



# LEAGUE RULES

(Effective 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018)

## 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.

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

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“**Club**” means a Club for the time being in membership of the Competition and “**Team**” means a side from a Club especially where a Club provides more than one Team in a Division in accordance with the Rules.

“**Competition**” means the trophyUK.net Royston Crow Youth Football League.

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

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

“**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.

“**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.

“**Ground**” means the Ground on which the Club’s Team(s) plays its Competition Matches.

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

“**Match Officials**” means the Referee, the Assistant Referees and any Fourth Official appointed to a Competition Match.

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

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

“**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 the Hertfordshire County Football Association Limited.

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

“**Team Sheet**” means a Form provided by the Competition on which the names of the Players taking part in a Competition match are listed.

“**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 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 trophyUK.net Royston Crow Youth 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 **75** Clubs approved by the Sanctioning Authority.
- (C) The geographical area covered by the Competition membership shall be **within a 25 mile radius of Royston as the Crow flies**
- (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 Sanctioning Authority and the constituent Teams of Clubs may be grouped in divisions, *each not exceeding **16** in number.*
- (H) Inclusivity and Non-discrimination
- (i) The Competition and each Club must be committed to promoting inclusivity and to eliminating all forms of discrimination and should abide and adhere to The FA Equality Policy and any legislative requirements (to include those contained in the Equality Act 2010).
  - (ii) This Competition and each Club must make every effort to promote equality by treating people fairly and with respect, by recognising that inequalities may exist, by taking steps to address them and by providing access and opportunities for all members of the community, irrespective of age, gender, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, marital status, race, nationality, ethnic origin, colour, religion or belief, ability or disability or otherwise.
  - (iii) Any alleged breach of the Equality Act 2010 legislation must be referred to the appropriate Sanctioning Authority for investigation.
- (I) Clubs must comply with the provisions of any initiatives of The FA which are adopted by the Competition including, but not limited to, Charter Standard and RESPECT programmes. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
- (J) All Participants shall abide by The Football Association Regulations for Safeguarding Children as determined by The FA from time to time.

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

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

(M) Any Club seeking membership of The Competition must have in place a formal Constitution and Committee Structure consisting of the minimum of the following Officers, Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Child Welfare Officer.

(N) Each Member Club is required to have an e-mail address operated by the Club Secretary. Please note that this should be accessible at all times and as such Business Addresses which are not available at weekends do not meet the requirement for this Rule.

### **CLUB NAME**

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

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

- 4 (a) Applications by Clubs for admission to this Competition must be made in writing to the Secretary and must be accompanied by the 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 Special General Meeting or on a date agreed by the Management Committee.

(b) The Annual Subscription per Club and individual Team Entry Fees shall be as shown in Fees Tariff and shall be payable on or before the **1<sup>st</sup> July** in each year.

(c) **Not applicable**

(d) A Club shall not participate in this Competition until the Entry Fee, Annual Subscription and Deposit (if required) have been paid

(e) If requested by the Competition, Clubs must advise annually to the Secretary in writing by **31<sup>st</sup> August** of its Sanctioning Authority affiliation number for the forthcoming Playing Season, *failing which they shall be fined (in accordance with the Fines Tariff)*.

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

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

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

(B) Retiring Officers shall be eligible to become candidates for re-election without nomination provided that the Officer notifies the Secretary in writing not later than **30<sup>th</sup> April** in each year. All other candidates for election as Officers or members of the Management Committee shall be nominated to the Secretary in writing, signed by the Secretaries of two member Clubs, not later than **1<sup>st</sup> July** in each year. Names of the Candidates for election shall be circulated with the notice of the AGM. In the event of there being no nomination in accordance with the foregoing for any office, nominations may be received at the AGM.

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

On receiving a requisition signed by two-thirds of the Members of the Management

Committee the Secretary shall convene a Meeting of the Management Committee.

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

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

(F) Management Committee Members should not be contacted before 9.00 a.m. or after 9.30p.m. Where the enquiry relates to a specific Club matter, contact should only be made by the Club Secretary-

(G) Any member of the Management Committee absent from three consecutive Management Committee Meetings, or designated Committees, without giving a satisfactory explanation in writing, shall be considered to have resigned their seat and the Management Committee may proceed to fill the vacancy in accordance with Rule 6(G).

(H) Any Person seeking election to the Management Committee is required to have an e-mail address. Please note that this should be accessible at all times and as such Business Addresses which are not available at weekends do not meet the requirement for this Rule.

(I) No two Ordinary Members shall represent the same Club

## **POWERS OF MANAGEMENT**

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

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

(C) Each Member of the Management Committee shall have the right to attend and vote at all Management Committee Meetings and have one vote thereat, but no Member shall be allowed to vote on any matters directly appertaining to such Member or to the Club so represented or where there may be a conflict of interest. (This shall apply to the procedure of any Sub-committee).

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

(D) The Management Committee shall have powers to apply, act upon and enforce the Rules of the Competition and shall also have jurisdiction over all matters affecting the Competition, including any not covered by 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, and 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 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.

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, 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 its right of appeal in accordance with Rule 7 below, all fines and charges shall be paid within 14 days of the date of posting of notification of the decision. Any Club failing to do so will be fined (in accordance with the Fines Tariff). Further failure pay the fine including the additional sum within a further 14 days will result in fixtures being withdrawn until such time as the outstanding fines are paid.

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

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

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

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

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

(ii) Objections relevant to the dimensions of the Pitch, Goals, Flag Posts or other facilities of the Venue will not be entertained by the Management Committee unless a Protest is lodged with the Referee before the commencement of the Match.

(e) 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 in duplicate with the Secretary, within four days (excluding Sundays) of the Match or occurrence to which they refer. A Protest or Complaint shall not be withdrawn except by permission of the Management Committee.

A Member of the Management Committee who is a Member of any Club involved shall not be present (except as a Witness or Representative of his Club) when such protest or complaint is being determined.

(C) No protest of whatever kind shall be considered by the Management Committee unless the complaining Club shall have deposited with the Secretary an Appeal Fee in accordance with the Fees Tariffs. 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 Enquiry or to order that the costs to be shared by the parties.

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

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

(ii) Should a Club elect to state its case in person then they should forward a deposit as indicated in the **Fees Tariff** 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;
- (ii) Convene a hearing to hear the appeal;
- (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 Annual or Special General Meeting unless this is on the ground of unconstitutional conduct.

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

8. (A) The Annual General Meeting (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 50% of the 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 (as recommended by the Management Committee)
- (iv) Constitution of the Competition for ensuing Season
- (v) Election of Officers and Management Committee
- (vi) Appointment of Auditors
- (vii) Alteration of Rules, if any (see Rule 14).
- (viii) Fix the date for the commencement of the Season and Kick Off times applicable to the Competitions
- (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 fourteen days prior to the meeting, together with any proposed changes.

(C) A signed copy of the duly audited Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts and

Agenda shall be forwarded the Sanctioning Authority within fourteen days of its adoption by the AGM.

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

(E) Clubs who have withdrawn their Membership of the Competition during the 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 Member Club.

(H) Any continuing Member Club must be represented at the AGM without satisfactory reason being given shall be fined in accordance the Fines Tariff.

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

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

### **SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS**

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

The Management Committee may call a SGM at any time.

At least seven (7) days notice shall be given of either Meeting under this Rule, together with an Agenda of the business to be transacted at such Meeting.

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

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

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

### **AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED**

10. Each Club shall complete and sign the following agreement which shall be deposited with the Competition together with the application for membership for the coming Playing 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 trophyUK.net RYFL Competition and do hereby agree for and on behalf of the said Club, if elected or accepted into membership, to conform to those Rules and Regulations and to accept, abide by and implement the decisions of the Management Committee of the Competition, subject to the right of appeal in accordance with Rule 16."

The agreement shall be signed by:

(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

(iii) Any alteration of the Chairman and /or Secretary of the Club on the above agreement must be notified to the [ sanctioning] \_\_\_\_\_ County Football Association(s) to which the Club is affiliated and to the Secretary.

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

### **CONTINUATION OF MEMBERSHIP OR WITHDRAWAL OF A CLUB**

11. (A) Any Club intending, or having a provisional intention, to withdraw a Team from the Competition must do so at least **7** 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) In addition to the powers of the Management Committee pursuant to Rule (I), In the event of a Member Club failing to discharge all its financial obligations to the Competition in excess of £50, the Management Committee are empowered to refer the debt under The FA Football Debt Recovery provisions.

### **EXCLUSION OF CLUBS.OR TEAMS MISCONDUCT, CLUBS, OFFICIALS, PLAYERS**

12. (A) At the AGM, or SGM called for the purpose in accordance with the provisions of Rule 9, Notice of Motion having been duly circulated on the Agenda, 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 further Membership which must be supported by (more than) two-thirds of those present and voting. Voting on this point shall be conducted by ballot. A Member of the Management Committee or Club which is the subject of the vote being taken shall be excluded from the 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 of a Club whose conduct has, in their opinion, been undesirable, which must be supported by (more than) two-thirds (2/3rds) 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 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 expulsion or such penalty as a General Meeting or Management Committee may decide, and their Club shall also be liable to expulsion in accordance with the provisions of Clauses (A) and (B) of this Rule.

### **TROPHY**

13. (A) The following Agreement shall be signed on behalf of the Winners of the Cup or Trophy:-

"We A \_\_\_\_\_ and B \_\_\_\_\_, 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 1<sup>st</sup> February. 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).

Cup or Trophy Winners are required to engrave the Cup or Trophy appropriately before return to the Secretary of the League in accordance with the terms of the above paragraph.

Failure to comply will result in a fine as determined by the Management Committee as set out in the Fines Tariff.

(B) At the close of each Competition awards shall be made to the Winners & Runners Up if the funds of the Competition permit.

### **ALTERATION TO RULES**



14. Alterations, for which consent has been given by the Sanctioning Association 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 the Rule relating to the qualification of Players shall not take effect until the following Season.

Notice of proposed alterations to be considered at the AGM shall be submitted to the Secretary by **April 30th** in each year. The proposals, together with any proposals by the Management Committee, shall be circulated to the Clubs by date of **SGM** and any amendments thereto shall be submitted to the Secretary by **31<sup>st</sup> May**.

The proposals and proposed amendments thereto shall be circulated to Clubs with the notice of the AGM. A proposal to change a Rule shall be carried if **a majority** of those present, entitled to vote and voting are in favour.

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

## **FINANCE**

15. (a) The Management Committee shall determine with which Bank or other Financial Institution the Funds of the Competition will be lodged.
- (b) All expenditure in excess of **£1000** shall be approved by the Executive 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 **1<sup>st</sup> May**.
- (d) The Books, or a Certified Balance Sheet, of a Competition shall be prepared and shall be audited annually by some suitable qualified person(s) who shall be appointed at the AGM.

## **INSURANCE**

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

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

## **DISSOLUTION**

- 17 (A) Dissolution of the Competition shall be by resolution approved at a SGM by a majority of three quarters 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 B e n e v o l e n t 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**

### **QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS**

18. (A)(c) A registered youth playing member of a Club is one who, being in all other respects eligible, has registered through WGS.

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

**The only exception to this Rule is at Under 7 - Under 10 where Clubs may seek a “Temporary Player Registration” for 3 matches by e-mailing the League Registration Secretary with the Players Name and Date of Birth. After completing 3 matches the Player must complete a trophyUK.net RCYFL League Registration Form to continue playing in the League.**

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

**At the initial time of registration this must be by means of a Birth Certificate, Passport or other original Document approved by the Management Committee. Subsequent registrations will be accepted if the Players Registration or FAN Number is quoted.**

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

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

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 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 Club must have the following number of Players registered 7 days before the start of each Playing Season.

<b>FORMAT</b>	<b>MINIMUM NUMBER</b>
5v5	5
7v7	7
9v9	9
11v11	11

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

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

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

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

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

<b>Age on 31 August of the relevant playing season</b>	<b>Eligible Age Groups</b>	<b>Maximum Permitted Format</b>	<b>Max / Recommended Pitch Sizes in yards</b>	<b>Recommended Goal Sizes in feet</b>	<b>Ball Size</b>
6	Under 7	5v5	40 x 30	12 x 6	Size 3
	Under 8		40 x 30	12 x 6	
7	Under 8	5v5	60 x 40	12 x 6	
	Under 9	7v7	60 x 40	12 x 6	
8	Under 9	7v7	60 x 40	12 x 6	Size 4
	Under 10		60 x 40	12 x 6	
9	Under 10	7v7	60 x 40	12 x 6	
	Under 11	9v9	80 x 50	16 x 7	
10	Under 11	9v9	80 x 50	16 x 7	
	Under 12		80 x 50	16 x 7	
11	Under 12	9v9	80 x 50	16 x 7	
	Under 13	11v11	90 x 55	21 x 7	
12	Under 13	11v11	90 x 55	21 x 7	
	Under 14		90 x 55	21 x 7	
13	Under 14	11v11	90 x 55	21 x 7	
	Under 15		100 x 60	24 x 8	
14	Under 15	11v11	100 x 60	24 x 8	Size 5
	Under 16		100 x 60	24 x 8	
15	Under 16	11v11	100 x 60	24 x 8	
	Under 17		110 x 70	24 x 8	
	Under 18		110 x 70	24 x 8	
16	Under 17	11v11	110 x 70	24 x 8	
	Under 18		110 x 70	24 x 8	
	Open Age		110 x 70	24 x 8	

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

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

- (i) A Player shall not be permitted to register for more than one Club subject to the exceptions set out in Rule 18 (E)(iii) below.
  - (ii) In the event of a Player signing a registration form or having a registration submitted for more than one Club priority of registration shall decide for which Club the Player shall be registered. The Secretary shall notify the Club last applying to register the Player of the fact of the previous registration subject to the exceptions set out in Rule 18 (E)(iii) below.
  - (iii) A Player is only permitted to register for more than one Club provided that:
    - a. The Team(s) in which the Player plays in are not in the same age group; or
    - b. Except for the purpose of a transfer.And the Player meets the requirements in Rule 18(C).
- (F) It shall be a breach of these Rules for a Player to:-
- (i) Play for more than one Team in the same age group in the Competition in the same Playing Season without first being transferred.
  - (ii) Having registered for one Club in the Competition, register for another Club in the Competition in that Playing Season, except if the provisions set out in Rule 18 (E) (iii) apply.
  - (iii) Submit a signed registration form or submit a registration through WGS for registration that the Player had willfully neglected to accurately or fully complete.

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

(G) (i) The Management Committee shall have power to accept the registration of any Player subject to the provisions of clauses 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 also have the power to refuse or cancel the registration of any Player charged and found guilty of undesirable conduct, such refusal or cancellation being subject to the right of appeal to the Sanctioning Authority. Where the Management Committee does not have enough information to enable it to make a decision pursuant to the above power, it may apply, in its absolute discretion, to the Sanctioning Authority or The FA for further information.

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

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

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

(H) Subject to compliance with FA Rule C 2(a) when a Club wishes to register a Player who is already registered with another Club it shall submit a Transfer Form in a format as determined by the Competition to the Competition Registration Secretary 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 Registration Secretary may, on behalf of the Management Committee, transfer the Player who shall be deemed eligible to play for the new Club from 24 hours 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

**No Player shall be allowed to transfer from one Club to another until the 1<sup>st</sup> October.**

**A Player may not be transferred more than twice in any one Season unless by special permission of the Management Committee.**

(I) A Player may not be registered for a Club nor transferred to another Club in the Competition after **31<sup>st</sup> March** except by special permission of the Management Committee.

(J) A Club shall keep a list of the Players it registers and a record of the games in which they have played, and shall produce such records upon demand by the Management Committee. In the event a Club has more than one Team in an age group, each Team must be clearly identifiable **but not designated 'A' or 'B' or 1st or 2nd**. In such cases, Players will be registered for one Team only. A Player so registered will be allowed to play for his Club in a younger or older age group within the provisions of Rule 8(C).

**The only exception to this Rule is at Under 7 to 10 where Players are registered as a Squad. For the purpose of this Rule a Squad shall be deemed represent a maximum of 3 Teams.**

**However, they can only play for Teams that compete in the same Division, and play for one Team on the day, and in the case of the League Cup will be cup tied for the first.**

**Team they play for. It is also recommended that each Team should have a minimum of 9 registered Players over the number of the required format.**

**At Under 12 where Teams are registered separately a Player can play 3 times for another Team in the Club at that Age Group. Once the Player has played for that other Team four times or more, he/she shall not in that Season be eligible to play for the other Team except by permission of the Management Committee.**

(K) A Register containing the Names of all Players registered for each Club, with the date of registration, shall be kept by the League Registration Secretary and shall be open to the inspection of any duly appointed Member Club representative at all Management Committee Meetings or at other times mutually arranged. Registrations are valid for one 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 Player without a written contract will automatically be cancelled and declared void. In order to play in the League again either for his original Club or for another Club it will be necessary for him to be re-registered as required by this Rule.

(L) A Player shall not be eligible to play for a Team in any special Championship, Promotion or Relegation deciding match (as specified in Rule 22(a) (ii) unless the Player has played **six** games for that Team in this Competition in the current Season.

(M) A Team shall not include more than **3** Players who has/have taken part in **6** or more senior Competition Matches during the current Playing Season unless a period of 21 days has elapsed since they last played.

For the purpose of this Rule a senior competition are the **Eastern Junior Alliance & Junior Premier League**.

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

(N) (i) Subject to Rule 18(n)(ii), any Club found to have played an ineligible Player in a match or matches where points are awarded shall have the points gained from that match deducted from its record, up to a maximum of 12 points, and have levied upon it a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(ii) The Management Committee may vary the sanction as relates to the deduction of points set out at Rule 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;
- (b) Levy penalty points against the Club in default; or
- (c) Order that such match or matches be replayed (on such terms as are decided by the Management Committee).

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

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

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

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

**(P) Each Team may register a maximum of 20 players. Any additional registrations will subject to approval by the Management Committee**

**Q) (i) In the event of a Player ceasing to play for a Club, it is the responsibility of the Club to detach that Player from WGS..**

**(R) (i) Registration Cards must be shown to the person in charge of the opposing Team prior to every competitive Royston Crow Youth Football League and League Cup Match. In the event of a failure to produce Registration Cards, the Match will be played nonetheless.**

**Proven failure to produce Cards will result in a Fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff and the Match be awarded to the Opposition regardless of the result.**

**(ii) Any individual Player whose Registration Card is not made available will not be permitted to participate in the Match.**

**(S) In the event that a Manager is not satisfied that a Player is the Player on the Registration Card, the Match will be played nonetheless. The Club concerned should submit within four days the grounds for the Manager's objection together with a deposit in accordance with the Fines Tariff and be prepared to attend a Hearing at which the Player will be present and card will be produced. (Subject to Rule 15).**

**NB. Under 14's are not allowed to appear in Disciplinary Hearings to observe Safeguarding requirements. In these instances the League Welfare Officer may need to gather evidence through interviewing the Player at home in the presence of his/her Parent or Legal and present this at Hearing**

### **CLUB COLOURS**

19. Every Club must register the colour of its shirts and shorts with the Secretary by 31<sup>ST</sup> July who shall decide as to their suitability.

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

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

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 the colours in which they will play to its Opponents at least **three** days before the Match.

If, in the opinion of the Referee, two Clubs have the same or similar colours, the Away Team shall make the change. Any Team not having a change of colours or delaying the kick-off by not having a change shall be fined in accordance with The Fines Tariff.

**Shirts bearing different numbers must be worn by all Players (including Substitutes) of all competing Teams in the Royston Crow Youth Football League (second strips included). Any Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be dealt with by the Management Committee who may impose such penalties as they deem suitable.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Minimum duration of play per half (minutes)</b>	<b>Maximum duration of play per half (minutes)</b>	<b>Maximum playing time in one day in all organised development fixtures (minutes)</b>	<b>Maximum playing time in one day in all tournaments and trophy events / festivals (minutes)</b>	<b>Competition structure</b>
Under 7 and Under 8	10	20	40	60	Development focussed with a maximum of 3 trophy events per season over 2 week periods (6 weeks)
Under 9 and Under 10	20	25	60	90	Development focussed with a maximum of 3 trophy events per season over 4 week periods (12 weeks)

Under 11	20	30	80	120	Development focussed with a maximum of 3 trophy events per season over 6 week periods (18 weeks)
Under 12	20	30	80 (if applicable)	120	Any varieties including one season long league table
Under 13 and Under 14	25	35	100	150	Any varieties including one season long league table
Under 15 and Under 16	25	40	100	150	Any varieties including one season long league table
Under 17 and Under 18	25	45	120	180	Any varieties including one season long league table

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

For trophy events, the Competition may award mementos.

The times of kick-off shall be fixed at the AGM and can only be altered by the mutual consent of the two competing Clubs prior to the scheduled date of the match with written notification given to the Secretary at 3 days prior.

The times of kick-off shall not be earlier than 10.30 a.m. nor later than 3.00 p.m. for Sunday fixtures or 6.30 p.m to 8.00 p.m. for midweek fixtures unless by mutual agreement of both Clubs. Any Club failing to commence at the appointed time may be fined in accordance with the Fines or be otherwise dealt with as the Management Committee may determine.

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

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

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

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

Clubs competing in Development Leagues may mutually agree to bring forward or move back a Match with the consent of the relevant Divisional Fixture Secretary. Matches moved as a result of this must be rearranged by the Clubs within in 7 days.

If Clubs are unable to agree a date, this must be referred to the Divisional Fixtures Secretary by the postponing Club, who will decide whether to rearrange or void the fixture

- (C) An Officer of the home Club must give notice using the Match Confirmation Form (MCF)



by e.mail of full particulars of the location of, and access to, the ground and time of kick-off to the Match Officials and the Fixtures Secretary of the opposing Club and to the Divisional Fixtures Secretary at least **5 days** prior to the playing of the match. The notice required in relation to midweek matches is 48 hours.

In addition, the Home Club must advise their Opponents as to whether or not a qualified and currently registered Referee will be refereeing the game..

If not so provided, the away Club shall seek such details and report the circumstances to the Competition (Divisional Fixture Secretary). Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

The Away Club shall seek and acknowledge receipt of such particulars and confirm acceptance of the Match within 48 hours of receipt. The notice required in relation to midweek matches is 24 hours.

Where circumstances do not allow confirmation by e-mail, Matches may be confirmed by telephone before 9.00 p.m. at least five days prior to the playing of the Match, but if a message is left on either an answerphone or with anybody other than the designated Secretary or Fixture Secretary, a subsequent phone call should be made to confirm the message has been received. All details as required for the MCF must be given when confirming the Match and the Divisional Fixtures Secretary must also be informed

If there is a League appointed Referee (and Assistant Referees) for the Match these should be confirmed as per Rule 23(a).

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

<b>FORMAT</b>	<b>MINIMUM NUMBER</b>
5v5	4
7v7	5
9v9	6
11v11	7

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

(E) (i) In Competitions where points are awarded home and away matches shall be played. In the event of a Club failing to keep its engagement the Management Committee shall have the power to impose a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff), deduct points from the defaulting Club, award the points from the match in question to the opponents, order the defaulting Club to pay any expenses incurred by the opponents or otherwise deal with them except the award of goals. Notwithstanding the foregoing home and away provision,

the Management Committee shall have power to order a match to be played on a neutral ground or on the opponent's Ground if they are satisfied that such action is warranted by the circumstances.

(ii) Any Club unable to fulfil a fixture or where a fixture has been postponed for any reason must, without delay, give notice to the (Fixtures) Secretary, the Competition Referees Appointments Secretary, the secretary of the opposing Club and the Match Officials.

In the event of a Team failing to appear at a Ground by the appointed Kick Off time without prior notification to their Opponents, the Team in attendance should attempt to contact the Team to ascertain the reason for their non-appearance. They should also notify the Divisional Fixtures Secretary of their Opponent's failure to appear. They should then wait for a minimum period of 30 minutes before leaving unless instructed by the Divisional Fixtures Secretary to leave. Teams failing to appear in this manner will be issued with a Rule Contravention Form for non-fulfilment of fixture.

M) When a Team fails to fulfil either a festival or development fixture and pitch hire costs have been incurred, the Organising Competition will be empowered to order the defaulting Club to pay these costs and charge an administration fee of up to £10.00.

(iii) In the event of a 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 7 days the Management Committee shall have the power to order the 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 match was abandoned owing to the conduct of one Team or its Club member(s) they shall be empowered to award the points for the match to the opponent. No fine(s) can be applied by the Management Committee for an abandoned match.

(v) The Management Committee shall review any match that has taken place where either or both Teams were under a suspension imposed upon them by The FA or Affiliated Association. In each case the Team that was under suspension would be dealt with in the same manner as if they had participated with ineligible players in accordance with Rule 8(N)(i) above. Where both Teams were under suspension the match must be declared null and void and shall not be replayed.

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

Where a Competition does not allow return substitutes:

#### For Under 11s - Under 18's

Up to 5 may be selected from 5 substitute Players. A Player who has been substituted becomes a substitute and may replace any Player at any time subject to the substitution being carried out in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of Association Football.

#### For Mini-Soccer

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

In Youth Football only, the Referee shall be informed of the names of the substitutes not later than 5 minutes before the start of the match and a Player not so named may not take part in the match.

A Player who has been selected, appointed or named as a substitute before the start of the match but does not actually play in the game shall not be considered to have been a Player in that game within the meaning of Rule 18 of this Competition.

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

(H) The Teams taking part in Under 7s to Under 11s or Youth Football shall identify a Team captain who shall wear an armband and shall have a responsibility to offer support in the management of the on-field discipline of his/her teammates. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(I) No fixtures will be scheduled for the Christmas period Saturday & Sunday (2 weeks in total) or for Easter Sunday. In addition two "free weeks" will be granted to a Team providing the request is received in writing by the Divisional Fixture Secretary at least 28 days before the date required.

#### **PLEASE NOTE:**

School Trips/Events will count against a 'free week' request

A 'free week' request will be granted at the discretion of the Fixture Secretary  
Half term fixtures are at the discretion of the Fixture Secretary

If requesting a 'free week' for School Trip/Event under a 7 day notice a letter from the School is needed showing the names of the Players' that are unable to play the published fixture. A free week will only be granted under a 7 day notice for this reason if the Team has less than the minimum players required to play a fixture.

In the event of a Team requesting a "free week" outside the 28 day period which results in the

Team's Opponents incurring irrecoverable pitch hire costs, the requesting Club will be required to reimburse these costs.

(J) Notice of Postponement of any Match must be given without delay by the Secretary or Fixture Secretary of the postponing Club to the Divisional Fixture Secretary, the Referees Secretary, the Secretary of the Opposing Club and the Match Officials. Any Club failing to comply shall be dealt with by the Management Committee who may inflict any penalty it may deem suitable. . The only exception to this Rule is when a Team is requesting a "free week" the notice period required is 28 days.

Requests for Postponements due to forthcoming School Trips or Events are required in writing, accompanied by the League's Official School Trip Form and evidence from the School, not less than 28 days before the date concerned

The Divisional Fixture Secretary shall acknowledge this action by giving a Reference Number. The postponing Club must send a completed League Postponement Form to the Divisional Fixture Secretary within 72 hours of receiving the Reference Number.

Written confirmation may be requested by the Divisional Fixture Secretary under Rule 5(q) of the circumstances surrounding the request for any Postponement.

The Secretary of the Opposing Club, shall be told the Reference Number and the reason for Postponement. The Opposing Club has seven days from receipt of the Reference Number to make comments in writing on the Postponement to the League Divisional Fixture Secretary. Clubs that fail to meet this requirement will have no further right of appeal.

No League or League Cup Match may be postponed or cancelled without the prior agreement of the relevant Divisional Fixture Secretary. Postponements for the following reasons shall be allowed in:

- a. Having Players involved in International, County or League Representative Competitions
- b. County Cup Competitions
- c. Unplayable pitches
- d. Exceptional circumstances

All requests for Postponements, for the reasons stated above, shall be treated as a postponement subject to the following clauses:

Requests for Postponements, for reasons other than 'a' to 'd' above shall be treated initially as a Cancellation and a Rule Contravention Form shall be issued for non-fulfillment of the fixture under this Rule. Confirmation of the decision that Rule 10(f) has been broken will be made by the Management Committee based upon the evidence submitted.

(K) Evening Matches shall be played as required by the League. Evening Matches may be played on any day (Monday to Friday inclusive) by prior mutual arrangement of the two Clubs involved. In the event of a dispute, the Management Committee shall order the Match to be played on the Wednesday.

(L) (i) Each home Club shall make arrangements 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 referred to hereafter as the Respect Barriers. The area for Spectators should start two metres from the touchline on one side 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.

Any Club failing to comply with this Rule shall be liable to a fine in accordance with the

## Fines Tariff

(ii) Spectators from both Teams shall stand on one side of the Pitch and all Managers, Coaches and Substitutes shall stand on the opposite side, behind the Respect Barriers.

In addition there must be a 3 metre exclusion zone either side of the Halfway Line that must be kept clear at all times during the match.

Any Club unable to comply with this requirement must notify the League Secretary immediately. Failure to observe this Rule may result in a fine as shown in the Fines Tariff.

(iii) Under no circumstances is a Manager, Coach or Spectator allowed to stand behind the goal, it is the responsibility of the Match Delegate to make sure this does not happen.

(iv) Each Team must provide a Match Delegate (adult) for every Royston Crow Youth Football League or League Cup Match, who should report to the Match Referee prior to kick-off. Reported failure to provide a Youth Match Delegate will result in a Club being fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

## **REPORTING RESULTS**

21. (A) The Registration Secretary must receive within **3 days** of the date played, the result of each Competition Match in the prescribed manner. For the purposes of this Competition this will be the top copy of the three-part Match Result Notification Form (MNRNF). This must include the forename(s) and surname of the Team Players (in block letters) together with the following information.

- (i) Age Group/Division.
- (ii) Date and Time of Match.
- (iii) Initials and Surnames of all Players available to play.
- (iv) Player's Registration Number.
- (v) Name of the Referee, and whether qualified or unqualified.
- (vi) Confirmation of sight of Opposition's League Registration Cards.
- (vii) Name of Match Delegate. (viii) Confirmation of use of Designated Spectator Areas.
- (ix) Result of Match. (x) Sporting Award Mark for Players.
- (xi) Adult Behaviour Mark for Team Management & Spectators.
- (xii) Referee's Mark as required under Rule 13.
- (xiii) Confirmation of Players used, including Substitutes

Failure to do so will incur a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(B) Both Clubs shall use SMS (text messaging) to notify the result of each match, including Postponements, to FA Full Time **one hour** after completion of the match. Clubs in default shall be fined (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

(C) The Match Result Notification Form correctly completed, shall be signed by a responsible Member of the Club and the top copy sent to the League Registration Secretary. Failure to do so will result a fine as detailed in Fines Tariff.

Prior to the start of the Match the Opponent's Copy completed with the information required under Rule 11(a)(i) to (viii) should be given to the Opposition Manager.

The Club Copy should be retained for Club Records as required under Rule 8(k). Match Notification Result Forms MUST still be sent in for all abandoned Matches and the time and reason for the abandonment should be noted in the Comments Box of the Form.

The Management Committee shall have power to take such action as they deem suitable against a Club which submits an incomplete Form or incorrect information.

(D) The Competition & Clubs are permitted to collect but NOT publish results or any grading tables for fixtures involving U7s, U8s, **U9s and U10s** Mini Soccer and U11s.

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.

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

(F) Any Club who submits a Sporting Award of '4' or less shall forward to the League Secretary a written explanation within FOUR days of the Match in question being played.. Such reports MUST be submitted on a correctly completed Royston Crow Youth Football League Low Sporting Mark Report Form and be countersigned by the Club Secretary. Any Club in default of this Rule will be fined and/or otherwise dealt with at the discretion of the Management Committee

(G) Any Club who submits a Adult Behaviour Mark of '4' or less shall forward to the League Secretary a written explanation within FOUR days of the match in question being played. Such reports MUST be submitted on a correctly completed Royston Crow Youth Football League Low Adult Behaviour Mark Report Form and be countersigned by the Club Secretary. Any Club in default of this Rule will be fined and/or otherwise dealt with at the discretion of the Management Committee.

## **DETERMINING CHAMPIONSHIP**

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

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

(b) *Automatic promotion shall be applied for the first 2 and automatic relegation to the last 2 Teams 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 fixtures have 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);*
- (b) *additional promotion of the next ranked Team(s) from the division below; or*
- (c) *election*

(iii) *The last 2 Teams in the lowest division shall retire, but be eligible for re-election except as below, and be subject to the conditions of paragraph (b)(i) above.6*

(iv) *Should either or both of the leading Teams in any of the divisions have a Team in the next higher division, promotion shall fall, at the discretion of the General Meeting, to the next highest Team or Teams in the division concerned.*

(v) *Should either or both of the relegated Teams in any of the divisions have a Team in the next lower division, relegation shall fall, at the discretion of the General Meeting, to the next lowest Team or Teams in the division concerned.*

(c) *In addition to the team(s) automatically promoted under Rule 12(B), a maximum of one further team shall be promoted by virtue of being the winner of a play-off match or series of matches (the "Play-Offs). The eligibility criteria and format of the Play-Offs are as follows [].*

*This Rule does not apply to the RCYFL*

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

(e) The definition of a "completed" relates to any fixture that having been set, a final outcome has been achieved and no further action is required. This can be either by the obtaining of a result on the field of play or by a decision based on a breach of League or Football Association Rules as decided by the appropriate Governing Bodies.

Wherever possible "Play-Off Matches" will be played on either of the last two Sundays in

May, and will be played at a neutral Ground with three match Officials appointed by the League.

The duration of play for "Play-Off Matches" is in accordance with Rule 20 (a) of the League Competition Rules. If the scores are level at the end of normal time a period of extra-time will be played, and will be ten minutes each way in all Age Groups except for the Under 17 and Under 18 sections which will be fifteen minutes each way. If at the end of extra time a result has still not been obtained, then the game will be determined by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark as laid down by the International Football Association (see appendix).

The only exception to this is in respect of the Runners Up position where if a match has been awarded this position will be decided on the "head to head" results between the Teams. If this still fails to provide an outright Winner, a deciding or "Play-Off" Match shall be played under the conditions arranged by the Management Committee.

(f) In the event of a Club failing to keep this engagement the Management Committee shall have power to award the Match to their Opponents by the giving of 3 points thus providing an outright Winner for the Division, and deal with the defaulting Club under the provisions of rule 10(e)(i).

(g) The Management Committee may order at its discretion that Matches order Teams to play 'double headers'. In this case two consecutive Matches are played at the same venue. The length of each Match shall not be less than that stated in rule 10(b). Players are entitled to a break of 15 minutes between the two games. These Matches are to be treated as two entirely separate entities. For each Match three points may be awarded for a win and one for a draw.

The time to be played for each Match in a Double Header is arrived at by adding the normal playing time to the permitted period of extra-time that would be played in a Cup Match for that Age Group. This is then divided half and then divided again into two equal halves.

Therefore Playing times are as follows:-

Under 11 to Under 14 - Two games of 20 minutes each way.

Under 15 & Under 16 - Two games of 25minutes each way

Under 18 - Two games of 30 minutes each way

(h) In the event of a League appointing a Referee to officiate at both matches, the Fee payable will be one and a half times the standard Fee for that Age Group, as set out in Schedule 1 Fees, and this cost will be shared between the competing Clubs.

## **MATCH OFFICIALS**

23. (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 game, 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.

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 do so will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff) being imposed on the defaulting Club

(D) The appointed Referee shall have power to decide as to the fitness of the Ground in all Matches and the decision shall be final subject to either in the case of a Ground of a

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Authority or the owners of a Ground, the Representative of that body is the Sole Arbitrator and whose decision must be accepted.

(E) Subject to any limits/provisions laid down by the Sanctioning Association, Match Officials appointed under this Rule shall be paid their fees and expenses in accordance with the Fees Tariff. (See also Rule 12 (i))

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

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

(G) A Referee not keeping his engagement, and failing to give a satisfactory explanation as to his non-appearance, may be reported to the Association with which he/she is registered.

(H) Each Club shall, in a manner prescribed from time to time by The Football Association, award Marks to the Referee for each 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 by the Management Committee shall determine

Any Club who submits a Referee's Mark of '60' or less shall forward to the Referees' Secretary a written explanation within FOUR days of the Match in question being played. Such reports MUST be submitted on a correctly completed Royston Crow Youth Football League Referee Low Mark Report Form and be countersigned by the Club Secretary. Any Club in default of this Rule will be fined and/or otherwise dealt with at the discretion of the Management Committee.

(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 Hertfordshire Football Association.

**(J) Not Applicable**

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

(L) Nobody under the age of 18, unless they are a qualified and registered Referee, may officiate at any Royston Crow Youth League 11-a-side matches. The only exception to this rule shall be a registered Trainee Referee

(M) Except with the permission of the League Referees Secretary, Referees appointed by the League to officiate at any League or League Cup Match may not be withdrawn from the Game by, nor may the Referee be replaced by, either of the Clubs involved. In all cases, details of venues and kick-off times must be confirmed to the appointed Referee not later than five days before the scheduled date of the Match.

(N) If, in the judgement of the Management Committee, a Club or Clubs selects or changes a kick-off time to avoid the use of an appointed Referee or fails to notify details of venues or kick-off times, as required above with the intention of causing the non-appearance of the

Referee, the action will be treated as the Club(s) withdrawing or replacing the Referee and the Management Committee will, at its discretion, apply the Fine(s) and such other punishment it thinks appropriate to the breach of this Rule.

(O) Where Clubs have a League appointed Referee, who when contacted is unable to take the appointment due to the Kick Off time given by the Club, it is the Home Club's responsibility to inform the Referees' Secretary of this to enable the Referee to be reallocated to another Match.

(Q) Clubs failing to advise Match Details to the appointed Referee by 9.00 p.m no later than five days before the scheduled date of the Game, or as soon as is practical for re-scheduled fixtures shall be fined as per Rule 10(d), and Clubs withdrawing or replacing an appointed Referee, or causing the non-appearance of an appointed Referee, shall be fined.

(P) If the Home Team is unable to provide a Qualified Referee and their Opponents have a Qualified Referee travelling with them, he/she shall take precedence over any non-qualified Referee, provided that he/she can produce confirmation of registration.

(Q) The Management Committee may, if they consider it desirable, or upon application by the two competing Clubs, appoint Assistant Referees, if available, to any Match.. Failure to do so will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff) being imposed on the defaulting Club.

### **ALL CUP COMPETITION RULES**

#### **NOMENCLATURE AND CONSTITUTION**

1. (A) The Competition shall be called the Royston Crow Youth Football League Challenge Cup. Entry is mandatory for all Clubs registered in the League in all Age Groups, and only the League Management Committee has the right to remove a Club from the Competition. No entry forms are requested and entry to the Competition is automatic upon the acceptance of a Club to the League.  
(A) Any Club failing in its obligations with regard to this Competition shall be deemed



guilty of misconduct.

### **QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS**

2. (A) As League Competition Rule 18.

(B) (i) Once a Player has actively participated in the Competition within an Age Group, and/or for a Club, then that Player is forbidden to play in the same Competition in another Age Group and/or for another Club, in except where a Club/team has withdrawn from the League after the First Round, or Preliminary Round, and all records have been expunged thereby releasing the Player to play for another Club.

(ii) At Under 10 & 11 the League runs two invitation Trophy Event Competitions, The President's Cup, The Calvert Trophy, The Derek Gates Cup & The Kim Bailey Trophy. Teams will be notified of their entry in to either Competition by the Divisional Fixture Secretary. Once a Player has played in one Competition they are automatically cup-tied for the other. These matches are subject to the same Rules in respect of postponements as for those in Standard Leagues.

(iii) From time to time the League may choose to run "subsidiary" Cup Competitions at any Age Group. Entry into such Competitions will be by invitation only and Teams will be notified of their entry by the Divisional Fixture Secretary. Player eligibility for such Competitions is determined by the Club they have already played for in any other Cup Competition or in accordance with Rule 2(b)(i).

(C) All Players in Cup Competitions must be registered playing Members of their Club in accordance with League Rule 18. Players must have been registered at least seven (7) days prior to the match and, in the case of the Semi-Final and Final ties, have played in a minimum of three League fixtures (including League Cup) for their Club in that Season

The only exception to this is in Development Leagues where Players are only required to have been registered with their Club for seven (7) days prior to the match.

In the event of the game being abandoned or a postponement being required, only those players eligible at the date of the first game shall be eligible to play.

(d) In the Semi-Final and Final tie the competing Club must notify their Opponents and the Registration Secretary at least seven (7) days prior to the date of the tie with the names, registration numbers and date of births of the Players from which the Team will be selected.

Objections must be received in writing by the League Secretary and the Opposing Club not less than 24 hours before the stipulated time for the tie.

(e) Any Team guilty of playing ineligible Players, as covered in Rules 18 (A)(c), B or C will automatically be disqualified from the Competition and will be fined or otherwise dealt with at the discretion of the League Management Committee

(f) All actions will be subject to right of appeal in accordance with Rule 15(f) of the League Rules.

### **DRAW**

3. The ties shall be drawn and the Competition Matches played as the Management Committee may determine, and immediately after each draw the League Fixture Secretary should inform each Club drawn, the name of the Club against which it has been drawn.

### **MATCH OFFICIALS**

4. A) As League Competition Rule 23.

(b) In the Final ties, Referees and Assistant Referees will receive mementoes in lieu of a match fee.

### **CHOICE OF GROUND**

5. Unless otherwise mutually agreed, the Club which is in each instance the first drawn in the ballot shall have the choice of ground.

Clubs shall not mutually arrange to play a match in lieu of a Cup tie. If a match is played

to a conclusion, it must be a Cup tie. Postponed and abandoned matches will be rearranged by the League Fixture Secretary.

#### **CLUB COLOURS**

6. In the event of two Clubs, in the opinion of the Referee, having the same or similar colours, the Away Team shall make the change, except in the Final ties when both Teams will change, each Team to have change colours available.

#### **MATCH RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES**

7. In all ties, except the Semi-Finals match, receipts will be retained by the Home Club. In the Final Tie the League shall take all the proceeds.

#### **DURATION OF PLAY**

8. The duration of play is according to Rule 20 (A) of the League Competition Rules. If the scores are level at the end of normal time a period of extra-time will be played, and will be five minutes each way for Under 9/10 Mini Soccer, ten minutes each way for Under 11 to Under 16 and fifteen minutes for the Under 17 and Under 18 sections. If at the end of extra time a result has still not been obtained, then the game will be determined by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark as laid down by the International Football Association (see appendix). Except in the Semi-Final and Final ties the duration of the match can be reduced by no more than 10 minutes divided equally between the two halves, subject to agreement of the Referee and Opposing Managers.

#### **RESULT CARDS**

9. The Match result should be communicated to the League in accordance with Rule 21 of the League Competition Rules.

#### **PROTESTS**

10. In all cases of protest of dispute, Rule 7 of the League Competition Rules will apply.

#### **MATTERS NOT COVERED**

11. Matters not covered by these rules arising in connection with the Competition shall be dealt with by the Management Committee who decision shall be final.

All points expressly not covered in these Cup Competition Rules, the League Competition Rules will apply.

#### **APPENDIX**

The International Board at it's Meeting on 27th June, 1970 accepted a proposal by the Federation Internationale de Football Associations that the practice of drawing lots to determine which two teams in a drawn match should proceed to a later stage of a Knock Out Competition or receive the Trophy (if any) be discontinued and be replaced by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark which shall not be considered part of the match, subject to the following conditions.

1. If the Referee feels there is an issue with safety or pitch conditions. If neither of these factors are relevant, the referee shall toss a coin and state if its head we will use that goal and if its tails it will be the other.
2. The Referee shall toss a coin, and the Team whose Captain wins the toss shall take the first kick.
3. (a) Subject to the terms of the following paragraphs (c ) and (d) both teams shall take five kicks.

If one team is down on the required number of players due to dismissals or injuries, their opponents must equate the numbers of players taking the kicks and the player/players not participating wait off the field of play.

- (b) the kicks should be taken alternatively.
  - (c) If, before both teams have taken five kicks, one has scored more goals than the other could, even if it were to complete it's five kicks, the taking of kicks shall cease.
  - (d) If, after both teams have taken five kicks, both have scored the same number of goals, or have not scored any goals, the taking of kicks shall continue. In the same order, until such time as both have taken an equal number of kicks (not necessarily five more kicks) and one has scored a goal more than the other.
4. The Team which scores the greater number of goals, whether the number of kicks taken in accordance with the terms of the foregoing paragraph 3(a), 3 (c ), or 3(d) shall qualify for the next round of the Competition, or shall be declared the winner of the Competition as the case may be.
  5. (a) With the exception referred to the following paragraph (b) only the players on the field of play at the end of the match, which shall mean at the end of extra time in so far as a match in which extra time is authorised is concerned, and any who, having left the field of play temporarily, with or without the Referee's permission, are not on the field of play at that time, shall take part in the taking of the kicks.  
 (b) Provided that his team has not already made use of the maximum number of substitutes permitted by the rules of the competition under which the match was played, a goalkeeper who sustains an injury during the taking of the kicks and who, because of the injury is unable to continue as goalkeeper may be replaced by a substitute.
  6. Each kick shall be taken by a different player and not until all eligible players of any team, including the goalkeeper or the named substitute by whom he was replaced in terms of paragraph (5) as the case may be, have each taken a kick may a player of the same team take another kick.
  7. Subject to the terms of paragraph (5) any player who is eligible may change places with his goalkeeper at any time during the taking of the kicks.
  8. (a) Other than the player taking the kick from the penalty mark and the two goalkeepers, all players shall remain in the centre circle whilst the taking of kicks is in progress.  
 (b) The goalkeeper, who is a colleague of the kicker shall take up position within the field of play but outside the penalty area at which the kicks are being taken,  
 (c) All Managers, Coaches, substitutes and non-playing personnel should remain off the field of play until the procedures are completed.
  9. Unless stated to the contrary in the foregoing paragraphs 1 to 8, the Laws of the Game and the International Board decisions relating thereto shall, in so far as they can, apply at the taking of the kicks.

**NB** In the event of light failing before the end of the taking of kicks from the penalty mark, the result shall be decided by the drawing of lots.

### **SCHEDULE 1 – FEES TARIFF**

<b><u>RULE</u></b>	<b><u>AMOUNT</u></b>
Rule 3 (A)    Entry Fees for Teams to The trophyUK.net RCYFL Under 7 – Under 9 (Per Team) Under 10 – Under 11/12 (9v9) (Per Team) Under 11 – Under 18 (Per Team)	£20.00 £35.00 £40.00
Rule 3(B)    Annual Subscription (Per Club)	£20.00
Rule 3(C)    Club Deposit.	£10.00.
Rule18 (D)    Player Registration Fee	£1.50

Rule 18(H) Transfer Fee	£3.00
Rule 18(S) Deposit regarding objection to a Players Registration Card	£20.00
Rule 23(E) Match Officials Fees	
Referee from under 11s to Under 12s	£20.00
Referee from Under 13s to Under 14s	£25.00
Referee from Under 15s to Under 16s	£30.00
Referee from Under 17s to Under 18s	£35.00
Registered Referees appointed by the Management Committee as Assistant Referees from Under 11 to Under 12s	£10.00
Registered Referees appointed by the Management Committee as Assistant Referees from Under 13s to 14s	£12.00
Registered Referees appointed by the Management Committee as Assistant Referees from Under 15s to 16s	£15.00
Registered Referees appointed by the Management Committee as Assistant Referees from Under 17s to 18s (Subject to any limits laid down by the sanctioning Association(s).)	£18.00
Rule 7(C) &,7(F) Protest & Appeal Fees	£25.00

Note: All items to be read in conjunction with and subject to League Rules.

### **SCHEDULE 2 – FINES TARIFF**

<b><u>RULE</u></b>	<b><u>AMOUNT</u></b>
2 (G) Failure to Affiliate	£25.00
2 (I) Failure to comply with FA Initiatives	£25.00
3 Failure to obtain consent for change of Club name	£20.00
4 (C) Failure to Pay 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
5 (H) Failure to comply with an instruction of the Management Committee	£25.00

5 (I)	Failure to pay Fine within 14 days notice	£50.00 (max)
8 (H)	Failure to be represented at Annual General Meeting	£50.00
9	Failure to be represented at a Special General Meeting.	£30.00
10	Failure to submit the required written Agreement or Notify changes of signatories	£25.00
11 (A)	Failure to comply with Rule	£20.00
11 (B)	Failure to commence or Complete Season.	£40.00
13 (A)	Failure to submit the written agreement regarding the Trophy	£50.00
13 (B)	Trophies not returned by 1 <sup>st</sup> February	£50.00
13 (C)	Failure to engrave Trophies	£20.00
16 (A)/(B).	Failure to have required Insurance.	£30.00
18 (A)(c)	Failure to correctly register a Player	£25.00
18 (B) (iv)	Failure to have the required number of registered Players Prior to the Season Commencing	£25.00
18 (N) (i)	Playing an ineligible Player.	£50.00 (max)
18 (O) (i)	Failure to give priority to School Activities.	£50.00 (max)
18 (R)	Failure to produce Registration Cards	£25.00
19(a)	Failure to number shirts /provide change of kit for Home side delaying kick off as a result	£10.00
20 (A)	Delaying Kick Off / No nets / No Corner Flags	£10.00
20 (B)	Failure to play matches on date fixed.	£20.00
20 (C)	Failure to provide details of a fixture	£20.00
20 (D)	Failure to have minimum number of Players that will Constitute a Team.	£20.00
20 (E) (i)	Failure to play fixture	£40.00
20 ((H)	No Captain' armband.	£5.00
20 (O) (i)	Failure to provide a Designated Spectator Area	£20.00
20 (O) (ii)	Failure to provide Exclusion Zone / Spectator separation	£20.00
20 (O)(iv)	Failure to provide an Adult Youth Match Delegate	£10.00
21 (B)	Failure to provide result	£20.00

21 (D)	Failure to comply with Rule	£20.00
21 (E)	Failure to comply with Rule	£20.00
21 (F)	Failure to submit correctly completed Low Adult Behaviour Mark Form	£10.00
21 (G)	Failure to submit correctly completed Low Referee's Mark Report Form	£10.00
23 (C)	Failure to provide Club Assistant Referee.	£20.00
23 (E)	Failure to pay Match Officials Fees & expenses.	£20.00
23 (F)	Failure to pay Match Officials where match is not played.	£10.00
23 (H)	Failiure to provide Referee's Mark	£10.00
23 (O)	Causing non-appearance of Referee	£50.00

Note: All items to be read in conjunction with and subject to League Rules

## APPENDIX

# RESULTS

The procedure for reporting of Results in the trophyUK.net Royston Crow Youth Football League (RCYFL) as required Under Rule 11(b) to F.A. Full Time is as follows:-

## METHOD

Results should be submitted using the Text Message Service available through FA Full Time to text their results directly to the Website on a game by game basis, replying to TXT sent, with "Result home away" or "Result PP" only.

The Form for using this method of reporting Results can be downloaded from the League Website and MUST be e-mailed to [kim.bailey@ntlworld.com](mailto:kim.bailey@ntlworld.com) duly completed for ALL Clubs/Teams by 31<sup>st</sup> August.

Where circumstances do not allow confirmation by this method on the day of the Match the result should be sent by e-mail to [kim.bailey@ntlworld.com](mailto:kim.bailey@ntlworld.com).

### **WHAT NEEDS TO BE REPORTED & WHEN?**

- 1) RCYFL League and League Cup Results for all Age Groups should be reported by the BOTH Teams on the day of the Match as soon as possible after completion. Please note Under 7 to Under 11 Match Results are not published as required by The Football Association, but are used by the Fixture Secretaries in the compiling of future fixtures.
- 2) Hertfordshire County Cup Matches Results are collected using the FA Full Time sms text messaging service. Clubs/Teams should also e.mail their respective Divisional Fixtures Secretaries with the Result.
- 3) Results should be reported in the following sequence:
  - Competition (League/League Cup/ County Cup U9 to U18)
  - Age Group & Division  
(In the case of Cup Competitions Round & Match Number)
  - Home Team Name with goals scored
  - Opponents Team Name with goals scored
  - PP or Postponed or AA or Abandoned.
- 4) Details of ALL Postponed/Abandoned Games must be reported by the BOTH Teams.

### **APPENDIX**

## **FACILITIES**

The following to be read in conjunction with Rule 10(a)

### **USE OF SYNTHETIC SURFACES**

trophyUK.net RCYFL Matches may be played on synthetic surfaces (3G or similar) subject to the following:

- (i) Each Venue must be inspected by the League before permission is granted to use "The Facility".
- (ii) Only Match Officials, Managers / Coaches / First Aiders and Players, including Substitutes, are allowed inside "The Facility" unless there is sufficient space to allow the use of Designated Spectator Areas to comply with the Respect Programme. If there is not sufficient space all Spectators must stay outside of the perimeter fencing.
- (iii) Away Clubs must be allowed 30 minutes warm up time before the game commences.
- (iv) The Home Club is also responsible for advising participants of footwear requirements when confirming match arrangements in accordance with Rule 10(c).

### **PITCH MARKINGS & SIZES**

The following Pitch sizes are recommended for the following Age Groups;

## **11-a-Side**

### **Under 11 /12**

Minimum Width 42m (45 yds) - Maximum 50.77m (55 yds)  
Minimum Length 68.25m (75 yds) - Maximum 82m (90 yds)

### **Under 13 /14**

Minimum Width 45.5m (50 yds) - Maximum 56m (60 yds)  
Minimum Length 72.8m (80 yds) - Maximum 91m (100 yds)

### **Under 15 /16**

Minimum Width 45.5m (50 yds) - Maximum 64m (70 yds)  
Minimum Length 82.3m (90 yds) - Maximum 100.6m (110 yds)

### **Under 17 /18**

Minimum Width 45.5m (50 yds) - Maximum 90m (100 yds)  
Minimum Length 90 m (100 yds) - Maximum 120 m (130 yds)

### **Goal Size**

The following Goal sizes are recommended for the following Age Groups;

Under 11 - 14    21ft wide x 7ft high / 6.4m wide x 2.1m high

                  or        24ft wide x 7ft high / 7.3m wide x 2.1m high

Under 15 -18    24ft wide x 8ft high / 7.3m wide x 2.4m high

## **9v9**

### **Under 11s-12s**

Minimum width: 36.58m (40 yards) - Maximum width: 45.72m (50 yards)  
Minimum length: 64.00m (70 yards) - Maximum length: 73.15m (80 yards)

### **Goal Size**

16ft wide x 7ft high / 4.88m wide x 2.1m high

21ft wide x 7ft high / 6.4m wide x 2.1m high (may be used if in situ)

## **Mini Soccer**

### **Under 7s-8s**

Minimum width: 18.30m (20 yards) - Maximum width: 27.45m (30 yards)  
Minimum length: 27.45m (30 yards) - Maximum length: 45.75m (50 yards)

### **Under 9s-10s**

Minimum width: 27.45m (30 yards) - Maximum width: 36.60m (40 yards)  
Minimum length: 45.75m (50 yards) - Maximum length: 54.90m (60 yards)

### **Goal Size**

12ft wide x 6ft high / 3.44m wide x 1.80m

**N.B. PLEASE NOTE THAT NO TEAM CAN REFUSE TO PLAY A FIXTURE  
ON PITCHES THAT DO NOT MATCH THESE RECCOMENDATIONS.**

### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:**

[www.thefa.com/TheFA/RulesandRegulations/LawsoftheGame](http://www.thefa.com/TheFA/RulesandRegulations/LawsoftheGame)

[www.thefa.com/GetIntoFootball/Players/MiniSoccer/MiniSoccerTheLawsOfTheGame](http://www.thefa.com/GetIntoFootball/Players/MiniSoccer/MiniSoccerTheLawsOfTheGame)

## **APPENDIX**

# **BEST PRACTICE**

## **POSTPONEMENTS DUE TO BAD WEATHER**

The League receives complaints every Season from Teams that have been made to travel to games only to find when they arrive that they will not be played, and in many cases never had any chance of being played. This is extremely frustrating at best for those involved and in the majority of cases could have been avoided with a "little bit of thought" by either Team, as on many occasions prevailing weather conditions were well known to everyone in advance.



The two main causes of games not going ahead are a frozen or waterlogged pitch. The League would therefore recommend the following actions to be taken if there is any possibility of bad weather affecting a game being played.

- (1) If following confirmation of the game the weather deteriorates to a point when the game is in doubt, the HOME Team should contact their Opponents at least the day before the game is due to be played, to inform them of the situation. They should find out when their Opponents will be leaving for the game so that arrangements can be made to inspect the pitch and prevent Teams traveling needlessly if the pitch is unplayable. The AWAY Team should provide a contact number to ring to confirm if the game is on or off.
- (2) If not contacted, the AWAY Team should ring their Opponents, at least the day before the game is due to be played, to find out the situation in respect of the game going ahead and what arrangements have been made to inspect the pitch. They should also confirm the time when they will be leaving for the game and provide a contact number for their Opponents to ring to confirm the status of the game. The HOME Team is then responsible for ringing their Opponents back to confirm if the game is to go ahead or not.
- (3) If you have either an appointed or qualified Referee on the game you should contact them, at the latest the day before the game is to be played, to arrange a Pitch Inspection. If in the event of the Game being covered by an unqualified Referee, that Person or an Official of the Club must undertake the inspection. It is essential that all pitch inspections are actually carried out at the Ground and not assumed to be okay to play on purely because there had been another game on the pitch previously. Remember that an unqualified Referee assumes all the powers and duties of a qualified Referee when taking a game.
- (4) In the event of both Teams having gone through the above process and the AWAY Team travelling to the Ground. If in the opinion of ALL parties it is decided the pitch is unplayable both Teams should exchange their Match Result Notification Forms and write in the Comments Box that the game was postponed by mutual agreement.

## APPENDIX

# Respect

As a Respect League all Royston Crow Youth League (RYCFL) Fixtures will be governed by the proposals laid down in the RESPECT Programme.

Clubs are required to provide a "Designated Spectator Area" which should be a minimum of 2 metres away from the side of the pitch, or as far away as the venue will allow, behind which everybody watching the Match should stand. This "Respect Barrier" can be provided by the use of a white line, training cones, ropes and stakes or a formal Designated Spectator Barrier as promoted by the Football Association.

Spectators from both Teams shall stand on one side of the Pitch and all Managers, Coaches and Substitutes shall stand on the opposite side, behind the Respect Barriers.

In addition there must be a 3 metre exclusion zone either side of the Halfway Line that must be kept clear at all times during the match.

Any Club unable to comply with these requirements must notify the League Secretary immediately.

Clubs are required to appoint a Match Delegate to all RCYFL matches.

(See Person Specification below as to the Role of the Delegate)

Players, Managers, Coaches, Club Officials, Parents and Spectators are reminded of their responsibilities under The Respect Codes of Conduct as to what is acceptable/unacceptable behaviour at Youth Football Matches. Remember it is your Club that is ultimately responsible for their actions.

Only the Captain may talk to the Referee on the Field of Play. This does not exempt him/her from any action being taken against him/her should he/she infringe the Laws of the Game.

Show your Opponents the same level of Respect that you would expect to receive.

# **Zero Tolerance Policy**

## **Inappropriate Language and Referee Abuse**

The trophyUK.net Royston Crow Youth Football League (RCYFL) acknowledges that every child, young person or adult who plays or participates in football should be able to do so in an enjoyable and safe environment and should be protected from poor practice and all forms of abuse.

Match Officials are just as entitled to enjoy the game as much as Players and Spectators so please do not abuse them in any way.

Only someone invited onto the field of play by the referee may enter. Anyone entering without the Referee's permission may be subject to a misconduct charge by the FA.

The League will not tolerate any form of inappropriate language or threatening behaviour from Parents, Guests, Spectators, Visitors, Officials or Club Representatives on match sidelines, particularly that aimed towards Match Officials and participating children.

League Member Clubs reserve the right to ask any individual demonstrating actions deemed to conflict with this policy to move away from the match sidelines and, if necessary, to leave the area.

### **APPENDIX**

## **MATCH DAY DELEGATE**

### **PERSON SPECIFICATION, DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Royston Crow Youth Football League (RYCFL) requires under Rule 13(n) both Clubs, Home and Away, to nominate a Youth Match Day Delegate for every RCYFL League or League Cup Match.

### **PERSON SPECIFICATION**

The Match Delegate should not be the Team Manager, Coach or the Club's Assistant Referee (Linesman) but another responsible Adult who is at the Match.

## **DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES**

- (i) Upon arrival at the Ground, the Match Day Delegate (herein after referred to as The Delegate) from the Home Team will ask their Opponents who their Delegate is and make their introductions to each other.
- (ii) Together, they will then report to the Match Referee at least 15 minutes before the start of the game and introduce themselves.
- (iii) It will be the responsibility of the Home Team Delegate to look after the Referee before, during and after the game until he or she leaves the Ground.

This would include meeting and greeting the Referee, showing him/her to the Changing Facilities and directing him/her to the correct Pitch, possibly offering a drink at half-time or after the Match, and making sure the Referee gets paid.

- (iv) Each Delegate shall inform the Referee of the position they will be standing in during the Match, and if possible should wear some form of clothing, such as a "hi-viz" vest so they are clearly distinguishable..
- (v) During the Match, each Delegate is responsible for the behaviour of all the Club Members and Spectators.
- (vi) If the Referee needs to he/she will, during a stoppage in play approach the Delegate to assist him/her in dealing with any problems that occur.
- (vii) Filling in the Match Result Notification Form, producing or signing off of Registration Cards are not specifically included in the Delegates Duties and can be carried out by any Club Official.

## **APPENDIX**

# **Match Day Behaviour Regulations**

The trophyUK.net RCYFL respectfully asks Member Clubs to make their Managers, Coaches, Parents and Spectators aware of the following requirements when watching Matches:

## **THEY ARE EXPECTED TO**

- Stand at least 2 metres away from the side of the pitch or as far as the venue will allow within the "Designated Spectator Area" provided.

Spectators from both Teams shall stand on one side of the Pitch and all Managers, Coaches and Substitutes shall stand on the opposite side, behind the Respect Barriers.

Maintain a 3 metre exclusion zone either side of the Halfway Line that must be kept clear at all times during the match.

- Allow the Coach or Manager only to coach and instruct the Children.
- Give encouragement to all the Children from both Team's, applaud good play.
- Let the Children Play and enjoy the experience of Learning for themselves.
- Keep their involvement to a minimum.
- Adults should guide and support and give positive comments.
- Enjoy the football match.
- Be realistic about the capability of the Players.
- Show each other the same level of respect that you would expect to receive.
- The Use of video cameras and taking photographs should be in accordance the fa photography guidelines.

#### **THEY SHOULD NOT**

- Encroach on the playing area, the Pitch.
- Get involved with coaching the Children.
- Make any derogatory comments at all, to anyone.
- Raise their voice or shout at the Children or the Referee.
- Question the Referees decisions.
- Use any form of foul or abusive language.
- Expect too much from the Children.
- Bring Dogs onto School Premises, as this is in breach of local Byelaws.

**Thanking you for your co-operation.**