



Western Counties Floodlight Youth League

LEAGUE RULES

Season 2025-2026



CHARTER STANDARD

As an existing FA Charter Standard League we automatically become an England Football Accredited League

Respect & Fair Play Awards Commended Status

The League has been awarded 'Commended Status' for its commitment to raising standards of behaviour. The FA very much values our tireless work in awarding this logo.



Management Committee

Chairman

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Vice Chairman

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League Secretary**Treasurer**

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Results Secretary

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League Welfare Officer

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Committee Members**Colin Waller**

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WESTERN COUNTIES FLOODLIGHT YOUTH LEAGUE 2025 - 2026**FA'S FULL TIME ADDRESS**

<http://fulltime-league.thefa.com/Index.do?league=873622>

LEAGUE'S WEBSITE

<https://wcfyl.co.uk>

X ACCOUNT @wcfyl

LEAGUE CUP FINAL

The Roger Stone Memorial League Cup final will be played on Thursday 16 April 2026 at Paulton Rovers FC KO 7.30pm

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 20th May 2026 at Bristol Manor Farm FC

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

These will be held monthly on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

SEASON DATES

01 September 2025 and ends 15 May 2026

LEAGUE CHARTER STANDARD

We are a Charter Standard League.

GENERAL GUIDANCE TO CLUBS

CLUB RESPONSIBILITIES

The Management Committee reminds all Clubs that misconduct before, during or following a game will not be tolerated and they are further reminded that they are ultimately responsible for the behaviour of their players, officials and spectators. The only mode of communication between League Secretary and Clubs shall be electronic, either text or email with U18 Secretaries

No alcohol may be consumed outside of the club house to avoid Child Protection Act issues and none taken into grounds or home and away changing rooms at any time. The FA Safeguarding Children rules and Licensing laws prohibit this. Transgression of this rule will result in a fine at the Management Committee discretion. Clubs must ensure that supporters behave in an appropriate manner and do not abuse players or officials. If they do, they should be ejected.

RESPECT PROGRAMME

The League has embraced the Respect programme and all Clubs are expected to follow this.

The League takes all form of discrimination and inappropriate behaviour including confrontations and vile abuse against players, match officials, supporters and coaches, extremely seriously. A number of incidents have been reported to us in previous seasons. Whilst it is the responsibility of County FA's to take initial action this does not preclude this League from taking supplementary action at a later date to protect its integrity. **Clubs must ensure that supporters behave in an appropriate manner and not abuse players or officials. If they do not, they should be asked to leave the ground.**

CONFIRMING MATCH ARRANGEMENTS

The Secretary of the home Club must give notice of the location, details of access to the ground and time of kick-off to the match officials and the Secretary of the opposing Club, at least four days prior to the playing of the match. The away Club shall acknowledge receipt of such particulars.

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

Team Managers should make themselves fully conversant with the League Rules regarding player eligibility both in League and Cup Competitions. This is a most important section of the League Rules and one which still causes most problems.

Registrations must be done through the WGS website and then notified to the Registration Secretary. **Registrations must be completed at least 24 hours before a scheduled match.** Clubs must wait for League approval before they may play.

Please ensure the information on the Registration Form is correct as there are penalties for incorrect, illegible or falsified forms. Only Club Secretary or Manager may sign the Registration Form – no one else.

Playing an ineligible player could see the Club fined a maximum of 12 points and be fined.

THE WHOLE GAME SYSTEM

This FA website displays all discipline recorded by referees to County FAs and the level of fines through an invoice. Players will receive a ban of a number of matches commencing 14 days after the game. **DO NOT** wait for a referee report from your County FA to be uploaded to the website. **If in doubt, call them.** Beware, some referees are slow at report writing, consequently the website will reflect that. Ignorance is no defence to a fine and possible loss of points.

POSTPONEMENTS

In the event of a match being postponed for whatever reason it must then be played on a mutually agreed date within 35 days of the original match postponement. **To postpone a match a club must seek permission from the League Secretary.** Postponements for unfit grounds **must** be notified to the League Secretary and the opposition by 4pm on the day of the match to ensure uploading to the website and prevent unnecessary travel of opponents. A Match Postponement Form together with corroborating video must be sent to the League Secretary no more than one hour after the postponement has been accepted by him. Should a club postpone a match twice because of the weather **after January 1st**, the Management Committee may order the match to be played at the opposition ground. Officials' fees are borne by the original home club.

Only postponements for unplayable pitches will normally be allowed but see Rule 20 for full explanations including where permission is sought evidence must be supplied. A rearrangement form **MUST** be completed and emailed to the League Secretary within 7 days of the postponement – by both Clubs. Should the home club be able to demonstrate to the League Secretary that the opposition were unreasonably delaying the rearrangement, they may be fined.

All other matches should be played on the date fixed **or brought forward** to avoid any penalties.

COMMUNICATIONS

All communications to the League must be to the League Secretary and from the Club or Team Secretary. Anyone else will be referred back to the Club Secretary. Rule 5 (E) refers.

Any permanent or long-standing change to the information listed against clubs in the Club Directory **MUST** be advised to the League Secretary in writing.

MANAGEMENT OF THE MATCH

Our whole ethos is to develop players for their Clubs first and reserve teams. Therefore, the League rules should accord with those teams. As a result, roll ons and roll offs are not allowed but 5 substitute players may be selected from 5 named players. The Technical Area occupants are 3 coaches plus a physiotherapist and 5 substitutes only – all sat down and not standing talking to mates adjacent to the Technical Area.

MATCH KICK-OFF TIMES

Kick off times are as follows: either 7.30 or 7.45 pm.

Departure from these kick off times are allowed by mutual consent of both clubs and with the agreement of the League Secretary but, in the event of dispute, the above times apply.

MATCH RESULTS

The home Club must SMS the match result to the Full Time website no later than 1 hour after the end of the match. Team Sheets must be scanned within 4 days to the Results Secretary and must be completed correctly.

MEDIA AND SOCIAL NETWORKING COMMENTS

Comments which are improper, which bring the game or league, into disrepute, which are threatening, abusive, indecent or insulting could be charged by their County FA. This statement includes comments about match officials which imply bias; attack the officials' integrity or which are personally offensive in nature. Participants are deemed responsible for any postings on their account. This is a growing problem that Somerset FA sees at disciplinary hearings. Worryingly, account holders seem not to realise they are responsible for content regardless of who

posted on their site. In some circumstances agreed by the Management Committee, clubs allowing critical comments about another club may be brought to a Management Committee hearing to explain their actions. Normal fines would apply if appropriate.

All Clubs will be responsible for their official website or similar computer related information system, which is within the public domain. Nothing shall be included on the website which in the opinion of the Management Committee brings the Competition into disrepute. Failure to apply will result in a fine.

TWITTER ACCOUNT

Would all clubs please ensure their media teams are sharing club posts with the League account on a regular basis.

ALLOCATION OF SPORTSMANSHIP MARKS

Clubs are asked to allocate a sportsmanship mark out of 10 to their opponents. Assume your opponent's start with a maximum of 10 and deduct any points for any bad sportsmanship. Judge not only the players but also spectators and officials as follows:

Players	6
Officials and spectators	4

Marks will be deducted for cautions and dismissals.

At the end of the season a trophy will be awarded to the team in each division with the highest marks at the AGM.

HOSPITALITY

All Clubs must provide refreshments for players and officials. The minimum is drinks at half time and sandwiches at full time (failure to provide them could incur a fine). The Management Committee hopes that all Clubs follow established practice of hot food at full time. Host Clubs are asked to inform the Management Committee if the opposition abuse the hospitality by leaving prior to a meal being provided. Equally, clubs must manage their hospitality so that one team does not eat all the food before the other team enters the area set aside. If this does happen, comment on the Team Sheet that is sent to the Results Secretary.

DEFINITIONS

1 (A). In these Rules:

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

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

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

“Club Portal” means the system used by clubs to affiliate teams as determined by The FA from time to time

“Competition” means the Western Counties Floodlight Youth League.

“Competition Match” means any match played or to be played under the jurisdiction of the Competition.

“Contract Player” means any Player (other than a Player on a Scholarship) who is eligible to play under a written contract of employment with a Club.

“Deposit” means a sum of money deposited with the Competition as part of the requirements of membership of the Competition.

“Fees Tariff” means a list of fees approved by the Clubs at a general meeting to be levied by the Management Committee for any matters for which fees are payable under the Rules, as set out at Schedule A.

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

“Ground” means the home stadium on which the Club’s Team(s) plays its Step 1-6 Competition Matches.

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

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

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

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

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

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

“Playing Season” means the period between the date on which the first competitive fixture in the Competition is played each year until the date on which the last competitive fixture in the Competition is played.

“Rules” means these rules under which the Competition is administered.

“Sanctioning Authority” means Somerset County Football Association Limited

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

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

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

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

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

“The FA” means The Football Association Limited.

“WGS” means the Whole Game System and the procedures for the operation thereof as determined by The FA from time to time.

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

“Youth Football” means those participating at ages 15 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 Western Counties Floodlight Youth League and Roger Stone Memorial Cup. 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 48 Clubs approved by the Sanctioning Authority and represent Parent Clubs at Step 1-6 to qualify.

(C) The geographical area covered by the Competition membership shall be Western Counties namely, Bristol and Somerset, Gloucestershire, Dorset, Wiltshire, and Devon.

(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.

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 12 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.

(l) Clubs must comply with the provisions of any initiatives of The FA which are adopted by the Competition including, but not limited to, Charter Standard and RESPECT programmes. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

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

(K) Clubs shall not enter 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. A Club must immediately inform the Competition of the details of any fixture(s) in any other competition in which the Club has entered, for which written consent of the Management Committee has been obtained.

(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 must be made in writing to the League Secretary on the Club Application Form provided by 31st March, and must be accompanied by an entry fee as set out in the Fees Tariff, which shall be returned in the event of non-election. Clubs must satisfy the Management Committee that they comply with the provisions of the League Ground Grading rules and have the ethos of member Clubs during a visit from representatives of the Committee before recommending membership to the AGM. The parent club must be at least Step 6.

(B) At the discretion of the voting members present applications, of which due notice has been given, may be received at the AGM or an SGM or on a date agreed by the Management Committee. The Entry fee will apply. Applications must be for a minimum of 3 consecutive seasons. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

The annual subscription and fee shall be payable in accordance with the Fees Tariff and shall be payable on or before 30th April in each year.

(C)

(D) Not used

(E) A Club shall not participate in this Competition until the entry fee, and/or annual subscription have been paid. Clubs defaulting will be fined

(F) Clubs must advise annually to the League Secretary in writing by 80 days before the start of the season of the CFA 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.

(G) Not used

(H) Any Parent Club demoted from Step 6 will not necessarily retain membership of the Competition.

5. MANAGEMENT, NOMINATION, ELECTION

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

(B) Retiring Officers shall be eligible to become candidates for re-election without nomination provided that the Officer notifies the Secretary in writing not later than 30th 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 1st May in each year. Names of the candidates for election shall be circulated with the notice of the AGM. In the event of there being no nomination in accordance with the foregoing for any office, nominations may be received at the AGM.

(C) The Management Committee shall meet monthly.

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

(D) All communications shall be addressed to the League Secretary from Club Secretaries who shall conduct the correspondence of the Competition and keep a record of its proceedings. 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 Somerset FA 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 including any not provided for in the rules. 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 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 £200 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) Three 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 additional fines 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.

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 14 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 14 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) An intention to appeal against a decision of the Management Committee must be lodged with the Sanctioning Authority, with a copy sent to the Secretary, within 7 days of the Management Committee providing written notification of its decision.

(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 7th June in each year. At this meeting the following business shall be transacted provided that at least two thirds of members are present and entitled to vote: -

(i) To receive and confirm the minutes of the preceding AGM.

(ii) To receive and adopt the annual report, balance sheet and statement of accounts.

(iii) Election of Clubs to fill vacancies.

(iv) Constitution of the Competition for the ensuing Season.

(v) Election of Officers of the Competition and the Management Committee members.

(vi) Appointment of auditors.

(vii) Alteration of Rules, if any (see Rule 14).

(viii) Fix the date for the commencement of the Playing Season and kick off times applicable to the Competition.

(ix) Fix the date for the end of the Playing Season.

(x) Other business of which due notice shall have been given and accepted as being relevant to an AGM.

(B) A copy of the duly audited balance sheet, statement of accounts and agenda shall be forwarded to each Club at least 14 days prior to the meeting together with any proposed Rule changes.

(C) A signed copy of the duly audited balance sheet and statement of accounts shall be sent to Somerset FA 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)

(i) 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.

(ii) Any club that has submitted a valid application to join the Competition for the forthcoming season must have the opportunity to be put forward for membership and to have a vote taken on their membership application

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

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

9. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

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

(B) The Management Committee may call an SGM at any time.

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

(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 an 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.

10. AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED

Any alteration of the secretary of the Club must be notified to the League Secretary in writing.

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) Any Club intending, or having a provisional intention, to withdraw a Team from the Competition must do so at **least 80** days before the AGM. This does not apply to a Club moving in accordance with Rule 22(B). Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

(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(I), in the event of a Club failing to discharge all its financial obligations to the Competition, 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 11, the accredited delegates present shall have the power to exclude from further participation in the Competition any Club whose conduct has, in their opinion, been undesirable, which must be supported by more than two-thirds (2/3) of those present and voting. Voting on this point shall be conducted by ballot. A Club whose conduct is the subject of the vote being taken shall be excluded from voting.

(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

(D) Any Club (or member of a team) player, manager or individual found by the Management Committee to have caused a serious incident and/or unacceptable behaviour in any one season may be expelled from the League.

A Club will not be considered for re-election for a period of 3 years after expulsion or the Club withdraws before the season ends. The League Management Committee has the right to override the 3 years in exceptional circumstances.

13. TROPHIES

(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 inscribed to the Competition Secretary on or before 31st March.

If not inscribed there will be a charge. 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 or fines in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

(B) At the close of each Competition, awards shall 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 Somerset FA, shall be made to these Rules only at the AGM or at an SGM specially convened for the purpose called in accordance with Rule 8. Any alteration made during the Playing Season to these Rules shall not take effect until the following Playing Season.

Notice of proposed amendments to be considered at the AGM shall be submitted to the Secretary by 1st April in each year. The proposals accepted by the Management Committee, together with any proposals from them, shall be circulated to the Clubs by 30th April and any amendments thereto shall be submitted to the Secretary by 10th May. The proposals and proposed amendments thereto shall be circulated to Clubs with the notice of the AGM. A proposal to change a Rule shall be carried if two thirds 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 Somerset FA 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 the Competition will be lodged.

(B) All expenditure in excess of £300 shall be approved by the Management Committee. The Treasurer will be mandated to pay all invoices by BACS.

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

(D) The books, or a certified balance sheet, of a Competition shall be prepared and shall be audited 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 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:

(ii) Signed a fully and correctly completed Competition registration form in ink and CAPITALS except signatures and countersigned by his parent or guardian and by the Secretary of the Club, and who has been approved with the Registration Secretary on WGS prior to the Player playing in a Competition Match. The registration document must incorporate emergency contact details of the Player's parents or guardians. These details must be available at matches and training events the Player attends within the management of the Club or Competition;

Any registration form which is sent by email or, scanned in accordance with Rules 18(A) 2 above that is not fully and correctly completed, illegible, falsified, defaced or otherwise damaged will be returned to the Club unprocessed. If a Club attempts to register a player via WGS but does not fully and correctly complete the necessary information via WGS, the registration will not be processed. Forms may be scanned to the Registration Secretary.

Forms that are illegible will be returned unregistered. The player remains unregistered until the Registration Secretary has approved the registration on WGS. Registrations must be completed at least 24 hours before a scheduled match and showing on the WGS app before a player can play in a match. For an emergency goalkeeper this rule does not apply. Clubs must satisfy the League Secretary that a club has exhausted all other avenues and send a completed a League Registration Form to him up to 5 hours before the match.

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

As noted above if forms are found to have been falsified a fine and other action may be taken by the Management Committee against the Club concerned.

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

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

(ii) A Player registered with a Premier League or English Football League Academy under the Elite Player Performance Plan contained within Youth Development Rules will not be permitted to play in this Competition. Details of the Youth Development Rules are published on The FA website.

(iii) Each Team must have 16 Players registered 14 days before the start of each Playing Season:

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

(C) Clubs should have sufficient players registered to play all season and to take account of players needed by the 1st team.

(D) To play in the Competition the player must have reached the age of 15 by midnight on 31st August of the relevant Playing Season or, under the age of 18 as at midnight on 31st August of the relevant Playing Season.

(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(ii) below.

(ii) In the event of a Player signing a registration form or having a registration submitted for more than one Club priority of registration shall decide for which Club the Player shall be registered. The Secretary shall notify the Club last applying to register the Player of the fact of the previous registration subject to the exceptions set out in Rule 17 (C) below.

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

(i) Play for more than one Club in the Competition in the same Playing Season without first being transferred.

(ii) Having 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) apply.

(iii) Submit a signed registration form or submit a registration through WGS for registration that the Player had willfully neglected to accurately or fully complete including own signatures.

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

(H) (i) The Management Committee shall have the power to accept the registration of any Player subject to the provisions of Rule 18(A).

(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 8).

(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 8) subject to the right of appeal to Somerset FA 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) 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) 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.)

(v) Subject to compliance with FA Rule C2 1 during the current season any Club wishing to approach a player known to be registered with or having played for any other Club must give to the secretary of each such Club, seven days' formal written notice of the intention to approach the player using the Transfer Form

The player may be registered on or after the eighth day and must be registered on or before the 21st day. The approaching Club may not approach the same player a second time in the same playing season, may approach only one player at a Club at any time and may not approach another player at the same Club within 28 days of an earlier notice of approach or acknowledgement.

A club which is the subject of a complaint alleging failure to give notice in accordance with this rule may be subject to a charge of Misconduct. A club proved to have breached the provisions of this rule may have its current registration of the player cancelled and be subject to such other penalty as League deems appropriate,

in accordance with relevant regulations of the League from time to time in force. The club approached for consent has 3 days to object to the transfer in writing. Failure to object within 3 days shall result in a fine in accordance with the fines tariff.

The completed transfer form shall be submitted to the League Secretary having been signed by both Clubs and confirmation given that the transfer fee has been paid into the League Bank Account. A new registration form shall be forwarded by the accepting club to the Registration Secretary.

During the current season a maximum of two players may be approached to the same Club in the manner described above.

(I) A Player may not be registered for a Club nor transferred to another Club in the Competition after 31st March except by special permission of the Management Committee, or when a club cannot field their recognised goalkeeper.

(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.

(K) A register containing the names of all Players registered for each Club, with the date of registration, shall be kept on the WGS. 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 17(B)(i).

(L) A Player shall not be eligible to play for a Club in any special championship, promotion or relegation deciding Competition Match (as specified in Rule 22(A) unless the Player has played 3 Competition Matches for that Club in the current Playing Season.

(M) (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(M) (i) only in circumstances where the ineligibility is due to the failure to obtain an International Transfer Certificate or where the ineligibility is related to the Player's status.

(iii) Where a Club is found to have played an ineligible Player in accordance with Rule 18(M) 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):

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

(ii) The availability of players must be cleared with their head teacher (except for Sunday league competitions).

(iii) A player 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 than that player by two years or more.

19. CLUB COLOURS

Every Club must register the colour of its shirts and shorts with the Secretary by 30th April 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 Club 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 7 days before the Competition Match.

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

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

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. The playing season will be decided at the AGM. Fixtures will be compiled by the League Secretary immediately following the AGM.

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 match must then be rearranged within 7 days of the postponement and played on a mutually agreed date within 35 days of the original match date, even if it means postponing a match already arranged. The 7-day period commences on the date of the original match or postponement date, whichever comes first. Should the home club be able to demonstrate that the opposition were unreasonably delaying the rearrangement, the latter will be fined. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

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. **This rule applies to club main pitches only.**

The home Club is also responsible for advising Participants of footwear requirements when confirming match arrangements.

All Competition Matches shall have duration of 90 minutes.

The times of kick-off shall be either 1930 or 1945.

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

The home Club must provide at least two size 5 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 and first team rearranged matches. All other matches must be considered secondary. Clubs may mutually agree to bring forward a Competition Match with the consent of the League Secretary. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

In the case of a postponed or rearranged fixture date, both Clubs must give the League Secretary notice of the revised date using the Rearrangement Form **and within the 7 days**. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

(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 4 clear days prior to the playing of the Competition Match and must be confirmed in writing by the opposition Secretary. 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 11 and 8 is the minimum to continue playing. If clubs have 25 or more players registered, they will not necessarily be allowed to postpone a match. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

(E) (i) Home and away matches shall be played. In the event of a Club failing to keep its engagement the Management Committee shall

(a) award the points from the Competition Match in question to the Club's opponent (without the awarding of goals)

(b) order the Competition Match to be rescheduled. The Management Committee shall also have the power to order the rescheduled Competition Match to be played on a neutral ground or on the opponent Club's Ground if they are satisfied that such action is warranted by the circumstances.

In addition, the Management Committee may, at its discretion, order one or more of the following (if appropriate)

a) impose a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff),

b) deduct points from the defaulting Club

c) order the defaulting Club to pay any reasonable expenses incurred by the opponents

The match must then be rearranged within 7 days of the postponement and played on a mutually agreed date within 35 days of the original match date, even if it means postponing a match already arranged. **The 7-day period commences on the date of the original match or postponement date, whichever comes first.** Both clubs must submit the rearrangement form to the League Secretary. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

(ii) Any Club wishing to postpone a match for any reason must, without delay, seek approval from the League Secretary, and inform the secretary of the opposing Club and the Match Officials once a postponement has been authorised. The Club must satisfy themselves that the communication used has been received by the Secretary of the opposing Club, not merely assuming it has been received. See rule 19 (D)

Postponements due to unfit pitches must be notified to the opposition and League Secretary by 4pm. A completed Match Postponement Form with a video clearly showing the areas affected on the actual pitch must be sent to the League Secretary within 1 hour of the postponement. Should a club postpone a match twice because of the weather after January 1st, the Management Committee may order the match to be played at the opposition ground. Officials' fees are borne by the original home club. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff

(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 League Secretary within 7 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 if 75 minutes have been played.

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.

(vi) In the event that a club has 3 or more players selected to play for a County Representative side they shall be able to make application for their game on that day, or 2 days either side to be postponed, to the League Secretary. In the event that players may be required for the first team Manager, they must ensure they have sufficient players registered to play the WCFYL match. There will be no postponements for this.

(F) A Club may at its discretion and in accordance with the Laws of the Game use 5 substitute players in any Competition Match and who may be selected from 5 named players. The Technical Area occupants are 3 coaches plus a physiotherapist and 5 substitutes only. Only 2 coaches may be standing and giving instructions at any one time. All substitutes must be seated in the Technical Area. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

(G) Team Sheets which must contain the name of substitutes must be handed to the referee and opposition 45 minutes before the official time of kick off. A Player not so named may not take part in that Competition Match. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff. A Player who has 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.

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

(I) The Teams taking part shall identify a Team captain who will wear an armband and shall have a responsibility to offer support in the management of the on-field discipline of his teammates. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

(J) Sin bins will be indicated by the referee showing a yellow card and clearly pointing with both arms to the side lines. This will result in a ten-minute dismissal from the pitch during which time the player is not allowed to be substituted or involved in the game in any way. A second temporary dismissal in a match will result in the offending player being dismissed for a further ten minutes, after which they may not re-join the match, but may then be substituted if the team has substitutions remaining.

(K) Where a suspension imposed in relation to a Football Debt (as defined under the Football Debt Recovery Regulations) upon a Club by The FA or Affiliated Association is not lifted, and the Club does not provide confirmation from The FA or Affiliated Association that such suspension is lifted to the Competition Secretary by 4 days before a fixture, that fixture will be treated as an unfulfilled fixture and dealt with in accordance with Rule 20(E)(i).

(L) No alcohol may be consumed outside of the club house to avoid Child Protection Act issues and none taken into the ground or home and away changing rooms. Transgression of this rule may result in a fine up to £100 at the Management Committee discretion.

21. REPORTING RESULTS

(A) The Results Secretary must receive within 4 days of the date played (Sundays excluded), the result of each Competition Match by way of a scanned Team Sheet from both Clubs. This must include the forename(s) and surname of the Team Players (in block letters) and also the referee markings required by Rule 24, or any other information required by the Competition. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in the Fines Tariff.

(B) The Home Club shall SMS the result of each Competition Match to the website no later than 1 hour after 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 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.

22. DETERMINING CHAMPIONSHIP

(A) Team rankings within the Competition will be decided by points with three points to be awarded for a win and one point for a drawn Competition Match. The Clubs 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. In that event, the Management Committee rankings will be decided on GD and if that is equal on goals scored.

(B) and (C) not used

(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. Any team not completing its fixtures will be fined a maximum of £200 and shall not receive any medals.

(E) No club shall be promoted that fails to satisfy the League Ground Grading regulations.

23. MATCH OFFICIALS

(A) Registered referees and assistant referees where approved by The FA or County FA for all Competition Matches shall be appointed by the home club in a manner approved by the Management Committee and by the Sanctioning Authority. One official of the team must be at Level 5 but not necessarily as match referee.

(B) Not used

(C) In the event of the non-appearance of the appointed referee the appointed senior assistant shall take charge and a suitable club assistant referee shall be appointed by the competing teams. 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 Somerset FA, Match Officials appointed under this Rule shall be paid a match fee in accordance with the Fees Tariff and travel expenses currently of 40p per mile.

Match Officials fees are set by the Management Committee and will be paid their fees and 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. The League encourages the use of BACS transfer.

(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 plus expenses. 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 Results Secretary 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. Referees with the highest marks in a season will be offered control of the Roger Stone Memorial Cup Final.

(J) The referee shall submit a report form, supplied by the Competition, giving details of his post-match observations.

(K) Not used

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

24. ROGER STONE MEMORIAL LEAGUE CUP

The following apply specifically to the League Cup and should be read in conjunction with the Standard Rules.

A player registered with his Club in the League 24 hours in advance of the game is eligible to play in this Competition but may not play for more than one Club in the Competition in the same season (cup tied). This rule does not apply to Goalkeepers but approval must be obtained from the League Secretary.

Any Club playing an ineligible player will be eliminated from the Competition and may be otherwise dealt with as determined by the Management Committee.

The duration of all Cup matches will be 90 minutes (45 minutes each way) and should the teams be level after this period a Penalty Kick Competition shall determine the winner. The Penalty Kick Competition shall be in accordance with the format laid down by the Somerset Football Association Handbook.

Should a match need to be rearranged for whatever reason, it shall be played within the next 7 days. Where there is a 1st team fixture booked, it must be played on the first opportunity thereafter. Should this clash with a youth league fixture that must be rearranged, not the cup fixture. If there are 2 postponements the match will be played at the opposition ground as in Rule 20 (E).

All other rules applying to League matches shall apply to the League Cup including the 5-substitute rule.

25. CLUB SPORTSMANSHIP MARKS

Sportsmanship trophies/medals will be awarded to clubs and players that achieve targets set out below. The purpose of the awards is to encourage all participants in the game to adhere to a strict code of conduct and reward good and gentlemanly behaviour.

The assimilation of information will also allow the Management Committee to monitor poor behaviour through the marking system and have discretion to require clubs to comment on consistently low marks.

Points will be awarded for the attitude of players, spectators and club officials by both clubs whilst at the ground,

Players 6 marks max; Club Officials and spectators 4 marks max

Marks will be recorded on the Team and Report sheet by the Managers

Failure to record marks will result in a fine.

26. HOSPITALITY

All Clubs must provide refreshments for players and officials. The minimum is drinks at half time and sandwiches at full time (failure to provide them will incur a fine). The Management Committee hopes that all Clubs follow established practice of hot food at full time. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

Host Clubs are asked to inform the Management Committee if the opposition abuse the hospitality by leaving prior to a meal being provided by commenting on the Team Sheet that is sent to the Results Secretary.

27. ALCOHOL

No alcohol may be consumed outside of the club house to avoid Child Protection Act issues and none taken into grounds or home and away dressing rooms during or after matches. The FA Safeguarding Children rules and Licensing laws prohibit this.

Transgression of this rule will result in a fine of up to £100 at the Management Committee discretion.

SCHEDULE A

FEES TARIFF		
RULE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM FEE
2(K)	CLUBS CANNOT PLAY IN OTHER COMPETITIONS	£50
4 (A)	CLUB ENTRY FEE	£100
4 (B)	CLUB/TEAM ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION	£100
7 (C), 7(F)	PROTEST/APPEAL FEES	£25
18 (H)	TRANSFER FEE	£25
24 (E)	REFEREE FEES	£40 + travel at 40ppm
24(E)	ASSISTANT REFEREE FEES	£30 + travel at 40ppm

FINES TARIFF		
RULE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM FINE
2(I)	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH FA INITIATIVES	£100
2 (K)	UNAUTHORISED ENTRY OF TEAMS INTO COMPETITIONS	£100
3	FAILURE TO OBTAIN CONSENT FOR A CHANGE OF CLUB NAME	£30
4(B)	FAILURE TO REMAIN FOR 3 CONSECUTIVE YEARS	£200
4(E)	FAILURE TO PAY ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION 14 DAYS BEFORE AGM	£100
4(F)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE AFFILIATION NUMBER/DETAILS FORM	£50
5(D)	COMMUNICATIONS CONDUCTED BY PERSONS OTHER THAN NOMINATED OFFICERS	£30
6(H)	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH A MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INSTRUCTION	£100
6(I)	FAILURE TO PAY A FINE WITHIN 14 DAYS	£50
8 (H)	FAILURE TO BE REPRESENTED AT AGM	£100
9 (E)	FAILURE TO BE REPRESENTED AT SGM	£100
10	FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED WRITTEN AGREEMENT OR TO NOTIFY CHANGES TO SIGNATORIES	£25
11 (A)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL BEFORE DEADLINE – 80 DAYS BEFORE AGM	£200
11 (B)	FAILURE TO COMPLETE FIXTURES	£200
12 (D)	SERIOUS OR UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR	£50
13 (A)	FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED WRITTEN AGREEMENT REGARDING THE TROPHY	£25
13 (A)	FAILURE TO RETURN TROPHY (S) BY 31ST MARCH	£50
13 (A)	FAILURE TO HAVE TROPHY(S) INSCRIBED	£50
16(A)	FAILURE TO HAVE PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE	£100
16(B)	FAILURE TO HAVE PERSONAL ACCIDENT COVER	£100
18 (A)	FAILURE TO CORRECTLY REGISTER A PLAYER	£40
18 (B)(iii)	FAILURE TO HAVE THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF REGISTERED PLAYERS PRIOR TO THE PLAYING SEASON COMMENCING	£100

18 (E) (i)	REGISTERING OR PLAYING FOR MULTIPLE CLUBS OR INACCURATE COMPLETION OF A REGISTRATION FORM	£50
18 (F) (iii)	DELIBERATE FALSIFICATION OF REGISTRATION FORM	£75
18(H)	FAILURE TO STATE OBJECTIONS WITHIN 3 DAYS	£30
18 (H) (iii)	UNDESIRABLE CONDUCT	£100
18 (M)	PLAYING AN INELIGIBLE PLAYER	£50
18(N)	FAILURE TO GIVE PRIORITY TO SCHOOL ACTIVITIES	£50
19	FAILURE TO NUMBER SHIRTS	£5 (per shirt, up to an aggregate maximum of £30)
20(A)	DELAYING KICK OFF DUE TO FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED EQUIPMENT	£20
20 (B)	FAILURE TO PLAY FIXTURE ON THE DATE FIXED	£100
20 (C)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE DETAILS OF A FIXTURE	£50
20(E) (i)	FAILURE TO PLAY FIXTURE	£100
(iii)&20 (B)	FAILURE TO REARRANGE WITHIN 7 DAYS	£50
20 (C) (ii)	FAILURE TO INFORM OPPONENTS & LEAGUE OF POSTPONEMENT WITHIN 1 HOUR + PHOTOS	£30
20 (F)	MORE THAN 3 COACHES + PHYSIO AND 5 SUBS	£50
20(G)	MORE THAN 5 SUBSTITUTES AND 3 OFFICIALS IN TECHNICAL AREA	£30
20(G)	TEAMSHEETS TO OPPOSITION 45 MINUTES BEFORE KO	£50
20 (E) (ii)	NOTIFICATION OF POSTPONEMENT BY 4PM WITH FORM AND PHOTOS	£50
20 (J)	NO CAPTAIN'S ARMBAND	£5
21 (A)	LATE RESULT NOTIFICATION FORM	£30
21 (B)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE RESULT SMS	£30
23 (C)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE CLUB ASSISTANT REFEREE	£30
23 (E)	FAILURE TO PAY MATCH OFFICIALS' FEES AND EXPENSES	£30
23 (F)	FAILURE TO PAY MATCH OFFICIALS WHERE A MATCH IS NOT PLAYED AND THEY ARE PRESENT	£25
23(H)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE REFEREE'S MARK	£25
25	FAILURE TO RECORD SPORTSMANSHIP MARKS	£25
26	FAILURE TO PROVIDE REFRESHMENTS	£50
27	ALCOHOL MISUSE AT GROUNDS	£100

We are pleased to be associated with
Western Counties Floodlight Youth League
and Wellington AFC



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