

League Rules 2017/18

THE LINCOLNSHIRE CO-OP MID-LINCS COUNTY YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE RULES

(All League Rules also apply to Cup Competitions unless otherwise stated)

1. (A) This Competition shall consist of not more than 150 Clubs approved by the Sanctioning Authority.

(B) 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). The area covered by the Competition membership shall be open to all Clubs whose grounds or headquarters are within 40 miles from the "Stonebow" Lincoln or who are affiliated to the Lincolnshire Football Association Ltd. This Competition shall apply annually for sanction to the Lincolnshire Football Association Ltd and the constituent Teams of member Clubs may be grouped in divisions, each not exceeding 15 in number.

(C) Inclusivity and Non-discrimination

(i) The Competition and each member Club must be committed to promoting inclusivity and to eliminating all forms of discrimination and should abide and adhere to The FA Equality Policy and any legislative requirements (to include those contained in the Equality Act 2010).

(ii) This Competition and each member Club must make every effort to promote equality by treating people fairly and with respect, by recognising that inequalities may exist, by taking steps to address them and by providing access and opportunities for all members of the community, irrespective of age, gender, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, marital status, race, nationality, ethnic origin, colour, religion or belief, ability or disability or otherwise.

(iii) Any alleged breach of the Equality Act 2010 legislation must be referred to the appropriate Sanctioning Authority for investigation.

(D) 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).

(E) Clubs shall not enter any of their Teams playing at a particular age group in the Competition in any other competition (with the exception of FA and County FA Competitions) except with the written consent of the Management Committee. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(F) At the AGM or a Special General Meeting called for the purpose, a majority of the delegates present shall have power to decide or adjust the compilation of the divisions at their discretion. When necessary this Rule shall take precedence over Rule 12.

ENTRY FEE, SUBSCRIPTION, DEPOSIT

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

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

(B) An annual subscription shall be payable in accordance with the Fees Tariff per Club (or per Team where a Club provides more than one Team in membership of the Competition) and shall be payable at the administration meeting held annually.

(C) A Deposit of £5 shall be payable per Club (or per Team where a Club provides more than one Team in membership of the Competition) which is returnable to Clubs on leaving the competition provided they have fulfilled their fixtures and complied with all orders of the Management Committee. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(D) A Club shall not participate in this Competition until the entry fee, annual subscription and deposit (if required) have been paid. A Zero Tolerance agreement has been signed by the Manager, Parents/Guardian and Player and accepted by the Registrar. A Club shall not participate in this competition until the entry fee, Annual Subscription and deposit has been paid. All Managers/Assistant Managers and First Aiders shall be CRC checked by the Welfare Officer or be in the process of being CRC checked and the relevant documents have been accepted by the welfare officer prior to acceptance into this League. All Teams will be entered into a CUP Competition in accordance with the Fees Tariff.

(E) Clubs must advise annually to the Secretary in writing by the fixture meeting of its Sanctioning Authority affiliation number for the forthcoming playing season, failing which they shall be fined (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

Clubs must advise the secretary in writing, or on the prescribed form, of details of its headquarters, officers and any other information required by the Competition.

MANAGEMENT, NOMINATION, ELECTION

4. (A) The Management Committee shall comprise the Officers of the Competition and six members who shall all be elected at the AGM. All Participants shall abide by The Football Association Regulations for Safeguarding Children as determined by The FA from time to time.

(B) Retiring Officers shall be eligible to become candidates for re-election without nomination provided that the Officer notifies the Secretary in writing not later than 1st May.

All other candidates for election as Officers or members of the Management Committee shall be nominated to the Secretary in writing, signed by the secretaries of two member Clubs, not later than 1st May. Names of the candidates for election shall be circulated with the notice of the AGM. In the event of there being no nomination in accordance with the foregoing for any office, nominations may be received at the AGM.

(C) The Management Committee shall meet as and when required, but no more than three calendar months shall pass between each meeting.

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

(D) Except where otherwise mentioned all communications shall be addressed to the Secretary who shall conduct the correspondence of the Competition and keep a record of its proceedings.

(E) All communications received from Clubs must be conducted through their Officers and sent to the Secretary. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(F) Administration/Fixture Meetings may be held as and when necessary. All secretaries will be given 14 days notice.

POWERS OF MANAGEMENT

5. (A) The Management Committee may appoint sub-committees and delegate such of their powers as they deem necessary. The decisions of all sub-committees shall be reported to the Management Committee for ratification. The Management Committee shall have power to deal only with matters within the Competition and not for any matters of misconduct that are under the jurisdiction of The FA or Affiliated Association.

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

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

(D) The Management Committee shall have powers to apply, act upon and enforce the Rules of the Competition and shall also have jurisdiction over all matters affecting the Competition. Any action by the Competition must be taken within 28 days of the Competition being notified. With the exception of Rules 6(H) and 19, and subject to Rule 5(I), in relation to any alleged breaches of a Rule the Management Committee shall issue a formal written charge to the Club concerned. The Club charged is required to respond to the charge within 14 days from the date of notification of the charge. In such reply a Club may:-

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

Where the Club charged fails to respond within 14 days, the Management Committee shall determine the charge in such manner and upon such evidence as it considers appropriate. Where required, hearings shall take place as soon as reasonably practicable following receipt of the reply of the Club as more fully set out above.

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

The maximum fine permitted for any breach of a Rule is £100 and, when setting any fine, the Management Committee must ensure that the penalty is proportional to the offence, taking into account any mitigating circumstances. No Participant under the age of 18 can be fined. All breaches of the Laws of the Game, Rules and Regulations of The FA shall be dealt with in accordance with FA Rules by the appropriate Association.

(E) All decisions of the Management Committee shall be binding subject to the right of appeal in accordance with Rule 16. Decisions of the Management Committee must be notified in writing to those concerned within 10 days.

(F) Five of its members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business of the Management Committee and four members shall constitute a sub-committee.

(G) The Management Committee, as it may deem necessary, shall have power to fill, in an acting capacity, any vacancies that may occur amongst their number.

(H) A Club must comply with an order or instruction of the Management Committee, and must attend to the business and/or the correspondence of the Competition to the satisfaction of the Management Committee. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(I) Subject to its right of appeal in accordance with Rule 16 below, all fines and charges shall be paid within 14 days of the date of posting of notification of the decision. Any Club failing to do so will be fined (in accordance with the Fines Tariff). Further failure to pay the fine including the additional sum within a further 14 days will result in fixtures being withdrawn until such time as the outstanding fines are paid.

(J) A member of the Management Committee appointed by the Competition to attend a meeting or match may have any expenses incurred refunded by the Competition.

(K) The Management Committee shall have the power to fill any vacancy that may occur in the membership of the Competition between the AGM or Special General Meeting called to decide the constitution and the commencement of the Competition Playing Season.

(L) The business of the Competition as determined by the Management Committee may be transacted by electronic mail.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

6. (A) The AGM shall be held not later than 1st August. At this meeting the following business shall be transacted provided that at least 60% members are present and entitled to vote:-

- (i) To receive and confirm the Minutes of the preceding AGM.
- (ii) To receive and adopt the Annual Report, Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts.
- (iii) Election of Clubs to fill vacancies.
- (iv) Constitution of the Competition for ensuing Playing Season.
- (v) Election of Officers and Management Committee.
- (vi) Appointment of Auditors.
- (vii) Alteration of Rules, if any (See Rule 20).
- (viii) Fix the date for the commencement of the Playing Season and kick off times applicable to the Competition.
- (ix) Fix the date for the end of the Playing Season.
- (x) Other business of which due notice shall have been given and accepted as being relevant to an AGM.

(B) A copy of the duly audited/verified Balance Sheet, Statement of Accounts and Agenda shall be forwarded to each Club at least 14 days prior to the meeting together with any proposed changes.

(C) A signed copy of the duly audited/verified Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts shall be sent to the Sanctioning Authority within 14 days of its adoption by the AGM.

(D) Each Club shall be empowered to send two delegates to an AGM. Each Club shall be entitled to one vote only. 14 days' notice shall be given of any meeting.

(E) Clubs who have withdrawn their membership of the Competition during the Playing Season being concluded or who are not continuing membership shall be entitled to attend but shall vote only on matters relating to the Playing Season being concluded. This provision will not apply to Clubs expelled in accordance with Rule 17.

(F) All voting shall be conducted by a show of voting cards unless a ballot be demanded by at least 50% of the delegates qualified to vote or the Chairman so decides.

(G) No individual shall be entitled to vote on behalf of more than one member Club.

(H) Any continuing Club must be represented at the AGM. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(I) Officers and Management Committee members shall be entitled to attend and vote at an AGM.

(J) Where a Competition is an incorporated entity, the Officers of the Competition shall ensure that the Articles of Association of the Competition are consistent with the requirements of these Rules.

AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED

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

“We, (A),(name)..... of(address) (Chairman) and

(B)(name)..... of(address) (Secretary) of

..... Football Club (Limited) have been provided with a copy of the Rules and Regulations of the Competition and do hereby agree for and on behalf of the said Club, if elected or accepted into membership, to conform to those Rules and Regulations and to accept, abide by and implement the decisions of the Management Committee of the Competition, subject to the right of appeal in accordance with Rule 16.”

The agreement shall be signed by:

Where a Club is an unincorporated association, the Club Chairman and Secretary; or

Where a Club is an incorporated entity, two directors of the Club.

Any alteration of the Chairman and /or secretary of the Club on the above agreement must be notified to the Lincolnshire Football Association Ltd or to which the Club is affiliated and to the Secretary.

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

QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

8. (A)(i) A registered youth playing member of a Club is one who, being in all other respects eligible, has:- Signed a fully and correctly completed Competition registration form in ink, countersigned by his /her parent or guardian and by an Officer of the Club, and who has been registered with the Registrations Secretary 7 days prior to playing and whose completed registration counterfoil has been received by the Club prior to playing. The registration document must incorporate the emergency contact details of the Player’s parents or guardians. These details must be available at all matches and training events the Player attends within the management of the Club or Competition.

These details must be available at matches and training events the Player attends within the management of the Club or Competition. TWO fully completed Identity Cards and TWO passport sized photographs of the player must be submitted to the registrar and accepted within 7 days of the signing of the registration form or the registration forms become void. Registration and transfer forms are obtained from the Club Secretary. The registration document must incorporate a current passport-size photograph of the Player seeking registration.

If a Player’s age is required for registration purposes a Competition must accept an original birth certificate or a photocopy. In cases where the birth certificate is not available a Competition is required to accept a photocopy of the Player’s passport or other official document issued by a Government Agency attesting to the Player’s date of birth. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(B) (i) Contract Players are not permitted in this Competition with the exception of those Players who are registered under contract with the same Club who have a Team operating at Steps 1 to 6 of the National League System. No Player registered with a centre of excellence including; Lincoln City, Boston United, Grimsby and Scunthorpe Centre of Excellence will be permitted to play in this competition.

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

(ii) A Player registered with a Premier League or Football League Academy under the Elite Player Performance Plan contained within Youth Development Rules will not be permitted to play in this Competition. Details of the Youth Development Rules are published on The FA website. A Player registered with a FA Girls’ Regional Talent Club may play in this Competition subject to the FA Programme for Excellence (Female) Regulations.

(iii) If any Player is serving in any branch of Her Majesty's Regular Forces, the Player must first obtain the consent of his Association secretary before signing a registration form to play for a Club.

(iv) Each Team must have the following number of Players registered 7 days before the start of each Playing Season:

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

All teams playing 5 v 5 may sign a maximum of 10 players, 7 v 7 may register a maximum of 12 players, 9 v 9 may register a maximum of 14 players, 11 v 11 (under 13 to Under 16 may register a maximum of 17 players. Under 17s may register a maximum of 20 players. No Registrations will be permitted after 1st March and no transfers are permitted prior to November 1st nor after 1st February.

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

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

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

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

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

Age on 31 August of the relevant Playing Season	Eligible Age Groups	Maximum Permitted Format	Minimum Pitch Sizes		Maximum Pitch Sizes		Recommended Goal Sizes in feet	Ball Size
			Yards	Metres	Yards	Metres		
6	Under 7	5v5	30x20	27.45 x 18.3	40x30	36.3 x 27.45	12x6	3
	Under 8		30x20	27.45 x 18.3	40x30	36.3 x 27.45	12x6	3
7	Under 8	5v5	30x20	27.45 x 18.3	40x30	36.3 x 27.45	12x6	3
	Under 9	7v7	50x30	45.75 x 27.45	60x40	54.9 x 36.6	12x6	3
8	Under 9	7v7	50x30	45.75 x 27.45	60x40	54.9 x 36.6	12x6	3
	Under 10		50x30	45.75 x 27.45	60x40	54.9 x 36.6	12x6	4
9	Under 10	7v7	50x30	45.75 x 27.45	60x40	54.9 x 36.6	12x6	4
	Under 11	9v9	70x40	64 x 36.6	80x50	73.15 x 45.75	16x7	4
10	Under 11	9v9	70x40	64 x 36.6	80x50	73.15 x 45.75	16x7	4
	Under 12		70x40	64 x 36.6	80x50	73.15 x 45.75	16x7	4
11	Under 12	9v9	70x40	64 x 36.6	80x50	73.15 x 45.75	16x7	4
	Under 13	11v11	90x50	82.3 x 45.75	100x60	91.44 x 54.9	21x7	4

12	Under 13	11v11	90x50	82.3 x 45.75	100x60	91.44 x 54.9	21x7	4
	Under 14		90x50	82.3 x 45.75	100x60	91.44 x 54.9	21x7	4
13	Under 14	11v11	90x50	82.3 x 45.75	100x60	91.44 x 54.9	21x7	4
	Under 15		90x50	82.3 x 45.75	110x70	100.58 x 64	24x8	5
14	Under 15	11v11	90x50	82.3 x 45.75	110x70	100.58 x 64	24x8	5
	Under 16		90x50	82.3 x 45.75	110x70	100.58 x 64	24x8	5
15	Under 16	11v11	90x50	82.3 x 45.75	110x70	100.58 x 64	24x8	5
	Under 17		100x50	91.44 x 45.75	130x 100	118.87 x 91.44	24x8	5
	Under 18		100x50	91.44 x 45.75	130x 100	118.87 x 91.44	24x8	5
16	Under 17	11v11	100x50	91.44 x 45.75	130x 100	118.87 x 91.44	24x8	5
	Under 18		100x50	91.44 x 45.75	130x 100	118.87 x 91.44	24x8	5
	Open Age		100x50	91.44 x 45.75	130x 100	118.87 x 91.44	24x8	5

(D) A fee as set out in the Fees Tariff shall be paid by each Club/Team for each Player registered. Optional Personal injury Insurance for Under 6-12s is £16 and Under 13 onwards cost £23 per team. Public Liability for a CLUB is £17. In the event of a Club having taken out other Insurance must provide evidence of this.

(E) 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.

(F) It shall be deemed a breach of these Rules for a Player to:-

- (i) Play for more than one Club in the Competition in the same Playing Season without first being transferred.
 - (ii) Having signed for one Club in the Competition, sign for another Club in the Competition in that Playing Season, except for the purpose of a transfer.
 - (iii) Submit a signed registration form for registration that the Player had wilfully neglected to accurately or fully complete.
- Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(G) (i) The Management Committee shall have the power to accept the registration of any Player subject to the provisions of clauses (ii) and (iii) below.

(ii) The Management Committee shall have power to refuse, cancel or suspend the registration of any Player, the exercise of such power being without prejudice to the Management Committee's ability to fine a Club at its discretion (in accordance with the Fines Tariff) that has been charged and found guilty of registration irregularities (subject to Rule 16).

(iii) The Management Committee shall also have the power to refuse or cancel the registration of any Player charged and found guilty of undesirable conduct, such refusal or cancellation being subject to the right of appeal to the Sanctioning Authority. Where the Management Committee does not have enough information to enable it to make a decision pursuant to the above power, it may apply, in its absolute discretion, to the Sanctioning Authority or The FA for further information. Undesirable conduct shall mean an incident of repeated proven misconduct, which may deter a Participant from being involved in this Competition.

(iv) For a Player who has previously had a registration removed in accordance with clause (iii) but has a registration accepted at the expiry of exclusion will be considered to be under a probationary period of 12 months. Whilst under a probationary period, should the Player commit a further act of proven misconduct under the jurisdiction of the Competition, (excluding standard dismissals), the Competition would be empowered to consider a further charge of bringing the Competition into disrepute.

(Note: Action under Clause (iii) shall only be taken against a Player in cases of the Player bringing the Competition into disrepute and will in any event be subject to an appeal to the Sanctioning Authority or The FA. All decisions must include the period of restriction. For the purpose of this Rule, bringing the Competition into disrepute can only be considered where the Player has received in excess of 112 days' suspension, or 10 matches in match based discipline, in any competition (and is not restricted to the Competition) in a period of two years or less from the date of the first offence.)

(H) Subject to compliance with FA Rule C 2(a) when a Club wishes to register a Player who is already registered with another Club it shall submit a transfer form to the Competition accompanied by a fee as set out in the Fees Tariff. Such transfer shall be referred by the Competition to the Club for which the Player is registered. Should this Club object to the transfer it should state its objections in writing to the Competition and to the Player concerned within 7 days of receipt of the notification Upon receipt of the Club's consent, or upon its failure to give written

objection within 7 days, the Secretary may, on behalf of the Management Committee, transfer the Player who shall be deemed eligible to play for the new Club 7 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.

(I) A Player may not be registered for a Club after 1st March nor transferred to another Club in the Competition prior to 1st November or after 1st February except by special permission of the Management Committee.

(J) A Club shall keep a list of the Players it registers and a record of the games in which they have played, and shall produce such records upon demand by the Management Committee.

In the event a Club has more than one Team in an age group, each Team must be clearly identifiable but not designated 'A' or 'B' or 1st or 2nd. In such cases, Players will be registered for one Team only. A Player so registered will be allowed to play for his Club in a younger or older age group within the provisions of Rule 8(C).

(K) A register containing the names of all Players registered for each Club, with the date of registration, shall be kept by the Registration Secretaries and shall be open to the inspection of any duly appointed member Club representative at all Management Committee meetings or at other times mutually arranged. Registrations are valid for one Playing Season only.

In the event of a Non Contract Player changing his status to that of a Contract Player with the same Club, another Club in the Competition or with a Club in another Competition his registration as a Non Contract Player will automatically be cancelled and declared void unless the Club conforms to the exception detailed in Rule 8(B)(i).

(L) A Player shall not be eligible to play for a Team in any special championship, promotion or relegation deciding match (as specified in Rule 12A) unless the Player has played 3 league games for that Team in this Competition in the current Playing Season.

(M) (i) Subject to Rule 8(M)(ii), any Club found to have played an ineligible Player in a match or matches where points are awarded shall have the points gained from that match deducted from its record, up to a maximum of 12 points, and have levied upon it a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(ii) The Management Committee may vary the sanction as relates to the deduction of points set out at Rule 8(M)(i) only in circumstances where the ineligibility is due to the failure to obtain an International Transfer Certificate or where the ineligibility is related to the Player's status.

(iii) Where a Club is found to have played an ineligible player in accordance with Rule 8(M)(i) above, the Management Committee may also, at its discretion:

Award the points available in the Competition Match in question to the opponents, subject to the Competition Match not being ordered to be replayed;

Levy penalty points against the Club in default; or

Order that such match or matches be replayed (on such terms as are decided by the Management Committee)

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

(N) (i) Priority must be given at all times to school and school organisations activities. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(ii) The availability of children must be cleared with the head teachers (except for Sunday Competitions).

A child under the age of 15 as at midnight on 31 August in a Playing Season, shall not be permitted to play in a Competition Match during that Playing Season where any other Player is older or younger than that child by two years or more.

(O) A player who has played for a team in the A Division 3 times or more shall not in that season be eligible to play in a lower Division except by permission of the Management Committee.

(P) It is Mandatory to inspect the oppositions team players Identity cards a minimum 5 minutes prior to the game and in the centre circle of the playing pitch. Failure to do so shall incur a fine (in accordance with the fines tariff).

CLUB COLOURS, CLUB NAME

9. (A) Every Club must register the colour of its shirts and shorts with the Secretary by the fixture meeting who shall decide as to their suitability.

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

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

Any Team not being able to play in its normal colours as registered with the Competition shall notify its opponents the colours in which they will play (including the colours of the goalkeeper jersey) at least 4 days before the match.

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

Shirts must be numbered 1-21.

(B) Any Club wishing to change its name must obtain permission from the Sanctioning Authority and from the Management Committee. Any Club wishing to change its colours during the Playing Season must obtain permission from the Management Committee. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

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

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

Clubs must take all reasonable precautions to keep their Grounds in a playable condition. All Competition Matches shall be played on pitches deemed suitable by the Management Committee. If through any fault of the home Team a match has to be replayed, the Management Committee shall have power to order the venue to be changed. The Management Committee shall have power to decide whether a pitch and/or facilities are suitable for matches in the Competition and to order the Club concerned to play its fixtures on another ground.

Football Turf Pitches are allowed in this Competition. All Football Turf Pitches used must be on The FA's Register of Football Turf Pitches and must be tested (by an accredited test institute) every 3 years and the results passed to The FA. The FA will give a decision on the suitability for use and add the pitch to the Register. The home Club is also responsible for advising Participants of footwear requirements when confirming match arrangements in accordance with Rule 10(C).

All matches shall have a duration as set out below unless a shorter time is mutually arranged by the two Clubs in consultation with the referee prior to the commencement of the match, and in any event shall be of equal halves. Matches should be played in accordance with the Laws appropriate to the relevant age group, as laid down by The FA, as detailed below:

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

Under 15 and Under 16	25	40	100	150	Any varieties including one season long league table
Under 17 and Under 18	25	45	120	180	Any varieties including one season long league table

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

For trophy events, the Competition may award mementos.

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

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

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

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

In the case of a revised fixture date, the Clubs must be given by the Competition 7 clear days' notice of the match (unless otherwise mutually agreed). The Management Committee shall fix the kick off times for all Sunday League matches. Kick off times will be 10.45, 12.30 and 2.15. Cup games will have kick off times 10.45, 12.30 and 1.45. Any Club failing to kick off at the appointed time may be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

(C) An Officer of the home Club must give notice of full particulars of the location, time of kick off and access to the opposing club, opposition manager and referee (where appointed) at least 4 clear days prior to the playing of the match by verbal communication, email or text. In the event of no acknowledgement received, verbal contact must be made. If not so provided, the away Club shall seek such details and report the circumstances to the Competition. In the event of Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff). It is MANDATORY to play 8 league games prior to 1st January (Under 12s-U17s).

In the event of a postponed match, both teams must mutually agree a new date and notify the fixtures secretary within 14 days. No single fixture may be postponed on more than one occasion by the same team (unless special permission has been granted by the management committee), otherwise will result in a fine, in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

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

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

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

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

(ii) In the event of inclement weather the Unfit Pitch Procedure Must be carried out in order to prevent unnecessary travelling by the visiting team and officials. This procedure is shown in Appendix F and home teams failing to comply may be fined (in accordance with the Fines Tariff) and be charged with reimbursing their opponents, match officials and/or League Officers travelling costs, at 25p per mile for 4 cars (small sided) or 5 cars (Youth Teams) .

(iii) Any club with more than one team in the competition shall always fulfil its fixtures, within the competition in the following order of precedence, First team, Reserve Team, A Team. Clubs in breach of this requirement shall be fined (in accordance with the fines tariff) or

otherwise dealt with by the management committee. Where there are two teams from the same club playing in the same League, both the home and away games between those teams must be completed by 30th November in the playing season.

(iv) Any club unable to fulfil a fixture or where a fixture has been postponed for any reason must, without delay, give notice to the Fixtures Secretary, the Referees Appointment Secretary, the Manager of the opposing Club and the match officials. Any Club failing to comply shall be dealt with by the Management Committee who may inflict a fine (See Fines Tariff).

Any Club unable to fulfil a fixture and postpones the match within 6 days will be subject to a fine and/or points may be awarded. The postponing team must give notice to the opposition, Fixtures Secretary, the Referees Appointment Secretary (where applicable) and any other the Match Officials when appointed.

(v) In the event of a match being abandoned owing to causes over which neither Club has control, it shall be played in its entirety on a date to be mutually agreed by the two Clubs and approved by the Management Committee. Failing such agreement and notification to the Fixtures Secretary within 7 days, the Management Committee shall have the power to order the match to be played on a named date or before a given date. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

(vi) The Management Committee shall review all matches abandoned in cases where it is consequent upon the conduct of either or both Teams. Where it is to the advantage of the Competition and does no injustice to either Club, the Management Committee shall be empowered to order the score at the time of the abandonment to stand. In all cases where the Management Committee are satisfied that a match was abandoned owing to the conduct of one Team or its Club member(s) they shall be empowered to award the points for the match to the opponent.

(vii) 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 or the League. 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 8(M)(i) above. Where both Teams were under suspension the match must be declared null and void and shall not be replayed.

(F) A Club may at its discretion and in accordance with the Laws of the Game use substitute Players in any match in this Competition.

For Under 11s - Under 17s up to 5 may be selected from 5 substitute Players. A Player who is substituted becomes a substitute and may replace any Player at any time subject to the substitution being carried out in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of Association Football.

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

In Youth Football only, the referee shall be informed of the names of the substitutes not later than 5 minutes before the start of the match and a Player not so named may not take part in the match. A Player who has been selected, appointed or named as a substitute before the start of the match but does not actually play in the game shall not be considered to have been a Player in that game within the meaning of Rule 8 of this Competition.

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

(H) The Teams taking part in Youth Football shall identify a Team captain who shall wear an armband and shall have a responsibility to offer support in the management of the on-field discipline of his/her teammates. Failure to comply will result in a fine (see the Fines Tariff).

REPORTING RESULTS

11. (A) The Results Secretary must receive within 36 hours of the date played (when entering online), 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 Sporting marks and referee marks as required by Rule 13H, or any other information required by the Competition. Results sent in by post is 4 days after the fixture date. Failure to do so will incur a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(B) n/a (C) The match result notification, correctly completed, shall be signed by an Officer of the Club, or as prescribed by the Competition. Failure to do so will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(D) The Competition and Clubs are permitted to collect but NOT publish results or any grading tables for fixtures involving Under 7s - Under 11s development games. Any Competition or Club failing to abide by this Rule will be dealt with by the Sanctioning Authority, and will be fined (in accordance with the Fines Tariff). The Competition and Clubs are permitted to collect and publish results for trophy events.

(E) The Competition may require a Club to confirm that a set fixture has been played. A fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff) may be imposed for a breach of this Rule.

DETERMINING CHAMPIONSHIP

12. (A) In Competitions where points are awarded, Team rankings within the Competition will be decided by points with three points to be awarded for a win and one point for a drawn match. The Teams gaining the highest number of points in their respective divisions at the conclusion shall be adjudged the winners. Matches must not be played for double points.

In the event of two or more Teams being equal on points Team rankings may be determined by a deciding match(s) played under conditions determined by the Management Committee, or the position shared.

(B) Automatic promotion and relegation may be applied for the first 2 and last 2 Teams in each division except as provided for hereunder, subject to the provisions of Rule 2(B).

(i) At the discretion of the management committee.

(ii) 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);

(b) additional promotion of the next ranked Team(s) from the division below; or

(c) election

(iii) n/a iv) n/a (v) n/a

(C) In the event of a Team not 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.

REFEREES

13. (A) Registered referees (and assistant referees where approved by The FA or County FA) for all Competition Matches shall be appointed in a manner approved by the Management Committee and by the Sanctioning Association(s).

(B) In cases where there are no officially appointed Match Officials in attendance the HOME Clubs shall agree upon a referee. An individual thus agreed upon shall, for that game, have the full powers, status and authority of a registered referee.

(C) Where assistant referees are not appointed each Team shall provide a Club assistant referee. Failure to do so will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff) being imposed on the defaulting Club.

(D) The appointed referee shall have power to decide as to the fitness of the Ground in all matches and the decision shall be final, subject to either in the case of a ground of a Local Authority or the owners of a Ground, the representative of that body is the sole arbiter and whose decision must be accepted.

(E) Subject to any limits/provisions laid down by the Sanctioning Association, Match Officials appointed under this Rule shall be paid their fees and expenses in accordance with the Fees Tariff. Match Officials will be paid their fees by the home Club unless otherwise ordered by the Management Committee. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(F) In the event of a match not being played because of circumstances over which the Clubs have no control, the Match Officials, if present, shall be entitled to half fee. Where a match is not played owing to one Club being in default, that Club shall be ordered to pay the Match Officials, if they attend the Ground, their full fee. Failure to comply with the Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(G) A referee not keeping his or her engagement, and failing to give a satisfactory explanation as to their non-appearance, may be reported to the Association with which he or she is registered. The name of the official so designated is to be shown on the match result card or by online submission with the match statistics. In all cases of the non-appearance of a league appointed official the home club must report this incident in writing to the league secretary within 5 days of the fixture or they may incur a fine. In the event of the non-appearance of the appointed referee, the appointed senior assistant referee shall take charge and a substitute assistant referee appointed by the competing teams. In cases where there are no officially appointed assistant referees, or where the competition has been unable to appoint a referee, the home club is to supply a league-recognised person to officiate the whole game or offer to use the opponents league recognised official if present. ALL non-league appointed "Mid Lincs Recognised referees must produce the Leagues ID Card on request, any team failing this may be fined in accordance with fines tariff. A team manager is not eligible to referee his own team's matches. Clubs failing to supply a recognised person shall be fined in accordance with the fines tariff. A Referee thus agreed upon shall, for that game, have the full powers, status and authority of a registered referee.

(H) Each Club shall enter the name of the referee and the marks awarded out of 100 and shall submit these to the Competition either by online submission within 36 hours or by post within 4 days of the game on the form provided in the handbook. Clubs must also supply sporting marks for their opposition out of 10 either online through the FA Fulltime system or by post within 4 days of the game. 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. Any team awarding an opponent a sporting mark of 4 or less shall submit in writing to the League Secretary within 7 days of the match being completed, the reasons for awarding such a mark. Any team awarding a referee a mark of 50 or less shall submit in writing to the League Secretary within 7 days of the match being completed, the reasons for awarding such a mark. All marks must be whole figures and not fractions or percentages on a scale of 1-100 (See Appendix H for Guide to Marking). Clubs failing to comply with this rule shall be fined in accordance with the fines tariff.

(I) The Competition shall keep a record of the markings and, on the form provided by the prescribed date each Playing Season, shall submit a summary to The FA/County FA.

J) The referee shall submit a report form, supplied by the Competition, giving the result of the match, the number of Players in each Team and the time of kick-off to the (Registration) Secretary within two days of the match.

(K) Match Officials shall be supplied, each Playing Season, with a copy of the Competition Rules free of charge.

(L) Match Officials shall have undertaken a RESPECT briefing offered by The FA/County FA or the League.

CONTINUATION OF MEMBERSHIP OR WITHDRAWAL OF A CLUB

14. (A) Any Club wishing to resign from the Competition must do so at least 30 days before the AGM. Failure to do so will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(B) The Management Committee shall have the discretion to deal with a Team being unable to start or complete its fixtures for a Playing Season, including but not limited to, issuing a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(C) In addition to the powers of the Management Committee pursuant to Rule 5(I), in the event of a member Club failing to discharge all its financial obligations to the Competition in excess of £50, the Management Committee are empowered to refer the debt under The FA Football Debt Recovery provisions.

PROTESTS AND COMPLAINTS

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

(ii) Objections relevant to the dimensions of the pitch, goals, flag posts or other facilities of the venue will not be entertained by the Management Committee unless a protest is lodged with the referee before the commencement of the match.

(B) Except in cases where the Management Committee decide that there are special circumstances, protests and complaints (as set out more fully at Rule 15(A) (which must contain full particulars of the grounds upon which they are founded) must be lodged in duplicate with the Secretary within 7 days (excluding Sundays) of the match or occurrence to which they refer. A protest or complaint shall not be withdrawn except by permission of the Management Committee. A member of the Management Committee who is a member of any Club involved shall not be present (except as a witness or representative of his Club) when such protest or complaint is being determined.

(C) No protest of whatever kind shall be considered by the Management Committee unless the complaining Club shall have deposited with the Secretary a sum of £35 in accordance with the Fees Tariff. This may be forfeited in whole or in part in the event of the complaining or protesting Club losing its case. The Competition shall have power to order the defaulting Club or the Club making a losing or frivolous protest or complaint to pay the expenses of the inquiry or to order that the costs to be shared by the parties.

(D) All parties to a protest or complaint must receive a copy of the submission and must be afforded an opportunity to make a statement at least 7 days prior to the protest or complaint being heard.

(i) All parties must have received 7 days' notice of the hearing should they be instructed to attend.

(ii) Should a Club elect to state its case in person then they should forward a deposit of £35 and indicate such when forwarding the written response.

(E) If so requested by all parties concerned, the Management Committee may determine any disputes, protests, appeals, claims or complaints between two Clubs in which event both Clubs shall send a non-returnable fee. Such determination shall be final and binding upon the parties concerned. The procedure for such determination shall be determined by the Management Committee.

APPEALS

16. Any appeal against a decision of the Management Committee must be lodged with the Sanctioning Authority within 14 days of the posting of the written notification of the decision causing the appeal, accompanied by a fee as set out in the Fees Tariff, which may be forfeited in the event of the appeal not being upheld. A copy of the appeal must also be sent to the Secretary. The procedure for the appeal shall be determined by the Sanctioning Authority, in such respect the Sanctioning Authority may (but is not obliged to):

Invite submissions by the parties involved;

Convene a hearing to hear the appeal;

Permit new evidence; or

Impose deadlines as are appropriate.

Any appeal shall not involve a rehearing of the evidence considered by the Management Committee. No appeal can be lodged against a decision taken at an Annual or Special General Meeting unless this is on the ground of unconstitutional conduct.

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

17. (A) At the AGM or Special General Meeting called for the purpose in accordance with the provisions of Rule 19, notice of motion having been duly circulated on the agenda, the accredited delegates present shall have the power to exclude any Club or Team from further membership which must be supported by (more than) two-thirds of those present and voting. Voting on this point shall be conducted by ballot.

(B) At the AGM, or at a Special General Meeting called for the purpose, in accordance with the provisions of Rule 19, the accredited delegates present shall have the power to exclude from further participation in the Competition any Club or Team whose conduct has, in their opinion, been undesirable, which must be supported by (more than) two-thirds of those present and voting. Voting on this point shall be conducted by ballot. A Club whose conduct is the subject of the vote being taken shall be excluded from voting.

(C) Any Officer or member of a Club proved guilty of either a breach of Rule, other than field offences, or of inducing or attempting to induce a Player or Players of another Club in the Competition to join them may be liable to expulsion or such penalty as a General Meeting or Management Committee may decide. Any Club official/Parent/Guardian/spectator of a team/club charged and proved guilty bringing this League into disrepute, may have the individual/s suspended, fined up to a maximum of £100, may have a maximum of 6 points deducted from its total at the discretion of the management committee and their team/club be liable to expulsion or such penalty as a General Meeting or Management Committee may decide, and their Club shall also be liable to expulsion in accordance with the provisions of Clauses (A) and (B) of this Rule.

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

18. (A) The following agreement shall be signed on behalf of the winners of the Cup or Trophy:-

I (name) am a member of and represent the club (club name) .

The Under (team age and name) have been declared winners of the (cup/trophy name)

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

(B) At the close of each Competition awards may/shall be made to the winners and runners-up if the funds of the Competition permit. Any player who fails to attend the presentation of League trophies shall not be entitled to receive such trophies without the permission of the management committee.

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

19. Upon receiving a requisition signed by two-thirds of the Clubs in membership the Secretary shall call a Special General Meeting.

The Management Committee may call a Special General Meeting at any time. 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. Each member Club shall be empowered to send two delegates to all Special General Meetings. Each Club shall be entitled to one vote only. Officers and Management Committee members shall be entitled to attend and vote at all Special General Meetings. Any continuing member Club failing to be represented at a Special General Meeting without satisfactory reason being given shall be fined (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

ALTERATION TO RULES

20. Alterations, for which consent has been given by the Sanctioning Association, shall be made to these Rules only at the AGM or at a Special General Meeting specially convened for the purpose called in accordance with Rule 19. Any alteration made during the Playing Season to the Rule relating to the qualification of Players shall not take effect until the following Playing Season.

Notice of proposed alterations to be considered at the AGM shall be submitted to the Secretary by 1st May in each year. The proposals, together with any proposals by the Management Committee, shall be circulated to the Clubs by 21st May and any amendments thereto shall be submitted to the Secretary by 28th May. The proposals and proposed amendments thereto shall be circulated to Clubs with the notice of the AGM. A proposal to change a Rule shall be carried if a majority of those present, entitled to vote and voting are in favour.

A copy of the proposed alterations to Rules to be considered at the AGM or Special General Meeting shall be submitted to the Sanctioning Authority 14 days prior to the date of the meeting.

FINANCE

21. (A) The Management Committee shall determine which bank or other financial institution the funds of the Competition will be lodged.

(B) All expenditure in excess of £500 shall be approved by the Management Committee. Cheques shall be signed by at least two Officers nominated by the Management Committee.

(C) The financial year of the Competition will end on 30th April.

(D) The books, or a certified balance sheet, of a Competition shall be prepared and shall be audited/verified annually by some suitably qualified person(s) who shall be appointed at the AGM.

INSURANCE

22. All Clubs must have public liability insurance cover of at least ten million pounds (£10,000,000). Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

DISSOLUTION

23. (A) Dissolution of the Competition shall be by resolution approved at a Special General Meeting by a majority of three quarters of the members present and shall take effect from the date of the relevant Special General Meeting.

(B) In the event of the dissolution of the Competition, the members of the Management Committee are responsible for the winding up of the assets and liabilities of the Competition.

(C) The Management Committee shall deal with any surplus assets as follows:

(i) Any surplus assets, save for a Trophy or any other presentation, remaining after the discharge of the debts and liabilities of the Competition shall be transferred only to another Competition or Affiliated Association or The Football Association Benevolent Fund or to such other charitable or benevolent object in the locality of the Competition as determined by resolution at or before the time of winding up, and approved in writing by the Sanctioning Association.

(ii) If a Competition is discontinued for any reason a Trophy or any other presentation shall be returned to the Donor if the conditions attached to it so provide or, if not, dealt with as the Sanctioning Association may decide.

FEES TARIFF

RULE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM FEE
2 (D)	CUP ENTRY FEE	£10.00
3 (B)	ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION	£40.00
3 (C)	DEPOSIT	£5.00
8 (D)	REGISTRATION FORM	£1.30 (per Player)
8 (H)	TRANSFER FORM	£20.00
13 (E)	REFEREE FEES UNDER 11-14	£15.00
13 (E)	REFEREE FEES UNDER 15-16	£18.00
13 (E)	REFEREE FEES UNDER 17	£20.00
13 (E)	ASSISTANT REFEREE FEES	£9.00
15 (C),16	PROTEST/APPEAL FEES	£35.00

FINES TARIFF

RULE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM FINE
1 (B)	FAILURE TO AFFILIATE	£25.00
1 (D)	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH FA INITIATIVES	£100.00
1 (E)	UNAUTHORISED ENTRY OF TEAMS INTO COMPETITIONS	£25.00
2 (C)	FAILURE TO PAY A DEPOSIT	£25.00
2 (E)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE AFFILIATION NUMBER/DETAILS FORM	£25.00
4 (E)	COMMUNICATIONS CONDUCTED BY PERSONS OTHER THAN NOMINATED OFFICERS	£25.00
5 (D)	BREACH OF RULES	£100.00
5 (H)	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH AN INSTRUCTION OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	£25.00
5 (I)	FAILURE TO PAY A FINE WITHIN 14 DAYS OF NOTICE	Double the original

		fine up to £100.00
6 (H)	FAILURE TO BE REPRESENTED AT AGM	£30.00
7	FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED WRITTEN AGREEMENT OR TO NOTIFY CHANGES TO SIGNATORIES	£25.00
8 (A)	FAILURE TO CORRECTLY REGISTER A PLAYER	£25.00
8 (B)(iv)	FAILURE TO HAVE THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF REGISTERED PLAYERS PRIOR TO THE SEASON COMMENCING	£25.00
8 (F)	SIGNING OR PLAYING FOR MULTIPLE CLUBS, OR INACCURATE COMPLETION OF A REGISTRATION FORM	£25.00
8 (G) (ii)	REGISTRATION IRREGULARITIES	£100.00
8(M)(i)	PLAYING AN INELIGIBLE PLAYER	£100.00
8 (N)(i)	FAILURE TO GIVE PRIORITY TO SCHOOL ACTIVITIES	£50.00
8 (P)	FAILURE TO INSPECT OPPOSITIONS IDENTITY CARDS	£50.00
9 (A) 10 (A)	DELAYING KICK OFF/NO NETS/ NO CORNER FLAGS	£25.00
9(A)	FAILURE TO NUMBER SHIRTS	£1.00 (per shirt, up to an aggregate maximum of £20.00)
9 (B)	FAILURE TO OBTAIN CONSENT FOR A CHANGE OF CLUB NAME	£30.00
10 (B)	FAILURE TO PLAY MATCHES ON THE DATE/TIME FIXED	£10.00
10 (C)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE DETAILS OF A FIXTURE	£10.00
10 (D)	FAILURE TO HAVE MINIMUM NUMBER OF PLAYERS THAT WILL CONSTITUTE A TEAM	£10.00
10 (E) (i) (ii) (iii) (iv) (v)	FAILURE TO PLAY FIXTURE	£50.00
10 (H)	NO CAPTAIN'S ARMBAND	£10.00
11 (A) & 11 (C)	LATE TEAM SHEET	£10.00
11(D)	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH RULE	£10.00
11(E)	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH RULE	£10.00
13 (C)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE CLUB ASSISTANT REFEREE	£10.00
13 (E)	FAILURE TO PAY MATCH OFFICIALS' FEES	£25.00
13 (F)	FAILURE TO PAY MATCH OFFICIALS WHERE A MATCH IS NOT PLAYED	£25.00
13 (G)	FAILING TO SUPPLY A REFEREE	£10.00
13 (H)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE REFEREE'S /SPORTING MARK	£10.00
14 (A)	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH RULE	£100.00
14 (B)	FAILURE TO COMMENCE OR COMPLETE FIXTURES	£100.00
18 (A)	FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED WRITTEN AGREEMENT REGARDING THE TROPHY	£25.00
19	FAILURE TO BE REPRESENTED AT A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING	£35.00
22	FAILURE TO HAVE THE REQUIRED INSURANCE	£25.00

LEAGUE CUP COMPETITIONS RULE SUPPLEMENTS FOR YOUTH FOOTBALL TEAMS

NAME OF COMPETITION

1. All matches shall be played in accordance with the rules, regulations and byelaws of the Football Association. All competitions shall be conducted on a knock out system. Each age group shall enter the cup competitions for their age as shown below.

Under 7 Toms Barbers Cup	Under 11 Allen Signs Cup
Under 7 House Simple Cup	Under 12 Mark Keyworth Cup
Under 8 Sounds Alive Cup	Under 13 TODDS-AC Cup
Under 8 Ajjet Cup	Under 14 Sounds Alive Cup
Under 9 Onyx Trophies Cup	Under 15 Lincolnshire Co-op Cup
Under 9 O'Boyle Brothers Cup	Under 16 Lincolnshire Co-op Cup
Under 10 Phil Morley Cup	Under 17 NCS Cup
Under 10 4ward Heating Bryan Smith Trophy	

ENTRY LIMITED TO LEAGUE CLUBS

2. The trophies shall be open for annual competition amongst affiliated clubs that are members of the competition as stated in Rule 1.

ENTRY FEE

3. The entrance fee for all competitions shall as defined in the Tariff Fees per competition, per season and shall be payable at the Administration meeting.

CONTROL OF COMPETITIONS

4. The control of all competitions shall be in the hands of the Management Committee of the Mid Lincs County Youth Football League. The Management Committee shall have powers to apply, act upon and enforce the Rules of the Competition, and shall also have jurisdiction over all matters affecting the Competition, including any not provided for in these rules. Except where these rules provide for the imposition of a set penalty, any Club, Official or Player alleged to be in breach of a Competition Rule must be formally charged in writing and given the opportunity to present their case before the Management Committee. All breaches of the Laws of the Game, Rules and Regulations of the Football Association shall be dealt with in accordance with FA Rules. Notifications for breaches of rules shall be sent to the Club nominated Secretary, on the Competition Charge Sheet shown in Appendix E. The charge sheet is to be completed by the club secretary and returned to the competition secretary within 14 days. Any Club failing to return a duly completed charge sheet within 14 days may be eliminated from the competition.

(A) Any team playing an unregistered or otherwise ineligible player or players may be fined in accordance with the fines tariff. In addition, the Management Committee may, at its discretion, award the tie to their Opponents.

(B) It is mandatory that Managers inspect their opposing team players Identity Cards prior to the kick off of each match. Failure to do so shall incur a fine in accordance with fines tariff. Any team failing to produce Players Identity Cards for inspection may be fined in accordance with fines tariff and the opposition has the right to refuse to play the fixture and put a protest before the League Management Committee who may award the match at their discretion subject to an acceptable explanation not being received. Should both teams agree to the match being played, the management committee will not entertain any subsequent appeal as to validity of players involved or the match result.

(C)(i) Management Committee who may award the match at their discretion subject to an acceptable explanation not being received. Should both teams agree to the match being played, the management committee will not entertain any subsequent appeal as to validity of players involved or the match result.

(C) (i) The Management Committee shall fix the times of kick off. Kick off times will be 10.45, 12.30 or 13.45. Any club failing to commence at the appointed time may be fined in accordance with the fines tariff or be otherwise dealt with as the management committee may determine. In the event of a late start preventing the completion of a match, the defaulting club may be liable to forfeit the tie or the Management Committee may deal with the matter, as they deem appropriate and may be fined as per the fines tariff.

Referees must order matches to commence at the appointed time and must report all late starts to the League Secretary within 5 days of the match being played.

The home team must provide at least two footballs fit for play and the referee shall make a report to the Competition Secretary if the footballs are unsuitable.

The size of football to be used shall be:

Size 3 for under 7, 8, and 9s

Size 4 for players in the Under 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 age groups.

Size 5 for all other age groups.

Goal nets and corner flags must be used in all matches.

(D) Except by permission of the Management Committee all matches must be played on the dates originally fixed but priority shall be given to the Football Association and all relevant County Association Cup Competitions. All other matches must be considered secondary. The home club will set the time of the kick off. The home club should notify the Fixture Secretary and their opposing Club the date and fixture

kick off time within 14 days of the Cup draw being made and the Club secretary notified. It is the responsibility of the away club to actively seek confirmation of details of the tie from the home club. All matches arranged are to be confirmed in writing on the appropriate card (as shown at Appendix A) / email by the HOME team to the Fixture Secretary at least 7 days prior to the fixture-taking place. Any club failing to comply with this rule shall be liable to a fine in accordance with the fines tariff

(E) (i) The Manager of the HOME Club must give notice by verbal communication, email or text of full particulars of the location, access to the ground, Team colours and time of kick-off to the match officials (where appointed) and the Manager of the opposing Club at least 4 clear days prior to the playing of the fixture. The away Club shall seek and acknowledge receipt of such particulars. Any Club failing to comply with this Rule shall be liable to a fine according to the fines tariff.

Any non-competitive/development team entered into a Cup competition/festival, the result will be calculated as follows, points, goal difference, goals scored and then head to head result. If all are equal, then penalties shall decide the winner. Any team failing to attend a competition, a walk over will be recorded in favour of the opposition/s and the team will be excluded from the next competition.

(F) In the event of a club failing to keep its engagement the Management Committee shall have power to inflict a fine (according to the fines tariff), award the tie to the opponents, order the defaulting club to pay any expenses incurred by the opponents or otherwise deal with them at their discretion.

The Management Committee shall have power to order a match to be played on a neutral ground or on the opponents ground if they are satisfied that such action is warranted by the circumstances. The costs to be borne by the home club.

In the event of a match not being played or abandoned owing to causes over which neither club has control, it shall be played in its entirety on a date to be mutually agreed by the two clubs and approved by the Management Committee. Failing such agreement and notification to the Fixture Secretary within 14 days the Management Committee shall have power to order the match to be played on a named date or before a given date.

The Management Committee shall review all abandoned matches and in a case where it is to the advantage of the competition and does no injustice to either club, shall be empowered to order the score at the time of abandonment to stand. In all cases where a match has been abandoned owing to the conduct of one team or its club member(s) they shall be empowered to award the tie to the opponents and/or take what other action they may deem necessary. In cases where a match is abandoned owing to the conduct of both teams or its club members, the Management Committee shall take such action, as they consider appropriate. Such action is subject to any disciplinary action taken by the appropriate County Football Association.

(G)) The half time interval for mini soccer matches shall be 5 minutes and youth matches 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.

(H) In the event of inclement weather the Unfit Pitch Procedure is to be carried out in order to prevent unnecessary travelling by the visiting team and officials. This procedure is shown in Appendix F and home teams failing to comply may be fined in accordance with the fines tariff and be charged with reimbursing their opponents, match officials and/or League Officers travelling costs of 25 pence per mile for 4 cars (Small Sided) or 5 cars (Youth Teams).

(I) In the event of a drawn game, then extra time will be played for under 13 and above shall play 10 minutes each half. If the teams are still level then the game shall be decided by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark according to instructions in the Football Association handbook as shown under section Laws of the Game. (See Appendix G).

All Cup Finals shall be decided by this procedure as set out above.

REPORTING RESULTS

5. (A) The Results Secretary must receive from both clubs, the result and statistics of each competition match either by use of Online Submission within 36 hours or within 4 days by use of the Manual Card as shown in Appendix B. This must include the forenames and surname of the team players (in block letters) along with goal scorers and also the referees marking as required by Rule 13 along with a mark for their opponents sporting behaviour. Any team awarding an opponent a sporting mark of 4 or less shall submit in writing to the League Secretary within 7 days of the match being completed, the reasons for awarding such a mark. Any team awarding a referee a mark of 50 or less shall submit in writing to the League Secretary within 7 days of the match being completed, the reasons for awarding such a mark. All marks must be whole figures and not fractions or percentages on a scale of 1-100 (See Appendix H for Guide to Marking). Clubs failing to comply with this rule shall be fined in accordance with the fines tariff.

(B) The match result notification, correctly completed, shall be signed by a responsible member of the club. The Management Committee shall have power to take such action, as they deem suitable against a Club that submits an incomplete form or incorrect information.

6. (A) No Club shall be permitted to scratch or postpone any match without the permission of the Management Committee, but must play its best available team. In the event of a club failing to keep its engagement without making application for postponement or giving satisfactory explanation to the Management Committee, the match shall be awarded to its opponents and a fine issued in accordance with fines tariff. The defaulting club shall be considered to be guilty of gross misconduct and in addition to being dealt with by the Management Committee, may be compelled to reimburse the competition and their opponents any costs incurred.

(B) In the Final of all competitions, should the teams after normal time still be level on goals then extra time will be played of: Under 13's and above 10 minutes each way.

In the event of a draw after extra time has been played, then the game shall be decided by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark according

to instructions in the Football Association handbook as shown under section Laws of the Game. (See Appendix G).

(C) The players participating in the Final match of each competition may, if funds permit, be presented with medals, miniature cups or plaques. The presentation of any other memento or souvenir is not allowed, unless the Management Committee has previously given permission. Any player who fails to attend the presentation of League trophies shall not be entitled to receive such trophies without the permission of the management committee.

REFEREES

7. (A) Registered Referees and Assistant Referees for all matches shall be appointed in a manner approved by the Management Committee and by the sanctioning Association(s). Referees & Assistant Referees must have attained the age of 16 before officiating at matches in the competition.

(B) In the event of the non-appearance of the appointed referee the appointed senior assistant referee shall take charge and a substitute assistant referee appointed by the competing teams. In cases where there are no officially appointed assistant referees, or where the competition has been unable to appoint a referee, the home club is to supply a league-recognised person to officiate the whole game or offer to use the opponents league recognised official if present. ALL non-league appointed "Mid Lincs Recognised referees must produce the Leagues ID Card on request, any team failing this may be fined according to the fines tariff. A team manager is not eligible to referee his own team's matches. Clubs failing to supply a recognised person shall be fined as per fine tariff. A Referee thus agreed upon shall, for that game, have the full powers, status and authority of a registered referee. The name of the official so designated is to be shown on the match result card or by online submission with the match statistics

(C) The Management Committee may, if they consider it desirable appoint Assistant Referees, if available, to any match. Where assistant referees are not appointed each team shall provide a club assistant referee. Failure to do so will result in a fine as per fines tariff.

(F) In the event of a match not being played because of circumstances over which the clubs have no control, the match official(s), if present, shall be entitled to half fee plus expenses only. Where a match is not played owing to one club being in default, that club shall be ordered to pay the officials, if they attend the ground, their full fee and expenses.

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

8. (A) A Competition Cup or Trophy shall be vested in the association sanctioning the Competition as trustees. If a competition were discontinued for any cause the Cup or Trophy shall be returned to the donor, if the conditions attached to it so provide, or otherwise dealt with as the association may decide. At the close of each competition awards shall be made to the winners and runners up if the funds of the competition permit.

The following agreement (also shown in Appendix D) shall be signed on behalf of the winners of the Cup or Trophy.

I _____ am a member of and represent the club _____. The Under

have been declared winners of the _____

It has been delivered to us by the Competition and do hereby on behalf of the club agree to return the Cup / Shield to the Trophy Steward on or before (.....). If the Cup / Shield 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 to return the Cup / Shield will result in a fine .

FEES TARIFF

RULE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM FEE
3	CUP ENTRY FEE	£10.00

FINES TARIFF

RULE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM FINE
4 (A)	PLAYING AN INELIGIBLE PLAYER	£100.00

4 (B)	FAILURE TO INSPECT PLAYER ID CARDS	£25.00
4 (C) (i)	FAILURE TO KICK OFF AT THE CORRECT TIME	£25.00
4 (D)	FAILURE TO SUPPLY KICK OFF TIME WITHIN 14 DAYS OF THE CUP DRAW AND THE CLUB BEING NOTIFIED	£10.00
4 (E) (i)	FAILURE TO CONTACT MATCH OFFICIAL AND OPPOSITION	£10.00
4 (F)	FAILURE TO PLAY FIXTURE	£50.00
4 (H)	FAILURE TO CARRY OUT UNFIT PITCH PROCEDURE	£25.00
5 (A)	FAILURE TO REPORT RESULT AS REQUIRED AND FAILURE TO PROVIDE REFEREE'S /SPORTING MARK	£10.00
6 (A)	FAILURE TO PLAY FIXTURE	£50.00
7 (B)	FAILURE TO SUPPLY A RECOGNISED REFEREE	£10.00
8 (A)	FAILURE TO RETURN TROPHY	£25.00