



# LEAGUE HANDBOOK

## Season 2020-2021

The rules enclosed within were approved by the member clubs at the 2020 Annual General Meeting held via Zoom, only the amended elements were voted upon and apply until further notice.

Please be aware that some elements of these Rules may be revoked due to the uncertainty of the Covid-19 pandemic and the final decision will be those of the leagues Management Committee.

Clubs wishing to propose changes for next season should write to the General Secretary before the end of March 2021.

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# LEAGUE RULES

## DEFINITIONS

### 1. (A) In these Rules:

<b>"Affiliated Association"</b>	means an Association accorded the status of an Affiliated Association under the rules of The FA.
<b>"AGM"</b>	shall mean the annual general meeting held in accordance with the constitution of the Competition.
<b>"Club"</b>	means a club for the time being in membership of the Competition.
<b>"Competition"</b>	means the Craven, Aire and Wharfe Junior League
<b>"Competition Match"</b>	means any match played or to be played under the jurisdiction of the Competition.
<b>"Contract Player"</b>	means any Player (other than a Player on a Scholarship) who is eligible to play under a written contract of employment with a Club.
<b>"Deposit"</b>	means a sum of money deposited with the Competition as part of the requirements of membership of the Competition.
<b>"Fees Tariff"</b>	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.
<b>"Fines Tariff"</b>	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
<b>"Ground"</b>	means the ground on which the Club's Team(s) plays its Competition Matches.
<b>"Management Committee"</b>	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.
<b>"Match Officials"</b>	means the referee, the assistant referees and any fourth official appointed to a Competition Match.
<b>"Mini Soccer"</b>	means those participating at ages under 7s to under 10s.
<b>"Non Contract Player"</b>	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.
<b>"Officer"</b>	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.
<b>"Participant"</b>	shall have the same meaning as set out in the rules of The FA from time to time.
<b>"Player"</b>	means any Contract Player, Non Contract Player or other player who plays or who is eligible to play for a Club.
<b>"Playing Season"</b>	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.
<b>"Rules"</b>	means these rules under which the Competition is administered.
<b>"Sanctioning Authority"</b>	means [The FA][the West Riding County Football Association Limited].
<b>"Scholarship"</b>	means a Scholarship as set out in Rule C 3 (a) (i) of the rules of The FA.

<b>"Season"</b>	means the period of time between an AGM and the subsequent AGM.
<b>"Secretary"</b>	means such person or persons appointed or elected to carry out the administration of the Competition.
<b>"SGM"</b>	means a special general meeting held in accordance with the constitution of the Competition.
<b>"Team"</b>	means a team affiliated to a Club, including where a Club provides more than one team in the Competition in accordance with the Rules.
<b>"The FA"</b>	means The Football Association Limited.
<b>"WGS"</b>	means the Whole Game System and the procedures for the operation thereof as determined by The FA from time to time
<b>"written" or "in writing"</b>	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
<b>"Youth Football"</b>	means those participating at ages under 11s to under 18s.

(B) Unless stated otherwise, terms referring to natural persons are applicable to both genders.  
Any term in the singular applies to the plural and vice-versa.

# GOVERNANCE RULES

## COMPETITION NAME AND CONSTITUTION

2.

- (A) The Competition will be known as the Craven, Aire and Wharfe Junior. The Clubs participating in the Competition must be members of the Competition. A Club which ceases to exist or which ceases to be entitled to play in the Competition for any reason whatsoever shall thereupon automatically cease to be a member of the Competition.
- (B) This Competition shall consist of not more than 100 Clubs approved by the Sanctioning Authority.
- (C) The geographical area covered by the Competition membership shall be the Bradford, Craven, Keighley and Wharfedale Districts of the West Riding County F.A. Clubs may be accepted from outside this area at the Management Committee's approval.
- (D) The administration of the Competition under these Rules will be carried out by the Competition acting (save where otherwise specifically mentioned herein) through the Management Committee in accordance with the rules, regulations and policies of The FA.
- (E) All Clubs shall adhere to the Rules. Every Club shall be deemed, as a member of the Competition to have accepted the Rules and to have agreed to abide by the decisions of the Management Committee in relation thereto, subject to the provisions of Rule 7.
- (F) The Rules are taken from the Standard Code of Rules for Youth Competitions (the "Standard Code") determined by The FA from time to time. In the event of any omissions from the Standard Code then the requirements of the Standard Code shall be deemed to apply to the Competition.
- (G) All Clubs must be affiliated to an Affiliated Association and their names and particulars shall be returned annually by the appointed date in a manner prescribed by the Sanctioning Authority and must have a constitution approved by the Sanctioning Authority. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

This Competition shall apply annually for sanction to the Sanctioning Authority and the constituent Teams of Clubs may be grouped in divisions, each not exceeding 10 in number.

### (H) Inclusivity and Non-discrimination

- (i) The Competition and each Club must be committed to promoting inclusivity and to eliminating all forms of discrimination and should abide and adhere to The FA Equality Policy and any legislative requirements (to include those contained in the Equality Act 2010).
- (ii) This Competition and each Club must make every effort to promote equality by treating people fairly and with respect, by recognising that inequalities may exist, by taking steps to address them and by providing access and opportunities for all members of the community, irrespective of age, gender, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, marital status, race, nationality, ethnic origin, colour, religion or belief, ability or disability or otherwise.
- (iii) Any alleged breach of the Equality Act 2010 legislation must be referred to the appropriate Sanctioning Authority for investigation.

(I) 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.

(J) All Participants shall abide by The Football Association Regulations for Safeguarding Children as determined by The FA from time to time.

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

(L) At the AGM or a SGM called for the purpose, a majority of the delegates present shall have power to decide or adjust the constitution of the divisions at their discretion. When necessary this Rule shall take precedence over Rule 22.

## CLUB NAME

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

## ENTRY FEE, SUBSCRIPTION, DEPOSIT

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

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

(B) The annual subscription shall be payable in accordance with the Fees Tariff per *Team (where a Club has more than one Team in membership of the Competition)* and shall be payable on or before August 31<sup>st</sup> in each year.

(C) A Club shall not participate in this Competition until the entry fee; annual subscription and Deposit (if required) have been paid.

(D) If requested by the Competition, Clubs must advise annually to the Secretary in writing by August 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

(E) Member clubs must have obtained Charter Standard. New clubs must obtain Charter Standard before the end of their first season in the League. Clubs failing to maintain their Charter Standard will be required to withdraw from the League.

## MANAGEMENT, NOMINATION, ELECTION

5. (A) The Management Committee shall comprise the Officers of the Competition and six members who shall all be elected at the AGM.

(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 April 30<sup>th</sup> 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 April 30<sup>th</sup> in each year. Names of the candidates for election shall be circulated with the notice of the AGM. In the event of there being no nomination in accordance with the foregoing for any office, nominations may be received at the AGM.

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

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

(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.

## POWERS OF MANAGEMENT

6. (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 also apply to the procedure of any sub-committee).

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

No Participant under the age of 18 can be fined.

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

- (E) All decisions of the Management Committee shall be binding subject to the right of appeal in accordance with Rule 7.

Decisions of the Management Committee must be notified in writing to those concerned within 7 days.

- (F) 40% of its members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business by the Management Committee or any sub-committee thereof.
- (G) The Management Committee, as it may deem necessary, shall have power to fill, in an acting capacity, any vacancies that may occur amongst their number.
- (H) A Club must comply with an order or instruction of the Management Committee and must attend to the business and/or the correspondence of the Competition to the satisfaction of the Management Committee. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
- (I) 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.
- (J) 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.
- (K) The Management Committee shall have the power to fill any vacancy that may occur in the membership of the Competition between the AGM or SGM called to decide the constitution and the commencement of the Playing Season.
- (L) The business of the Competition as determined by the Management Committee may be transacted by electronic mail or facsimile.

## PROTESTS, CLAIMS, COMPLAINTS, APPEALS

- 7. (A) (i) All questions of eligibility, qualification of Players or interpretations of the Rules shall be referred to the Management Committee or a sub-committee duly appointed by the Management Committee.  
(ii) Objections relevant to the dimensions of the pitch, goals, flag posts or other facilities of the venue will not be entertained by the Management Committee unless a protest is lodged with the referee before the commencement of the Competition Match.
- (B) Except in cases where the Management Committee decide that there are special circumstances, protests and complaints (which must contain full particulars of the grounds upon which they are founded) must be lodged with the Secretary within three 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.
- (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 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 five days' notice of the hearing should they be instructed to attend.
- (ii) Should a Club elect to state its case in person then it should forward a deposit of £20 and indicate such when forwarding the written response.

(E) The Management Committee shall also have power to compel any party to the protest to pay such expenses as the Management Committee shall direct.

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

- (i) invite submissions by the parties involved; or
- (ii) convene a hearing to hear the appeal; or
- (iii) permit new evidence; or
- (iv) impose deadlines as are appropriate.

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

(F) No appeal can be lodged against a decision taken at an AGM or SGM unless this is on the ground of unconstitutional conduct.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

8. (A) The AGM shall be held not later than June 30<sup>th</sup> in each year. At this meeting, the following business shall be transacted provided that at least 50% 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 the ensuing Season.
- (v) Election of Officers of the Competition and the Management Committee members.
- (vi) Appointment of auditors.
- (vii) Alteration of Rules, if any (see Rule 14).
- (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 Rule changes.

(C) A signed copy of the duly **audited/verified** balance sheet and statement of accounts shall be sent to the Sanctioning Authority within 14 days of its adoption by the AGM.

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

(E) Clubs who have withdrawn their membership of the Competition during the Playing Season being concluded or who are not continuing membership shall be entitled to attend but shall vote only on matters relating to the Season being concluded. ***This provision will not apply to Clubs expelled in accordance with Rule 12.***

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

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

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

## SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

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

The Management Committee may call an SGM at any time.

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

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

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

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

## AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED

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

"We, (A), (name) [ ] of (address) [ ] (Chairman)/Director and (B) (name) [ ] of (address) [ ] (Secretary/Director) of [ ] Football Club (Limited) have been provided with a copy of the Rules and Regulations of the [ ] Competition and do hereby agree for and on behalf of the said Club, if elected or accepted into membership, to conform to those Rules and Regulations and to accept, abide by and implement the decisions of the Management Committee of the Competition, subject to the right of appeal in accordance with Rule 7."

The agreement shall be signed by:

- (i) Where a Club is an unincorporated association, the Club chairman and secretary; or
- (ii) Where a Club is an incorporated entity, two directors of the Club.

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

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

## CONTINUATION OF MEMBERSHIP, WITHDRAWAL OF A CLUB

11.(A) Any Club intending, or having a provisional intention, to withdraw a Team from the Competition must do so at least 14 days before the AGM. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff. 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.

(B) Notwithstanding the powers of the Management Committee pursuant to Rule 6(l), in the event of a Club failing to discharge all its financial obligations to the Competition in excess of £50, the Management Committee shall be empowered to refer the debt under The FA Football Debt Recovery provisions.

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

12. (A) At the AGM or SGM called for the purpose in accordance with the provisions of Rule 9, notice of motion having been duly circulated on the agenda by direction of the Management Committee, the accredited delegates present shall have the power to: (i) remove a member of the Management Committee from office, (ii) exclude any Club or Team from membership, both of which must be supported by more than two-thirds (2/3) of those present and voting. Voting on this point shall be conducted by ballot. A member of the Management Committee or Club which is the subject of the vote being taken shall be excluded from voting.

(B) At the AGM, or at a SGM called for the purpose in accordance with the provisions of Rule 9, the accredited delegates present shall have the power to exclude from further participation in the Competition any Club or Team whose conduct has, in their opinion, been undesirable, which must be supported by more than two-thirds (2/3) of those present and voting. Voting on this point shall be conducted by ballot. A Club whose conduct is the subject of the vote being taken shall be excluded from voting.

(C) Any Officer or member of a Club proved guilty of either a breach of Rule, other than field offences, or of inducing or attempting to induce a Player or Players of another Club in the Competition to join them shall be liable to such penalty as a General Meeting or Management Committee may decide, and their Club shall also be liable to expulsion in accordance with the provisions of clauses (A) and/or (B) of this Rule.

## TROPHY

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

"We A [name] and B [name], the Chairman and Secretary of [ ] FC(Limited), members of and representing the Club, having been declared winners of [ ] cup or trophy, and it having been delivered to us by the Competition, do hereby on behalf of the Club jointly and severally agree to return the cup or trophy to the Competition Secretary on or before March 1<sup>st</sup>. If the cup or trophy is lost or damaged whilst under our care, we agree to refund to the Competition the amount of its current value or the cost of its thorough repair."

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

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

## ALTERATION TO RULES

14. Alterations, for which consent has been given by the Sanctioning Authority, shall be made to these Rules only at the AGM or at a SGM specially convened for the purpose called in accordance with Rule 9. Any alteration made during the Playing Season to these Rules shall not take effect until the following Playing Season.

Notice of proposed alterations to be considered at the AGM shall be submitted to the Secretary by March 31st in each year. The proposals, together with any proposals by the Management Committee, shall be circulated to the Clubs by April 30<sup>th</sup> and any amendments thereto shall be submitted to the Secretary by May 14<sup>th</sup>. The proposals and proposed amendments thereto shall be circulated to Clubs with the notice of the AGM. A proposal to change a Rule shall be carried if a majority of those present, entitled to vote and voting are in favour.

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

## FINANCE

- 15.(A) The Management Committee shall determine with which bank or other financial institution the funds of the Competition will be lodged.
- (B) Adopt modern banking methods with one signatory for payments from the current account, up to a maximum of £1,000; amounts in excess of this to be agreed by the management committee. Any transfer of funds from the savings account shall require two signatories.
- (C) The financial year of the Competition will end on May 31<sup>st</sup>
- (D) The books, or a certified balance sheet, of a Competition shall be prepared and shall be audited/verified annually by a suitably qualified person(s) who shall be appointed at the AGM.

## INSURANCE

- 16.(A) All Clubs must have valid public liability insurance cover of at least ten million pounds (£10,000,000) at all times.
- (B) All Clubs must have valid personal accident cover for all Players registered with them from time to time. The Players' personal accident insurance cover must be in place prior to the Club taking part in any Competition Match and shall be at least equal to the minimum recommended cover determined from time to time by the Sanctioning Authority. In instances where The FA is the Sanctioning Authority, the minimum recommended cover will be the cover required by the Affiliated Association to which a Club affiliates.

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

## DISSOLUTION

17. (A) Dissolution of the Competition shall be by resolution approved at a SGM by a majority of three quarters (3/4) of the members present and shall take effect from the date of the relevant SGM.
- (B) In the event of the dissolution of the Competition, the members of the Management Committee are responsible for the winding up of the assets and liabilities of the Competition.
- (C) The Management Committee shall deal with any surplus assets as follows:
  - (i) Any surplus assets, save for a trophy or any other presentation, remaining after the discharge of the debts and liabilities of the Competition shall be transferred only to the Bradford, Craven, Keighley and Wharfedale District Associations according to the proportion of clubs in membership.
  - (ii) If a Competition is discontinued for any reason a trophy or any other presentation shall be returned to the donor if the conditions attached to it so provide or, if not, dealt with as the Sanctioning Authority may decide.

# MATCH RELATED RULES

## QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

18. (A) A Player is one who, being in all other respects eligible, has: -

Registered through WGS three days prior to playing in a Competition Match.

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

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

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

*Follow the leagues guidelines on Registering and Submitting players.*

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

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

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

(iii) Each Team must have the following number of Players registered 14 days before the start of each Playing Season:

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

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

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

(D) A fee as set out in the Fees Tariff shall be paid by each Club/Team for each Player registered, if applicable.

(E) The Management Committee shall decide all registration disputes taking into account the following.

- (i) A Player shall not be permitted to register for more than one Club subject to the exceptions set out in Rule 18 (E) (iii) below.
- (ii) In the event of a Player signing a registration form or having a registration submitted for more than one Club priority of registration shall decide for which Club the Player shall be registered. The Secretary shall notify the Club last applying to register the Player of the fact of the previous registration subject to the exceptions set out in Rule 18 (E) (iii) below.
- (iii) A Player is only permitted to register for more than one Club provided that:
  - a. The Team(s) in which the Player plays in are not in the same age group; or
  - b. Except for the purpose of a transfer.

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

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

- (i) Play for more than one Team in the same age group in the Competition in the same Playing Season without first being transferred.
- (ii) Having registered for one Club in the Competition, register for another Club in the Competition in that Playing Season, except if the provisions set out in Rule 18 (E) (iii) apply.
- (iii) Submit a signed registration form or submit a registration through WGS for registration that the Player had willfully neglected to accurately or fully complete.
- (iv) To take part in more than ONE (1) fixture in the same day; be it in the same competition in a different age group or another competition (league)

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

(G) (i) The Management Committee shall have the power to accept the registration of any Player subject to the provisions of Rule 18(G) (ii) and (iii) below.

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

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

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

(Note: Action under Rule 18(G) (iii) shall only be taken against a Player in cases of the Player bringing the Competition into disrepute and will in any event be subject to an appeal to the Sanctioning Authority or The FA. All decisions must include the period of restriction. For the purpose of this Rule, bringing the Competition into disrepute can only be considered where the Player has received in excess of 112 days' suspension, or 10 matches in match based

discipline, in any competition (and is not restricted to the Competition) in a period of two years or less from the date of the first offence.)

(H) Subject to compliance with FA Rule C2(a) when a Club wishes to register a player who is already registered with another club it shall submit a transfer form (in a format as determined by the Competition) to the Competition accompanied by a fee as set out in the Fees Tariff. Such transfer shall be referred by the Competition to the club for which the player is registered. Should this club object to the transfer it should state its objections in writing to the Competition and to the player concerned within 3 days of receipt of the notification. Upon receipt of the Club's consent, or upon its failure to give written objection within 3 days, the Secretary may, on behalf of the Management Committee, transfer the player who shall be deemed eligible to play for the new Club from such date or 7 days after receipt of such transfer.

See [Notice of Approach](#) (NOA) appendix for the transfer procedure.

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

- i) In most if not all cases, the transfer has to be approved, as SCOR/Y does not permit them being rejected for kits, fees outstanding etc, only reference to this is if a Debt Recovery action is in place, with the CFA between the Club and Player owing money.
- ii) Players already registered with a team within the competition may have a fee free transfer to another team within the same club; up to a maximum of 3 transfers will be allowed for this player in this instance. E.G. A transfer from Blues to Pinks and then back to Blues is two (2) transfers.

(I) A Player may not be registered for a Club nor transferred to another Club in the Competition after the last day of 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 all matches in which those Players have played for the Club and shall produce such records upon demand by the Management Committee.

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

(K) Clubs must comply with the statistics requirements of FULL-TIME so that all their players and player appearance information is available for inspection by all clubs. Failure to comply will result in a fine in accordance with the fines tariff. Registrations are valid for one Playing Season only.

In the event of a Non Contract Player changing his status to that of a Contract Player with the same Club, another Club in the Competition or with a club in another competition his registration as a Non Contract Player will automatically be cancelled and declared void unless the Club conforms to the exception detailed in Rule 18(B)(i).

(L) A Player shall not be eligible to play for a Team in any special championship, promotion or relegation deciding Competition Match (as specified in Rule 22(A)) unless the Player has played 6 Competition Matches for that Team in the current Playing Season.

(M) ~~A Team shall not include more than [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11] Players who has/have taken part in [ ] or more senior Competition Matches during the current Playing Season unless a period of 21 days has elapsed since they last played.~~  
~~For the purpose of this Rule a senior competition(s) is /are [ ].~~

(N)(i) Subject to Rule 18(N)(ii), any Club found to have played an ineligible Player in a Competition Match or Matches where points are awarded shall have the points gained from that 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.

(ii) The Management Committee may vary the sanction as relates to the deduction of points set out at Rule 18(N)(i) only in circumstances where the ineligibility is due to the

failure to obtain an International Transfer Certificate or where the ineligibility is related to the Player's status.

- (iii) Where a Club is found to have played an ineligible Player in accordance with Rule 18(N)(i) above, the Management Committee may also, at its discretion:
  - (a) Award the points available in the Competition Match in question to the opponents, subject to the Competition Match not being ordered to be replayed; or
  - (b) Levy penalty points against the Club in default; or
  - (c) Order that such Competition Match or Matches be replayed (on such terms as are decided by the Management Committee).
- (iv) Prior to the kick-off, each team shall produce for the inspection of the opponents, photographic proof of the eligibility of their players; namely the CURRENT squad sheet. Failure to do so will result in either:
  - (a) The offending team will forfeit the fixture and fined in accordance with the Fines Tarif and the match may be played as a Friendly
  - (b) The offending team will forfeit the fixture and fined in accordance with the Fines Tarif and the match is abandoned
- (v) Prior to the kick-off, each team shall provide the opponents and the referee a copy of the Match Result Form with a complete list of their players and substitutes. If the kick-off is delayed in order for this to be completed a fine will be issued in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

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

- (O) (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 their head teacher (except for Sunday league competitions).
- (iii) A child under the age of 15 as at midnight on 31 August in the relevant Playing Season shall not be permitted to play in a Competition Match during that Playing Season where any other Player is older or younger than that child by two years or more.

## CLUB COLOURS

19. Every Club must register the colour of its shirts and shorts with the Secretary by June 20<sup>th</sup> who shall decide as to their suitability.

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

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

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

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

*Shirts must be numbered, failing which a fine will be levied in accordance with the Fines Tariff. No two players shall have the same number.*

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

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

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

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

Football Turf Pitches (3G) are allowed in this Competition provided they meet the required performance standards and are listed on the FA's Register of Football Turf Pitches. All Football Turf Pitches used must be tested (by a FIFA accredited test institute) every three years and the results passed to The FA. The FA will give a decision on the suitability for use and add the pitch to the Register.

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

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

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

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

Under 13 and Under 14	25	35	100	150	Any varieties including one season long league table
Under 15 and Under 16	25	40	100	150	Any varieties including one season long league table
Under 17 and Under 18	25	45	120	180	Any varieties including one season long league table

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

For trophy events, the Competition may award mementos.

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

Referees must order Competition 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 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 Competition Match with the consent of the Fixture Secretary. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

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

(C) 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 5 clear days prior to the playing of the Competition Match. If not so provided, the away Club shall seek such details and report the circumstances to the Competition. The times of kick-off shall be decided by the home club and be ideally between the hours of 09:30 and 15:00 on a Sunday. See Guidance [KICK OFF TIME FLOW CHART](#). Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

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

FORMAT	MINIMUM
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 Competition Match in question to the opponents, order the defaulting Club to pay any reasonable expenses

incurred by the opponents or otherwise deal with them except the award of goals. Notwithstanding the foregoing home and away provision, the Management Committee shall have power to order a Competition Match to be played on a neutral ground or on the opponent's Ground if they are satisfied that such action is warranted by the circumstances.

- (ii) Any Club unable to fulfil a fixture of where a Competition Match has been postponed for any reason must, without delay, give notice to the (Fixtures) Secretary, the Competition Referees Appointments Secretary, the secretary of the opposing Club and the Match Officials.
- (iii) In the event of a Competition Match not being played or abandoned owing to causes over which neither Club has control, it should be played in its entirety on a date to be mutually agreed by the two Clubs and approved by the Management Committee. Failing such agreement and notification to the Fixture Secretary within 3 days the Management Committee shall have the power to order the Competition Match to be played on a named date or on or before a given date. Where it is to the advantage of the Competition and the Clubs involved agree, the Management Committee shall also be empowered to order the score at the time of an abandonment to stand.

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

- (iv) The Management Committee shall review all Competition Matches abandoned in cases where it is consequent upon the conduct of either or both Teams. Where it is to the advantage of the Competition and does no injustice to either Club, the Management Committee shall be empowered to order the score at the time of the abandonment to stand. In all cases where the Management Committee are satisfied that a Competition Match was abandoned owing to the conduct of one Team or its Club member(s) they shall be empowered to award the points for the Competition Match to the opponent. In cases where a Competition Match has been abandoned owing to the conduct of both Teams or their Club member(s), the Management Committee shall rule that neither Team will be awarded any points for that Competition Match and it shall not be replayed. No fine(s) can be applied by the Management Committee for an abandoned Competition Match.
- (v) The Management Committee shall review any Competition Match that has taken place where either or both Teams were under a suspension imposed upon them by The FA or Affiliated Association. In each case the Team that was under suspension would be dealt with in the same manner as if they had participated with ineligible players in accordance with Rule 18(N)(i) above. Where both Teams were under suspension the Competition Match must be declared null and void and shall not be replayed.

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

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

For Mini-Soccer – any number of substitutions may be used at any time with the permission of the referee.

Entry onto the field of play will only be allowed during a stoppage in play. A Player who has been replaced may return to play as a substitute for another Player. A Team must not have a match day squad greater than double the size of its team in an age group.

In Youth Football only, the referee shall be informed of the names of the substitute Players not later than 5 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 named as a substitute before the start of that Competition Match but does not actually play in the game shall not be considered to have been a Player in that Competition Match within the meaning of Rule 18 of this Competition.

(G)

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

(H) The Teams taking part in Under 7s to Under 11 or Youth Football 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 his/her teammates. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

## REPORTING RESULTS

21.(A) The Fixtures Secretary must receive within 3 days of the date played, the result of each Competition Match in the prescribed manner, see 21 (B) below. The completion of the match statistics are to be done via FullTime or MatchDay App; details on how to can be found at the following Web Address:

<https://grassrootstechnology.freshdesk.com/support/solutions>. The following sections MUST be completed:

- FA Marks for the Referee, this will only be able to be completed if the Referee was appointed by the league; as required by Rule 23
- RESPECT Marks
- Players Statistics – at the minimum ALL Starters and Subs are to be named

Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff and the Team will not take part in any League Cups.

(B) The Home Club/both Clubs shall return the result via the FullTime SMS text service or MatchDay App for each Competition Match by 5.30.pm on the day of the match or 9pm for a midweek match. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

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

(D) The Competition and Clubs are permitted to collect but NOT publish results or any grading tables for fixtures involving Under 7s, Under 8s, Under 9s, Under 10s, and Under 11s. Any Competition failing to abide by this Rule will be dealt with by the Sanctioning Authority, and any Club failing to abide by this Rule will be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff. The Competition and Clubs are permitted to collect and publish results for trophy events.

## DETERMINING CHAMPIONSHIP

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

In the event of two or more Teams being equal on points at the end of the Playing Season, rankings may be determined by a deciding match or matches played under conditions determined by the Management Committee, or the position shared.

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

## MATCH OFFICIALS

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

(B) In cases where there are no officially appointed Match Officials in attendance, the Clubs shall agree upon a referee. An individual thus agreed upon shall, for that Competition Match, have the full powers, status and authority of a registered referee. Individuals under the age of 16 must not participate either as a referee or assistant referee in any open age competition and individuals under the age of 14 must not participate either as a referee or assistant referee in any Competition Match. Referees between the ages of 14 and 16 are only eligible to officiate in competitions where the Players' age band is at least one year younger than the age of the referee, for example a 15 year old referee may only officiate in competitions where the age banding is 14 or younger.

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

(D) The appointed referee shall have power to decide as to the fitness of the Ground in all Competition Matches and that decision shall be final, subject to the determination of the Local Authority or the owners of a Ground, which must be accepted.

(E) Subject to any limits/provisions laid down by the Sanctioning Authority, Match Officials appointed under this Rule shall be paid a match fee in accordance with the Fees Tariff and travel expenses inclusive of travel expenses.

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

(F) 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 half fee. 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.

(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 Affiliated Association with which he or she is registered.

(H) Each Club shall, in a manner prescribed from time to time by The FA, award marks to the referee for each Competition Match and the name of the referee and the marks awarded shall be submitted to the Competition on the prescribed form provided. 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.

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

# MINI-SOCCER & U11 HANDBOOK

## BAD WEATHER

Please make a pitch inspection early enough to prevent a visiting team having a wasted journey.

## BACK PASS RULE

For Under 7's & U8's it is advised that the back pass rule isn't enforced but that coaches encourage the players to develop their understanding of the rule.

For the U9's & U10's the back pass rule should apply. However, let the first one go, explain the rule to the goalkeeper, after that the rule should apply. An indirect free kick is given from where the goalkeeper handles the ball if the rule is broken.

For the U11's the rule applies in full.

## CHANGE OF VENUE

In the event the pitch of the Home team is unplayable or unavailable, it is quite in order to reverse the fixture, subject to the agreement of both coaches. Responsibility for sending in the match result remains with the Home team coach.

## CLUB COLOURS

If in the opinion of the referee two teams have the same or similar colours, the away team shall make the change or wear bibs of a different colour.

## CLUBS WITH MORE THAN ONE TEAM IN AN AGE GROUP - NEW REQUIREMENTS – Rule 18(P)

It shall be a breach of League Rules for a player to play for more than one Team in the same age group in the Competition in the same Playing Season without first being transferred.

The League will however allow a mini-soccer player to play a maximum of 6 games without the requirement of a transfer subject to the following:- 1. The team MUST be from the same age group 2. The Team MUST be from the same club 3. The games MUST be in the same Playing Season. If a Player is registered for more than 1 team or all players are registered as a group this MUST be amended prior to the start of the season to fall in line with the new requirements.

## COMMUNICATING WITH THE LEAGUE

Please make sure to include your name, name of club/team and age group

## CONTACTING OPPONENTS

The Team Manager of the home team must give full particulars of the location, access to the ground and the kick-off time to the Team Manager of the away team no later than Tuesday evening.

## ELITE PLAYER PERFORMANCE PLAN

No player registered with a F.A. Premier League or Football League Academy under the Elite Player Performance Plan contained within Youth Development Rules will be permitted to play in this competition. Details of the Youth Development Rules are published on the FA Website.

[N.B. Players who are invited to trial at a Premier League or Football League Academy are not registered at the Academy until they have successfully completed the trial. They may continue to play for their local youth club during the trial period if they so wish. Players on a trial should not be considered to be ineligible under this rule in the event they play in the competition during the trial period].

## FESTIVALS/TOURNAMENTS

Any team wishing to take part in a festival/tournament during the playing season of the Competition must obtain permission from the League to do so.

## FIXTURES

In the event your game is postponed, please **do not rearrange the match yourselves, leave that to the League**.

## GLASSES

Children and grassroots football: Whilst the FA recommends Polycarbonate lenses we recognise this may be an issue for children playing in grassroots football. Therefore we encourage referees officiating in grassroots youth football to be tolerant over glasses. However the individual referee has to show concern for all those playing in that game and if he/she feels there is something dangerous in the glasses, for example sharp edges, then in order to protect players and also the wearer him/herself, the referee has the authority to say the glasses can't be worn.

## GOALKEEPERS

This only applies to the U7's, U8's, U9's & U10's.

The goalkeeper may only use the following methods when returning the ball into play from a goal kick or having made a save.

1. Kicking the ball off the floor
2. Rolling it out underarm
3. Throwing it out overarm

## GOALPOST SAFETY

In view of a number of accidents that have occurred it is necessary to ensure portable goals are properly anchored to avoid them toppling forwards.

## HALVES OR QUARTERS

Before the game starts and in the presence of the referee, both coaches should agree on whether to play 2 halves or 4 quarters.

## HOW TO ACCESS THE FA FULL TIME SYSTEM

This system is where you will find when and who you are playing.

1. Go to the FA Website and search 'FA Full Time'.
2. Click on BACK TO OLD FULL TIME and where it says 'FIND YOUR LEAGUE' enter 'CRA' and click GO.
3. Click on FIXTURES, then select AGE GROUP, followed by FIXTURE GROUP and finally select TEAM.

**Venue** - The venue is that of the team under the heading 'HOME TEAM'

**Kick-Off Time** - The system quite often defaults to 10 o'clock. The kick-off time is something that the two managers agree on.

## **HOLIDAYS/POSTPONEMENTS**

Generally speaking there will be NO league fixtures on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of any Half Term Holiday, Christmas, New Year or Easter.

If you require a postponement on any other Sunday over the holiday periods referred to above please submit a request **by Email to [cawjmini@outlook.com](mailto:cawjmini@outlook.com)** at least 14 days prior to the date of the match.

For those Clubs with more than one team in an age group, if necessary please supplement one team with players from another team. The League expects this to be managed in a sportsmanlike manner.

## **KICK-OFF TIME – Rule 20(C)**

Rule 20 (C) The kick-off time shall be decided by the Home Club and be ideally between the hours of 9:30 and 15:00 on a Sunday.

## **MATCH RESULT – Rule 21(B)**

Rule 21 (B) The Home Club/both clubs shall return the result via the Full Time SMS text service or MatchDay App for each Competition Match by 5:30pm on the day of the match or 9pm for a midweek match. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

**Backup Procedure - Text to Julia Wilkinson  07549 752408 or Email [cawjmini@outlook.com](mailto:cawjmini@outlook.com)**

Leagues are permitted to collect but not to publish results for fixtures they organise for the U7 to U11 age groups. Clubs are not permitted to publish results or provide results to any social media networks or publish results on Club Websites. Breach of rules will incur a fine.

## **MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PLAYERS PER TEAM**

The maximum number of players you can register per team is as follows:-

U7 & U8 – 10

U9 & U10 – 14

U11 – 18

## **MERCY RULE/PREVENTING BIG SCORES**

A score of 10-0 for example has no real benefit for either team. If you are playing a lesser developed or weaker team and it is obvious the score is heading towards a big win for your team, here are some suggestions you should consider introducing, in addition to using the Mercy Rule (Version 3) which is a more flexible version of the Rule allowing coaches to manage the situation at any point during the game. The proviso is that the Mercy Rule must be managed in a common sense and sportsmanlike manner.

### **Suggestions**

*Swap your attacking players with your defensive players*

*Swap your main goal scorer with your keeper*

*Before scoring your team must make a certain number of passes*

*Certain players may not go beyond the half way line*

*Play your weakest players as much as possible.*

Of course it is nice to see your team doing well and scoring goals, but please spare a thought for the opposition players who are on the end of a 10-0 score and think how your team would feel in the same situation.

### **Mercy Rule Example**

Example – Team Red score to make it 4-0 in which case applying the rule, Team Blue add a player. If 2 minutes later Team Blue scores a goal to make it 4-1, applying the rule to the letter, Team B should take a player off. However, the coach of Team Red may consider it OK to allow the additional player to remain on the pitch. This is where the flexibility of the rule comes into play.

Providing both coaches manage the rule in a sportsmanlike and common sense manner, used in conjunction with the suggestions above, it will hopefully result in fewer Big Scores and a better game for both teams.

It is acknowledged that even implementing one or both of the above they may on the odd occasion make no difference to the outcome of the game, but at least you tried to do something about it.

### **Mercy Rule as per FA Notes**

Score				What happens?
Reds	3	Blues	0	No changes
Reds	4	Blues	0	Blue team bring on an extra player
Reds	4	Blues	1	Blues removes one player
Reds	5	Blues	1	Blue team bring on an extra player
Reds	6	Blues	1	No change
Reds	7	Blues	1	Blues bring on another extra player
Reds	7	Blues	2	Blues remove one player
Reds	7	Blues	3	No change
Reds	7	Blues	4	Blue team remove final extra player

### **PITCH MARKINGS**

Penalty Area Standard pitch markings should be used but the League will accept a reduced penalty area.

Penalty Spot 7yds from the goal line for 5v5 format

8yds from the goal line for 7v7 format

9yds from the goal line for 9v9 format

### **PLAYER REGISTRATIONS**

Age Range Chart

Age on 31 August of the Relevant Playing Season	Eligible Age Groups	Maximum Permitted Format
6	Under 7 & Under 8	5v5
7	Under 8 & Under	5v5 (Under 8) & 7v7 (Under 9)
8	Under 9 & Under 10	7v7
9	Under 10 & Under 11	7v7 (Under 10) & 9v9 (Under 11)
10	Under 11 & Under 12	9v9

**N.B. 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.**

**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.**

#### **POACHING**

This is a Football Association rule which basically states that a club may not approach a registered player of another club without first contacting the Club Secretary or Team Manager. It is illegal to ask a player to play for another team when he or she is already registered for the current season. Obviously any complaint about a player being poached must be supported by evidence of some kind. Any complaints will need to be forwarded to the West Riding County FA.

#### **POSTPONEMENTS**

A Club requiring the postponement of any fixture shall submit an **[email to cawj1mini@outlook.com](mailto:cawj1mini@outlook.com)** so as to reach the League not less than fourteen days before the proposed date on which the match was scheduled to be played for consideration by the Management Committee.

#### **PROOF OF DATE OF BIRTH**

It is the responsibility of Clubs to check the Date of Birth of every player. The League reserves the right to ask for proof of Date of Birth for any player at any time during the Playing Season.

#### **REFEREES**

For all age groups both coaches must agree upon a referee before the start of the match and whether the referee is to officiate on the pitch or from the touchline. For all Mini-Soccer formats the League encourages that there be someone nominated as a referee who isn't the coach. With the exception of the U11's, the coach may also act as the referee, however, this isn't ideal. For the U11's it is advisable that the Assistant Referees (Linesmen) don't indicate when a player is in an offside position, leaving this decision to the sole judgement of the Referee.

Anyone other than the coach who is nominated to referee the game MUST be given a copy of the Rules beforehand and to make themselves familiar with them.

## **SIN BIN RULE**

This is quite complex so I have used a lot of the wording from an FA download.

A temporary dismissal is when a player commits a bookable (Yellow Card Offence) offence and is punished by an immediate 'suspension' from participating in the next part of that match.

Temporary dismissals apply to all players but not for bookable offences committed by a substitute or substituted player.

The length of the temporary dismissal is the same for all offences. The length of the temporary dismissal should be between 10-15% of the total playing time of the match. Around 5 minutes for Mini-Soccer.

If a temporary dismissal period has not been completed at the end of the first half, the remaining part of the temporary dismissal period is served from the start of the second half.

If a player commits a second caution (YC) in the same match they will receive a second temporary dismissal and therefore can take no further part in the match.

Someone needs to assist the referee with managing the dismissal time.

Someone needs to assist the referee with managing the dismissal time.

The referee has the final decision on when the player can return.

### **PLEASE REMEMBER TEMPORARY DISMISSALS ARE ONLY FOR DISSENT**

## **SPECTATORS**

No one is to stand behind either of the goal lines.

## **SPECTATOR AREA**

Each home Club shall make arrangements for the provision of designated areas for spectators. This can be marked by an additional painted line, the use of cones, a roped off area or use of a temporary spectator barrier. The area for spectators should start two metres from the touchline on both sides of the pitch. Each area should run the full length of the pitch. It is recognised however that the alignment of some public pitches does not allow this arrangement in which case other appropriate measures should be taken.

## **TAKING OF PHOTOGRAPHS**

It is not an offence to take appropriate photographs in a public place even if asked not to do so.

No one has the right to decide who can and cannot take images on public land.

If you have serious concerns about a possible child protection issue relating to the recording of images then call the Police. This action should only be taken where you believe that someone may be acting unlawfully or putting a child at risk. The land or facility owner can decide whether or not photography and or videoing at football activities will be permitted when carried out on private land.

It's important to remember the majority of images taken are appropriate and taken in good faith.

If you are concerned about the inappropriate use of images please report this to your County Welfare Officer.

## **TRANSFERS**

Following the introduction of the Whole Game System the procedure has changed. Please refer to your Club Secretary for details.

## LEAGUE OFFICIALS

### **Mini-Soccer & U11 Administrator**

Martin Procter

Email – [cawjlmini@outlook.com](mailto:cawjlmini@outlook.com)

☎: 01274 563380 / 07977 732529 (Text Only Please)

### **Assistant Mini-Soccer Administrator**

Trevor Crossley

☎: 01274 599638

### **Fixture, Registrations & Results Secretary**

Julia Wilkinson

Email [cawjlmini@outlook.com](mailto:cawjlmini@outlook.com)

☎ 07549 752408

# LAWS OF THE GAME FOR U7 & U8

THIS GUIDE PROVIDES THE LAWS FOR U7 AND U8 VERSIONS OF THE GAME, WITH CHILDREN PLAYING A MAXIMUM OF 5V5. EXCEPT WHERE OTHER PROVISION, IN THESE LAWS ARE MADE, THE LAWS OF ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL APPLY. EACH LAW IS NUMBERED TO CORRESPOND WITH THE APPROPRIATE LAW OF THE GAME.

**THESE LAWS ARE MANDATORY UNLESS SPECIAL PERMISSION IS GRANTED BY THE FA.**

## **LAW 1 - PLAYING AREA**

Halfway Line – The field of play is divided into two halves by a halfway line. The centre mark is indicated at the mid-point of the halfway line. This is also used as the retreat line when restarting play with a goal kick.

Length      minimum      30yds      maximum      40yds

Width      minimum      20yds      maximum      30yds

Goal Size – The distance between the posts is 12ft and the distance between the lower edge of the cross bar and the ground is 6ft.

## **LAW 2 - THE BALL**

The ball should be size 3 for U7 and U8.

It should be safe and be made of leather or other suitable material.

## **LAW 3 - NUMBER OF PLAYERS**

Maximum number per team, including goalkeeper is 5v5

The above indicates the maximum number of players per team at that age group. If the competition would like to have smaller numbers, e.g. 4v4 this is allowed within this framework.

A match may not START if either team consists of fewer than four players. The minimum number of players in a team required for a match to CONTINUE is also four. Matches can begin with 5v4 but the importance and ethos of Mini-Soccer should be upheld wherever possible and the development of the children should come before the score line.

Players must play with and against players only from their age range, as per Football Association and Competition rules.

Each team must not have a squad greater than double the size of the team per age.

Any number of substitutes, without being named, may be used at any time with the permission of the referee. A player who has been replaced may return to the playing area as a substitute for another player.

All team members should receive equal playing time where possible, with a best practice recommendation of at least 50% per player for each game.

## **LAW 4 - PLAYING EQUIPMENT**

Players must wear shin guards and goalkeepers must wear a distinguishing playing top. Shin guards must be covered entirely by the socks.

Players must wear the appropriate clothing dependant on the weather.

Correct footwear must be worn for the surface of the pitch e.g. no metal studs on artificial grass pitches.

## **LAW 5 – REFEREES**

## **The Authority of the Referee**

Each match is controlled by a referee who has full authority to enforce the Laws for Mini-Soccer in connection with the match to which they have been appointed.

Furthermore, referees should also recognise their role is to facilitate the learning of the players, for example, allow young children to take a second attempt at a throw-in if the first is not within the Laws

## **LAW 6 - ASSISTANT REFEREES**

Assistant referees are not required

## **LAW 7 – DURATION OF THE GAME**

In any one day, no player shall play more than 40 minutes. It is the responsibility of the parent/carer or organisation to ensure the child does not exceed this. Each league/competition will determine its own playing time within the maximum time permitted, however, the maximum duration will be two halves of 20 minutes.

It is permitted during development matches that the periods of play can be split into four equal quarters.

The half time interval must not exceed five minutes.

## **LAW 8 - START AND RESTART OF PLAY**

A kick-off is taken at the centre of the playing area to start the game and after a goal has been scored.

Opponents must be five yards away from the ball and in their own half of the field. The ball can be played in any direction.

In Mini-Soccer a goal cannot be scored directly from a start or restart of play.

Special Circumstances

A dropped ball to restart the match, after play has been temporarily stopped inside the penalty area, takes place on the penalty area line parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the ball was located when the play stopped. No goal can be scored direct from a dropped ball.

## **LAW 9 - BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY**

Normal rules apply, as per Laws of Association Football.

## **LAW 10 - METHOD OF SCORING**

Normal rules apply, as per Laws of Association Football.

## **LAW 11 – OFFSIDE**

There is no offside.

## **LAW 12 - FOULS AND MISCONDUCT**

Normal rules apply, as per Laws of Association Football. However, in Mini-Soccer all free kicks are direct. A free kick is awarded to the opposition if the goalkeeper:

Takes more than six seconds to release the ball from his/her hands

Touches the ball again with his/her hands after it has been released from his/her possession and has not touched any other player

Touches the ball with his/her hands after it has been deliberately kicked to him/her by a teammate

Touches the ball with his/her hands after he/she has received it directly from a throw-in taken by a teammate

For all these offences, the free kick should be taken from the penalty area line, parallel with the goal line, at the nearest point to the offence

### **LAW 13 - FREE KICKS**

For all free kicks opponents must be five yards from the ball.

### **LAW 14 - PENALTY KICKS**

Normal rules apply, as per Laws of Association Football.

Position of the Ball and the Players, all players except the defending goalkeeper and kicker must be outside the penalty area and at least five yards from the penalty mark. The ball must be kicked forward

### **LAW 15 - THROW-IN**

Normal rules apply, as per Laws of Association Football. In addition, U7 and U8 children are permitted to roll the ball underarm with one or both hands into the field of play.

The role of the referee is to also allow young players to learn the game. This may involve letting players take throw-ins again, if incorrect technique is used. The referee should ensure the same player attempts a second time, with guidance and help from the match official.

### **LAW 16 - GOAL KICK**

Procedure

A player of the defending team kicks the ball from any point within the penalty area.

Opponents must retreat to their own half until the ball is in play. The defending team does not have to wait for the opposition to retreat and has the option to restart the game before should they choose to.

The ball is in play when it is kicked directly out of the penalty area.

### **LAW 17 - CORNER KICKS**

The opposing players must remain at least five yards from the ball until it is in play.

The kicker may not touch the ball again until it has touched another player. If he/she does, a free kick is awarded against them. The ball is in play immediately when it enters the field of play

# **LAWS OF THE GAME FOR U9 & U10**

**THIS GUIDE PROVIDES THE LAWS FOR UNDER 9 AND UNDER 10 VERSIONS OF THE GAME, WITH CHILDREN PLAYING A MAXIMUM OF 7v7. EXCEPT WHERE OTHER PROVISION, IN THESE LAWS ARE MADE, THE LAWS OF ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL APPLY. EACH LAW IS NUMBERED TO CORRESPOND WITH THE APPROPRIATE LAW OF THE GAME.**

**THESE LAWS ARE MANDATORY UNLESS SPECIAL PERMISSION IS GRANTED BY THE FA.**

## **LAW 1 - PLAYING AREA**

Halfway Line – The field of play is divided into two halves by a halfway line. The centre mark is indicated at the mid-point of the halfway line. This is also used as the retreat line when restarting play with a goal kick.

Length	minimum	50yds	maximum	60yds
Width	minimum	30yds	maximum	40yds

Goal Size – The distance between the posts is 12ft and the distance between the lower edge of the cross bar and the ground is 6ft.

## **LAW 2 - THE BALL**

**The ball should be size 3 for both U9 & U10 (new rule)**

It should be safe and be made of leather or other suitable material.

## **LAW 3 - NUMBER OF PLAYERS**

Maximum number per team, including goalkeeper is 7v7 for U9 and U10

The above indicates the maximum number of players per team at that age group. If the competition would like to have smaller numbers, e.g. 5v5 at U9 or U10, this is allowed within this framework.

A match may not START if either team consists of fewer than five players. The minimum number of players in a team required for a match to CONTINUE is also five. Matches can begin with 7v6 but the importance and ethos of Mini-Soccer should be upheld wherever possible and the development of the children should come before the score line.

Players must play with and against players only from their age range, as per Football Association and Competition rules. Each team must not have a squad greater than double the size of the team per age.

Any number of substitutes, without being named, may be used at any time with the permission of the referee. A player who has been replaced may return to the playing area as a substitute for another player.

All team members should receive equal playing time where possible, with a best practice recommendation of at least 50% per player for each game.

## **LAW 4 - PLAYING EQUIPMENT**

Players must wear shin guards and goalkeepers must wear a distinguishing playing top. Shin guards must be covered entirely by the socks.

Players must wear the appropriate clothing dependant on the weather.

Correct footwear must be worn for the surface of the pitch e.g. no metal studs on artificial grass pitches.

## **LAW 5 – REFEREES**

### **The Authority of the Referee**

Each match is controlled by a referee who has full authority to enforce the Laws for Mini-Soccer in connection with the match to which they have been appointed. Furthermore, referees should also recognise their role is to facilitate the learning of the players, for example, allow young children to take a second attempt at a throw-in if the first is not within the Laws.

## **LAW 6 - ASSISTANT REFEREES**

Assistant referees are not required.

## **LAW 7 - DURATION OF THE GAME**

In any one day, no player shall play more than 60 minutes. It is the responsibility of the parent/carer or organisation to ensure the child does not exceed this. Each league/competition will determine its own playing time within the maximum time permitted, however, the maximum duration will be two halves of 25 minutes. It is permitted during development matches that the periods of play can be split into equal quarters. The half time interval must not exceed 5 minutes

## **LAW 8 - START AND RESTART OF PLAY**

A kick-off is taken at the centre of the playing area to start the game and after a goal has been scored. Opponents must be five yards away from the ball and in their own half of the field. The ball can be played in any direction. In Mini-Soccer a goal cannot be scored directly from a start or restart of play.

Special Circumstances

A dropped ball to restart the match, after play has been temporarily stopped inside the penalty area, takes place on the penalty area line parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the ball was located when the play stopped. No goal can be scored direct from a dropped ball.

## **LAW 9 - BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY**

Normal rules apply, as per Laws of Association Football.

## **LAW 10 - METHOD OF SCORING**

Normal rules apply, as per Laws of Association Football.

## **LAW 11 – OFFSIDE**

There is no offside.

## **LAW 12 - FOULS AND MISCONDUCT**

Normal rules apply, as per Laws of Association Football. However, in Mini-Soccer all free kicks are direct. A free kick is awarded to the opposition if the goalkeeper:-

Takes more than six seconds to release the ball from his/her hands

Touches the ball again with his/her hands after it has been released from his/her possession and has not touched any other player.

Touches the ball with his/her hands after it has been deliberately kicked to him/her by a teammate

Touches the ball with his/her hands after he/she has received it directly from a throw-in taken by a teammate

For all these offences, the free kick should be taken from the penalty area line, parallel with the goal line, at the nearest point to the offence.

## **LAW 13 - FREE KICKS**

For all free kicks opponents must be five yards from the ball

## **LAW 14 - PENALTY KICKS**

Normal rules apply, as per Laws of Association Football. Position of the Ball and the Players

All players except the defending goalkeeper and kicker must be outside the penalty area and at least five yards from the penalty mark.

## **LAW 15 - THROW-IN**

Normal rules apply, as per Laws of Association Football. The role of the referee is to also allow young players to learn the game. This may involve letting players take throw-ins again, if incorrect technique is used. The referee should ensure the same player attempts a second time, with guidance and help from the match official.

## **LAW 16 - GOAL KICK**

Procedure

A player of the defending team kicks the ball from any point within the penalty area.

Opponents must retreat to their own half until the ball is in play. The defending team does not have to wait for the opposition to retreat and has the option to restart the game before should they choose to. The ball is in play when it is kicked directly out of the penalty area.

## **LAW 17 - CORNER KICKS**

The opposing players must remain at least five yards from the ball until it is in play.

The kicker may not touch the ball again until it has touched another player. If he/she does, a free kick is awarded against them. The ball is in play immediately when it enters the field of play

# LAWS OF THE GAME U11

**THIS GUIDE PROVIDES THE LAWS FOR UNDER 11 VERSION OF THE GAME, WITH CHILDREN PLAYING A MAXIMUM OF 9V9. EXCEPT WHERE OTHER PROVISION, IN THESE LAWS ARE MADE, THE LAWS OF ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL APPLY. EACH LAW IS NUMBERED TO CORRESPOND WITH THE APPROPRIATE LAW OF THE GAME.**

**THESE LAWS ARE MANDATORY UNLESS SPECIAL PERMISSION IS GRANTED BY THE FA.**

## **LAW 1 - PLAYING AREA**

Halfway Line – The field of play is divided into two halves by a halfway line. The centre mark is indicated at the mid-point of the halfway line. This is also used as the retreat line when restarting play with a goal kick.

Length	minimum	70yds	maximum	80yds
Width	minimum	40yds	maximum	50yds

Goal Size – The distance between the posts can be either 16ft or 21ft and the distance between the lower edge of the cross bar and the ground is 7ft

## **LAW 2 - THE BALL**

The ball should be size 4 for U11.

It should be safe and be made of leather or other suitable material.

## **LAW 3 - NUMBER OF PLAYERS**

Maximum number per team, including goalkeeper is 9v9 for U11

The above indicates the maximum number of players per team at that age group. If the competition would like to have smaller numbers, e.g. 7v7 at U11, this is allowed within this framework.

A match may not START if either team consists of fewer than six players. The minimum number of players in a team required for a match to CONTINUE is also six. Should a team fall below this, normal rules apply, as per Laws of Association Football.

Players must play with and against players only from their age range, as per Football Association and Competition rules. Each team must not have a squad greater than double the size of the team per age.

Any number of substitutes may be used at any time with the permission of the referee. A player who has been replaced may return to the playing area as a substitute for another player.

All team members should receive equal playing time where possible, with a best practice recommendation of at least 50% per player for each game.

For all other substitution rules, normal rules apply, as per Laws of Association Football.

## **LAW 4 - PLAYING EQUIPMENT**

Players must wear shin guards and goalkeepers must wear a distinguishing playing top. Shin guards must be covered entirely by the socks. Players must wear the appropriate clothing dependant on the weather. Correct footwear must be worn for the surface of the pitch e.g. no metal studs on artificial grass pitches.

## **LAW 5 – REFEREES (see additional note)**

### **The Authority of the Referee**

Each match is controlled by a referee who has full authority to enforce the Laws for 9v9 Football in connection with the match to which they have been appointed. The powers and duties of the referee are as normal Laws apply, as per Laws of Association Football.

## **LAW 6 - ASSISTANT REFEREES**

Two assistant referees may be appointed whose duties, subject to the decision of the referee, are to indicate:

- When the whole of the ball leaves the field of play
- Which team is entitled to a corner kick, goal kick or throw-in
- When a player may be penalised for being in an offside position
- When a substitution is requested
- When misconduct or any other incident occurs out of the view of the referee
- Whether, at penalty kicks, the goalkeeper moves off the goal line before the ball is kicked and if the ball crosses the goal line
- When offences have been committed where the assistant referees have a better view than the referee (this includes, in certain circumstances, offences committed in the penalty area)

## **LAW 7 - DURATION OF THE GAME**

No player participating in an Under 11 division as of midnight on the 31<sup>st</sup> August in any season shall be permitted to play more than ONE game or in the event the Competition allows the playing of a double header i.e. two separate matches, 80 minutes per day in ALL competition. Each league/competition will determine its own playing time within the maximum time permitted, however, the maximum duration will be two halves of 30 minutes. The minimum time for any game will not be less than 20 minutes each half. The half time interval must not exceed 15 minutes. Please refer to the Standard Code of Rules for Youth Competitions.

## **LAW 8 - START AND RESTART OF PLAY**

A kick-off is taken at the centre of the playing area to start the game and after a goal has been scored. Opponents must be seven yards away from the ball and in their own half of the field. The ball can be played in any direction. Normal rules apply, as per Laws of Association Football.

## **LAW 9 - BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY**

Normal rules apply, as per Laws of Association Football.

## **LAW 10 - METHOD OF SCORING**

Normal rules apply, as per Laws of Association Football.

## **LAW 11 – OFFSIDE**

Normal rules apply, as per Laws of Association Football.

## **LAW 12 - FOULS AND MISCONDUCT**

Normal rules apply, as per Laws of Association Football.

## **LAW 13 - FREE KICKS**

For all free kicks opponents must be ten yards from the ball. Normal rules apply, as per Laws of Association Football.

## **LAW 14 - PENALTY KICKS**

Normal rules apply, as per Laws of Association Football. Position of the Ball and the Players

All players except the defending goalkeeper and kicker must be outside the penalty area and at least seven yards from the penalty mark. All other normal rules apply, as per Laws of Association Football

## **LAW 15 - THROW-IN**

Normal rules apply, as per Laws of Association Football.

## **LAW 16 - GOAL KICK**

Normal rules apply, as per Laws of Association Football.

## **LAW 17 - CORNER KICKS**

Normal rules apply, as per Laws of Association Football.

# APPENDIX

## SCHEDULE A – FEES & FINES TARIFF

FEES TARIFF		
RULE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM FEE
4 (A)	CLUB ENTRY FEE	£50.00
4 (B)	TEAM ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION	£40.00 (12-18) £30 (7-11)
4 (C)	DEPOSIT	
7 (C), 7(E)	PROTEST/APPEAL FEES	£25.00
18 (D)	PLAYER REGISTRATION FEE	Included for squad twice the playing number
18 (H)	TRANSFER FEE	£10.00
23 (E)	REFEREE FEES <small>FIGURE INCLUDES TRAVEL</small>	U18's = £35, U16's = £30, U12-U15 = £25
23 (E)	ASSISTANT REFEREE FEES	As agreed with Sanctioning Authority

FINES TARIFF		
RULE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM FINE
2 (G)	FAILURE TO AFFILIATE	£100.00
2 (I)	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH FA INITIATIVES	£30.00
2 (K)	UNAUTHORISED ENTRY OF TEAMS INTO COMPETITIONS	£100.00
3	FAILURE TO OBTAIN CONSENT FOR A CHANGE OF CLUB	£30.00
4 (C)	FAILURE TO PAY A DEPOSIT	
4(E)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE AFFILIATION NUMBER/DETAILS	£30.00
5 (E)	COMMUNICATIONS CONDUCTED BY PERSONS OTHER	10.00
6 (H)	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH AN INSTRUCTION OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	£100.00
6 (I)	FAILURE TO PAY A FINE WITHIN REQUIRED TIMEFRAME	DOUBLE THE ORIGINAL FINE UP TO £100.00
8 (H)	FAILURE TO BE REPRESENTED AT AGM	£50.00
9	FAILURE TO BE REPRESENTED AT SGM	£50.00
10	FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED WRITTEN AGREEMENT OR TO NOTIFY CHANGES TO SIGNATORIES	£25.00
11 (A)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL BEFORE DEADLINE	£100.00
11 (B)	FAILURE TO COMMENCE/COMPLETE FIXTURES	£50.00
13 (A)	FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED WRITTEN AGREEMENT REGARDING THE TROPHY	£25.00
16(A)	FAILURE TO HAVE THE REQUIRED INSURANCE	£50.00
16(B)	FAILURE TO HAVE THE REQUIRED INSURANCE	£50.00
18 (A)	FAILURE TO CORRECTLY REGISTER A PLAYER	£30.00
18 (B)(iii)	FAILURE TO HAVE THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF REGISTERED PLAYERS PRIOR TO THE PLAYING SEASON COMMENCING	£25.00
18 (F)	REGISTERING OR PLAYING FOR MULTIPLE CLUBS	£25.00
18 (G)(ii)	REGISTRATION IRREGULARITIES	£50.00
18(M)	FIELDING MORE THAN THE PERMITTED NUMBER OF PLAYERS WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN SENIOR COMPETITIONS MATCHES	
18 (N)(i)	PLAYING AN INELIGIBLE PLAYER	£50.00
18 (N)(iv) (v)	NOT PROVIDING PHOTOGRAPHIC PROOF OR MATCH RESULT FORM	£30.00
18 (O)(i)	FAILURE TO GIVE PRIORITY TO SCHOOL ACTIVITIES	

19	FAILURE TO NUMBER SHIRTS	£10.00 (per shirt, up to an aggregate maximum of £30)
19	DELAYING KICK OFF TO DUE TO NO CHANGE OF COLOURS	£30.00
20(A)	DELAYING KICK OFF DUE TO FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED EQUIPMENT	£30.00
20 (B)	FAILURE TO PLAY MATCHES ON THE DATE FIXED	£100.00
20 (C)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE DETAILS OF A FIXTURE	£50.00
20 (D)	PLAYING MATCH WITH LESS THAN REQUIRED NUMBER OF PLAYERS	£30.00
20 (E) (i) & (iii)	FAILURE TO PLAY FIXTURE	£100.00
20 (H)	NO CAPTAIN'S ARMBAND	£5.00
21 (A) & 21 (C)	LATE RESULT NOTIFICATION FORM	£50.00
21 (B)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE RESULT	£20.00
21(D)	PUBLISHING RESULTS/GRADING TABLES FOR FIXTURES	£50.00
23 (C)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE CLUB ASSISTANT REFEREE	£25.00
23 (E)	FAILURE TO PAY MATCH OFFICIALS' FEES AND EXPENSES	£25.00
23 (F)	FAILURE TO PAY MATCH OFFICIALS WHERE A MATCH IS NOT PLAYED	£25.00
23 (H)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE REFEREE'S MARK	£25.00

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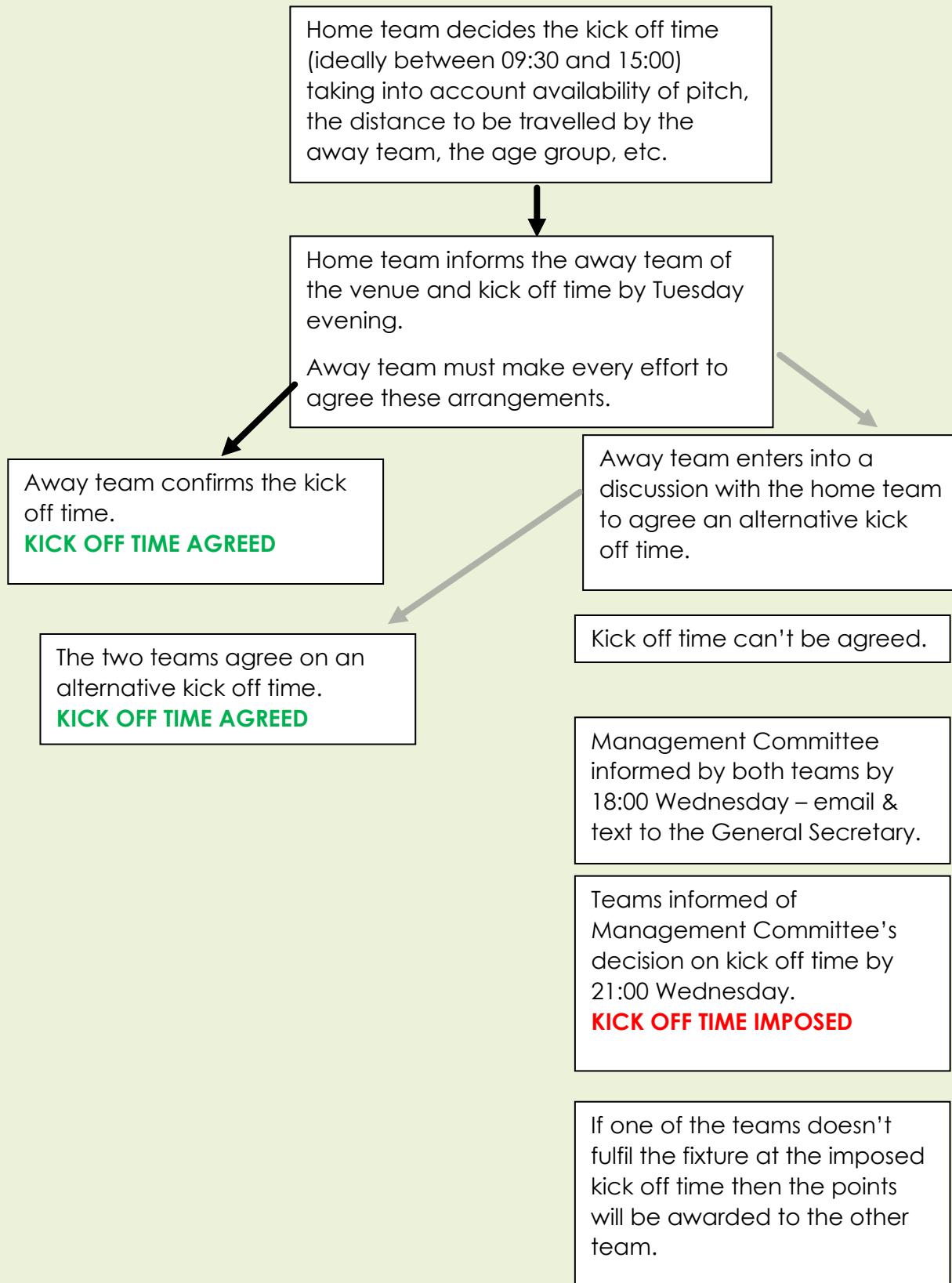
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# GUIDANCE NOTES

## KICK OFF TIME FLOW CHART



### KICK OFF TIME Flowchart



## Completing Stats on FullTime (U12 – U18)



### CAWJL Guide for Completing Stats on FullTime



In order to be able to complete your match day stats on FullTime you will need a Username and Password, this will be arranged by your Club Secretary.

Completing via the MATCHDAY APP - if you start to do so then you will need to unlock the Stats before completing.

Head on over to the following web page: <http://fulltime-league.thefa.com/Index.do?league=1575898>

Click on the Sign In link located top right and enter your username and password and you will now be presented with the following:

#### Admin Home

The screenshot shows the 'Admin Home' interface. At the top, there are dropdown menus for 'Season' (2018-19) and 'Division' (16B). Below these are several buttons: 'Fixture Wizard', 'Results / Stats' (which is circled in red), 'People Wizard', 'Notices', 'Contact Messages', 'Access Options', and 'Email / Password'. To the right, there are links for 'Grassroots Technology Community', 'Full-Time User Guide', and a 'FT Updates and Tips' section with links to 'Full-Time Changes for 2018-19', 'Full-Time Update', 'Full-Time User Guides', 'Full-Time and GDPR Changes', and 'FA Mini Soccer and Youth Futsal Handbook'. A 'View More' button is also present.

Select Results & Stats and you will be presented with a list of Results and Stats already entered and matches to enter. On the match you want to enter the stats for click on the button and the following will appear:

#### Statistics

The screenshot shows the 'Statistics' page for 'Marker's Team - Embsay U15'. At the top, there are tabs for 'FA Marks', 'League Team Marks', and 'Player Statistics ?'. The 'FA Marks' tab is selected. Below this, there is a 'Results' section for a match on 'Sun 17 Feb 2019 14:00 Embsay U15 v Thackley 2003 U15 Storm'. A note says 'The following marks and responses are all required by the Football Association and are used for measuring and shaping the various programmes we promote and encourage.' with a link to 'View guidance document'. A red box at the bottom of the page says 'Please complete questions on this page before you can enter statistics'. The 'Official Marks' section contains a note 'No referee has currently been recorded', a field for 'Enter referee name if not appointed or is different from appointed referee' with 'First Name:' and 'Last Name:' fields, and three rating scales: 'Overall decision making (1-40)', 'Judgement of major decisions (1-30)', and 'Overall control (1-30)'. An 'Overall mark:' field is marked with a red asterisk. A note says 'Only required if mark is 60 or below' and a red box at the bottom says 'Referee marks must be entered before statistics button is enabled'.

If you are the Home Team then enter the referee's name, if there isn't one already showing. If you are the away team it is not critical to enter this - however the referees details should be stated on the match day form handed to you by your opposition. Now complete the marks for the referee, there are guidance notes if you click on the link View Guidance document). If you score the referee below 60 then enter the reasons for doing so within the text box. Now scroll down and complete the RESPECT section.

RESPECT

Respect Marks

How would you describe the behaviour shown on the pitch today? Think about players from both teams towards each other and match officials

Behaviour was positive and consistent with Respect guidelines throughout

There were occasional incidents of poor behaviour

There were regular incidents of poor behaviour

How would you describe the behaviour shown around the pitch today? Please consider all coaches and spectators

Behaviour was positive and consistent with Respect guidelines throughout

There were occasional incidents of poor behaviour

There were regular incidents of poor behaviour

Pitch Marks

Please rate the pitch - considered feedback on the quality of facilities will assist the Football Association and Football Foundation in their investment decisions for the future.

Pitch Type?

Grass  3G Astroturf  Indoor  Other

Pitch Mark?

Very Poor  Poor  Satisfactory  Good  Excellent

**Update** **Clear All** **Back**

Once the above is completed click the Update button and then select the League Team Marks TAB at the top of the page:

### Statistics

**FA Marks** **League Team Marks** **Player Statistics ?**  
**Results**

Enter the referees name in the box provided.

**Marker's Team - Embsay U15**  
Sun 17 Feb 2019 14:00 Embsay U15 v Thackley 2003 U15 Storm

The following marks and responses have all been requested by your league and are required at their discretion.

**Please complete the required questions on this page before you can enter statistics**

#### Team Marks

Please confirm the name of the referee who did this game?

We need to know who refereed the name and for whom the marks were awarded.

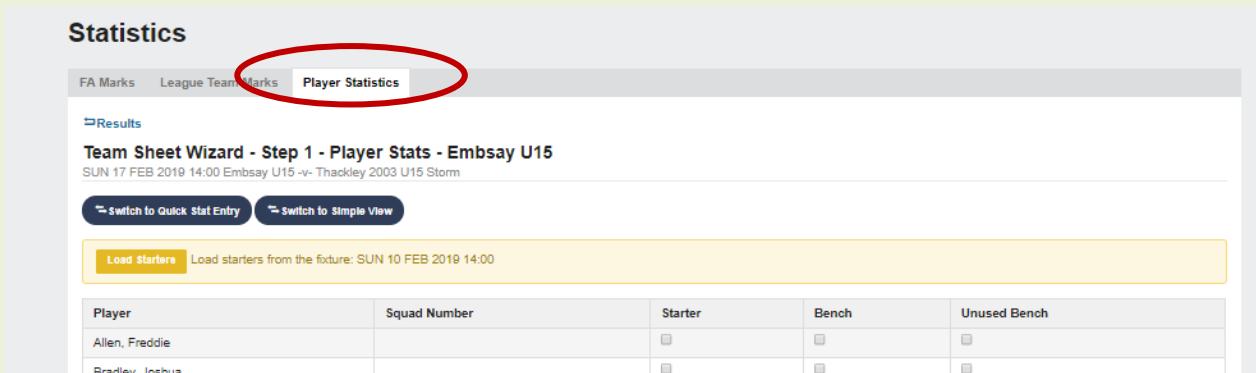
**\* This value is required**

**Update** **Clear All** **Back**

And then click Update again.

**You can only progress to the next stage once the previous sections have been completed and updated.**

Now click on Player Statistics at the top of the page.



Statistics

FA Marks League Team Marks **Player Statistics**

Results

Team Sheet Wizard - Step 1 - Player Stats - Embsay U15

SUN 17 FEB 2019 14:00 Embsay U15 -v- Thackley 2003 U15 Storm

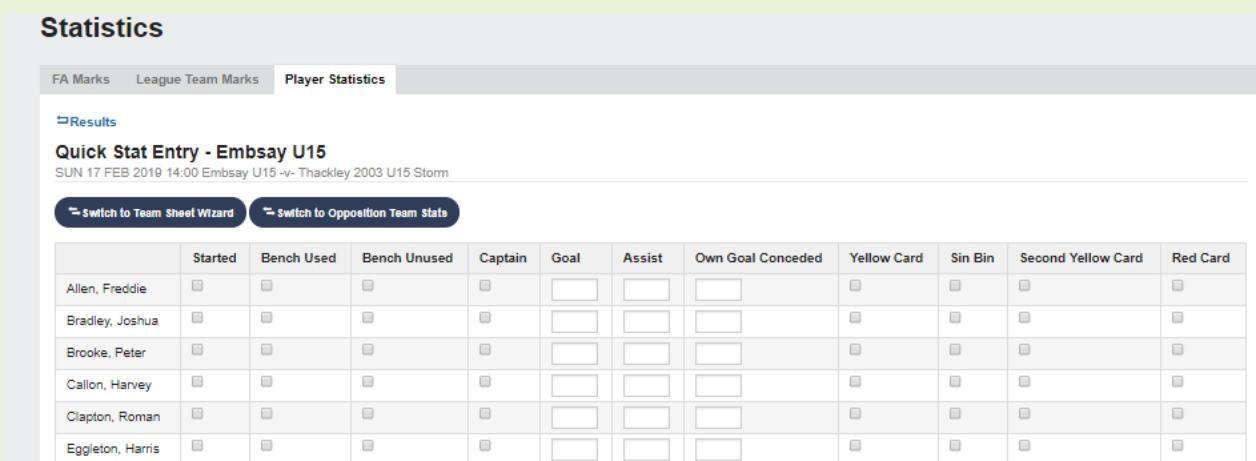
switch to Quick Stat Entry switch to Simple View

Load Starters Load starters from the fixture: SUN 10 FEB 2019 14:00

Player	Squad Number	Starter	Bench	Unused Bench
Allen, Freddie		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bradley, Joshua		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

There are a number of different ways you can enter the stats, depending how much data you have taken from pitch side - but the quickest and easiest way is to use the Quick Stat Entry - if you have the above screen showing then select Switch to Quick Stat Entry.

Using this method, everything you need is on the one screen in front of you.



Statistics

FA Marks League Team Marks **Player Statistics**

Results

Quick Stat Entry - Embsay U15

SUN 17 FEB 2019 14:00 Embsay U15 -v- Thackley 2003 U15 Storm

switch to Team Sheet Wizard switch to Opposition Team Stats

	Started	Bench Used	Bench Unused	Captain	Goal	Assist	Own Goal Conceded	Yellow Card	Sin Bin	Second Yellow Card	Red Card
Allen, Freddie	<input type="checkbox"/>										
Bradley, Joshua	<input type="checkbox"/>										
Brooke, Peter	<input type="checkbox"/>										
Callon, Harvey	<input type="checkbox"/>										
Clapton, Roman	<input type="checkbox"/>										
Eggleton, Harris	<input type="checkbox"/>										

Complete the Stats and then don't forget the all important **RED** Update Stats for Players button at the bottom of the page. You will then be able to check that you have the right number of starters etc. at the bottom right.



Total Cumulative Fixture Team Stats	Value
Started	11
Bench Used	2
Goal	7
Assist	6

Update Stats For Players Back

There you are, job done.

I trust you will find this form easy to follow and intuitive, but should you have any questions or suggestions then please relay them to your Club Secretary who will forward them to the league.

## NOTICE OF APPROACH

### FA Rule C2(a)

#### Players Without Written Contracts

#### C2 (a) Regulations Concerning Approaches

Players who are not under written contract to a Club may be registered with a number of Clubs

at any time, subject to the following provisions and those of the Competitions in which they play:

- i) Competitions sanctioned by The Association under regulation 3 of the "Regulations for the Sanction and Control of Competitions" may make their own regulations for the approach of Players between Clubs of the Competition;
- ii) during the current season<sup>4</sup> any Club wishing to approach a Player known to be registered with or having played for any other Club must give to the secretary of each such Club, seven days' formal written notice of the intention to approach the Player;

Formal written notice of approach need be given by:

- (a) a Saturday Club only to all Saturday Clubs;
- (b) a Sunday Club only to all Sunday Clubs; and
- (c) a midweek Club only to all midweek Clubs;

- iii) the written notice must be sent by special delivery or recorded post, or a written acknowledgment otherwise obtained from the secretary or chairman of the Club approached. Facsimile or e-mail transmission may be used provided a receipt of acknowledgment is also obtained;
- iv) following the date of posting of the written notice of approach, or receipt of an acknowledgment:
  - (a) the Player may be registered on or after the eighth day; and
  - (b) the Player must have been registered on or before the 21st day;
- v) the approaching Club: (A) may not approach the same Player a second time in the same
  - (a) playing season; (B) may approach only one (1) Player at a Club at any time subject to Rule C2(a)(ix) below; and (C) may not approach another Player at the same Club within 28 days of an earlier notice of approach or acknowledgment;
- vi) if an approach is made by a Player to another Club during the current season, that Club shall give the Club(s), for which the Player is known to be registered or has played, seven days' notice of approach as set out in Rule C2(a)(i) to (v) above before registering the Player;
- vii) a Club which is the subject of a complaint alleging failure to give notice in accordance with this Rule may be subject to a charge of Misconduct pursuant to Rule E1(b);
- viii) a Club proved to have breached the provisions of this Rule may have its current registration of the Player cancelled and be subject to such other penalty as The Association or appropriate Affiliated Association deems appropriate, in accordance with relevant regulations of The Association from time to time in force; and
- ix) during the current season, a maximum of two Players may be approached in the manner described above if invited to trial at a licensed academy or "Centre of Excellence" of The Association, The FA Premier League or The Football League.

**Notice of Approach is completed outside of WGS.**

Notice of Approach is applied if both clubs have teams on the same day of the week for which the player is eligible to play (e.g. the player could play for a team in each club on a Saturday, or a team in each club on a Sunday, or a team in each club in Midweek).

A notice of approach is served to the existing club, and you cannot contact the player for the next seven days.

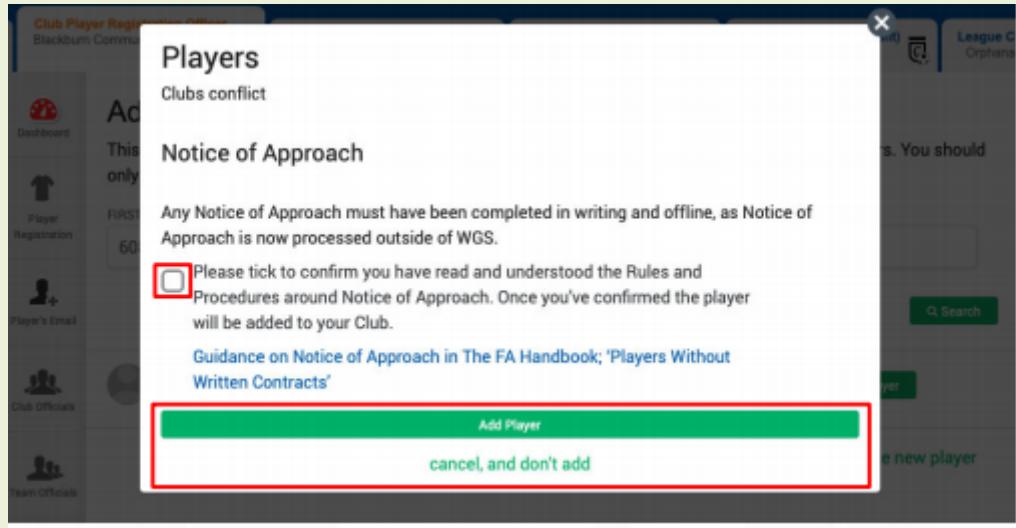
Once the Notice of Approach has been served, the club has to wait seven days for it to expire, unless the other club choose to Waive the notice of approach (i.e. confirm they are granting permission for the other club to approach the player). If the Notice of Approach is not waived, the club must wait the seven days before they can approach the club. They cannot be prevented from approaching the player but may have to wait seven days.

## **Confirming Notice of Approach has been followed:**

In the player registration tab, click the "search for player" button and search for the player you wish to add to your club using first and last name or FAN and date of birth. Click "add player" to initiate the notice of approach. If the player has not given their consent to play for another club that plays on the same day - the NoA pop up will not show.

You will then get a pop up informing you that any NoA should be completed outside of WGS. Tick the box to confirm you have read and understood the rules and procedures around NoA and click "add player"

The player will then be attached to the new club.



## **Initiating a transfer/dual registration:**

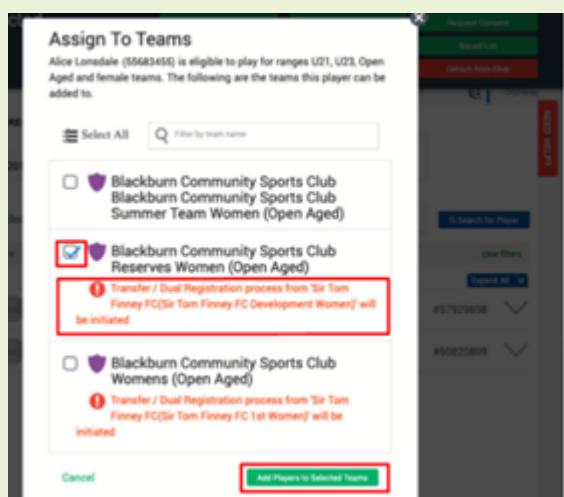
Once the player is added to your club, to initiate a transfer or dual registration select the player and click "Assign to Teams"

The player must have consent given before you assign the player to the team.

If the player is correctly registered elsewhere within the league, you will have a warning. This warning will explain that a transfer or dual registration will be initiated if you assign the player to that team.

If you find that there is no warning message, no transfer will be initiated.

Select the team you wish to add the player too and click "Add Players to selected Teams". This will then notify the league. This will also show the player as "pending transfer decision" while the league decide if it's a dual registration or transfer.



## **Initiating Club:**

If you are the initiating club, your new player will either be accepted or rejected by the league.

This will either show as rejected or accepted. If the the transfer is accepted, their registration will show as Accepted in the "players box" If the player is rejected, you will receive a notification. You will then need to login to WGS to see why the player has been rejected. The reason for the league rejection will show on the registration status within the transfer box.



## Served Club:

If you are the served club, you will be notified by WGS once the league decide it is a transfer. You will then have 3 days to object to the transfer by logging onto WGS. This will then go to the league which they will then make a decision.

PLAYER REGISTRATION      Please select one from the following options-

Season	2019 - 2020	Players	3	Players Pending Parental Consent	0	Detached Players	0	Transfers	1
--------	-------------	---------	---	----------------------------------	---	------------------	---	-----------	---

[EED HELP?](#)

Filter by name, FAN

From Team: FA Demonstration Club First  
To Team: Diagon Wanderers FC First

#5

Objection

## Objection Players

Objection Reason

Because this is a Test

*Please enter a objection reason for the following players:*

- ~~John Player~~

Objection

cancel