Football Association, the Royal Navy to the Secretary of the Royal Navy Football Association, and the Royal Air Force to the Player’s Commanding Officer. The notice must be forwarded by Special Delivery or Recorded Post, or a written acknowledgement otherwise obtained. Facsimile or e-mail transmission may be used provided a receipt of written acknowledgment is also obtained.

(iii) Players are required to inform Civilian Clubs of their rank and service number which information must be stated on League forms.

|  |
| --- |
| **SECTION G – GUIDE TO MARKINGS (REFEREE)** |



|  |
| --- |
| **SECTION H – NATIONAL LEAGUE SYSTEM REGULATIONS** |

Via The FA Handbook - <http://www.thefa.com/football-rules-governance/lawsandrules/fa-handbook>

|  |
| --- |
| **CONSTITUTION OF THE JOINT LIAISON COMMITTEE**  **Of the SOUTH EAST COUNTIES WOMEN’S FOOTBALL LEAGUE**  **And the SUSSEX COUNTY WOMEN AND GIRLS FOOTBALL LEAGUE** |

**JOINT LIAISON COMMITTEE (COUNTY AND REGIONAL LEAGUES) – TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The Member Competitions (“Competitions”) are the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ County Women’s Leagues and the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Regional Leagues

1. Policy

The Joint Liaison Committee is appointed to discuss matters of common interest to those competitions in membership.

1. Membership

The Joint Liaison Committee may consist of two representatives from each Competition.

Each County League shall have one vote and the Regional League shall have two votes. The Chairman will have a second and casting vote

The Chairman and Secretary of the Joint Liaison Committee shall be elected annually by the voting members. **The retiring Chairman and Secretary shall be eligible for re-election without nomination. Nominations for all other candidates by Leagues must be properly proposed and seconded by two separate Leagues and received in writing by the Secretary at least seven days prior to the meeting. Should any vacancies occur less than seven days prior to the meeting, nominations can be accepted from the floor at the meeting.**

In addition, the Lead Officer for Women’s Football at the County FA shall be invited to the meetings in a non-voting capacity.

3. Committee

3.1 The Joint Liaison Committee will elect annually a County League Representative to the Women’s Football Conference. Only voting members from the County Leagues shall be eligible to stand for election andentitled to vote on this matter. **The retiring County League Representative shall be eligible for re-election without nomination. Nominations for all other candidates by Leagues must be properly proposed and seconded by two separate County Leagues and received in writing by the Secretary at least seven days prior to the meeting. Should any vacancies occur less than seven days prior to the meeting, nominations can be accepted from the floor at the meeting.**

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

In the event of the County Leagues being unable to nominate a Representative, an alternative nomination suggested by the JLC shall be considered by the FA Women’s Football Committee.

3.2 A quorum for the conduct of any business shall not be less than 50 percent of the voting members. If a nominated representative of a Competition is unable to attend a meeting, that Competition may send a substitute representative.

3.3 In the event of the absence of the Chairman from a meeting, a substitute Chairman shall be elected from the voting members present.

4. Meetings

4.1 The Secretary will provide 7 working days notice to all members of the Committee of the venue, date and time of each duly convened meeting together with a copy of the meeting agenda and any other correspondence or documentation relative to the nature of the business to be transacted. The Secretary will be responsible for the circulation of the minutes of each meeting which will be provided to members and the FA’s Women’s Leagues Manager, with best endeavours, at least 7 working days prior to the date of the next meeting.

4.2 There shall be at least one meeting per season held before the second week in June.

5. Finance

All reasonable travel and meeting room expenses incurred by each member of the Joint Liaison Committee will be paid by The Football Association. Claims must be made on the appropriate forms with the necessary receipts in line with The FA expenses policy for delegates.

6. Promotion and Relegation

6.1 Promotion and Relegation between the County Leagues and Regional League shall be via a promotion pool.

The FA Women’s Football Committee, in consultation with the relevant Joint Liaison Committee, shall decide which Clubs shall be promoted taking into account the number of vacancies after any relegation has occurred.

7. Ground Grading

Clubs applying for promotion must meet the necessary Ground Grading requirements for that Step as contained in the Women’s Pyramid of Football Ground Grading Document.

1. Disputes

Any dispute or difference between Leagues relating to promotion and relegation issues and/or other eligibility criteria should be referred for determination to the FA Women’s Football Committee; such determination shall be final and binding.

1. Appeals

Any appeal by a Club against a decision of a Joint Liaison Committee shall be referred for determination to the FA’s Disciplinary Department.

|  |
| --- |
| **SECTION I – POLICY STATEMENT** |

**Allocation of Matches**

The Competition will allocate matches up to 2100 on a Monday before the immediate Sunday. If a team has not been allocated a game prior to this time then they will not be given a match by the Competition for the immediate Sunday.

**Age Groups and Formats**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Age Group** | **Maximum Players Per Team** | **Pitch Size** | **Minutes Per Half** |
| Under 10 | 7 | 7v7 | 25 |
| Under 11 | 7 | 7v7 | 30 |
| Under 12 | 9 | 9v9 | 30 |
| Under 13 | 9 | 9v9 | 35 |
| Under 14 | 11 | 11v11 | 35 |
| Under 15 | 11 | 11v11 | 40 |
| Under 16 | 11 | 11v11 | 40 |
| Under 18 | 11 | 11v11 | 45 |
| Women’s Sussex League | 11 | 11v11 | 45 |

Matches cannot be played on a smaller pitch than the maximum permitted per team indicated (so an Under 13 with 9 players per team cannot take place on a 7v7 pitch)

**Late Match Call Off**

Each team is allowed one unfulfilled fixture per season (not applicable to League Cup or Supplementary Trophy matches) where they are not charged for the unfulfilled fixture. The defaulting team remains responsible for contacting without delay the officials of the opposing club, Competition Fixture Secretary, Competition Age Group Officer, Competition Referee Appointment Secretary and match officials where appointed. If any costs are incurred by the non-defaulting team then the Club must submit to the Competition Secretary within 7 days after the scheduled match date, any evidence of actual costs to be claimed from the defaulting team.

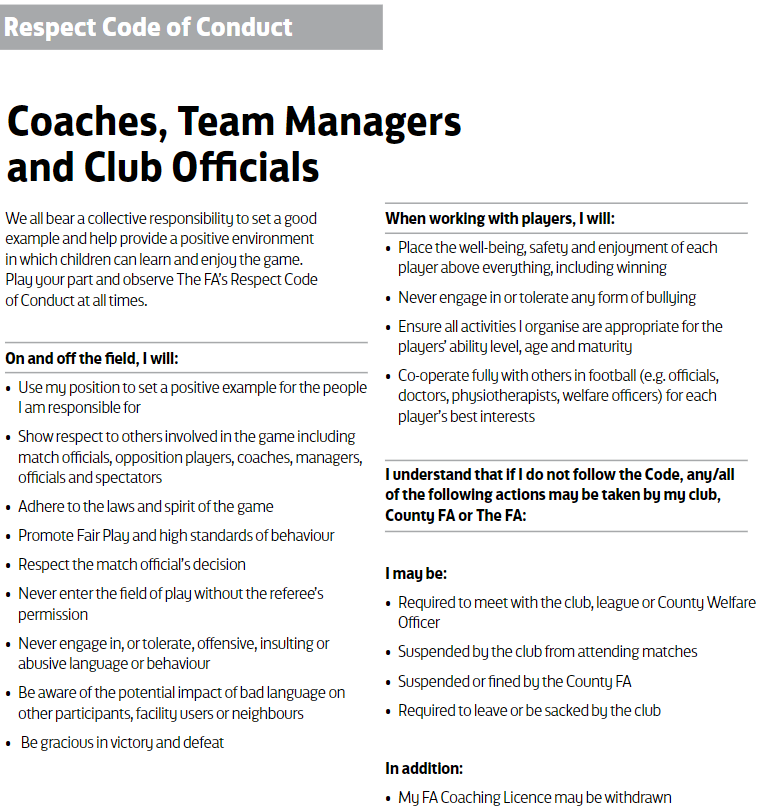
**Respect - receipt of a low marks procedure**

Clubs to report to Competition a mark of 3 or below for any category. If no report received via the appropriate Competition form within 72 hours of the match, the reporting club to be fined. If a club receives three low marks in the same category from three different clubs then they will attend a League meeting to discuss ways to improve their behaviour.

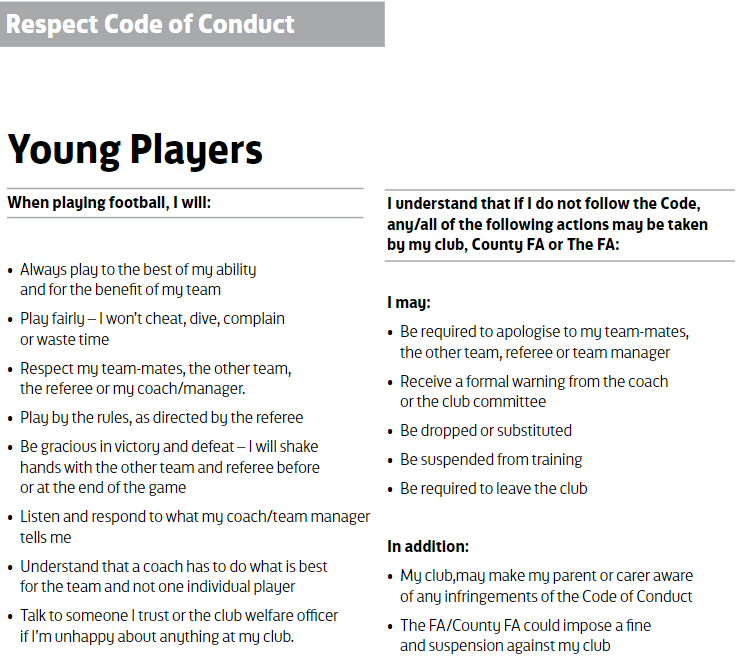
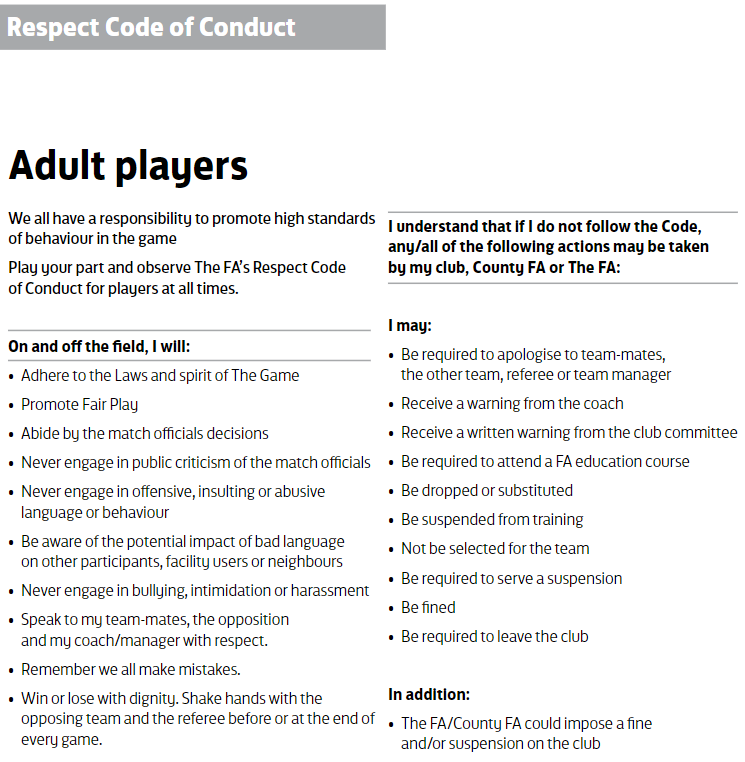
|  |
| --- |
| **SECTION J – CODES OF CONDUCT and RESPECT** |

**CODES OF CONDUCT**  
The following Codes of Conduct are to be adopted by all Players, Coaches, Managers and Officials of all Member  
Clubs within the League.  
This agreement is made between each Member Club; on behalf of its Players, Coaches, Managers, Officials or any  
of its servants or agents; and the League.  
These Codes are a framework within which Member Clubs must work. It is a series of guidelines and instructions  
which Member Clubs are required to abide by.

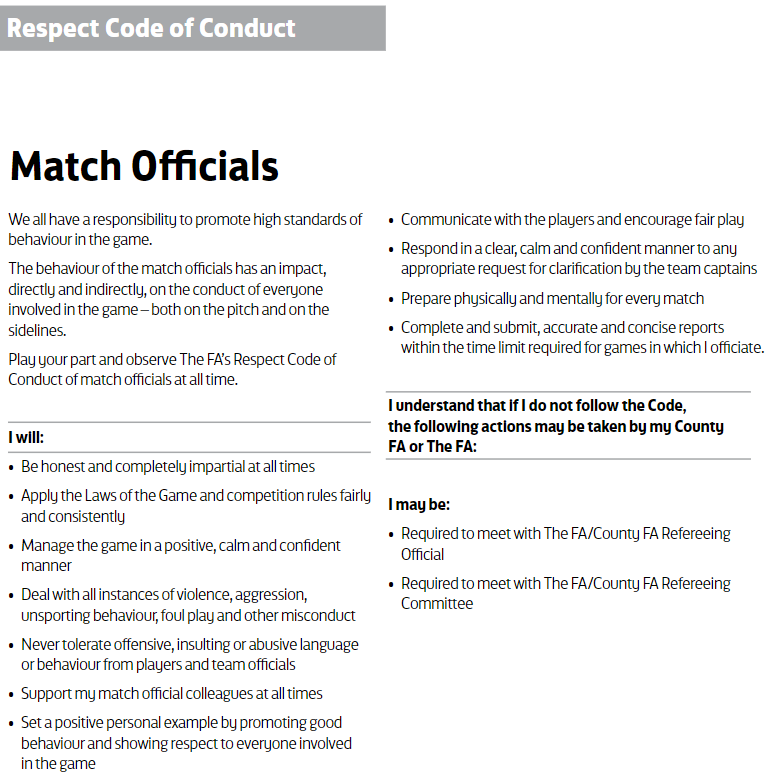
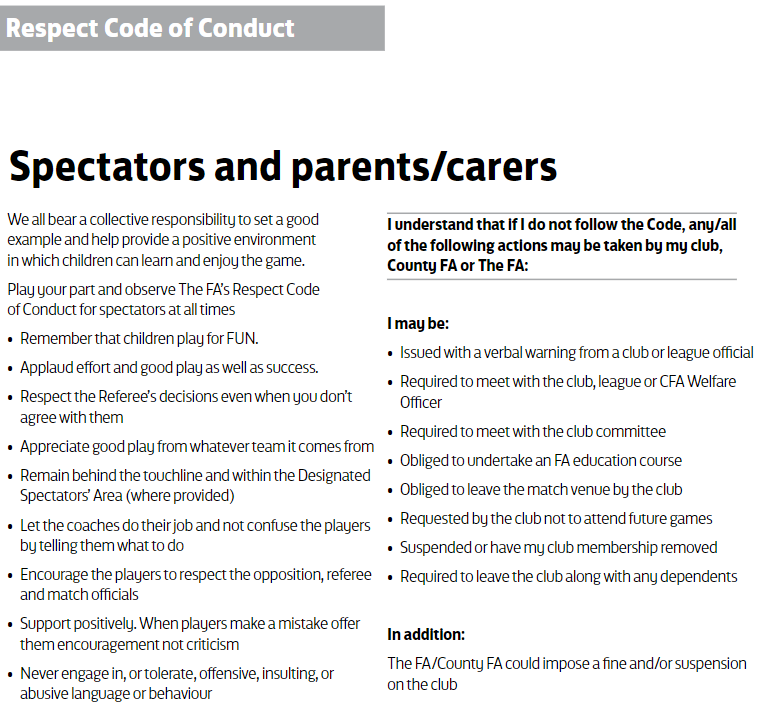
**CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MANAGERS / COACHES**1. The Manager / Coach shall comply with the Laws of the Game, the Rules of The Football Association, the Rules  
of the League and the Rules of any Competition which they participate in. They shall not encourage or invite  
any person, including Players and Officials of the Member Club to act in breach of the game and the  
aforementioned Rules but shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that they comply with them.  
2. The Manager / Coach shall use their best endeavours to ensure that they undertake at their Clubs a fair and  
effective disciplinary policy applicable to Players and other persons under their control and that it is applied  
consistently.  
3. The Manager / Coach shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that Players and other persons under their  
control accept and observe the authority and decisions of all Officials.  
4. The Manager / Coach shall not make public any unfair decision of any Match Official or any other Manager /  
Coach, Player, Official of their or another Club.  
5. The Manager / Coach shall conduct themselves at all times in an ethical and professional manner and shall  
observe the highest standards of integrity and fair play.  
6. The Manager / Coach must respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person and their ultimate right to be  
treated equitably and sensitively within the context of their activity and ability regardless of gender, ethnic  
origin, cultural background, sexual orientation, religion or political affiliation.  
7. The Manager / Coach shall take all possible steps to promote the reputation of the Women’s game, Association  
Football for Women, and to prevent it being brought into disrepute.  
8. The Manager / Coach shall adhere at all times to standards of personal and professional behaviour which  
reflect credit on themselves, The Football Association, the League and their Club.  
9. The Manager / Coach must place the well being and safety of their Players above all other considerations,  
including the development of performance.  
10. The Manager / Coach must co-operate fully with other specialists e.g. Officials, Sports Scientists, Doctors, and  
Physiotherapists in the best interest of the Player.  
11. The Manager / Coach must develop an appropriate working relationship and friendship with all Players, most  
certainly where the Player is a young girl.  
12. The Manager / Coach must not exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward, the relationship  
between Manager / Coach and player must be based on mutual trust and respect.  
13. The Manager / Coach must not allow their Players to advocate measures which could constitute an unfair  
advantage. They must never advocate or condone the use of prohibited drugs or other banned performance  
enhancing substances.  
14. The Manager / Coach must accept responsibility for the conduct of their performers and discourage  
inappropriate behaviour in training, Competition and away from the playing area.



**CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PLAYERS**1. The Player must abide by the Rules and Laws of the Game of Association Football.  
2. The Player must accept all decisions of Manager / Coach and Match Officials without question or protestation.  
3. The Player must accept success / failure / victory / defeat with good grace and without excessive display of  
emotion.  
4. The Player shall by no means whatsoever unfairly criticise, disagree, belittle or discredit any Players or Officers  
of any other Club, or the League.  
5. The Player shall not use foul, abusive or offensive language including racist, sexist or homophobic language or  
gestures likely to insult or provoke others.  
6. The Player must not make any comment to the media or publish or cause to be published or broadcasted any  
comment likely to bring their Club, the League or game of the Association Football into disrepute.  
7. The Player must at all times promote Women’s and Girls’ Football favourably.  
8. The Player must abide by any Rules and Regulations as determined by their individual Club.



**CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBER CLUBS**1. All decisions, negotiations and transactions relating to the League, each Member Club shall also behave  
towards each other Club with the utmost good faith.  
2. No Member Club either by itself, its servants or agents shall by any means whatsoever unfairly criticise,  
disparage, belittle or discredit any other Club or the League or in either case any of its Officers or Players.  
3. The League Management Committee shall have the power to exclude from further participation in the League  
any Member Club, Player or Official whose conduct has in their opinion been objectionable.  
4. Any breach of any provisions of these Codes of Conduct by a Member Club, Player, Official or any of its  
servants or agents shall constitute a breach of the Rules of the League and shall be dealt with in accordance  
with the Rules of the League.



The League wishes to acknowledge the valuable contributions received from The Football Association’s Women’s  
and Girls’ Football Development Plan and Respect Teams in compiling these Codes of Conduct.

|  |
| --- |
| **SECTION K – FULL-TIME RESPECT PROGRAMME: GUIDANCE FOR TEAM SPORTSMANSHIP MARKS (Range 0-100)** |

The Sussex County Women and Girls Football League is committed to the Respect programme and will ask each team to mark their opposition for Sportsmanship. Good scores will be rewarded, and poor scores will be dealt with quickly. Detailed below is a guide for the marking of the opposition team.

Any mark awarded 60 or below must be accompanied by the Competition report form.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Mark Range | Guidance |
| 100 Marks (A perfect match) | Your club felt welcomed on arrival either by a club official and/or by the friendly atmosphere, all Club match day administration has been completed correctly by the opposition team and its players are ready for a prompt kick off. During the match, there was no abuse by members of this team or club officials and supporters |
| 90-99 Marks | Your club felt welcomed on arrival either by a club official and/or by the friendly atmosphere, but some Club match day administration has not been completed correctly by the opposition team (Team sheets etc.) but its players were ready for a prompt kick off. During the match there was no abuse by members of this team or club officials and supporters. It may be possible to award 90 marks if there is a single example of unsporting behaviour that is dealt with promptly and firmly by the opposition team Officials. |
| 80-89 Marks | Your club felt that it has been treated with respect throughout this encounter and has enjoyed this match. There may be a single lapse in match day administration and minor dissent which would be good humoured and not offensive. The opposition players have accepted the majority of the referee’s decisions. After the match most players from the opposition were shaking hands with your players. |
| 70-79 Marks | Your club feels some elements of the opposition this team’s’ contribution made this match a slightly less than desirable encounter. There may be a couple of minor lapses in the team’s match day administration and its players will have questioned and been reluctant to accept some decisions. Aggressive appealing and a poor attitude towards the referee and your players were noted. After the match very few opposition player attempted to shake hands. |
| 60-69 Marks | Your club feels this team’s contribution made this match an undesirable encounter. This team’s players were appealing excessively and questioning the referee’s decisions aggressively or vehemently. There may be several match day administrative errors and the opposition players were not ready to kick off on time. There was no attempt after the match to shake hands or engage in a sporting manner with your team or officials. |
| 40-59 Marks | Your club feels this team’s contribution made this match an unpleasant experience. There were significant issues or situations in this match caused by the opposing team’s behaviour that you felt spoilt your match day experience. Players appeared to have not been briefed about respecting the referee’s decisions. Referee’s decisions have been aggressively questioned and there was little sign of a sporting approach to the game by the opposition players. There also may have been several match day administrative errors. |
| 20-39 Marks | Your club feels this team’s contribution made this match a very unpleasant experience. The team will have been undisciplined and there is a lack of any sign of real sporting behaviour. There were serious questions about the management style of the Club. The SCWGFL will seek a full report from the referee and DEMAND from the Club Secretary a written explanation together with a plan of action to make substantial improvements to the team’s sporting approach. A second score at this level (or below) may cause the team’s fixtures to be suspended until the League Management Committee is convinced that the matter has been properly addressed. Further incidents of such conduct attracting poor scores will be referred to the League Management Committee for consideration of expulsion of the Club. |
| 1-19 Marks | Your club will have found the behaviour of this team exceptionally poor and will be left with a feeling that you will not want to play this team again. Consideration will be given to suspending this team’s fixtures pending an investigation by the SCWGFL. The findings will be referred to the League Management Committee and expulsion procedures may be initiated. |

**AMENDMENTS/NOTES**

© SCWGFL - 2018