

# CONSTITUTION

## 1. DEFINITIONS

### 1A 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 Edmonton & District Sunday 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.

“Player Registration System” means the FA system to register players as determined by the FA from time to time.

“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 London County Football Association Limited.

“Scholarship” means a Scholarship as set out in Rule C 3.1.1) of the rules of The FA.

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

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

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

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

“The FA” means The Football Association Limited.

“Virtual meetings” means meetings held electronically.

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

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

## **GOVERNANCE RULES**

### **2. COMPETITION NAME, CONSTITUTION**

2A The Competition will be known as Edmonton & District Sunday 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 automatically cease to be a member of the Competition.

2B This Competition shall consist of not more than 75 clubs and/or teams approved by the Sanctioning Authority.

2C The geographical area covered by the Competition membership shall be the London Borough of Enfield and surrounding boroughs.

2D The administration of the Competition under these Rules will be carried out by the Management Committee in accordance with the rules, regulations and policies of The FA.

2E All Clubs shall adhere to the Rules. Every Club shall be deemed, as a member of the Competition to have accepted the Rules and to have agreed to abide by the decisions of the Management Committee in relation to them subject to the provisions of Rule 7.

2F 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.

2G 1 All Clubs must be affiliated to an Affiliated Association and their names and particulars shall be returned annually by the appointed date in a manner prescribed by the Sanctioning Authority and must have a constitution approved by the Sanctioning Authority. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

2 This Competition shall apply annually for sanction to the Sanctioning Authority and the constituent Teams of Clubs may be grouped in divisions.

2H 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 (including 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.

- 2I 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.
- 2J All Participants shall abide by The Football Association Regulations for Safeguarding Children and Regulations for Safeguarding Adults at Risk as determined by The FA from time to time.
- 2K 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.
- 2L 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.
- 2M Only one Team from a Club shall be permitted to participate in a single division unless there is no viable alternative because of logistical issues and/or reasons linked to participation and geographical boundaries in which case the Competition will obtain the prior approval of the Sanctioning Authority. This Competition will ensure that, where permission is given, Teams from a Club operating in the same division are run as separate entities with no interchange of players other than by transfers of registration in accordance with these Rules.

### 3. CLUB NAME

- 3A Any Club wishing to change its name must obtain permission from the Sanctioning Authority. In the event that permission is granted, the club must advise the competition secretary. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

### 4. ENTRY FEE, SUBSCRIPTION, DEPOSIT

- 4A 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 for each Team as set out in the Fees Tariff, which shall be returned in the event of non election. Applications, of which due notice has been given, will be received at the AGM or an SGM if confirmed by a majority of the accredited voting members present. When Rule 22B is applied or a Team seeks a transfer or, is compulsorily transferred to another division, no Entry Fee shall be payable.
- 4B The annual subscription shall be payable in accordance with the Fees Tariff for each team payable at a date agreed at the AGM or set by the Competition.

- 4C 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.
- 4D A Club shall not participate in this Competition until the entry fee, annual subscription and deposit (if required) have been paid.
- 4E Clubs must advise the Secretary annually in writing by the second Friday in June of its Sanctioning Authority affiliation number for the forthcoming Playing Season. Clubs must advise the Secretary in writing, or on the prescribed form, of details of its headquarters, 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.

## 5. MANAGEMENT, NOMINATION, ELECTION

- 5A The Management Committee shall comprise the Officers of the Competition and up to six members who shall all be elected at the AGM.
- 5B 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 30 April 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 30 April in each year. Names of the candidates for election shall be circulated with the notice of the AGM. In the event of there being no nomination for any office by the date stated in the earlier part of this Rule, nominations may be received at the AGM.
- 5C The Management Committee shall meet a minimum of twice a season or as and when required. On receiving a requisition signed by two thirds (2/3) of the members of the Management Committee the Secretary shall convene a meeting of the Management Committee.
- 5D 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.
- 5E 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.

## 6. POWERS OF MANAGEMENT

- 6A 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.
- 6B Subject to the permission of the Sanctioning Authority having been obtained, the Management Committee may order a match or matches to be played each Season, the proceeds to be devoted to the funds of the Competition and, if necessary, may call on each Club to contribute equally such sums as may be necessary to meet any deficiency at the end of the Season.

- 6C Each member of the Management Committee shall have the right to attend and vote at all Management Committee meetings and have one vote at all such meetings, but no member shall be allowed to vote on any matters directly relating to that member or to the Club so represented or where there may be a conflict of interest. This shall also apply to the procedure of any sub committee.
- 6D In the event of the voting being equal on any matter, the Chairman of the Management Committee shall have a second or casting vote.
- 6E 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 6I, 8H, 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/or submit in writing a case of mitigation for consideration by the Management Committee; or
- 2 Accept the charge and notify the competition that it wishes to put its case of mitigation at a hearing before the Management Committee; or
- 3 Deny the charge and submit in writing supporting evidence for consideration by the Management Committee; or
- 4 Deny the charge and notify the competition that it wishes to have 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.

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).

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.

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 sanctioning Association.

- 6F 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.
- 6G A minimum of 50% of its members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business by the Management Committee or any of its sub committees.

- 6H The Management Committee, as it may deem necessary, shall have power to fill in any vacancies that may occur in their number.
- 6I 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.
- 6J 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.
- 6K 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.
- 6L 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.
- 6M The business of the Competition as determined by the Management Committee may be transacted by electronic mail or facsimile.

## 7. PROTESTS, CLAIMS, COMPLAINTS, APPEALS

- 7A 1 All questions of eligibility, qualification of Players or interpretations of the Rules shall be referred to the Management Committee or a subcommittee duly appointed by the Management Committee.  
2 Objections relevant to the dimensions of the pitch, goals, flag posts or other facilities will not be entertained by the Management Committee unless a protest is lodged with the referee prior to the commencement of the Match.
- 7B 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.
- 7C 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.
- 7D All parties to a protest or complaint must receive a copy of the submission and must be afforded an opportunity to make a statement at least 7 days before the protest or complaint being heard.  
1 All parties must have received a minimum of 7 days' notice of the hearing should they be instructed to attend.

2 Should a Club elect to state its case in person then it should indicate such when forwarding the written response.

- 7E The Management Committee shall also have power to compel any party to the protest to pay such expenses as the Management Committee shall direct.
- 7F Any appeal against a decision of the Management Committee must be lodged with the Sanctioning Authority within 14 days of the posting of the written notification of the decision causing the appeal, accompanied by a fee (as set out in the Fees Tariff), which may be forfeited in the event of the appeal not being upheld. A copy of the appeal must also be sent to the Secretary. The procedure for the appeal shall be determined by the Sanctioning Authority, and the Sanctioning Authority may (but is not obliged to):
- 1 invite submissions by the parties involved;
  - 2 convene a hearing to hear the appeal;
  - 3 permit new evidence; or
  - 4 impose appropriate deadlines.
- Any appeal shall not involve a rehearing of the evidence considered by the Management Committee.
- 7G No appeal can be lodged against a decision taken at an AGM or SGM unless this is on the ground of unconstitutional conduct.
- 7H All protests, claims or complaints relating to these Rules and appeals arising from a Player's contract shall be heard and determined by the Management Committee, or a sub committee duly appointed by the Management Committee. The Clubs or Players protesting, appealing, claiming or complaining must send a copy of such protest, appeal, claim or complaint and deposit a fee (as set out in the Fees Tariff) which shall be forfeited in the event of the protest, appeal, claim or complaint not being upheld, and in these circumstances may, in addition, be ordered to pay the costs at the direction of the Management Committee. All such protests claims complaints and appeals must be received in writing by the Secretary within 14 days of the event or decision causing any of these to be submitted.

## 8. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- 8A The Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than 30th June in each year. At this meeting the following business shall be transacted provided that at least two thirds of the total number of Members are present and entitled to vote:
- 1 To confirm the minutes of the last AGM.
  - 2 Adopt the annual report, balance sheet and statement of accounts from the previous season or accounting period.
  - 3 Election of Clubs to fill vacancies.
  - 4 Constitution of the Competition for the ensuing Season.
  - 5 Election of Competition Officers and Management Committee members.
  - 6 Appointment of auditors/verifiers.
  - 7 Alteration of Rules, if any (see Rule 14)
  - 8 Agree the date for the beginning of the Playing Season and kick off times applicable to the Competition.
  - 9 Agree 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 by the chair as being relevant to an AGM.
- 8B 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.
- 8C 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
- 8D 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.
- 8E 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.
- 8F All voting shall be conducted by a show of hands or a count of email or virtual responses unless a ballot be demanded by at least 50% of the delegates qualified to vote or the Chair so decides.
- 8G No individual shall be entitled to vote on behalf of more than one Club.
- 8H 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.
- 8I Officers of the Competition and Management Committee members shall be entitled to attend and vote at an AGM.
- 8J Where a Competition is an incorporated entity, the Officers of the Competition shall ensure that the Articles of Association of the Competition are consistent with the requirements of these Rules.

## 9. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

- 9A On receiving a requisition signed by two thirds (2/3) of the Clubs in membership the Secretary shall call an SGM.
- 9B The Management Committee may call an SGM at any time.
- 9C At least 7 days' notice shall be given of a meeting under this Rule, together with an agenda of the business to be transacted at such meeting.
- 9D Each Club shall be empowered to send two delegates to all SGMs. Each Club shall be entitled to one vote only.
- 9E Any Club failing to be represented at an SGM shall be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
- 9F Officers of the Competition and Management Committee members shall be entitled to attend and vote at all SGMs.



## 10. AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED

Each Club shall complete and sign the following agreement which shall be deposited with the Competition together with the application for membership for the coming Season.

***“We,*** A (name), \_\_\_\_\_

of (address) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Chair)/(Director)

***and*** B (name), \_\_\_\_\_

of (address) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Secretary)/(Director) of the \_\_\_\_\_ Football Club (Limited)

have been provided with a copy of the Rules and Regulations of the Edmonton & District Sunday Football League 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:

- 1 Where a Club is an unincorporated association, by the Club chair and secretary; or
- 2 Where a Club is an incorporated entity, by two directors of the Club.

Any change of chair, secretary or Directors of the Club as named on the above agreement must be notified to the County Football Association to which the Club is sanctioned and to the Secretary of this competition.

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

## 11. CONTINUATION OF MEMBERSHIP, WITHDRAWAL OF A CLUB

- 11A Any Club intending, or having a provisional intention, to withdraw a Team from the Competition on completion of its fixtures and fulfilment of all other obligations to the Competition must notify the Secretary in writing of such intention by 31st March each season. This does not apply to a Club moving in accordance with Rule 22B. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
- 11B 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.
- 11C Notwithstanding the powers of the Management Committee pursuant to Rule 6,1, 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.

## 12. EXCLUSION OF CLUBS, TEAMS. MISCONDUCT OF CLUBS, OFFICERS, PLAYERS, MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

- 12A 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.
- 12B At the AGM, or at an SGM called for the purpose in accordance with the provisions of Rule 9, the accredited delegates present shall have the power to exclude from further participation in the Competition any Club whose conduct has, in their opinion, been undesirable, provided this is supported by more than two thirds (2/3) of those present and voting. Voting on this point shall be conducted by ballot. A Club whose conduct is the subject of the vote being taken shall be excluded from voting.
- 12C Any Officer or member of a Club found guilty of either a breach of Rule, other than field offences, or of inducing or attempting to induce a Player or Players of another Club in the Competition to join them shall be liable to such penalty as a General Meeting or Management Committee may decide, and their Club shall also be liable to expulsion in accordance with the provisions of clause 12A and/or 12B of this Rule.

## 13. TROPHY

- 13A The following agreement shall be signed on behalf of the winners of the cup or trophy:

**“We** (A) (name) **and** (B) (name) \_\_\_\_\_,

the Chair and Secretary of FC (Limited), members of and representing the Club, having been declared winners of cup or trophy, and the cup or trophy having been delivered to us by the Competition, do hereby on behalf of the Club jointly and severally agree to return the cup or trophy to the Competition Secretary on or before the February league Council meeting. 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.

- 13B At the close of each Competition awards may/shall be made to the winners and runners-up if the funds of the Competition permit.

## 14. ALTERATION TO RULES

- 14A Alterations, for which consent has been given by the Sanctioning Authority, shall be made to these Rules only at the AGM or at an SGM specially convened for the purpose called in accordance with Rule 9. Any alteration made during the Playing Season to these Rules shall not take effect until the following Playing Season.
- 14B Notice of proposed alterations to be considered at the AGM shall be submitted to the Secretary by 30 April in each year. The proposals, together with any proposals by the Management Committee, shall be circulated to the Clubs by

15 May and any amendments to these proposals shall be submitted to the Secretary by 21 May. The proposals and proposed amendments to these proposals shall be circulated to Clubs with the notice of the AGM. A proposal to change a Rule shall be carried if a majority of those present and entitled to vote and voting are in favour.

- 14C 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.

## 15. FINANCE

- 15A The Management Committee shall determine with which bank or other financial institution the funds of the Competition will be lodged.
- 15B All expenditure in excess of £1000.00 shall be approved by the Management Committee. Cheques shall be signed by at least two Officers nominated by the Management Committee.
- 15C The financial year of the Competition will end on the date of the Annual General Meeting.
- 15D The accounting records or a certified balance sheet, of a Competition shall be prepared and shall be audited annually by a suitably qualified person(s) who shall be appointed at the AGM.

## 16. INSURANCE

- 16A All Clubs must have valid public liability insurance cover for a minimum of ten million pounds (£10,000,000) at all times.
- 16B 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.
- 16C Failure to comply with Rule 16A or 16B will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

## 17. DISSOLUTION

- 17A Dissolution of the Competition shall be by resolution approved at an SGM by a majority of three quarters (3/4) of the members present and shall take effect from the date of the relevant SGM.
- 17B 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.
- 17C 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**

### 18. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

18A A Player is one who, being in all other respects eligible, has:

1 Registered through the Player Registration System and received approval from the Competition.

Any registration that is not fully and correctly completed will be returned to the Club unprocessed and the player classed as unregistered

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

For Clubs registering Players by the Player Registration System, Clubs must access the Player Registration System in order to complete the registration process.

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

18B 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.

2 It is the responsibility of each Club to ensure that any Player registered to the Club has, where necessary, the required International Transfer Certificate.

Clearance is required for any Player aged 10 and over crossing borders including Wales, Scotland and Ireland.

3 Each team must have at least 11 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.

18C A Player that owes a Football Debt (as defined under the Football Debt Recovery Regulations) shall be permitted to register for a Club but [will/may] be suspended from football activities if the Player does not comply with the terms of the Football Debt Recovery Regulations in respect of that Football Debt

18D A fee as set out in the Fees Tariff shall be paid by each Club/Team for each Player registered.

18E 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.

18F 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 registration through the Player Registration System for registration that the Player had willfully neglected to accurately or fully complete.

Submit a signed registration form 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.

18G 1 The Management Committee shall have the power to accept the registration of any Player subject to the provisions of Rules 18G2 and 3 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.

4 A player who has previously had a registration removed in accordance with Rule 18G3 but has a registration accepted at the expiry of exclusion will be considered to be under a probationary period of 12 months. Whilst under a probationary period, should the Player commit a further act of proven misconduct under the jurisdiction of the Competition, (excluding standard dismissals), the Competition may consider a further charge of bringing the Competition into disrepute.

(Note: Action under Rule 18G3 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.)

18H 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 notification to the Competition via the Player Registration System. A fee as set out in the Fees Tariff will be required. 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.

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 their registration as a Non Contract Player will automatically be cancelled and declared void unless the Club conforms to the exception detailed in Rule 18.B.1.

18I A Player may not be registered for a Club nor transferred to another

Club in the Competition after the last Thursday in March except by special permission of the Management Committee.

- 18J 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 18B1.
- 18K 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 22A unless the Player has played 10 Competition Matches for that Team in the current Playing Season.
- 18L A Team shall not include any players who have taken part in 10 or more senior Competition Matches during the current Playing Season without prior permission of the Management Committee. For the purpose of this Rule a senior competition is a higher division.  
Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
- 18M 1 Subject to Rule 18L2, 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 18L2 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.  
3 Where a Club is found to have played an ineligible Player in accordance with Rule 18L2 above, the Management Committee may also, at its discretion:  
a) Award the points available in the Competition Match in question to the opponents, subject to the Competition Match not being ordered to be replayed; or  
b) Levy penalty points against the Club in default; or  
c) Order that such Competition Match or Matches be replayed (on such terms as are decided by the Management Committee).
- 18N The following clause applies to Competitions involving Players in full time secondary education:  
1 Priority must be given at all times to activities of schools and school organisations. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.  
2 The availability of children and young people must be cleared with the Head Teachers or Principals (except for Sunday leagues competitions).  
3 To play open age football the player must have achieved the age of 16.
- 18O A Player who has played for a Team in the First division 10 times or more shall not in that Playing Season be eligible to play in a lower division except by permission of the Management Committee.

## 19. CLUB COLOURS

- A Every team must register the colour of its shirts and shorts with the Secretary by 30 June and the competition secretary shall decide as to their suitability.
- B Any team changing its colours during the Playing Season must notify the competition secretary immediately.
- C Goalkeepers must wear colours which distinguish them from all other Players and the Match Officials.
- D No Player, including the goalkeeper, shall be permitted to wear black or very dark shirts.
- E 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 3 days before the Competition Match.
- F If, in the opinion of the referee, two Teams have the same or similar colours, the away Team shall make the change. Should a Team delay the scheduled time of kick off for a Competition Match by not having a change of colours they will be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
- G Shirts must be numbered and no two shirts shall have the same number, failing which a fine will be levied in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

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

- 20A 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 3(g) 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).

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 agreed at the AGM and can only be altered by the mutual consent of the two competing Clubs and the competition.

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

The home Team must provide goal nets, corner flags and at least two footballs fit for play and the referee shall make a report to the Competition if not provided. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

- 20B Except by permission of the Management Committee all Competition Matches must be played on the dates originally agreed but priority shall be given to The FA and parent County Association Cup Competitions. All other matches must be considered secondary. Clubs may mutually agree to bring forward a Competition match with the consent of the competition. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

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).

- 20C 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 seven clear days prior to the playing of the match. If not so provided, the away Club shall seek such details and report the circumstances to the Competition. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

In accordance with the Laws of the Game, the minimum number of Players that will constitute a Team for a Competition Match is 8. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

- 20D In accordance with the laws of the game, the minimum number of players which will constitute a team for a competition match is 7

- 20E 1 Home and away matches shall be played. In the event of a Club failing to keep its engagement the Management Committee shall have power to impose a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff), deduct points from the defaulting Club, award the points from the Competition Match in question to the opponents, order the defaulting Club to pay any reasonable expenses incurred by the opponents or otherwise deal with them except by the award of goals. Notwithstanding the foregoing home and away provision, the Management Committee shall have power to order a Competition Match to be played on a neutral ground or on the opponent's Ground if they are satisfied that such action is warranted by the circumstances.

2 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.

3 Any Club unable to fulfil a fixture or where a Competition Match has been postponed for any reason must, without delay, give notice to the competition, the secretary of the opposing Club and the Match Officials. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff

4 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 competition. Failing such agreement and notification to the competition within 7 days the competition shall have the power to order the match to be played on or before a given date. Where it is to the advantage of the Competition, the Management Committee shall also be empowered to order the score at the time of an abandonment to stand. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.



5 The Management Committee shall review all Competition Matches abandoned in cases where it is consequent upon the conduct of either or both Teams. Where it is to the advantage of the Competition and does no injustice to either Club, the Management Committee shall order the score at the time of the abandonment to stand. In all cases where the Management Committee are satisfied that a match was abandoned owing to the conduct of one Team or its Club member(s) they shall award the points for the match to the opponent. In cases where a match has been abandoned owing to the conduct of both Teams or their Club member(s), the Management Committee shall rule that neither Team will be awarded any points for that match and it shall not be replayed. No fine(s) can be applied by the Management Committee for an abandoned match.

The Management Committee shall review any match that has taken place where either or both Teams were under a suspension imposed upon them by The FA or Affiliated Association. In each case the Team that was under suspension would be dealt with in the same manner as if they had participated with ineligible players in accordance with Rule 18(n) above. Where both Teams were under suspension the game must be declared null and void and shall not be replayed.

- 20F 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 3 may be used. 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.

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.

- 20G 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.
- 20H The Teams taking part in a Competition Match shall identify a Team captain who may wear an armband and shall have a responsibility to offer support in the management of the on field discipline of their teammates. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

## 21. REPORTING RESULTS

- 21A The competition 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.
- 21B The Home Club/both Clubs shall telephone or text the result of each Competition Match to the Results Secretary on 07847 212815 by 3:30pm on the day of the match. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
- 21C The match result notification, correctly completed, shall be signed by an Officer of the team, or as prescribed by the Competition. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

## 22. DETERMINING CHAMPIONSHIP

22A 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 shall be determined by goal difference (where the goals scored against each Team shall be deducted from the goals scored by that Team and the Team with the most favourable goal difference shall be placed highest).

In the event of two or more Teams still being equal, the Team which has scored the most goals during the Playing Season shall be placed highest.

In the event of two or more Teams still being equal, the Team that has won the most matches during the Playing Season shall be placed highest.

In the event of two or more Teams still being equal, the Team which has the better playing record against the other Team in their head to head Competition Matches during the Playing Season will be placed highest.

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

22B 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 below, subject to the provisions of Rule 2L.

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:

- a. retention of otherwise relegated Team(s); or
- b. additional promotion of the next ranked Team(s) from the division below; or
- c. election.

3 The last Team in the lowest division shall retire, but be eligible for re election except as below, and be subject to the conditions of Rule 22B1 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.

22C 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 22C a completed fixture shall include any Competition Match(es) which has been awarded by the Management Committee.

### 23. MATCH OFFICIALS

- 23A 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.
- 23B 1 In the event of the non appearance of the appointed referee the appointed senior assistant referee shall take charge and a substitute assistant referee appointed by the competing Teams.  
2 In cases where there are no officially appointed Match Officials in attendance, the Clubs shall agree upon a referee. An individual thus agreed upon shall, for that Competition Match, have the full powers, status and authority of a registered referee. Individuals under the age of 16 must not participate either as a referee or assistant referee in any Competition Match.
- 23C 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.
- 23D For those leagues which are not Regional NLS Feeder Leagues: 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.
- 23E 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 inclusive of travel expenses. Match Officials will be paid their fees by both the home and away Clubs before the Competition Match. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
- 23F In the event of a Competition Match not being played because of circumstances over which the Clubs have no control, the Match Officials, if present, shall be entitled to expenses only. Where a Competition Match is not played owing to one Club being in default, that Club shall be ordered to pay the Match Officials, if they attend the Ground, their full fee and expenses. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
- 23G A referee not keeping their engagement, and failing to give a satisfactory explanation as to their non appearance, may be reported to the Affiliated Association with which he or she is registered.
- 23H 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.
- 23I The Competition shall keep a record of the markings and, on the form provided by the prescribed date each Season, shall submit a summary to The Sanctioning Authority.
- 23J 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 Referees' Secretary within two days of the Competition Match.
- 23K Match Officials shall be supplied, each season, with a copy of the Competition Rules free of charge.
- 23L Match Officials shall comply with the provisions of any initiatives of the FA and/or Sanctioning Authority adopted by the competition.

## FEES TARIFF

<u>RULE NO.</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>MAX. FEE</u>
4A	CLUB ENTRY FEE	£100
4B	CLUB/TEAM ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION	£60
4C	DEPOSIT	£100
7C,E,G	PROTEST/APPEAL FEES	£20
18D	PLAYER REGISTRATION FEE	Free
18H	TRANSFER FEE	£2
23E	REFEREE FEES	£40
23 E	ASSISTANT REFEREE FEES	£20

## SCHEDULE A

2G	FAILURE TO AFFILIATE	£20
2I	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH FA INITIATIVES	£0
2K	UNAUTHORISED ENTRY OF TEAMS INTO COMPETITIONS	£0
3	FAILURE TO OBTAIN CONSENT FOR A CHANGE OF CLUB NAME	£0
4C	FAILURE TO PAY A DEPOSIT	£0
4E	FAILURE TO PROVIDE AFFILIATION NUMBER/DETAILS FORM	£20
5E	COMMUNICATIONS CONDUCTED BY PERSONS OTHER THAN NOMINATED OFFICERS	£0
6H	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH AN INSTRUCTION OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	TBA
6I	FAILURE TO PAY A FINE WITHIN REQUIRED TIMEFRAME	n/a
8H	FAILURE TO BE REPRESENTED AT AGM	£20
9	FAILURE TO BE REPRESENTED AT SGM	£10
10	FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED WRITTEN AGREEMENT OR TO NOTIFY CHANGES TO SIGNATORIES	n/a
11A	FAILURE TO PROVIDE NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL BEFORE DEADLINE	£10
11B	FAILURE TO COMMENCE/COMPLETE FIXTURES	£10
13A	FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED WRITTEN AGREEMENT REGARDING THE TROPHY	n/a
16A	FAILURE TO HAVE THE REQUIRED INSURANCE	£0
16B	FAILURE TO HAVE THE REQUIRED INSURANCE	£0
18A	FAILURE TO CORRECTLY REGISTER A PLAYER	£0
18B2	FAILURE TO HAVE THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF REGISTERED PLAYERS PRIOR TO THE SEASON COMMENCING	£0
18F	REGISTERING OR PLAYING FOR MULTIPLE CLUBS, OR INACCURATE COMPLETION OF A REGISTRATION FORM	£0
18G2	REGISTRATION IRREGULARITIES	£0
18K	FIELDING MORE THAN THE PERMITTED NUMBER OF PLAYERS WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN SENIOR COMPETITIONS MATCHES	£0
18L	PLAYING AN INELIGIBLE PLAYER	£0
18M	FAILURE TO GIVE PRIORITY TO SCHOOL ACTIVITIES	£0
19F	DELAYING KICK-OFF DUE TO NO CHANGE COLOURS	£5
19G	FAILURE TO NUMBER SHIRTS	£10
19G	FAILURE TO HAVE DIFFERENT SHIRT NUMBERS	£10
20A	DELAYING KICK-OFF DUE TO FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED EQUIPMENT	£5
20B	FAILURE TO PLAY MATCHES ON THE DATE FIXED	£10

20C	FAILURE TO PROVIDE DETAILS OF A FIXTURE	£10
20D	PLAYING MATCH WITH LESS THAN THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF PLAYERS	£0
20E 1&4	FAILURE TO PLAY FIXTURE	£10 plus pitch & officials fees
20H	NO CAPTAINS ARMBAND	£0
21A	LATE RESULT NOTIFICATION FORM	£10
21B	FAILURE TO PROVIDE RESULT	£10
21C	MATCH CARD NOT SIGNED BY APPROPRIATE SIGNATORIES	£5
23C	FAILURE TO PROVIDE CLUB ASSISTANT REFEREE	£0
23E	FAILURE TO PAY MATCH OFFICIALS' FEES & EXPENSES	£10
23F	FAILURE TO PAY MATCH OFFICIALS WHERE A MATCH IS NOT PLAYED	£10
23H	FAILURE TO PROVIDE REFEREE'S MARK	£0

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Fines Tariff

## RULES OF THE LEAGUE

These rules will apply, however the standard code of rules issued by the London Football Association will override these rules in the event of any conflict.

### 24. STANDING ORDERS

- 1 Delegates speaking at meetings shall stand and address themselves direct to the chair, and not indirectly to other delegates.
- 2 Two thirds of the total number of teams affiliated to the League shall be regarded as a quorum, and where this number is not in attendance it will be deemed that the Management Committee's decision has been endorsed.
- 3 Clubs with Reserve /'B' teams affiliated are entitled to vote in accordance with the number of teams they have in membership.
- 4 Committee members must refrain from voting when the business under discussion is likely to be of benefit to their clubs.
- 5 Clubs not represented at Meetings of Clubs by their Secretary and/or their Assistant Secretary will be fined the sum of £ 10.00. In the event of the Agenda not being finished the meeting shall be adjourned.

### 25. THE LEAGUE

25A Objects:

- 1 The promotion of the game of association football in Edmonton and District on Sundays and to maintain our own independence of thought and decision.
- 2 To maintain and uphold the game as organised and operated since 1925 by previous Management Committees of the Edmonton and District Sunday Football League within the framework of the following rules.
- 3 To aim at promoting first class facilities both on the grounds we play and the dressing rooms we use, and in surroundings in which we hold our meetings.
- 4 To provide facilities for member Clubs, who agree to compete in all Competitions as arranged by the League Management Committee.

25B The Championship Shield:

The Edmonton and District Sunday Football League Championship Shields for each division of the League shall be played for on the League system viz., 3 points for a win and 1 point for a draw. The club obtaining the highest number of points shall be the holder of the shield in their respective division for one season. In the event of points being even, superior goal difference shall decide. In the event of goal difference being equal the club having scored the most goals shall be declared the winners. If goals scored are equal the club having won the most matches will be declared the winners. If all the above are equal the Championship will be shared.

25C The Cups:

All member teams will take part in all cup competitions relevant to their

divisional status.

### 1 Divisional Cups:

The "Glynn Watson" Cup for clubs in Division 1 only.

The "L.R.S." Cup for clubs in Division 2 only.

All Divisional Cups will be played on a home and away basis up to and including Semi Finals. If aggregate scores are level after two 90 minute matches, 30 minutes extra time will be played (15 minutes each way). Should the tie remain drawn penalties will be taken to determine the result. Kick Off times for Cup ties will be 10.30 a.m.

### 2 Challenge Cups:

Senior (Fred Nottage) Challenge Cup for all teams not entered into a county cup competition.

Junior (Herbert W. Skeggs) Challenge Cup for teams knocked out in the first round of the Senior Challenge Cup not entered into a county cup competition.

All Challenge Cup matches up to and including Semi Final shall be played for not less than 90 minutes, and in the event of the score being equal another 30 minutes (15 minutes each way) will be played. Should the tie remain drawn penalties will be taken to determine the result. Kick Off times for Cup Ties will be 10.30 am. Challenge Cup Semi Finals will take place on a neutral pitch.

### 3 Senior League Cup:

Four groups will be established known as A, B, C and D. The competition will be on a league basis 3 points for a win and 1 point for a draw. Teams will play each other once and the winners and runners up in each group shall proceed to the knockout Senior League Cup quarter final, semi final and final stages.

"The 3rd and 4th placed teams in each group shall proceed to the Junior League Cup quarter final, semi final and final stages."

In the event of points being even, superior goal difference shall decide. In the event of goal difference being equal the club having scored the most goals shall be declared the winners. If goals scored are equal the club having won the most matches will be declared the winners. If all the above are equal a play-off fixture will be arranged under knockout cup rules.

Senior League Cup Quarter Finals and Semi Finals shall be one match of 90 minutes. In the quarter finals

1. The winners of group A will play the runner up of group D
2. The winners of group B will play the runner up of group C
3. The winners of group C will play the runner up of group B
4. The winners of group D will play the runner up of group A

Junior League Cup Quarter Finals and Semi Finals shall be one match of 90 minutes. In The quarter finals

1. The 3rd placed team in Group A will play the 4th placed team in Group D
2. The 3rd placed team in Group B will play the 4th placed team in Group C
3. The 3rd placed team in Group C will play the 4th placed team in Group B
4. The 3rd placed team in Group D will play the 4th placed team in Group A

For semi finals winners of Quarter final 1 will play winners of quarter final 2.

For semi finals winners of Quarter final 3 will play winners of quarter final 4.

Should the score be level after 90 minutes, 30 minutes extra time will be played. Should the tie remain drawn penalties will be taken to determine the result.

Group league fixtures will be played from time to time, September to February as arranged by the Fixtures Secretary. The league section of the cup must be completed by the last Sunday in February. Any unplayed fixtures that are not subject to rule 28A will be awarded as 0 0 draw.

Teams from division one will be drawn in each group and will start with no points. Teams from division two will be drawn in each group and will start with one point.

For all fixtures the first named team will be considered the home side and will comply with League rules accordingly.

The records of teams withdrawing at any stage will be deleted.

Kick off times for group matches will be 11.00am and for quarter, semi finals and finals 10.30am.

#### 4 Supplementary Cups:

Brigg Cup for all clubs.

Player Eligibility; A player may not play for more than one club in the same Supplementary Cup competition in any one season. Clubs with multi teams will be subject to rule 31.

All teams that are knocked out of all other Cup competitions at any stage of those competitions up to the semi finals inclusive are eligible. The League Fixtures Secretary will, however, arrange matches throughout the season when teams are without a League and/or Knockout Cup match.

Their record will be expunged in the event of a team reaching any of the Cup Finals as listed under rule 25C1,2 and 3 above.

The matches will be played on a League basis as per rule 25B. When the last matches as agreed by the Management Committee have been played, an average of the points won is decided by dividing the number of games played into the number of points won, to determine the positions in the table. In the event of similar average, goal difference will be taken into consideration. In the event of goal difference being equal the most goals scored shall be taken into account to determine positions in the table. Clubs must play a minimum of two matches to be eligible for the application of this paragraph.

In the event of a team failing to fulfil a Supplementary Cup Division fixture as arranged by the League, rule 28A will be applied. Unless another fixture has been arranged on the same day for the opponents they will be awarded 3 points.

The four teams finishing top, play off on a knock out basis of one match, i.e. Semi Final and Final of 90 minutes plus 30 minutes, plus penalty competition if scores are level.

Entrance fee will be as decided by the Management Committee.

The record of a team withdrawing from the League will continue to be included in the final table.

#### 5 Penalties:

Teams will alternate (player by player) in the taking of up to 5 penalty shots. The team with the higher penalty score from 5 taking the result. If scores remain level after 5 shots have been taken, further shots will alternately be taken by each team until one side fails to score and the other does convert. Each player will take only one penalty unless all players have been used, when



the player who originally started the sequence will be used again etc. Only players on the field at the end of the extra time period will take part in the penalty competition. Substitutes and/or substituted players will not be used.

#### 6 Colours:

Where colours are confusing the away team must change. In Cup Finals the second named team will change.

#### 7 Cup Finals:

Clubs playing in a cup final will be responsible for the behaviour of their supporters. Only five persons, including substitutes, will be permitted on, or around the team bench.

Players of a team competing in a Final will not be allowed to take part should they arrive at the Stadium after the game has commenced.

Club Officials will ensure that their supporters stay on the terraces and do not stand on the pitch surround unless given prior permission by the Management Committee.

Only one official video camera per team may be used on the Henry Barrass Stadium and will be positioned as instructed by Management Committee members present.

No alcohol may be brought into, or consumed within the confines of the Henry Barrass Stadium.

No music may be played before, during or after cup finals.

#### 8 Match officials' fees

Officials taking part in cup finals will receive, in addition to a commemorative medal, a fee equal to the standard referee and assistant referee's fee as indicated in the rules. The cup final teams will be jointly responsible for the Referee's fee and the League will be responsible for the Assistant Referees' fees.

#### 9 Eligibility:

Any player named on the Team Match Card, completed as per rule 28F3, is deemed to have taken part in that match.

A player cannot play in a Final tie for a club unless he has played in three or more League and/or Cup matches for that club in continuous registration prior to the Final Tie.

A player having played for a club in any named Challenge, Divisional or League Cup match, is deemed to be "Cup Tied" and may not play that season for another club in that named Challenge, Divisional or League Cup game. In knockout cup fixtures the fixture will be re arranged if the offending club has gained by the infringement of this rule. The offending club will be responsible for all match expenses of the replay. Match expenses include pitch and official's fees and it will be the responsibility of the team offended against to get expenses if outstanding.

#### 10 Players of Multi Team Clubs

Once a player has played in a cup tie for a team, he is eligible to play for his club's other team(s) in a different Cup competition, provided that the team is in a higher Division. He cannot, however, play in a Cup match for his club's team(s) of lower status, having played for a senior team in a Cup match. Supplementary Cup matches are excluded. If this rule is not complied with the matter will have the attention of the Management Committee and similar penalties as shown in rule 27D may be imposed. In the event of Cup matches having to be played again owing to an infringement, both teams will only be allowed to include

registered players who were eligible on the date of the original match.

#### 11 Home side:

In all rounds except the Final the first named team when the draw takes place will be considered as the home side, providing corner flags and the match ball. The pitch and referee's fee will be equally shared by the opposing teams, payable by the above mentioned home side. All Cup Finals and Semi Finals will be controlled by the Management Committee who will arrange the venue. In the event of a Cup Final being drawn 30 minutes extra time will be played (15 minutes each way). Should the tie remain drawn, penalties will be taken to determine the result.

#### 25D Awards:

At the discretion of the Management Committee and providing League funds permit fifteen medals or other suitable trophies will be provided for the champions and runners up of all divisions of the League. Winners and runners up of all cup competitions will be provided with sixteen medals or other suitable trophies. In addition a replica cup will be presented to the cup winners at the Annual General Meeting. Further awards can be purchased by the club for players who have made not less than 10 appearances in League matches in a season in respect of Divisional Championship awards, or not less than 2 appearances in any one Cup competition, in respect of the relevant Cup competition, only at the discretion of the League Management Committee.

#### 25E Championship Shield Guarantee:

The Secretary of the winning club shall sign a form of guarantee, thereby agreeing to replace loss or make good any damage sustained by the shield thus guaranteed. Insurance cover for the League shields will be paid from League funds. Clubs when returning League shields will obtain a receipt from the League official receiving the shield.

#### 25F Substitutes:

Substitutes are to be allowed in all matches under the jurisdiction of the League. A club may at its discretion and in accordance with the laws of the game use three substitutes in any League or Cup fixture selected from five players who must be named on the match card prior to taking part in the game. The penalties of rules 28F1 and 2 will apply to any infringement of this rule. No substitutes may enter the field of play without the referee's prior consent.

#### 25G Club Debts:

Team debts inclusive of fines must be paid in full by electronic bank transfer. Clubs will be notified in advance of the monthly invoice totals. Invoices must be paid in full within 7 days of the notice. Failure to clear the debt by this date will result in the suspension of the club from competition. All fixtures Cup or League, not played through suspension, will be forfeited and awarded to the opposition. A fine of £20.00 will be imposed for each week or part week that the debt remains unpaid. In addition, any pitch unused because of debt suspension will be charged to the club at fault. Clubs in debt to and suspended by The London Football Association will be subject to the above rule. Failure by any club to pay their final invoice of the season on time will result in the forfeiture of the Good Faith Fee by that club.

#### 25H Club Records:

Secretaries of clubs must retain all books (club rules and minutes, cash books, receipts, etc.) for at least two seasons, and these records must be produced for

examination by the League Management Committee if required. Secretaries of clubs must enter up all receipts and expenditure. Secretaries of clubs must enter into a minute book any alterations or additional rules made by their clubs, showing the dates and voting on any subject. They must also keep records of players taking part in all their matches, together with full identities and current addresses of all club members.

25I Club Secretary:

The Club Secretary is solely responsible to the League for their team(s) and League Officials will deal with any matter appertaining to the club, only through the Club Secretary. The League will only deal with the Club Assistant Secretary in the recognised absence of the Club Secretary. The Club Secretary will notify the League General Secretary of any intended periods of absence in writing. Failure to do so will result in a fine of £10.00 being imposed. The Club Secretary will accept full financial responsibility of his club's debt.

25J Jurisdiction:

The League Management Committee shall have jurisdiction over all matters affecting the League. Affiliated clubs are deemed to have given their consent to the rules. All fines will be automatically imposed and published in the weekly circular in accordance with the rules. Any infringement of the rules will render the offenders liable to a fine, suspension or expulsion, as may be deemed expedient.

## 26. FEES

26A Entrance Fees:

A fee of £100.00 will be paid by all new member clubs and £60 for existing members.

26B All teams will with their September invoice pay a pitch deposit equivalent to the value of three pitch fees. The deposit will be credited against pitch charges made for a team's last six games each season. Should a team withdraw, or have membership withdrawn by the League Management Committee during the season, the pitch deposit will be forfeited

26C Pitch Fees:

All teams using London Borough of Enfield football pitches will pay half of the pitch fee each week that they play. Fees for the current season are Grade 1 pitch £64.00 (£32.00 half fee) and Grade 2 £42.00 (£21.00 half fee). All pitch fees will be invoiced by the League Financial Secretary and will be paid before or at the following League Council. Teams in default of Rule 28A will pay the full pitch fee.

26D Results Service:

On match days the Home Club shall telephone or text the result of each match to the Results Secretary on 07847 212815 by 3.30pm. All fixtures arranged whether played or not to be included. In the event of a Cup Semi Final being played on a neutral ground, the first named team will telephone. A fine of £10.00 will be imposed for the first offence then to be increased by £5.00 for each further offence up to a maximum of £25.00. Text or voice mail messages will be accepted.

26E Weekly Circulars:

Clubs may be charged an annual fee as recommended by the Management Committee to cover the cost of postage of weekly circulars.

## 27. MEMBERSHIP AND PLAYER REGISTRATION

### 27A Application Forms:

- 1 All teams wishing to enter into the League will complete an application form. Membership of the Edmonton and District Sunday Football League is considered as automatically continuous, subject to the annual sanction of the Management Committee unless notice of withdrawal in writing on the official withdrawal form, is submitted to the General Secretary .
- 2 Expulsion follows from a decision by the Management Committee due to breach of rules or club action detrimental to the welfare of the League.

### 27B Player Registrations:

- 1 All registrations shall be carried out as per Rule18.
- 2 Players will not be eligible to play in a match until approval has been received from the competition. To guarantee a player is eligible for a game, registration should be made no later than the Thursday prior to the match.  
A team is entitled to challenge the identity of their opponent's players. The match Referee or League Official will be responsible to carry out checks as required. The Club Secretary will ensure that access to their players' registrations on the Whole Game system is readily available on the day of the game. Failure to comply shall result in the team at fault being fined £20.00 and a new team card will be completed under the supervision of the Referee or League Official.
- 3 Registrations in respect of players of a former member club can be made, however the new club will be notified of any embargo that might exist or any reason why a player may not be transferred within seven days. Upon discharge of any required fee or obligation and production of an indemnity form the Registration Secretary will accept the transfer and register the player accordingly. No transfer fee is payable.
- 4 Poaching or attempting to poach players from other affiliated clubs will be deemed a serious offence. Clubs or individuals involved will be liable to expulsion, suspension and/or fines at the discretion of the Management Committee.

### 27C Annual Indemnity:

All players and officials will annually sign a form indemnifying the Edmonton and District Sunday Football League and its officers, match officials and the owners or leasers of the land used for football matches played under the jurisdiction of the Edmonton and District Sunday Football League and their respective officers, servants, representatives and agents from and against all actions, claims, costs, expenses and demands in respect of death or injury to themselves, however caused, arising out of or in connection with their entry or taking part in activities organised by the Edmonton and District Sunday Football League and not withstanding that the same may have been contributed to or occasioned by the negligence of said bodies, their officials, servants, representatives or agents. No registered player will be permitted to play until this indemnity is lodged with the Registration Secretary. Indemnity forms must be submitted to the Registration Secretary three days prior to the match.

During the closed season new forms must be completed and returned to the Registration Secretary before the second Sunday in August. The Registration Secretary will inform the General Secretary of any club not returning forms by that date and they will be excluded from all fixtures August friendly fixtures included until such time as the forms are returned.

#### 27D Eligibility:

- 1 Suspended players will not take part in any matches arranged by the League. The registration of any player found to be contravening this rule will be withdrawn.
- 2 Any club playing an ineligible player shall be dealt with under Rule 18M. In knockout cup fixtures infringement will result in either the fixture being awarded to the opponents or the match being replayed on such terms as are decided by the Management Committee. The offending club will be fined a sum of £25.00 for the first offence relating to an ineligible player and £50.00 for each further offence. In League, League Cup or Supplementary matches the match will be awarded to the opposition if the offending club has gained by the infringement of this rule. Continuous infringement of this rule may incur expulsion.

#### 27E Transfers:

- 1 No Secretary can transfer to a member club until a new Secretary approved by the League has been appointed. Secretaries who transfer from a member club, which subsequently withdraws from membership within three months of the transfer, will be jointly liable as per rule 25I.
- 2 A maximum of 3 players will be permitted to transfer from one member club to another during their period of membership. Additional transfers will be at the discretion of the Management Committee. This will also apply to registrations of players from clubs no longer in membership.

### 28. MATCHES

#### 28A Fixtures:

All matches must be played on the dates laid down. Should a team postpone a fixture, the points or cup round will be awarded to the opponents. (In the case of a two legged tie, failure to field a team in either leg will mean a forfeiture of the tie.) The team at fault will be fined £10.00 and charged referees fees and full pitch fees, unless three weeks notice in writing is given.

If the opponents travel to the ground for the fixture and complete the referee's report card and team card, they are entitled to claim up to £10.00 expenses from the offending team.

Where League fixtures are in arrears at the end of the season, teams that have not played each other in League competition shall be allowed to play two matches of not less than 60 minutes on the same date and at the same venue. This at the discretion of the League Management Committee.

All other League matches un played after the last Sunday of the current season shall be declared void and the points divided or awarded at the discretion of the Management Committee.

Matches arranged by the League will take precedence in the following order: County Cup, Challenge Cup, Divisional Cup, League, League cup, Supplementary Cup, Friendly fixtures.

Friendly fixtures between teams in membership will be arranged where possible by the League General Secretary and will come within the terms of this rule. No other matches in or outside the League shall be arranged by clubs without permission of the League Management Committee. Teams attending the ground on match days must complete a match card whether or not the match is played.

## Rules for Double Header (60 Minute Fixtures)

1. Fixtures will kick off at 10.15 am and will be of 60 minutes duration (30 minutes each way)
2. The second match will commence after a second match card has been completed to allow for fresh players being introduced.
3. Referees shall complete two report cards and shall receive a match fee of £50.00 (£25.00 from each team)
4. The home team of the first match will be responsible for providing nets, corner flags and match ball and also for phoning in the results of both matches. Secretaries are asked to ensure that there are no colour clashes.
5. The London F.A. recognize each of these matches individually in respect of discipline

### 28B Postponements:

In the event of a club postponing a fixture they will inform the League General Secretary, Referees' Secretary and opponents immediately in writing, but may be subject to the terms of rule 28A. No consideration will be given to requests for postponements of League fixtures in favour of fixtures outside of the League with the exception of county cup fixtures.

### 28C Time of Kick Off:

Matches will kick off at the time published in the weekly circular (except where specially provided for). Referees are requested to indicate in the usual way that it is time to kick off irrespective as to whether the teams concerned are prepared to kick off. The club[s] at fault will be fined £5.00 for the first offence, then to be increased by £5.00 for each further offence, up to a maximum of £25.00. Further offences will be charged at £25.00 for each occurrence. Matches may commence up to 15 minutes after the published kick off time after which the fixtures may be awarded to the non-offending side at the discretion of the Management Committee. The referee's decision as to the correct time will be final. The Management Committee may give consideration in the light of circumstances to the result of a match beginning more than 15 minutes late standing.

### 28D Non Completion of Fixtures:

Should a team withdraw or be expelled before completing its programme a fine of £10.00 will be imposed and all outstanding pitch fees will be paid. If a team withdraws before completing 75 per cent of its fixtures their games will become void; should 75 per cent or more be completed the outstanding points shall be awarded, the matches concerned will be compiled from the date of withdrawal or as officially recorded.

### 28E Corner Flags:

The home club must provide corner flags on at least four posts which will be not less than five feet above ground level. Failure to do so entails a fine of £10.00.

### 28F Club Team Card:

1 Sixteen players will personally print and sign their names in blue/black ball point pen which will be obtained by the opposing Club Secretary on the joint team card (to be provided by the home club) before the player plays. Team members must sign against the number that corresponds with the shirt number to be worn in the match. A fine of £5.00 will be imposed when this section is not complied with.

2 A player having signed a club team card is deemed to have played in that

match. If a club team card is not completed correctly, the club at fault will be fined the sum of £5.00 for the first offence, then to be increased by £5.00 for each further offence. Three points will be deducted where this rule is infringed. In knockout cup fixtures infringement will result in the team forfeiting their place in that cup competition. The match will be rearranged where the offending club has gained from the infringement. The offending club will be responsible for all match expenses of the replay. Match cards must be completed for all fixtures organised by the League including August friendly fixtures and friendly fixtures organised during the season.

3 After completing all other details required, the card must be sent by the HOME Club Secretary to be received by the General Secretary within seven days of the day of the match. Cards not received within seven days will be deemed lost. Clubs not returning team cards by that date will be fined £10.00 for the first infringement in any one season. For a second or subsequent infringement clubs will be fined £10.00 plus three points will be deducted in League or League Cup group matches. The match will be re arranged where the offending club has gained from the infringement. The offending club will be responsible for all match expenses of the replay. In knockout cup fixtures infringement will result in the club forfeiting its place in the cup competition.

#### 28G Goal nets:

A fine of £10.00 will be imposed on each occasion if teams do not provide and use goal nets for ALL matches played under the jurisdiction of the League. In L.F.A. cup fixtures it is the responsibility of the home club to provide and erect both goal nets.

#### 28H Regulation Kit:

Regulation and uniform kit, as registered with the League must be worn by all players except goalkeepers i.e. each player in the team will wear shirt, which will be numbered in the usual manner, shorts and socks in the same colour and style plus shin pads. A goalkeeper must wear a jersey which is not confusing to either team. He does not have to wear the same colour shorts or socks as other team members. Cycling shorts may be worn, though they must be of the same colour as the shorts of the player's team. They must not extend below the top of the knee. Referees must report players dressed in other than recognised playing kit participating in any matches under the League's jurisdiction. Teams contravening this rule will be fined £10.00.

#### 28I Football:

The home team will supply a good football for the game which will be handed to the referee prior to the kick off. The referee will report any club failing to supply a good football. In addition a fine of £ 10.00 will be imposed should the home team fail to provide the match ball.

### 29. REFEREE'S

29A The Secretary of the home club will confirm the fixture to the allocated referee by the Wednesday prior to the match stating the venue of the fixture and the kick off time. Clubs failing to comply will be fined £10.00.

#### 29B Referee's Fees:

Referees shall receive £40.00 per match (Linesmen £20.00 each) on the day of the match 50% from each club. Clubs failing to pay their proportion of the fee to the referee before the match will be fined £ 10.00. In the event of no match taking place, the club at fault shall pay the full fee. If both clubs are at fault they shall pay 50 per cent each.

When two 60 minute matches are played (see rule 28a) referees will receive a combined fee of £ 50.00 (£ 25.00 per team).

Should the referee not appear, one should be agreed upon by the clubs concerned. Club Secretaries must be prepared to officiate if required.

Any person acting as referee shall have full powers of an official referee and may caution or send off players, officials or spectators and must report these matters to the Referee's Secretary.

Second class travelling expenses will be paid to referees on the day of the match, who travel from the London Borough of Enfield to matches outside that Borough. These expenses will be paid by the home club.

#### 29C Referee's Report Card:

Referees will complete the Referee's Report Card after each game and the Club Secretaries will within 15 minutes of the match finishing sign the card after completion by the referee. Report cards will be sent to the Financial Secretary by the Referees' Secretary not later than the Wednesday following the matches.

#### 29D The Club Secretary's signatures on the card will denote agreement with the details entered by the referee.

### 30. FINANCE RAISING SCHEME

All clubs must make a minimum contribution towards any finance raising scheme as agreed by the Council and in return each team will receive benefits as shown in the rules or by special resolution of the Management Committee. Any such benefits to cease immediately upon (a) notice of resignation or (b) expulsion.

### 31. SUPPLEMENTARY RULES FOR CLUBS WITH 'B' TEAMS

#### 31A Secretary and Books:

Clubs with Reserve/'B' teams shall appoint one Secretary to control the affairs of the club; only one set of books need be kept.

#### 31B It is understood that all clubs with Reserve/'B' teams are obliged to field their strongest side as the first team.

The principle is to strengthen the seniors and not vice versa.

#### 31C The Reserve/'B' team must not play any recognised senior team members in any League, Challenge, Divisional League Cup or Supplementary Cup match when the senior team has no fixture to fulfil. The penalties of rule 27(d) (iii) will apply when this rule is infringed.

#### 31D Where the senior team is without sufficient players the senior team's fixture must be completed using 'B' team players and the 'B' team must play with a reduced number of players or if required cancel their fixture.

Should the fixture be cancelled the penalties of Rule 28A) will apply. In the event of both teams playing at the same venue and a team being scheduled to kick off at 10 30 a.m. senior and B team players must arrive in good time to ensure the senior team has sufficient players to complete its fixture. 'B' team players must at all times be ready to play for the senior team. Secretaries should be mindful that it is not necessary to provide substitutes for either team. Infringement of this rule will incur a fine of £10.00.

The League Management Committee shall have full powers to maintain the principle as laid down.



## 32. ACCIDENT AND INDEMNITY INSURANCE

No club will be permitted to play in any fixture (including all friendly fixtures) until proof of adequate accident and indemnity insurance cover is provided to the Management Committee.

### APPENDIX A

#### **THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION:**

##### A CODE OF CONDUCT FOR FOOTBALL

Football is the national game. All those involved with the game at every level and whether as a player, match official, coach, owner or administrator, have a responsibility, above and beyond compliance with the law, to act according to the highest standards of integrity, and to ensure that the reputation of the game is, and remains, high. This Code applies to all those involved in football under the auspices of The Football Association.

##### Community

Football, at all levels, is a vital part of a community. Football will take into account community feeling when making decisions.

##### Equality

Football is opposed to discrimination of any form and will promote measures to prevent it, in whatever form, from being expressed.

##### Participants

Football recognises the sense of ownership felt by those who participate at all levels of the game. This includes those who play, those who coach or help in any way, and those who officiate, as well as administrators and supporters. Football is committed to appropriate consultation.

##### Young People

Football acknowledges that public confidence demands the highest standards of financial and administrative behaviour within the game, and will not tolerate corruption or improper practices.

##### Trust and Respect

Football will uphold a relationship of trust and respect between all involved in the game, whether they are individuals, clubs or other organisations.

##### Violence

Football rejects the use of violence of any nature by anyone involved in the game.

##### Fairness

Football is committed to fairness in its dealings with all involved in the game.

##### Integrity and Fair Play

Football is committed to the principle of playing to win consistent with Fair Play. By Order of the Council November 1998

## CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COACHES

Coaches are key to the establishment of ethics in football. Their concept of ethics and their attitude directly affects the behaviour of players under their supervision. Coaches are, therefore, expected to pay particular care to the moral aspect of their conduct. Coaches have to be aware that almost all of their everyday decisions and choices of actions, as well as strategic targets, have ethical implications.

It is natural that winning constitutes a basic concern for coaches. This code is not intended to conflict with that. However, the code calls for coaches to disassociate themselves from a “win at all costs” attitude.

Increased responsibility is requested from coaches involved in coaching young people. The health, safety, welfare and moral education of young people are a first priority, before the achievement or the reputation of the club, school, coach or parent.

Set out below is The FA Coaches Association Code of Conduct (which reflects the standards expressed by the National Coaching Foundation and the National Association of Sports Coaches), which forms the benchmark for all involved in coaching:

1. Coaches must respect the rights, dignity and worth of each and every person and treat each equally within the context of the sport.
2. Coaches must place the well being and safety of each player above all other considerations, including the development of performance.
3. Coaches must adhere to all guidelines laid down by governing bodies.
4. Coaches must develop an appropriate working relationship with each player based on mutual trust and respect.
5. Coaches must not exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward.
6. Coaches must encourage and guide players to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance.
7. Coaches must ensure that the activities they direct or advocate are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of players.
8. Coaches should, at the outset, clarify with the players (and, where appropriate, parents) exactly what is expected of them and also what they are entitled to expect from their coach.
9. Coaches must co operate fully with other specialists (e.g. other coaches, officials, sports scientists, doctors, physiotherapists) in the best interests of the player.
10. Coaches must always promote the positive aspects of the sport (e.g. Fair Play) and never condone violations of the Laws of the Game, behaviour contrary to the spirit of the Laws of the Game or relevant rules and regulations or the use of prohibited substances or techniques.
11. Coaches must consistently display high standards of behaviour and appearance.
12. Not to use or tolerate inappropriate language.

## CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PLAYERS

Players are the most important people in the sport. Playing for the team, and for the team to win, is the most fundamental part of the game. But not winning at any cost Fair Play and respect for all others in the game is fundamentally important.

This Code focuses on players involved in top class football. Nevertheless, the key concepts in the Code are valid for players at all levels.

### Obligations towards the game

A player should:

1. Make every effort to develop their own sporting abilities, in terms of skill, technique, tactics and stamina.
2. Give maximum effort and strive for the best possible performance during a game, even if his team is in a position where the desired result has already been achieved.
3. Set a positive example for others, particularly young players and supporters.
4. Avoid all forms of gamesmanship, and time wasting.
5. Always have regard to the best interests of the game, including where publicly expressing an opinion on the game and any particular aspect of it, including others involved in the game.
6. Not use inappropriate language.

### Obligations towards one's own team

A player should:

1. Make every effort consistent with Fair Play and the Laws of the Game to help his own team win.
2. Resist any influence which might, or might be seen to, bring into question his commitment to the team winning.

### Respect for the Laws of the Game and competition rules

A player should:

1. Know and abide by the Laws, rules and spirit of the game, and the competition rules.
2. Accept success and failure, victory and defeat, equally.
3. Resist any temptation to take banned substances or use banned techniques.

### Respect towards Opponents

A player should:

1. Treat opponents with due respect at all times, irrespective of the result of the game.
2. Safeguard the physical fitness of opponents, avoid violence and rough play, and help injured opponents.

### Respect towards the Match Officials

A player should:

1. Accept the decisions of the Match Official without protest.

2. Avoid words or actions which may mislead a Match Official.
3. Show due respect towards Match Officials.

### Respect towards Team Officials

1. Abide by the instructions of their Coach and Team Officials, provided they do not contradict the spirit of this code.
2. Show due respect towards the Team Officials of the opposition.

### Obligations towards the Supporters

A player should:

1. Show due respect to the interests of supporters.

### CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MATCH OFFICIALS

(Referees, Assistant Referees, Fourth Officials and Substitute Referees)

Under the Laws of the Game the decisions of a referee on points of fact connected with the play are final as far as the result of the game is concerned. A referee also has wide ranging powers defined in Law 5.

The exercising of such power requires a high level of ethics from referees and assistant referees (referred to in this Code together as "referees").

In addition to the quality of refereeing, the behaviour of the referee has an impact, either directly or indirectly, on the conduct of all others involved in the game.

Respect for referees and their decisions is a fundamental part of the game. A Code of Conduct for Match Officials is a proper response to those expectations.

While the Code focuses primarily on referees involved in top class football, with few exceptions the basic ideas are valid for match officials at all levels, be they on the National List, or registered with County Football Associations and only involved in local football.

These Codes are applicable to match officials at all levels of the game.

Obligations towards the game

The referee has a duty to the game in its widest sense.

One of those duties is to help the game to keep moving, compatible with Fair Play, and to seek to ensure it is attractive and is not subject to unnecessary halts.

The referee should:

1. Make every effort to prepare fully for a match, both physically and mentally.  
On a physical level, a referee must be able to keep up with the speed of the modern game, and be alert and close enough to take correct decisions from credible locations on the field of play.
2. Not be afraid to take decisions. A referee should be fair and firm and must resist any possible influence from protests on the part of players, team officials or spectators.
3. Show respect towards players and team officials.
4. Be honest and completely impartial at all times, irrespective of the teams, players or team officials involved in the match.

5. Decline to be appointed to a match if not completely physically or mentally fit to referee that match (because of illness, injury, or for family or other reasons).
6. Inform The Football Association and/or County Association and/or league or competition directly responsible if unable to referee a team or teams for any reason.
7. Refrain from requesting hospitality of any kind, or accept any hospitality offered and considered to be excessive.
8. Always have regard to the best interests of the game, including where publicly expressing an opinion on the game or any particular aspect of it, including others involved in the game.
9. Not tolerate inappropriate language from players and/or officials.

### Obligations towards the Players

The powers of a referee must be used with wise judgement and care. Authority and a firm approach must be combined with respect.

1. A referee should have regard to protecting the players.
2. A referee should show due respect when speaking with the players, even in the event of infringements.
3. In reports, a referee should set out the true facts and not attempt to justify any decisions.

### Obligations towards fellow Referees, Assistant Referees, Fourth Officials and Substitute Referees

It is necessary for the referee's authority to be protected, not only for the sake of the game, but also in the interest of fellow referees, assistant referees, fourth officials and substitute referees.

This protection should, however, not influence the over riding regard for protection of the players.

1. A referee should refrain from publicly expressing any criticism of fellow referees, assistant referees or other match officials.
2. A referee should assist with the development of less experienced referees and assistant referees.
3. An assistant referee should give his total support to the referee, but without undue interference or insistence.

### CODE OF CONDUCT FOR TEAM OFFICIALS

This Code applies to all team/club officials (although some items may not apply to all officials).

### Obligations towards the game

The team official should:

1. Set a positive example for others, particularly young players and supporters.
2. Promote and develop their own team having regard to the interest of the players, supporters and reputation of the national game.

3. Share knowledge and experience when invited to do so, taking into account the interest of the body that has requested this rather than personal interests.
4. Avoid all forms of gamesmanship.
5. Show due respect to Match Officials and others involved in the game.
6. Always have regard to the best interests of the game, including where publicly expressing an opinion of the game and any particular aspect of it, including others involved in the game.
7. Not use or tolerate inappropriate language.

### Obligations towards the team

The team official should:

1. Make every effort to develop the sporting, technical and tactical levels of the club/team, and to obtain the best results by the team, using all permitted means.
2. Give priority to the interests of the team over individual interests.
3. Resist all illegal or unsporting influences, including banned substances and techniques.
4. Promote ethical principles.
5. Show due respect to the interests of players, coaches and other officials, at his own club/team and others.

### Obligations towards the Supporters

The team official should:

1. Show due respect to the interests of supporters.

### Respect towards the Match Officials

A team official should:

1. Accept the decisions of the Match Official without protest.
2. Avoid words or actions which may mislead a Match Official.
3. Show due respect towards Match Officials.

## APPENDIX B

### THE CLUB SECRETARY

The Club Secretary, who must not be less than 18 years old, is solely responsible for their club and League Officials will only deal with matters appertaining to the Club, through the Club Secretary.

The Club Secretary must make a careful study of the rules, and see that the members of their club are familiar with them. They must answer all correspondence immediately. If a reply is required a stamped addressed envelope must be enclosed.

They should give correct information and directions to visiting clubs, and be certain that colours do not clash.

They should see their players are correctly attired and smartly turned out, bearing in mind that this adds to the players' keenness and the public's interest in the club they represent.

The Club Secretary's attention is drawn to the rule reference results service.

Club Secretaries or their assistants must attend meetings as notified.

Home Clubs are required to provide corner flags.

The Club Secretary must inform the Referee when they are prepared to start a match with seven or more players.

The Club Secretary or their deputy must sign the Referee's Report Card after the Referee has completed items 1 - 9.

All players must sign the Team Match Card before they play. This will be presented to them by the opposing Club Secretary who will complete correctly and after signing it, the home Club Secretary will send it to the General Secretary.

In the event of a match being postponed for any reason, both Clubs should notify the General Secretary and Referee Secretary immediately.

Every player on the field of play is expected to comply with the Referee's decisions and recognise that to play competitive football you must have someone who is in COMPLETE charge during the game. Abuse towards the Referee will not be tolerated.

Secretaries should note. Each team is responsible for the erection and dismantling of a goal net on London Borough of Enfield Public Grounds.