



## STANDARD CODE OF RULES (SCORY) 2022/2023 FOR: THE WEST RIDING GIRLS SATURDAY FOOTBALL LEAGUE

### 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 West Riding Girls Football 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>"Player Registration System"</b>	means the FA system to register players as determined by the FA from time to time.
<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 West Riding County Football Association Limited.
<b>"Scholarship"</b>	means a Scholarship as defined in The FA rules.
<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>"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

### 2 COMPETITION NAME AND CONSTITUTION

- (A) The Competition will be known as **The West Riding Girls Saturday Football League** (or such other name as the Competition may adopt). The Clubs participating in the Competition must be members of the Competition. A Club which ceases to exist or which ceases to be entitled to play in the Competition for any reason whatsoever shall thereupon automatically cease to be a member of the Competition.
- (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 determined by the management committee on a seasonal basis once Club applications have been reviewed.
- (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 14 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, ENGLAND FOOTBALL ACCREDITED 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.

The WRGFL will not permit any Clubs to 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) unless it can be shown there is no dual registration of players. This will safeguard the integrity of our Competition. Those teams playing in other competitions and dual registering players may adversely affect the playing of our competition fixtures

- (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.

### **3 CLUB NAME**

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.

### **4 ENTRY FEE, SUBSCRIPTION, DEPOSIT**

- (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 by 1 September 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 and shall be payable on or before 30 October in each year.

- (C) Not applicable to this League

- (D) A Club shall not participate in this Competition until the entry fee (if required); annual subscription and Deposit (if required) have been paid except by permission of the Management Committee.

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

- (F) An all-female team can apply to the Competition to play an age group down in a mixed gender competition, subject to rule 8A (iii) and (iv) and provided the team has obtained approval from its Sanctioning Authority.

### **5 MANAGEMENT, NOMINATION, ELECTION**

- (A) The Management Committee shall comprise the Officers of the Competition and 4 members who shall all be elected at the AGM.

- (F) 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 1<sup>st</sup> April in each year.

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

(G) 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.

(H) 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.

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

## **6 POWERS OF MANAGEMENT**

(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) 50% 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 or any other social media platform deemed appropriate.

## **7 PROTESTS, CLAIMS, COMPLAINTS, APPEALS**

(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 7 days (excluding Sundays) of the Competition Match or occurrence to which they refer. A protest or complaint shall not be withdrawn except by permission of the Management Committee. A member of the Management Committee who is a member of any Club involved shall not be present (except as a witness or representative of his Club) when such protest or complaint is being determined.

- (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 7 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 £25 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.

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

## **8 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

- (A) The AGM shall be held not later than 30<sup>th</sup> June in each year. At this meeting the following business shall be transacted provided that at least 25 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 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 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, but cannot also cast a vote on behalf of a club (See Rule 8G)
- (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.

## **9 SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS**

- (A) Upon receiving a requisition signed by two-thirds (2/3) of the Clubs in membership the Secretary shall call a SGM.
- (B) The Management Committee may call a SGM at any time.
- (C) 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.
- (D) Each Club shall be empowered to send two delegates to all SGMs. Each Club shall be entitled to one vote only.
- (E) Any Club failing to be represented at a SGM shall be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
- (F) Officers of the Competition and Management Committee members shall be entitled to attend and vote at all SGMs, but cannot also cast a vote on behalf of a club (See Rule 9D)

## **10 AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED**

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



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

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

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

- (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.

## **13 TROPHY**

- (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 Meeting. If the cup or trophy is lost or damaged whilst under our care we agree to refund to the Competition the amount of its current value or the cost of its thorough repair.”

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

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

## **14 ALTERATION TO RULES**

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 except in exceptional circumstances and approved by the Sanctioning Authority and The FA.



Notice of proposed alterations to be considered at the AGM shall be submitted to the Secretary by 1<sup>st</sup> April in each year. The proposals, together with any proposals by the Management Committee, shall be circulated to the Clubs by 1<sup>st</sup> May and any amendments thereto shall be submitted to the Secretary by 1<sup>st</sup> June. 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.

## **15 FINANCE**

- (A) The Management Committee shall determine with which bank or other financial institution the funds of Competition will be lodged.
- (B) All expenditure in excess of £100 shall be approved by the Management Committee. Cheques shall be signed by at least two Officers nominated by the Management Committee.
- (C) The financial year of the Competition will end on 31<sup>st</sup> May.
- (D) The books, or a certified balance sheet, of a Competition shall be prepared and shall be verified annually by a suitably qualified person(s) who shall be appointed at the AGM.

## **16 INSURANCE**

- (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.

## **17 DISSOLUTION**

- (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 another Competition or Affiliated Association or The Football Association Benevolent Fund or to such other charitable or benevolent object in the locality of the Competition as determined by resolution at or before the time of winding up, and approved in writing by the Sanctioning Authority.
  - (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**

### **18 QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS**

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

1. Registered through the FA Player Registration System and received approval from the Competition.
2. Not applicable to this League.

Any registration that is not fully and correctly completed will be returned to the Club unprocessed and the player classed as unregistered. If a Club attempts to register a player via the Player Registration System but does not fully and correctly complete the necessary information via the Player Registration System, the registration will not be processed.

For Clubs registering players under Rule 18(A) 2 registration forms will be provided in a format to be determined by the Competition. For Clubs registering players via the Player Registration System, Clubs must access the Player Registration System in order to complete the registration process. The registration document must incorporate a current passport-size photograph of the player seeking registration together with confirmation that the players proof of date of birth has been checked by the Club and is accurate.

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

(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 at 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 5 days before the start of each Playing Season:

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

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. Girls in all female teams may also be permitted to play an age group down in accordance with Rule 4(F)

The age groups that children are eligible to play in are set out in the table below, subject to Rule 4(F), along with the permitted football formats for each of those age groups. Children shall not play, and shall not be permitted or encouraged to play, in a match between sides of more than the stated number of players, according to their age group:

Age on 31 August of the relevant Playing Season	Eligible Age Groups	Maximum Permitted Format	Minimum Pitch Size		Maximum Pitch Size		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	3
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	4
10	Under 11	9v9	70 x 40	64 x 36.6	80 x 50	73.15 x 45.75	16 x 7	4
	Under 12		70 x 40	64 x 36.6	80 x 50	73.15 x 45.75	16 x 7	
11	Under 12	9v9	70 x 40	64 x 36.6	80 x 50	73.15 x 45.75	16 x 7	4
	Under 13	11v11	90 x 50	82.3 x 45.75	100 x 60	91.44 x 54.9	21 x 7	
12	Under 13	11v11	90 x 50	82.3 x 45.75	100 x 60	91.44 x 54.9	21 x 7	4
	Under 14		90 x 50	82.3 x 45.75	100 x 60	91.44 x 54.9	21 x 7	
13	Under 14	11v11	90 x 50	82.3 x 45.75	100 x 60	91.44 x 54.9	21 x 7	4
	Under 15		90 x 50	82.3 x 45.75	110 x 70	100.58 x 64	24 x 8	5
14	Under 15	11v11	90 x 50	82.3 x 45.75	110 x 70	100.58 x 64	24 x 8	5
	Under 16		90 x 50	82.3 x 45.75	110 x 70	100.58 x 64	24 x 8	
15	Under 16	11v11	90 x 50	82.3 x 45.75	110 x 70	100.58 x 64	24 x 8	5
	Under 17		100 x 50	91.44 x 45.75	130 x	118.87 x 91.44	24 x 8	
	Under 18		100 x 50	91.44 x 45.75	130 x	118.87 x 91.44	24 x 8	
16	Under 17	11v11	100 x 50	91.44 x 45.75	130 x	118.87 x 91.44	24 x 8	5
	Under 18		100 x 50	91.44 x 45.75	130 x	118.87 x 91.44	24 x 8	
	Open Age		100 x 50	91.44 x 45.75	130 x	118.87 x 91.44	24 x 8	

**AGE GROUP AND PLAYING FORMAT -  
FOR THE WEST RIDING GIRLS FOOTBALL LEAGUE**

Age on 31 August of the relevant Playing Season	Eligible Age Groups	Maximum Permitted Format
AGE 6	Under 7 Under 8 (not if 6 after 31 August of relevant playing season)	5v5 5v5
AGE 7	Under 8 Under 9	5v5 7v7
AGE 8	Under 9 Under 10	7v7 7v7
AGE 9	Under 10 Under 11 Under 11	7v7 7v7 9v9
AGE 10	Under 11 Under 12	7v7 9v9
AGE 11	Under 12 Under 13 Under 13	9v9 9v9 11v11
AGE 12	Under 13 Under 13 Under 14	9v9 11v11 11v11
AGE 13	Under 14 Under 15 Under 16	11v11 11v11 11v11
AGE 14	Under 15 Under 16	11v11 11v11
AGE 15	Under 16 Under 17 & 18	11v11

(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) Not applicable to this League.
- (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:

Play for more than one Team in the same age group in the Competition in the same Playing Season without first being transferred.

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, or where the Competition adopts rule 18(

Submit a registration through The Player Registration System for registration that the Player had willfully neglected to accurately or fully complete.

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

- (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 3 days after receipt of such transfer.

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

This league will use the FA Player Transfer System. Only transfers transacted through the FA Player Transfer System will be recognised by this league.

(I) A Player may not be registered for a Club nor transferred to another Club in the Competition after the last day in 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) A register containing the names of all Players registered for each Club, with the date of registration, shall be kept by the Registration Secretary and shall be open to the inspection of an Officer of the Club at all Management Committee meetings or at other times mutually arranged. Registrations are valid for one Playing Season only.

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

(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 2 Competition Matches (or been eligible to play) for that team in the current Playing Season.

(M) Not applicable to this League

(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).

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

- (ii) (i) Priority must be given at all times to school and school organisation 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.
- (P) If a Club wishes to cancel a player's registration within the competition, it must make a request via The FA's electronic player registration system giving the reason for the request. The Competition may either approve or decline the request.

If a player's registration is cancelled, she will not be eligible to play in the Competition for a period of 0 days from the date of cancellation

## **19 CLUB COLOURS**

Every Club must register the colour of its shirts and shorts with the Secretary by 1<sup>st</sup> September 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 5 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 all be numbered differently, failing which a fine will be levied in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

Names of Youth Players shall not appear on the shirts, failing which a fine will be levied in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

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

- (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).

Overhead netting is allowed for 5V5 and 7V7 mini Soccer if the overhead netting height is at a minimum of 6M. No overhead netting is allowed for 9V9 and 11V11 affiliated matches.

Overhead wires used to support pitch divider netting are ideally removed for affiliated matches but if they cannot be removed then discretion is given to the match official to restart the match in accordance with the laws of the game.

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 quarter (minutes) (Mini-Soccer only)	Maximum Duration of play per quarter (minutes) (Mini-Soccer only)	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	5	10	10	20	40	60	Development focussed with a maximum of 3 trophy events per season over 2 week periods (6 weeks)
Under 9 and Under 10	10	12.5	20	25	60	90	Development focussed with a maximum of 3 trophy events per season over 4 week periods (12 weeks)
Under 11	N/A	N/A	20	30	80	120	Development focussed with a maximum of 3 trophy events per season over 6 week periods (18 weeks)
Under 12	N/A	N/A	20	30	80 (if applicable)	120	Any varieties including one season long league table
Under 13 and Under 14	N/A	N/A	25	35	100	150	Any varieties including one season long league table
Under 15 and Under 16	N/A	N/A	25	40	100	150	Any varieties including one season long league table
Under 17 and Under 18	N/A	N/A	25	45	120	180	Any varieties including one season long league table

#### MAXIMUM PLAYING TIMES PER QUARTER FOR MATCHES PLAYED IN THE WEST RIDING GIRLS LEAGUE

AGE GROUP	MAXIMUM DURATION OF PLAY MINUTES PER QUARTER
UNDER 7	10 Minutes Per Quarter
UNDER 8	10 Minutes Per Quarter
UNDER 9	12.5 Minutes Per Quarter
UNDER 10	12.5 Minutes Per Quarter



## MAXIMUM PLAYING TIMES PER HALF FOR MATCHES PLAYED IN THE WEST RIDING GIRLS LEAGUE

AGE GROUP	MAXIMUM DURATION OF PLAY MINUTES PER HALF	AGE GROUP	MAXIMUM DURATION OF PLAY MINUTES PER HALF
UNDER 11	30 Minutes Per Half	UNDER 15	40 Minutes Per Half
UNDER 12	30 Minutes Per Half	UNDER 16	40 Minutes Per Half
UNDER 13	35 Minutes Per Half	UNDER 17	45 Minutes Per Half
UNDER 14	35 Minutes Per Half	UNDER 18	45 Minutes Per Half

Competition Matches for age groups from U7 to U10 can be played in either quarters or halves. This Competition uses quarters.

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

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

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

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

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

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

- (E) (i) In competitions where points are awarded, home and away matches shall be played. In the event of a Club failing to keep its engagement the Management Committee shall have the power to impose a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff), deduct points from the defaulting Club, award the points from the 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 or where a Competition Match has been postponed for any reason must, without delay, give notice to the (Fixtures) Secretary, the Competition Referees Appointments Secretary, the

secretary of the opposing Club and the Match Officials.

- (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 Fixtures Secretary within 3 days the Management Committee shall have the power to order the Competition Match to be played on a named date or on or before a given date. Where it is to the advantage of the Competition and the Clubs involved agree, the Management Committee shall also be empowered to order the score at the time of an abandonment to stand.

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.

Where a Competition does not allow return substitutes:

For Under 17s and Under 18s – a Club may name up to 7 substitute Players of whom not more than 7 may be used.

Where a Competition does allow return substitutes:

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

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

In Youth Football only, the referee shall be informed of the names of the substitute Players not later than 10 minutes before the start of the Competition Match and a Player not so named may not take part in that Competition Match.

A Player who has been named as a substitute before the start of 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) The half time interval shall be of between 5-15 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 her teammates.

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

(A) The Fixtures Secretary must receive within 3 days of the date played, the result of each Competition Match in the prescribed manner. This must include the forename(s) and surname of the Team Players (in block letters) and also the referee markings required by Rule 23, or any other information required by the Competition. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

Both Clubs shall SMS text the result of each Competition Match to the FA Full-Time System within 2 hours of receiving the SMS text requesting the score (or in the case of a midweek fixture by 2100 hours on the day of the match. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

(B) 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.

(C) 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.

## **22 DETERMINING CHAMPIONSHIP**

(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) Automatic promotion shall be applied for the first Team and automatic relegation shall be applied for the last Team in each division except as provided for hereunder, subject to the provisions of Rule 2(L).

(i) Should one or more Teams withdraw from any one division after the Playing Season has commenced an equal number of Teams to those withdrawing in that division shall not be automatically relegated.

(ii) Vacancies occurring after the conclusion of the Playing Season may be filled in any of the following ways:

(a) retention of otherwise relegated Team(s); or

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

(c) election

(C) Not applicable in this League.

(D) In the event of a Team withdrawing from the Competition before completing 75% of its fixtures for the Playing Season all points obtained by or recorded against such defaulting Team shall be expunged from the Competition table. For the purposes of this Rule 22 (D) a completed fixture shall include any Competition Match(es) which has been awarded by the Management Committee.

## **23 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.
- Match Officials will be paid their fees inclusive of expenses by the home Club immediately after the Competition Match, unless otherwise ordered by the Management Committee. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
- (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 inclusive of travelling expenses only. Where a Competition Match is not played owing to one Club being in default, that Club shall be ordered to pay the Match Officials, if they attend the Ground, their full fee and expenses. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
- (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.
- (J) Not applicable to this league
- (K) Not applicable to this league
- (L) Not applicable to this league.

## 24 ADDENDUM

Pursuant to League Rule 18 (A) (i) (c)

A player playing in the WRGFL must have one FAN only.

Should a player or players have more than one FAN and it be shown that the Club/team she/they represents in the WRGFL deliberately set up multiple FAN's for that/those player(s) the Club/team may be suspended from participating in all matches until all FAN's for that/those player(s) have been merged.

Clubs/teams who have a player or players registered with them in WRGFL and also dual registered with another Club/team in another League Competition must inform the WRGFL League Secretary in writing at the point of

registration with the Club/team in the WRGFL. The League must be informed of all the Clubs/teams the player or players is/are dual registered with.

Clubs/teams with players dual registering with other Clubs/teams in the WRGFL must inform the WRGFL League Secretary in writing of the dual registration(s) at the point of registration with the second Club/team

FEES TARIFF		
RULE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM FEE
4 (A)	CLUB ENTRY FEE	N/A
4 (B)	CLUB/TEAM ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION	£50.00
4 (C)	DEPOSIT	N/A
7 (C), 7(E)	PROTEST/APPEAL FEES	£25.00
18 (D)	PLAYER REGISTRATION FEE	£2.00 (per player)
18 (H)	TRANSFER FEE	N/A
23 (E)	REFEREE FEES	5V5 - £15.00 7V7 - £20.00 9V9 - £25.00 11V11 (U13-U16) - £30.00 11V11 (U17-U18) - £30.00 + Expenses (Max £35.00)
23 (E)	ASSISTANT REFEREE FEES	Half the fee of the Referee

FINES TARIFF		
RULE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM FINE
2 (G)	FAILURE TO AFFILIATE	£25.00
2 (I)	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH FA INITIATIVES	£25.00
2 (K)	UNAUTHORISED ENTRY OF TEAMS INTO COMPETITIONS	£25.00
3	FAILURE TO OBTAIN CONSENT FOR A CHANGE OF CLUB NAME	£25.00
4 (C)	FAILURE TO PAY A DEPOSIT	£25.00
4(E)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE AFFILIATION NUMBER/DETAILS FORM	£25.00
5 (E)	COMMUNICATIONS CONDUCTED BY PERSONS OTHER THAN NOMINATED OFFICERS	£25.00
6 (H)	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH AN INSTRUCTION OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	£25.00
6 (I)	FAILURE TO PAY A FINE WITHIN REQUIRED TIME FRAME	DOUBLE THE ORIGINAL FINE UP TO £100.00
8 (H)	FAILURE TO BE REPRESENTED AT AGM	£25.00
9	FAILURE TO BE REPRESENTED AT SGM	£25.00
10	FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED WRITTEN AGREEMENT OR TO NOTIFY CHANGES TO	£25.00
11 (A)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL BEFORE DEADLINE	£25.00
11 (B)	FAILURE TO COMMENCE/COMPLETE FIXTURES	£25.00
13 (A)	FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED WRITTEN AGREEMENT REGARDING THE TROPHY	£25.00
16(A)	FAILURE TO HAVE THE REQUIRED INSURANCE	£100.00
16(B)	FAILURE TO HAVE THE REQUIRED INSURANCE	£100.00
18 (A)	FAILURE TO CORRECTLY REGISTER A PLAYER	£25.00
18 (B)(iii)	FAILURE TO HAVE THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF REGISTERED PLAYERS PRIOR TO THE PLAYING SEASON	£25.00
18 (F)	REGISTERING OR PLAYING FOR MULTIPLE CLUBS OR INACCURATE COMPLETION OF A	£25.00
18 (G)(ii)	REGISTRATION IRREGULARITIES	£25.00
18(M)	FIELDING MORE THAN THE PERMITTED NUMBER OF PLAYERS WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN SENIOR	£25.00
18 (N)(i)	PLAYING AN INELIGIBLE PLAYER	£25.00
18 (O)(i)	FAILURE TO GIVE PRIORITY TO SCHOOL ACTIVITIES	£25.00
19	FAILURE TO NUMBER SHIRTS (up to an aggregate maximum of £30.00)	£10.00 per Shirt
19	DELAYING KICK OFF TO DUE TO NO CHANGE OF COLOURS	£25.00
20(A)	DELAYING KICK OFF DUE TO FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED EQUIPMENT	£25.00
20 (B)	FAILURE TO PLAY MATCHES ON THE DATE FIXED	£25.00
20 (C)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE DETAILS OF A FIXTURE	£25.00
20 (D)	PLAYING MATCH WITH LESS THAN REQUIRED NUMBER OF PLAYERS	£2.00 Per Player

20 (E) (i) & (iii)	FAILURE TO PLAY FIXTURE	£25.00
20 (H)	NO CAPTAIN'S ARMBAND	N/A
21 (A) & 21 (C)	LATE RESULT NOTIFICATION FORM	£10.00
21 (B)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE RESULT	£10.00
21(D)	PUBLISHING RESULTS/GRADING TABLES FOR FIXTURES INVOLVING U7S, U8S, U9S, U10S OR U11S	£50.00
23 (C)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE CLUB ASSISTANT REFEREE	£25.00
23 (E)	FAILURE TO PAY MATCH OFFICIALS' FEES AND EXPENSES	£25.00
23 (F)	FAILURE TO PAY MATCH OFFICIALS WHERE A MATCH IS NOT PLAYED	£25.00
23 (H)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE REFEREE'S MARK	£25.00

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Fines Tariff

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# THE WEST RIDING GIRLS FOOTBALL LEAGUE

## THE LEAGUE CUP & SHIELD COMPETITION RULES 2022/2023

### 1. NAME

The Competitions will be called the "THE WEST RIDING GIRLS FOOTBALL LEAGUE CUP & SHIELD COMPETITIONS". The Cup shall be known as the West Riding Girl's Football League Cup and the Shield shall be known as "The West Riding Girls Football League Shield".

### 2. ENTRY FEE

The entry fee for the Cup & Shield Competitions shall be included in the Annual Subscription. The Cup and Shield shall be competed for annually in accordance with the Cup and Shield Competition Rules.

### 3. CONTROL OF THE COMPETITIONS

The Competitions will be administered by the Management Committee, who shall have the entire control and management of the Competitions, and the authority to deal with all questions of eligibility and or the interpretation of the Competition Rules; which, unless otherwise stated, will be the Cup & Shield Rules of the West Riding Girls Football League Cup Competitions supported by the League Rules and the Rules of the Football Association.

The Management Committee shall have the right to appoint a Sub Committee to deal with any matters that they deem appropriate. The decisions of the Management Committee are final and binding on all participants. (Subject to League Rule 16(A)).

Any action by the Competition must be taken within 28 days of the Competition being notified.

With the exception of Rule 7 and subject to Rule 6(L), in relation to any alleged breaches of a Rule the Management Committee shall issue a formal written charge to the Club concerned. The Club charged is required to respond to the charge within seven 7 days from the date of notification of the charge. In such reply a Club may:-

- (i) Accept the charge and submit in writing a case of mitigation for consideration by the Management Committee on the papers; or
- (ii) Accept the charge and notify that it wishes to put its case of mitigation at a hearing before the Management Committee; or
- (iii) Deny the charge and submit in writing supporting evidence for consideration by the Management Committee on the papers; or
- (iv) Deny the charge and notify that it wishes to put its case of mitigation at a hearing before the Management Committee.
- (v) Accept the charge and pay the fine within 14 days

Where the Club charged fails to respond within seven 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.

The decisions of the Management Committee must be notified in writing to those concerned within ten days.

#### **4. CLUBS ELIGIBLE TO COMPETE**

##### League Cup, Shield & Plate Competitions:

All Teams in membership of the League shall enter the League Cup Competition

(A) The Competitions shall be organised by the League Secretary on behalf of the Management Committee before the commencement of each season and shall be determined by the number of teams in each age group.

(i) Challenge Cup: a knockout Cup Competition open to all teams in the age groups U9's to U18's.

(ii) League Shield: When the structure of the League has been finalised the Management Committee shall decide taking into account the number of Teams involved in the various Age Groups whether it is viable to organise the Competition. The Competition shall be for all Teams who were eliminated in the first rounds of the Cup Competition in the Age Groups U9's to U18's. The Management Committee will decide the number of round losers to enter into the Shield. This will be determined by the number rounds in the Cup.

(iii) League Plate: Where the MC considers a subsidiary Competition is required, they may introduce a Plate Competition into an age group or individual age group format/division.

(B) Dates for the League Cup, League Shield and League Plate Final matches shall be set at the commencement of each season and shall be non-negotiable by member clubs.

(C) League Rules regarding player qualification in Cup Competitions must be strictly adhered to.

(D) Cup matches shall be played in accordance with the playing times listed below and concluded on the day.

##### **MAXIMUM PLAYING TIMES PER QUARTER FOR CUP/SHIELD/PLATE MATCHES PLAYED IN THE WEST RIDING GIRLS LEAGUE**

<b>AGE GROUP</b>	<b>MAXIMUM DURATION OF PLAY MINUTES PER QUARTER</b>
UNDER 9	12.5 Minutes Per Quarter
UNDER 10	12.5 Minutes Per Quarter

##### **MAXIMUM PLAYING TIMES PER HALF FOR CUP/SHIELD/PLATE MATCHES PLAYED IN THE WEST RIDING GIRLS LEAGUE**

<b>AGE GROUP</b>	<b>MAXIMUM DURATION OF PLAY MINUTES PER HALF</b>	<b>AGE GROUP</b>	<b>MAXIMUM DURATION OF PLAY MINUTES PER HALF</b>
UNDER 11	30 Minutes Per Half	UNDER 15	40 Minutes Per Half
UNDER 12	30 Minutes Per Half	UNDER 16	40 Minutes Per Half
UNDER 13	35 Minutes Per Half	UNDER 17	45 Minutes Per Half
UNDER 14	35 Minutes Per Half	UNDER 18	45 Minutes Per Half

In the event of a game being drawn, the following procedures shall be strictly adhered to:

In the U9's to Under U10's Age Groups: If the scores remain level at full time the game shall be decided by the taking of penalty kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the International Football Association Board procedure. Any team failing to comply with this Rule shall be duly expelled from the Competition.

In the U11's to U18's age Groups: If the scores remain level at full time the game shall be decided by the taking of penalty kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the International Football Association Board procedure. Any team failing to comply with this rule shall be duly expelled from the Competition.

#### **5. PLAYERS' ELIGIBLE TO COMPETE**

A player must be qualified in accordance with League Rule 18(A)(i)(c) for the Club she intends to play for in the West Riding Girls Football League Cup or Shield Competitions. A player shall not in the same season play for more than one competing Club in the same age group in a League Cup or Shield Competition. For the purpose of these Rules, the League Cup, and the League Shield shall be deemed one Competition. Having played for a Club in the League Cup Competition a player is ineligible to play for another Club in the West Riding Girls Football League Cup or Shield Competitions.

A player can only play for the team(s) she is registered with in the Cup and Shield Competitions. Should a player be registered with more than one club in accordance with League Rule 18(E)(iii) she may represent those teams in each of the competitions they compete.

Each player must have been registered with the Registrations Secretary at least one days prior to the date fixed for the playing of the round, and only those players registered on or before the 28<sup>th</sup> February of the current season and have played in two (2) or been available to play in two (2) League, League Cup or Shield matches for the Club that they represent, shall be eligible to play in the Semi Final or Final match.

In the case of postponed matches, only those players shall be allowed to play who were eligible on the date fixed for the playing of the round, but a player who has been suspended may play in postponed matches after the term of suspension has expired, providing all outstanding fines have been paid and the County Football Association have confirmed that she is clear of suspension. A player qualified in any round shall be deemed qualified to play in subsequent rounds by virtue of her original qualification.

If, after a period of thirty (30) minutes from the scheduled kick off time, one or both Clubs' have failed to attend the ground, the Referee at his/her discretion may call the fixture to be abandoned. The offending Club or Clubs shall be charged with having failed to fulfil a fixture in accordance with Rule 10(E) (i) and the Referee shall be paid his/her match fee inclusive of travel expenses by the offending Club or Clubs in accordance with Rule 13(F).

Team Managers shall retain their teams Roster Sheet and make them available to their opposite number prior to the start of any match organised by the Competition and any member of the Management Committee present and requesting same. If a Team Manager fails to produce a Roster Sheet in respect of his/her team prior to the commencement of the match then the match shall not go ahead. The team in default shall forfeit the match and the points and in addition the Management Committee may fine and or otherwise deal with the offending team. This includes competitive games in the Mini Soccer Age Groups.

When Roster Sheets are exchanged it shall be the responsibility of each Team Manager to check them against the players named on the Match Result Sheet. Completion and signature on the Match Result Sheet by both Team Managers shall signify they have seen the Roster Sheet for each player so named.

**UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WHATSOEVER CAN A PLAYER PLAY IN ANY MATCH IN THIS COMPETITION IF THE ROSTER SHEET DOES NOT HAVE HER NAME AND DETAILS LISTED ON IT OR THE ROSTER SHEET IS NOT PRODUCED FOR INSPECTION PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE MATCH.**

Any player(s) taking part in Cup or Shield match, where the Roster Sheet was not available for inspection before the game commenced, will be deemed ineligible and the Club shall be penalised in accordance with Rule 8(M)(i).

Each home club shall arrange for the provision of designated areas for spectators. This area 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 for this arrangement in which case other appropriate arrangements should be made.

Parents and spectators at all games must watch from one designated side behind the safety zone. They will not be permitted to stand behind or to the side of either goal. Coaches and substitutes will be positioned on the opposite side and only Coaches, Referees Assistants, and other approved personnel will be permitted to enter the safety zone. The Referee will be empowered not to start or restart the game until the safety zone has been delineated and spectators excluded.

Each home team shall mark out a Technical Area either side of the half way line on the opposite side of the ground to the spectators for the use and purpose of the coaches and from where the substitutes shall leave or enter the field of play. The recommended size of the technical area for each team is 10 yards by 3 yards but if not feasible due to space restrictions each technical area should be of equal dimensions.

Any Club failing to provide a designated Respect Barrier /Technical Area or similar, suitable spectator safety zone will be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff on each and every occasion and or be dealt with as the Management Committee may determine.

Each Club or Team in the Competition shall be controlled and directed by an adult of 18 years and above, or shall be under the control and direction of a Committee presided over by an adult, who shall be responsible for the management of the Club and shall be known as the named adult. If requested by the Management Committee or West Riding County Football Association the Club shall provide such information concerning its constitution.

A named adult representative of each Club, who has completed all necessary CRC checks to the satisfaction of the West Riding County Football Association, shall attend throughout every match played by his/her Club. Any team/club failing to have a named adult in attendance shall be fined for each offence, and, be otherwise dealt with as the Management Committee may determine.

## **6. INELIGIBLE PLAYERS**

Winning teams playing players either through ignorance, mistake, or any other cause, without the above qualification shall be expelled from the Competition without exception, and, shall be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff for each ineligible player, and their opponents shall go forward into the next round providing all their players are eligible.

A team for whatever reason that is involved in an abandoned match regardless of the scores at the time of the abandonment and have played players either through ignorance, mistake or any other cause, without the above qualification, shall be expelled from the Competition and they shall be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff for each ineligible player, and their opponents shall go forward into the next round. Losing teams playing either through ignorance, mistake, or any other cause, without the above qualification shall be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff for each ineligible player. Should both teams play players either through ignorance, mistake, or any other cause, without the above qualification, they shall both be expelled from the Competition and fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff for each ineligible player, and their opponents in the next round shall receive a bye.

## **7. CUP DRAW**

(A) The date of each round shall be fixed by the Management Committee, the Clubs' shall be drawn in pairs, each pair shall play off, the winners shall again be drawn in pairs and these pairs shall compete with each other, as in the first round and so on until the last pair shall play each other in the Final match. The winning club shall hold the Cup under conditions provided for by these Rules. Representatives of all competing Clubs may be present at the draw. The club drawn first in each match shall have the choice of ground. The League may use the FA Full-Time System for administering the Cup Draw. Postponed matches shall be played on a date fixed by the Management Committee.

(B) When Competitions are played as group matches three points shall be awarded for a win and one point for a draw in the event of two or more teams having an equal number of points, goal difference shall decide the rankings. If still equal, goals scored shall decide. If teams are still equal a deciding match will be played at a venue and date decided by the Management Committee. Such a deciding match to be played to a result including extra time and penalties as required. The teams finishing first and second in each group shall proceed to the Semi-Finals. The winners of the Semi Finals shall contest the Final Match. The maximum number of groups in this format shall be four (4) groups and the winners and runners of each group shall play off in quarter final matches and so on until the Final match is played.

## **8. DIRECTIONS AND CLUB COLOURS**

The home Club shall notify, at least five (5) clear days before the date of the match, travelling directions to the visitors and the match officials, they shall also confirm their colours. Where the colours of the two competing Clubs are similar, the home team must change. Goalkeepers must wear colours, which distinguish them from the other players, and will not be permitted to wear black or dark blue jerseys. Clubs must wear stockings, which are distinguishable from those of their opponents. The backs of all shirts must be numbered and the numbers must correspond with the Team List form.

## **9. GROUNDS FOR CUP MATCHES**

(A) Except by mutual arrangement, or as hereinafter provided, the Club which is in each case is first drawn, shall play on its own ground. Where a Club has two teams in the Competition(s), and both are drawn at home, the team drawn first shall play at home and the other team shall play on the opponents ground. If their opponents ground is not available, the match will be arranged for another date, the match being played on the ground of the team drawn at home. This Rule also applies to all Clubs sharing grounds. If both Clubs' agree and only with the approval of the Management Committee, the competing Clubs shall be allowed to select any ground other than that on which they are accustomed to play in order to progress the Competition.

If the ground of the Club having the choice of ground is considered unsuitable for the match, its opponents may protest to the Management Committee within three days of receipt of the official intimation of the draw, and they shall deposit the sum in accordance with the Fees Tariff to cover the cost of the protest hearing. If the protest is not sustained, the fee shall be forfeited.

(B) If the protest be upheld, the Management Committee may order the match to be played on the ground of the protesting Club, or, on a neutral ground.

(C) The Referee shall have power to decide as to the fitness of the ground in all matches.

(D) The field of play shall be correctly marked out in accordance with Law 1 of the Game, by the home club, who shall provide goal nets, four corner posts with flags attached, two suitable footballs, and two Assistant Referees flags. Clubs' failing to comply shall be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

(E) Clubs where possible must provide a separate room for the Referee to dress in.

(F) If there is any doubt about the fitness of the ground, the Home Club must ensure that all steps are taken to have the ground inspected by a Referee 2 hours before the agreed kick off time otherwise they may be liable to pay their opponents travelling expenses providing these expenses are claimed within seven days of the cancelled match, the home Club must forward the relevant form signed by the Referee & Club Official to reach the League Secretary with four (4) days of the match date.

When a Cup or Shield match has been postponed twice; the home Club shall lose the right to host the match, and the match shall be transferred to their opponents ground or a neutral venue. The loss of home advantage will come into force, even if games have been postponed twice due to weather or ground conditions. The home Club should inform their opponents as early as possible if there is any doubt that their ground may be unplayable, the away Club should be given the opportunity to stage the match in order to progress the Competition.

## **10. MATCH OFFICIALS**

(A) In all matches up to the Final the fees and expenses for Referees and Assistant Referees' shall be at the same rate as League Rule 13(e), and as listed in the Fees Tariff.

In the Semi Final when the match is played on the ground of the first drawn Club both Clubs will share the cost of the Match Official's fees which are inclusive of expenses.

(B) In the event of the non-appearance of the appointed Referee the appointed senior Assistant Referee shall take charge and a substitute Assistant Referee appointed by the competing Teams. In cases where there are no officially appointed Assistant Referees, the Clubs shall agree upon a Referee. An individual thus agreed upon shall, for that game, have the full powers, status, and authority of a registered Referee.

(C) Where grounds have barriers surrounding the pitch, all club officials, substitutes and supporters must remain behind the barriers. Where there are no barriers, all club official, substitutes, and supporters must stand back from the line, club officials must ensure that the Assistant Referees are not hindered or obstructed in their duties.

(D) Where a mark of 50 or less is awarded to the Referee, a written explanation, signed by the Secretary and the Chairman of the Club concerned, must be submitted to the League Secretary within five (5) days of the match. A Club failing to comply will be fined for each breach of the Rule in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

## **11. LIST OF PLAYERS**

Before the match commences, both Clubs' shall complete the Official Form, and exchange their form with the opposing Team. This must include the forenames and the surname of the team players (in block letters) corresponding to their shirt numbers. The form shall be forwarded to the appropriate Age Group Secretary within three (3) days of the match. Clubs who fail to comply may be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff. 4 d

## **12. SUBSTITUTE PLAYERS**

A Club may at its discretion, at any time during the game use up to a maximum of seven substitute players out of seven nominated substitute players, except to replace player(s) who have been suspended from the game by the Referee. A substitution can only be made when play has stopped for any reason and the Referee has given permission.

### **This Competition allows repeat substitutes in all Matches:**

**For U11's - U18's:** up to seven (7) substitute Players may be selected from seven (7) substitute Players.

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

**For Mini-Soccer:** any number of substitutions may be used at any time with the permission of the Match Official. Entry onto the field of play will only be allowed during a stoppage in play. A Player who has been replaced may return to the play as a

substitute for another Player. A Team must not have a match day squad greater than double the size of its Team in an age group.

**In Youth Football Only:** the Referee shall be informed of the names of the substitutes not later than ten (10) minutes before the start of the match and a Player not so named may not take part in the match.

A Player who has been selected, appointed or named as a substitute before the start of the match but does not actually play in the game shall not be considered to have been a Player in that game within the meaning of Rule 8 of this Competition.

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

The Teams taking part in Youth Football shall identify a Team captain who shall wear an armband and shall have a responsibility to offer support in the management of the on-field discipline of his/her team-mates.

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

### **13. LATE STARTS**

Any Club failing to commence at the appointed time will be fined as detailed in the Fines Tariff or maybe otherwise dealt with as the Management Committee may determine depending on the circumstances. Referees must order matches to commence at the appointed time if possible, and must report all late starts, and advise the captain(s) of the offending team(s) of his/her intention to do so.

### **14. REPORTING RESULTS**

(A) The Fixtures Secretary must receive within Three (3) days of the date played, the result of each Competition match in the prescribed manner. This must include the forename(s) and surname of the team players (in block letters) and the Referee markings required by Rule 21, or any other information required by the Competition.

(B) Both Clubs shall SMS Text the result of each Competition match to the FA Full-Time System within 2 hours of receiving the SMS text requesting the score (or in the case of a midweek fixture by 2100hrs on the day of the 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 a responsible member of the Club who has been approved by the Management Committee. The Management Committee shall take such action, as they deem suitable against a Club which submits an incomplete form or incorrect information.

### **15. SEMI FINAL AND FINAL MATCHES**

In Semi Final and Final matches where the colours of both teams are similar, both teams must change. Each Club shall provide thirty minutes before the kick off, two suitable Stewards who shall report for duty to the League Member in Charge and shall assist the League Member in Charge of the match as and when required

### **16. WITHDRAWAL FROM THE COMPETITION**

Any Club intending to withdraw after a postponed match must within 48 hours of the end of the match give notice of their intention to the Secretary of the opposing Club and to the League Secretary. In default of such notice, the Management Committee may compel such offending Club to pay any expenses incurred by their opponents or take such action they deem expedient.

### **17. FAILURE TO PLAY**

In the event of a club failing to keep its engagement, the Management Committee shall impose a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff and award the match to their opponents; they shall order the defaulting club to pay any expenses incurred by their opponents.

In the event of both clubs failing to keep their engagement, the Management Committee shall impose a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff on both clubs; dismiss both clubs, from the Competition, order both clubs to pay half each of the Referee's and Assistant Referees' fees and expenses if in attendance, or otherwise deal them with at their discretion.

### **18. THE FINAL MATCH**

In addition to the Cup/Shield the League shall present medals or mementoes to the players in the Final match. A player sent from the field of play by the Referee shall not be allowed to attend the presentation ceremony her memento will be withheld at the discretion of the Management Committee.

The number of medals/mementoes awarded and supplied by the league will be as follows:

U09	14 medals/mementoes
U10	14 medals/mementoes
U11	14 medals/mementoes (7v7) or 16 medals/mementoes (9v9)
U12	16 medals/mementoes
U13	16 medals/mementoes (9v9) or 18 medals/mementoes (11v11)
U14	18 medals/mementoes
U15	18 medals/mementoes
U16	18 medals/mementoes

Teams requiring additional medals/mementoes must inform the League Secretary 4 weeks in advance of the Final Match how many additional medals/mementoes they require. All additional medals/mementoes must be paid for by the requesting team.

The Final match shall be played to a conclusion; if the scores are level at the end of normal time then the Final shall be decided by the taking of penalty kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the International Football Association Board procedure.

All Final matches shall be played on such grounds as the Management Committee determine

The Management Committee shall fix the charge for admission to the Semi Final matches (where appropriate) and the Final matches, as they deem advisable

### **19. ALTERATION TO RULES**

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

Notice of proposed alterations to be considered at the Annual General Meeting shall be submitted to the League Secretary by 1 April in each year. The proposals, together with any proposals by the Management Committee, shall be circulated to the Clubs by the 1 May and any amendments thereto shall be submitted to the League Secretary by the 1 June.

The proposals and proposed amendments thereto shall be circulated to Clubs with the notice of the Annual General Meeting. A proposal to change a Rule shall be carried if a majority of those present and entitled to vote, and voting, are in favour. A copy of the proposed alterations to Rules to be considered at the Annual General Meeting shall be submitted to the West Riding County Football Association Limited no later than fourteen days before the date scheduled for the Annual General Meeting.

With regards to a Special General Meeting, a copy of the proposed alterations to Rules to be considered, shall be submitted to the West Riding County Football Association Limited, no later than fourteen days before the date scheduled for the Special General Meeting. Any alterations or additions decided upon at any meeting shall not become operative until the approval of the Association issuing sanction shall have been obtained.

### **20. PROTESTS AND COMPLAINTS**

All Protests shall be made in accordance with League Rule 7.

### **21. APPEALS**

All Appeals shall be made in accordance with League Rule 7.

### **22. OTHER MATTERS**

In all matters which are not specially provided for in these Rules the Management Committee shall have the power to deal with any matter or question that concerns the Competition, and, is not so provided for in the Competition's Cup/Shield Rules. (Subject to League Rule 7).

### **23. MISCONDUCT**

Any misconduct by Club(s), Player(s), Official(s), or spectators; could result in the future application for participation by that Club, Clubs, Player(s), or Official(s) into the Cup/Shield Competition(s) being refused.

### **24. FINES**

The League Fines Tariff will be applicable when the Management Committee imposes financial penalties on Clubs' that are in breach of the Cup/Shield Competition Rules.

## **25. KICKS FROM THE PENALTY MARK PROCEDURE**

If at the end of the match and before the kicks start to be taken from the penalty mark, one team has a greater number of players than its opponents; it must reduce its numbers to equate with that of its opponents and the team captain must inform the referee of the name and number of each player excluded. Any player thus excluded may not participate in kicks from the penalty mark.

Before the start of kicks from the penalty mark the referee must ensure that an equal number of players from each team remain within the centre circle and they shall take the kicks

The referee chooses the goal at which the kicks shall be taken.

The referee tosses a coin, and the team whose captain wins the toss decides whether to take the first or second kick.

The referee keeps a record of the kicks being taken.

Subject to the conditions explained below, both teams take five kicks.

The kicks are taken alternately by the teams.

If, before both teams have taken five kicks, one has scored more goals than the other could score, even if it were to complete its five kicks, no more kicks are taken.

If, after both teams have taken five kicks, both have scored the same number of goals, or have not scored any goals, kicks continue to be taken in the same order until one team has scored a goal more than the other from the same number of kicks.

A goalkeeper who is injured during the taking of kicks from the penalty mark and is unable to continue as goalkeeper may be replaced by a named substitute, provided his team has not used the maximum number of substitutes permitted under the Competition Rules.

With the exception of the foregoing case, only players who are on the field of play at the end of the match which includes extra time where appropriate, are allowed to take kicks from the penalty mark.

Each kick is taken by a different player and all eligible players must take a kick before any player can take a second kick.

An eligible player may change places with the goalkeeper at any time when kicks from the penalty mark are being taken.

All players, except the player taking the kick, and the two goalkeepers, must remain within the centre circle.

The goalkeeper who is the team mate of the kicker must remain on the field of play, outside the penalty area in which the kicks are being taken on the goal line where it meets the penalty area boundary line.

The other goalkeeper must remain on his/her goal line between the goalposts, facing the kicker until the ball is kicked.

Only the players and match officials are permitted to remain on the field of play when kicks from the penalty mark are being taken.

Unless otherwise stated, the relevant Laws of the Game and International Football Association Board Decisions apply when kicks from the penalty mark are being taken

## **CUP/SHIELD ADDENDUM**

All WRGFL Cup/Shield games must be played on the date published.

Any team not fulfilling a fixture due to other competition commitments other than an FA, CFA or School Competition match/events will be expelled from the Cup or Shield (whichever competition they are competing in) and their opponents will progress into the next round. Where a team cannot fulfil a fixture due to an FA, CFA or School Competition match/event they



must notify the League Secretary in writing upon receiving notification of the WRGFL Cup/Shield match or receiving notification of the FA, CFA or School Competition match/event (which ever notification is received first).

Where a Cup/Shield game is called off by the home team due to ground conditions, photographic evidence of the unplayable pitch must be provided to the League Secretary at the time the decision is made. If the WRGFL support the postponement of the game due to the photographic evidence the game will be rescheduled. Should the WRGFL not support the postponement of the game due to the photographic evidence or, not receiving photographic evidence the home team will be expelled from the Cup/Shield Competition (whichever competition they are competing in).

Cup/Shield games will be rescheduled where a game is postponed by a referee appointed by the WRGFL or where a ground has been closed by the landlords or local authority due to ground conditions. No photographic evidence is required under those circumstances. The WRGFL, if it felt necessary, will make contact with the referee, Landlord or local authority to check the information provided by the home team is correct.

A team being expelled from the WRGFL Cup may if the circumstance merit be refused entry into the Shield Competition.

In the event of a club failing to keep its engagement for reasons noted in this addendum, the Management Committee shall impose a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff and they shall be order to pay any expenses incurred by their opponents.