

OMGFL Rules Appendix 2018-19

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These rules are not exhaustive and should be read in conjunction with the Standard Code or Rules (Youth) or SCOR(y) as laid down by The English Football Association.

1. Player Registration, De-Registration and Transfer

1.1 Player Registration

The Whole Game System will automatically upload your existing squad into the division for Season 2018-19.

The Club's Player Registration Secretary will upload new players onto Whole Game System. You will need to inform the League Player Registration Secretary of the 'Pending' player registration. The player will be eligible to play once the League has confirmed the registration and she appears on Full-Time.

Proof of Age for all new players must be approved by the Club's Player Registration Secretary and proof of age **must** be made available to the League on request.

1.2 Player De-Registration

A completed Player De-Registration Form **must** be sent to the League Player Registration Secretary. This is applicable for players leaving football and/or players leaving the OMGFL.

The Club's Player Registration Secretary will de-register the player from the team on Whole Game System.

The League Player Registration Secretary will de-register the player on Full-Time.

1.3 Player Transfer

A completed Player Transfer Form **must** be sent to the League Player Registration Secretary.

The Club's Player Registration Secretary will transfer the player from the team on Whole Game System.

The League Player Registration Secretary will confirm the transfer on Whole Game System and complete the transfer on Full-Time and update the eligibility date for when the player is available to start playing.

2. Coaches and Team Administrators

2.1 Coaches

All coaches within the Oxford Mail Girls Football League should have an FA Coaching qualification, a valid Emergency Aid, Safeguarding Children and DBS disclosure. These 3 areas must be renewed every three years.

Courses can be found on your County FA website (usually under the 'book online' option) we would also encourage all coaches to join the FA Coaches Association which provides you with support and benefits. Details can be found via <http://facc.thefa.com>

2.2 Team Administrators

Most well-run teams have a team administrator to support the manager or coach. Their role can include, liaising with parents to ensure meet times, player availability, football kit and ensure emergency contact & medical information are collated and available.

They can also liaise with the League should matches need to be postponed, or postponement forms need to be sent in.

Administrators can also be set-up on FA Full-Time so they can text in the match result and update the statistics and write match reports. Administrators can also organise parents to help set up pitch, meet & greet opposition and referees and ensure spectators behave appropriately.

Administrators are essential to support the managers/coaches enabling them to spend more time with their players, deliver good warm-ups, team talks and make the experience for the players as positive as possible.

3. Postponements

Postponements cause one of the main problems in football and, in view of all the issues in Season 2017-18, not only will fines be issued, the League will investigate and be **awarding matches when postponement procedures are not followed.**

Team managers need to ensure their parents are aware they need to tell their manager as soon as possible if their daughter is unavailable to play, as the League requires at least four weeks' notice, in certain circumstances. See below for further explanation.

Please note that you must still play a match if you have the following number of players available:

- U9s, U10s and U11s - 5 players.
- U12s and U13s - 7 players.
- U14s, U15s and U16s - 9 players if registered as an 11-a-side team, and 7 players if registered as a 9-a-side team.

The following is a guide to the various categories to help you know when you can, when you cannot and how to postpone a fixture.

3.1 Weather

If there is a possibility that a fixture may need to be postponed due to pitch conditions, be it from the history of the venue or climatic conditions, the home manager **must** inform the opposition manager **and** the referee in advance, so arrangements can be planned to reverse the fixture. Communication of pitch concerns between managers should take place four days before the fixture.

a) Waterlogged Pitch - if your pitch is waterlogged or unplayable then you must speak to your opposition manager and see if the match can be played at their ground, even if this is on the morning of the match. This is irrespective of whether you have already played at their ground during the season.

b) Freezing Cold - usually it is not necessary to postpone a match due to this, but it is permitted in the case of younger players in the U9 and U10 age groups. Please note that players are permitted to play in tracksuits, hats, gloves etc but must wear bibs to distinguish between teams.

c) Snow - depends on the depth. A light covering is no reason to postpone if the ground isn't frozen, although the pitch lines must be visible or made visible.

3.2 Coach/Manager Unavailability

This is **not** a reason to postpone a match. The manager should make every effort to arrange a suitable replacement with their club and in exceptional circumstances a parent can run the team to ensure the game goes ahead.

If the coach/manager is not present, the opposition manager and referee must be informed, in advance of the game, the name and contact details of the nominated responsible person for the team.

3.3 Lack of Match Officials

This is **not** a reason to postpone a match. A manager or a parent may referee if no official referee has been appointed. Please inform the League of this eventuality.

3.4 Lack of Players

a) School Event/School Holidays – A letter from the School Secretary or a copy of a school letter to parents explaining the date and event, confirming the attendance of the player(s), must be sent to the Age Division Manager at least 4 weeks in advance of the match date. Failure to do so will mean the player is considered available to play. **If the**

school only provides late notification within 4 weeks, then evidence must be provided as soon as reasonably practicable.

b) Illness - emails/letters from the parent(s) providing full details of their child's illness must be written and the Age Division Manager must receive these **within 5 days** following the match date.

c) School Holidays - emails/letters from the parent(s) providing full details of their child's absence must be written and the Age Division Manager must receive these **at least 4 weeks in advance** of the match date.

d) another sporting event – The participation of players in another sporting event is **not** a valid reason to postpone. It is hoped that every player is committed to play in the OMGFL Saturday mornings between September to May. Emails/letters from the parent(s) providing full details of their child's other commitments must be written and the Age Division Manager must receive these at least **4 weeks in advance** of the match date.

3.5 SMS Text

If you receive an SMS Text, even if your match is postponed, then you must reply to that SMS with P-P (and your short-code if you are given one).

3.6 How to Postpone a Match

a) Download the postponement form from either of the following locations:

- Full Time: click on "View Site" and this takes you into the OMGFL website, with the form under OMGFL documents.
- <http://www.ogfl.org/> and click on 'forms and downloads' to locate the form.

b) Both Managers **must** each complete their own Postponement Form, in full detail, and email to the relevant Age Division Manager within 48 hours of the match date. For example: for a Saturday match, the form must be received by the Age Division Manager before 12 noon on the Monday following.

For School Events/School Holidays the Postponement Form must be completed 4 weeks in advance of the match date.

The document **must** be completed in full, including a new date for the match, as agreed between the managers, renamed in the format detailed at the bottom of the document and emailed to the Age Division Manager, as an attachment. The accompanying email **must** contain the match details (age group, team names and date) in the Subject field e.g. U11 Aston v Moreton, 12 Feb 2019.

3.7 Awarding of Matches

If the postponement procedures are not followed, the match may be awarded to the opposition with a walkover. This will result in the team responsible for the postponement receiving zero points and the opposition team receiving three points.

If neither team follows the correct procedure, the match will be marked **void**.

Awarding of points will be decided by the League Disciplinary Committee.

3.8 Fines

If the postponement procedure is not followed, fines will be sanctioned by the League Discipline Committee. See Section 6, Fines.

4. Matching Team Numbers

The league encourages all managers to consider the situation of opposition teams with regards to playing numbers, and to match teams who have fewer numbers if they feel it is fair and of benefit to all players, although it is not compulsory.

5. Pre Match Day Manager's Responsibilities

Ensure that you have read and understand all your responsibilities with regards to your Age Group Rules, Player Registration, Health & Safety, Welfare, Respect and Codes of Conduct.

Ensure that you are able to provide proof of age, if requested, at any time, for new players and you have a team list of players with photos, printed from the Whole Game System.

Ensure you have an Emergency Action Plan for your venue.

Ensure you have received the details of the fixture on your email from Full-Time, via the notifications email. The home team manager will need to make contact with League Referee Secretary if a referee has not been appointed (for divisions U12-16)

Home team manager, by Tuesday for a Saturday match (or 5 days before for mid-week matches):

- Confirm home fixture with away manager and referee via email or text
- Attach a copy of the Emergency Action Plan for the venue

Both Home and Away Managers:

- Confirm with other manager if they are short of players for the fixture. Check your relevant league's rules for minimum number of players.
- Every effort must be made to play the game as failure to play a game has a knock-on effect for the rest of the division. Failure to play a scheduled game will be investigated by the League Disciplinary Committee.

6. Match Day Manager's Responsibilities

The home team manager should ensure that the venue, pitch and game is set-up as per the relevant division rules as found under the 'Facilities and Equipment' section.

Refer to the postponement rules for match day weather related conditions.

Teams shall exchange copies of the Team List, including photos and proof of age for new players 15 minutes prior to the scheduled kick-off (failure to complete an exchange of team

lists will result in a Scale A fine). You **must** inform your ADM if the opposition fails to provide this information.

After the match, agree with the referee and opposition manager, the score of the match. Ensure that all the statistical data recording of the match is entered on Full-Time. Enter a Match Report for your match including a list of goal scorers at the end of the report. This is in addition to including them in match statistics (if done so). A match report is **not** required for any U9, U10 or U11 match. The League recommends that U11 Managers do know how to create and enter these as they are required for U12 and above.

If match reporting issues are experienced, you **must** inform your Age Division Manager immediately, who will assist in resolving any issues.

By 3PM or 10PM midweek:

Each manager/team administrator will receive an automated SMS Result Request text during the match. This must be replied to immediately following the match, by texting the score in the format:

H-A ab12 e.g. 3-3 NN12 (where NN12 is your short code as detailed in the text received from Full-Time).

The deadline is **3:00pm** for a Saturday Match and **10:00pm** for a mid-week match. If this is incorrectly submitted, please resend correctly and it will update. It is recommended that the phone number of the SMS service be saved to your phone so that in the rare occasion the request is not received, the result may still be texted in.

For U9-U11s the results can be collected but **NOT** published.

For U9-U12s the recorded score difference applied. The maximum goal difference between the two teams shall not exceed 9 goals for recording purposes. Scores recorded can be: 9-0, 10-1, 13-4 etc. (failure to record a score difference no greater than 9 goals will result in scale A fine)

By 6PM or Midnight mid-week

Each manager / team administrator Team shall complete their team information via their log in details on the FA Full time and ensure that:

- The score is correct
- Enter actual time of kick-off
- Enter referee mark
- Enter respect scores
- Enter team list, including substitutes
- Enter time stats i.e. goal scorers
- Optional - enter stats i.e. captain, player of the match
- Complete the match report with the list of scorers at the end of the report. Ensure the report is recorded as submitted. The match report should provide a brief meaningful report of the game. A list of goal scorers to be placed at the end of the match report.
- Update your squad list with the shirt number for each player

Failure to enter or incorrectly enter: Referee Mark, Match Statistics, Respect Scores and Match Reports will incur a Scale A fine per aspect.

Data can only be entered once so, make sure it is completed in one sitting. All match statistics will be 'locked' after 6.00pm Saturday and Midnight for weekday, match days.

7. Fines

To ensure the league runs smoothly and fairly, we have to issue fines to ensure rules are adhered to, and prompt, correct, information is forwarded to the league.

Scale of Fines (Tariff read in conjunction with SCOR(y) the lower fine will be applied) :

- Scale A £10
- Scale B £15
- Scale C £20
- Scale D £25
- Scale E £30

Below are the things where you are **most likely to pick up a fine.**

Occurrence	Fine
Failure to confirm your home fixture with opposition or official 5 days before match	£10.00
Failure to submit your Match Report by 6pm on Saturday (Midnight for midweek fixtures)	£10.00
Failure to complete Team Marks on Full-Time	£10.00
Failure to complete Player Statistics on Full-Time	£10.00
Failure to Postpone a Fixture correctly	£10.00
Failure to submit a Postponement Form	£20.00
Failure to inform the opposition manager and referee of potential postponement due to the pitch conditions and/or weather conditions	£30.00
Failure to postpone a fixture within 4 weeks for School Events/School Holidays	£30.00
Failure to exchange team lists	£10.00
Player receives a red card	Up to £50
Failure to attend League Meetings	£100.00
Failure to number shirts	£10.00 per shirt
Failure to submit SMS text	£10.00
Failure to submit SMS text correctly	£10.00
Playing an ineligible player	£20.00
Failure to correctly register a player on WGS	£40.00 per player
Failure to fulfil a fixture due to a lack of coach/manager	£50.00
Failure to fulfil a fixture due to a lack of match officials	£50.00
Failure to provide written details of individual player's illnesses within 5 days of the original match date	£30.00

Failure to return or returning a damaged Championship Cup, League Cup or League Cup Plate by March 31st	£150.00
Failure to pay a fine within 14 days	Double the original fine up to £100.00. If the original fine is already in excess of £100.00 the matter will be escalated to the OFA after 14 days.

8. Health and Safety

The well-being and safety of both spectators and players alike is paramount to the management committee. It is therefore necessary to remind clubs of the following:

- Goal posts and cross-bar fittings must be securely fastened in a manner recommended by the manufacturer and approved by the FA
- All jewellery must be removed.
- No metal or plastic hair grips or slides may be worn on the field of play.
- Any player suffering from an open wound must not be allowed to continue until all traces of blood are wiped away and must not continue in any case with open wound, it must be covered.
- Any dog faeces must be removed from the playing area.
- All players must wear shin guards at all times and covered by the players socking.

9. Welfare, Respect and Code of Conduct

9.1 Welfare and Respect

The League has produced a Respect Handbook, issued to all Clubs and Managers

The League has issued each Club Welfare Officer with an ID card. If attending an OMGFL match, the CWO should make themselves known to each Manager and encourage the reporting of issues to them whilst at the match.

Full-Time includes a Team Marks section and each Manager/Team Administrator must complete this section. The results will be compiled by the League's Welfare Officer and reported to all Club's Welfare Officers every 3 months in order to provide an overview of respect scores and to assist Club's to ensure any welfare issues are kept to a minimum and managed promptly of any issues arise.

The League's Welfare Officer will investigate any:

- Very low respect scorers
- Consistently low respect scores
- League welfare issues

It must be remembered that some clubs will be stronger and more advanced than others in association football. Please ensure managers, players and spectators accept that this will be the case and that they respond in a positive manner.

The Management committee will **not** tolerate verbal abuse or ridiculing of players. Any club found guilty of verbal or physical abuse will be reported to the League with a view to dismissal from the league. We as a management committee are committed to supporting all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from children's sport, and to recognise the value and importance of volunteer coaches. They give up their time and resources to provide recreational activities for your child. Children learn from example.... so please applaud good play by your team AND the members of the opposition.

10. Codes of Conduct

10.1 Young Players

We all have a responsibility to promote high standards of behaviour in the game.

As a player, you have a big part to play. That is why The FA is asking every player to follow a Respect Code of Conduct.

When playing football, I will:

- Always play to the best of my ability
- Play fairly – I won't cheat, complain or waste time.
- Respect my team-mates, the other team, the referee or my coach/manager.
- Play by the rules, as directed by the referee
- Shake hands with the other team and referee at the end of the game
- Listen and respond to what my coach/team manager tells me
- Talk to someone I trust or the club welfare officer if I'm unhappy about anything at my club.

I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any/all of the following actions may be taken by my club, County FA or The FA:

I may:

- Be required to apologise to my team-mates, the other team, referee or team manager
- Receive a formal warning from the coach or the club committee
- Be dropped or substituted
- Be suspended from training
- Be required to leave the club

In addition:

- My club, County FA or The FA may make my parent or carer aware of any infringements of the Code of Conduct
- The FA/County FA could impose a fine and suspension against my club

10.2 Coaches, Team Managers and Club Officials

We all have a responsibility to promote high standards of behaviour in the game.

In the FA's survey of 37,000 grassroots participants, behaviour was the biggest concern in the game. This included the abuse of match officials and the unacceptable behaviour of over competitive parents, spectators and coaches on the sideline.

Play your part and observe the Football Association's Respect Code of Conduct in everything you do.

On and off the field, I will:

- Show respect to others involved in the game including match officials, opposition players, coaches, managers, officials and spectators
- Adhere to the laws and spirit of the game
- Promote Fair Play and high standards of behaviour
- Always respect the match official's decision
- Never enter the field of play without the referee's permission
- Never engage in public criticism of the match officials
- Never engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour

When working with players, I will:

- Place the well-being, safety and enjoyment of each player above everything, including winning
- Explain exactly what I expect of players and what they can expect from me
- Ensure all parents/carers of all players under the age of 18 understand these expectations
- Never engage in or tolerate any form of bullying
- Develop mutual trust and respect with every player to build their self-esteem
- Encourage each player to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance
- Ensure all activities I organise are appropriate for the players' ability level, age and maturity
- Co-operate fully with others in football (e.g. officials, doctors, physiotherapists, welfare officers) for each player's best interests

I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any/all of the following actions may be taken by my club, County FA or The FA:

I may be:

- Required to meet with the club, league or County Welfare Officer
- Required to meet with the club committee
- Monitored by another club coach
- Required to attend a FA education course
- Suspended by the club from attending matches
- Suspended or fined by the County FA
- Required to leave or be sacked by the club

In addition:

- The FA/County FA could impose a fine and/or suspension on the club
- My FACA (FA Coaches Association) membership may be withdrawn

10.3 Spectators and Parents/Carers

We all have a responsibility to promote high standards of behaviour in the game. This club is supporting The FA's Respect programme to ensure football can be enjoyed in a safe, positive environment. Remember children's football is a time for them to develop their technical, physical, tactical and social skills. Winning isn't everything.

Play your part and observe The FA's Respect Code of Conduct for spectators and parents/carers at all times

I will:

- Remember that children play for FUN.
- Applaud effort and good play as well as success.
- Always respect the match officials' decisions
- Remain outside the field of play and within the Designated Spectators' Area (where provided)
- Let the coach do their job and not confuse the players by telling them what to do
- Encourage the players to respect the opposition, referee and match officials
- Avoid criticising a player for making a mistake – mistakes are part of learning
- Never engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting, or abusive language or behaviour

I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any/all of the following actions may be taken by my club, County FA or The FA:

I may be:

- Issued with a verbal warning from a club or league official
- Required to meet with the club, league or CFA Welfare Officer
- Required to meet with the club committee
- Obligated to undertake an FA education course
- Obligated to leave the match venue by the club
- Requested by the club not to attend future games
- Suspended or have my club membership removed
- Required to leave the club along with any dependents

10.4 Match Officials

We all have a responsibility to promote high standards of behaviour in the game.

The behaviour of the match officials has an impact, directly and indirectly, on the conduct of everyone involved in the game – both on the pitch and on the sidelines.

Play your part and observe The FA's Respect Code of Conduct of match officials at all time.

I will:

- Be honest and completely impartial at all times
- Apply the Laws of the Game and competition rules fairly and consistently
- Manage the game in a positive, calm and confident manner
- Deal with all instances of violence, aggression, unsporting behaviour, foul play and other misconduct
- Never tolerate offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour from players and officials
- Support my match official colleagues at all times
- Set a positive personal example by promoting good behaviour and showing respect to everyone involved in the game
- Communicate with the players and encourage fair play
- Respond in a clear, calm and confident manner to any appropriate request for clarification by the team captains
- Prepare physically and mentally for every match
- Complete and submit, accurate and concise reports within the time limit required for games in which I officiate.

I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any/all of the following actions may be taken by my club, County FA or The FA:

I may be:

- Required to meet with The FA/County FA Refereeing Official
- Required to meet with The FA/County FA Refereeing Committee
- Obligated to attend or re-attend The FA Respect training or other FA education course
- Issued with a written warning
- Fined by the County FA
- Offered less senior appointments
- Excluded from affiliating as a FA Referee
- Suspended from all appointments for a defined period

11. Safeguarding

Safeguarding Children Within The Oxford Mail Girls Football League.

11.1. The Oxford Mail Girls Football League acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of every child and young person who has been entrusted to its care and is committed to working to provide a safe environment for all members. A child or young person is anyone under the age of 18 engaged in any youth league football activity. We subscribe to The Football Association's Safeguarding Children - Policy and Procedures and endorse and adopt the Policy Statement contained in that document.

11.2. The key principles of The FA Safeguarding Children Policy are that:

- The child's welfare is, and must always be, the paramount consideration
- All children and young people have a right to be protected from abuse regardless of their age, gender, disability, culture, language, racial origin, religious beliefs or sexual orientation
- All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately
- Working in partnership with other organisations, children and young people and their parents/carers is essential. We acknowledge that every child or young person who plays or participates in football should be able to take part in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from poor practice and abuse.

The Oxford Mail Girls Football League recognises that this is the responsibility of every adult involved in our league.

11.3. The Oxford Mail Girls Football League has a role to play in safeguarding the welfare of all children and young people by protecting them from physical, sexual or emotional harm and from neglect or bullying. It is noted and accepted that The Football Association's Child Protection Regulation (see The FA Handbook) applies to everyone in football whether in a

paid or voluntary capacity. This means whether you are a volunteer, match official, helper on club tours, football coach, club official or medical staff.

11.4. We endorse and adopt The FA's Responsible Recruitment guidelines for recruiting volunteers and we will:

- Develop a role profile
- Request identification documents
- As a minimum meet and chat with the applicant(s) and where possible conduct interviews before appointing.
- Request and follow up with 2 references before appointing.
- Require an FA CRB Unit Enhanced Disclosure where appropriate in line with FA guidelines
All current youth league members with direct access to children and young people will be required to complete a CRB Enhanced Disclosure via The FA CRB unit. If there are concerns regarding the appropriateness of an individual who is already involved or who has approached us to become part of youth league guidance will be sought from The Football Association. It is noted and accepted that The FA will consider the relevance and significance of the information obtained via The FA CRB Unit Enhanced CRB Disclosure and that all decisions will be made in the best interests of children and young people. It is accepted that The FA aims to prevent people with a history of relevant and significant offending from having contact with children or young people and the opportunity to influence policies or practice with children or young people. This is to prevent direct sexual or physical harm to children and to minimise the risk of „grooming“ within football.

11.5. Whistle-blowing; The FA has an explicit Whistle Blowing Policy; this is 'an early warning system.' It is about revealing and raising concerns over misconduct or malpractice within an organization or within an independent structure associated with it. Any adult or young person with concerns about a colleague can also use "whistle-blowing" by contacting The FA Safeguarding Team on 0844 980 8200 6876. Alternatively you can go direct to Children's Social Care, the Police or the NSPCC and report your concerns there.

12. U9 Division

1. Player Age

The age on 31 August of the relevant season will be 7 years; with eligible age groups:

- under 8 (year 3 school age)
- under 9 (year 4 school age)

2. Playing Area

The OMGFL expects Member Clubs to adhere to the FA guidelines where possible.

It is the responsibility of the home team to ensure that the playing surface is in good condition and suitable for play.

The pitch sizes recommended by The FA for 7 a-side; for use at U9 is:

Age Grouping	Suggested Pitch Size in Yards		Suggested Size of Goal Posts		Pitch dimensions in Yards				Pitch dimensions in Metres			
					Length		Width		Length		Width	
	Length	Width	Height	Width	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
U9	60	40	6ft	12ft	60	50	40	30	54.9	45.75	36.6	27.45

Penalty Area: 16.47m/18 yards wide and 9.15m/10 yards deep

Penalty Mark: 7.32m/8 yards from the centre of the goal

Halfway Line: The field of play is divided into two halves by a halfway line. The centre mark is indicated at the mid-point of the halfway line. A centre circle or other marks to indicate a 5-metre radius around the centre mark is optional.

2.1 Retreat Line

The half-way line is used as the retreat line when restarting play with a goal kick.

3. Number of Players

Number of players is **seven** versus **seven**.

A team must not have a match day match greater than double the size of this team in an age group. Therefore, the match day squad is a maximum of 14 players.

The minimum number of players required to start a game is 5. If the game is reduced to 5 players then, if both managers agree, the pitch size can be reduced to suit the number of players, and no less than the pitch size detailed for the U8 league.

All games must be played 7 a-side if possible. No substitutes will be allowed for a team that only has a match day squad of 7 or less - i.e. match day squad of 7 players, all 7 must play with no substitutes.

The opposition team **will** match the number of players starting.

If a team is reduced (by injury or sending offs) to less than 5 players, the game will be abandoned. The management committee shall review all abandoned matches and where it is to the advantage of the competition and does no injustice to either club, shall be empowered to order the score at the time of the abandonment to stand. In cases where the management committee are satisfied that the match was abandoned due to the conduct of one club or its supporters they shall be empowered to award the points for the match to the opposition and/or take any other action they deem necessary. In cases where a match is

abandoned due to the action of both clubs or their supporters then the management committee shall take such action as they consider appropriate. Any action taken by the management committee may be in addition to any disciplinary action taken by the appropriate County Football Association.

4. Duration of Games

The duration of games will be 15 mins each way. For small sided matches, we encourage the playing of a second friendly game.

5. Substitutions

Substitutions **may** return to the field of play with the permission of the referee i.e. rolling subs.

6. Offside Rule

The off-side rule shall not apply.

7. Re-start of Play

Re-start of play in small sided games will commence once an opponent is at least four and a half metres (5 yards) away from the ball.

8. Facilities and Equipment

It is the sole responsibility of the first named team to ensure that:-

- Toilet facilities are available (failure to provide toilet facilities will result in a Scale E fine)
- The playing surface is in a good, safe condition.
- A referee is arranged (Failure to provide a referee will result in a Scale C fine)
- Providing Two Match balls **size 3** (Failure to provide suitable match balls will result in a Scale A fine)
- Respect Barriers shall be used around pitches if you don't have a RESPECT barrier use a line of cones or a white marked line.
- Samba goals and goal nets or equivalent shall be used.

9. Points

For matches where points are recorded they will be awarded as follows:

- 3 points for a Win
- 2 points for a Draw (score and no-score draw)
- 1 point for a defeat
- 0 points for the opposition team when a match is awarded by the League Disciplinary Committee

10. Recorded Result Difference

For U9's, results can be collected but **NOT** published.

For trophy matches only, the results can be published and the maximum goal difference between the two teams shall not exceed 9 goals for recording purposes. Scores recorded can be: 9-0, 10-1, 13-4 etc. (failure to record a score difference no greater than 9 goals will result in scale A fine)

11. Referee Fees

There is no requirement for a paid qualified referee at this age group.

12. Cup Competition

12.1 Format and Draw

The format for the Cup Competition may comprise either a Knock-Out or a Group Tournament. This will be determined by the Management Committee prior to the start of the season and will be based upon the number of teams entered. The draw for the league cup competition will be made during a full committee meeting. Teams will be notified of cup draws by the Fixtures Secretary. League cup competitions will be played in the same format and rules as normal league games. In the event of a tie at the end of normal time the following rules will apply.

12.2 Extra-time and Penalties

If the game is drawn at full time, extra time will be 5 minutes each way. If scores are still level, a penalty shoot-out will decide the outcome.

Each team will take three penalties. If scores are still level, sudden death penalties will decide. Penalty shoot-outs will be carried out in line with FA rules.

Only players on the field of play at the end of extra time can take a penalty

The names or shirt numbers of players taking penalties, in the correct order, should be given by both teams to the referee before the shoot-out takes place.

The goalkeeper can be substituted prior to the penalty shoot-out for any other player on the field of play when the extra-time whistle is blown. The goalkeeper can be substituted during the penalty shoot-out only in the case of injury.

There will be no replays for league cup competitions.

In the event of a tie at the conclusion of a Group Tournament the final positions will be determined by the head to head results between the tied sides provided that home and away fixtures have been played. If the competition did not have home and away fixtures, a play-off will be used to resolve the final group position. The play-off location will be selected by the Management Committee. Goal difference will not apply in determining group positions.

Standard FA rules per age group apply in all cup competitions whether it is a Group Tournament or a Knock-out Tournament.

12.3 Cup-tied Players

Once a player has played in a League Cup competition, including League Cup Plate, during

a season, she is cup-tied for the remainder of the season. This is area of age group.

13. Division Manager Roles and Contact

The League Secretary will inform each Age Division the name and contact details of their Age Division Manager. The ADM is there to help with any problems you may have and answer any question regarding the running of the league, including postponements, reversing a fixture and match irregularities.

13. U10 Division

1. Player Age

The age on 31 August of the relevant season will be 8 years; with eligible age groups:

- under 9 (year 4 school age)
- under 10 (year 5 school age)

2. Playing Area

The League expects Member Clubs to adhere to the FA guidelines where possible.

It is the responsibility of the home team to ensure that the playing surface is in good condition and suitable for play.

The pitch sizes recommended by The FA for 7 a-side; for use at U10 is:

Age Grouping	Suggested Pitch Size in Yards		Suggested Size of Goal Posts		Pitch dimensions in Yards				Pitch dimensions in Metres			
					Length		Width		Length		Width	
	Length	Width	Height	Width	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
U10	60	40	6ft	12ft	60	50	40	30	54.9	45.75	36.6	27.45

Penalty Area: 16.47m/18 yards wide and 9.15m/10 yards deep

Penalty Mark: 7.32m/8 yards from the centre of the goal

Halfway Line: The field of play is divided into two halves by a halfway line. The centre mark is indicated at the mid-point of the halfway line. A centre circle or other marks to indicate a 5-metre radius around the centre mark is optional.

2.1 Retreat Line

The half-way line is used as the retreat line when restarting play with a goal kick.

3. Number of Players

Number of players is **seven** versus **seven**.

A team must not have a match day match greater than double the size of this team in an age group. Therefore, the match day squad is a maximum of 14 players.

The minimum number of players required to start a game is 5.

All games must be played 7 a-side if possible. No substitutes will be allowed for a team that only has a match day squad of 7 or less - i.e. match day squad of 7 players, all 7 must play with no substitutes.

The opposition team **will** match the number of players starting.

If a team is reduced (by injury or sending offs) to less than 5 players, the game will be abandoned. The management committee shall review all abandoned matches and where it is to the advantage of the competition and does no injustice to either club, shall be empowered to order the score at the time of the abandonment to stand. In cases where the management committee are satisfied that the match was abandoned due to the conduct of one club or its supporters they shall be empowered to award the points for the match to the opposition and/or take any other action they deem necessary. In cases where a match is abandoned due to the action of both clubs or their supporters then the management committee shall take such action as they consider appropriate. Any action taken by the management committee may be in addition to any disciplinary action taken by the appropriate County Football Association.

4. Duration of Games

The duration of games will be 20 mins each way. For small sided matches, we encourage the playing of a second friendly game.

5. Substitutions

Substitutions **may** return to the field of play with the permission of the referee i.e. rolling subs.

6. Offside Rule

The off-side rule shall not apply.

7. Re-start of Play

Re-start of play in small sided games will commence once an opponent is at least four and a half metres (5 yards) away from the ball.

8. Facilities and Equipment

It is the sole responsibility of the first named team to ensure that:-

- Toilet facilities are available (failure to provide toilet facilities will result in a Scale E fine)
- The playing surface is in a good, safe condition.
- A referee is arranged (Failure to provide a referee will result in a Scale C fine)
- Providing Two Match balls **size 4** (Failure to provide suitable match balls will result in a Scale A fine)
- Respect Barriers shall be used around pitches if you don't have a RESPECT barrier use a line of cones or a white marked line.
- Samba goals and goal nets or equivalent shall be used.

9. Points

For matches where points are recorded they will be awarded as follows:

- 3 points for a Win
- 2 points for a Draw (score and no-score draw)
- 1 point for a defeat
- 0 points for the opposition team when a match is awarded by the League Disciplinary Committee

10. Recorded Result Difference

For U10s, results can be collected but **NOT** published.

For trophy matches only, the results can be published and the maximum goal difference between the two teams shall not exceed 9 goals for recording purposes. Scores recorded can be: 9-0, 10-1, 13-4 etc. (failure to record a score difference no greater than 9 goals will result in scale A fine)

11. Referee Fees

There is no requirement for a paid qualified referee at this age group.

12. Cup Competition

12.1 Format and Draw

The format for the Cup Competition may comprise either a Knock-Out or a Group Tournament. This will be determined by the Management Committee prior to the start of the season and will be based upon the number of teams entered. The draw for the league cup competition will be made during a full committee meeting. Teams will be notified of cup draws by the Fixtures Secretary. League cup competitions will be played in the same format and rules as normal league games. In the event of a tie at the end of normal time the following rules will apply.

12.2 Extra-time and Penalties

If the game is drawn at full time, extra time will be 5 minutes each way. If scores are still level, a penalty shoot-out will decide the outcome.

Each team will take three penalties. If scores are still level, sudden death penalties will decide. Penalty shoot outs will be carried out in line with FA rules.

Only players on the field of play at the end of extra time can take a penalty

The names or shirt numbers of players taking penalties, in the correct order, should be given by both teams to the referee before the shoot-out takes place.

The goalkeeper can be substituted prior to the penalty shoot-out for any other player on the field of play when the extra-time whistle is blown. The goalkeeper can be substituted during the penalty shoot-out only in the case of injury.

There will be no replays for league cup competitions.

In the event of a tie at the conclusion of a Group Tournament, the final positions will be determined by the head to head results between the tied sides provided that home and away fixtures have been played. In the event that the competition did not have home and away

fixtures a play-off will be used to resolve the group position. The play-off location will be selected by the Management Committee. Goal difference will not apply in determining group positions.

Standard FA rules apply in all cup competitions whether it is a Group Tournament or a Knock-out Tournament.

12.3 Cup-tied Players

Once a player has played in a League Cup competition, including League Cup Plate, during a season she is cup-tied for the remainder of the season. This is regardless of age group.

13. Division Manager Roles and Contact

The League Secretary will inform each Age Division the name and contact details of their Age Division Manager. The ADM is there to help with any problems you may have and answer any question regarding the running of the league, including postponements, reversing a fixture and match irregularities.

14. U11 Division

1. Player Age

The age on 31 August of the relevant season will be 9 years; with eligible age groups:

- under 10 (year 5 school age)
- under 11 (year 6 school age)

2. Playing Area

The League expects Member Clubs to adhere to the FA guidelines where possible.

It is the responsibility of the home team to ensure that the playing surface is in good condition and suitable for play.

The pitch sizes recommended by The FA for 7 a-side; for use at U11 is:

Age Grouping	Suggested Pitch Size in Yards		Suggested Size of Goal Posts		Pitch dimensions in Yards				Pitch dimensions in Metres			
					Length		Width		Length		Width	
	Length	Width	Height	Width	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
U11	60	40	6ft	12ft	60	50	40	30	54.9	45.75	36.6	27.45

Penalty Area: 16.47m/18 yards wide and 9.15m/10 yards deep

Penalty Mark: 7.32m/8 yards from the centre of the goal

Halfway Line: The field of play is divided into two halves by a halfway line. The centre mark is indicated at the mid-point of the halfway line. A centre circle or other marks to indicate a 5-metre radius around the centre mark is optional.

2.1 Retreat Line

The half-way line is used as the retreat line when restarting play with a goal kick.

3. Number of Players

Number of players is **seven** versus **seven**.

A team must not have a match day match greater than double the size of this team in an age group. Therefore, the match day squad is a maximum of 14 players.

The minimum number of players required to start a game is 5.

All games must be played 7 a-side if possible. No substitutes will be allowed for a team that only has a match day squad of 7 or less - i.e. match day squad of 7 players, all 7 must play with no substitutes.

The opposition team **will** match the number of players starting.

If a team is reduced (by injury or sending offs) to less than 5 players, the game will be abandoned. The management committee shall review all abandoned matches and where it is to the advantage of the competition and does no injustice to either club, shall be empowered to order the score at the time of the abandonment to stand. In cases where the management committee are satisfied that the match was abandoned due to the conduct of one club or its supporters they shall be empowered to award the points for the match to the opposition and/or take any other action they deem necessary. In cases where a match is abandoned due to the action of both clubs or their supporters then the management committee shall take such action as they consider appropriate. Any action taken by the management committee may be in addition to any disciplinary action taken by the appropriate County Football Association.

4. Duration of Games

The duration of games will be 25 mins each way. For small sided matches, we encourage the playing of a second friendly game, where possible.

5. Substitutions

Substitutions **may** return to the field of play with the permission of the referee i.e. rolling subs.

6. Offside Rule

The off-side rule shall not apply.

7. Re-start of Play

Re-start of play in small sided games will commence once an opponent is at least four and a half metres (5 yards) away from the ball.

8. Facilities and Equipment

It is the sole responsibility of the first named team to ensure that:-

- Toilet facilities are available (failure to provide toilet facilities will result in a Scale E fine)
- The playing surface is in a good, safe condition.
- A referee is arranged (Failure to provide a referee will result in a Scale C fine)

- Providing Two Match balls **size 4** (Failure to provide suitable match balls will result in a Scale A fine)
- Respect Barriers shall be used around pitches if you don't have a RESPECT barrier use a line of cones or a white marked line.
- Samba goals and goal nets or equivalent shall be used.

9. Points

For matches where points are recorded they will be awarded as follows:

- 3 points for a Win
- 2 points for a Draw (score and no-score draw)
- 1 point for a defeat
- 0 points for the opposition team when a match is awarded by the League Disciplinary Committee

10. Recorded Result Difference

For U11s, results can be collected but **NOT** published.

For trophy matches only, the results can be published and the maximum goal difference between the two teams shall not exceed 9 goals for recording purposes. Scores recorded can be: 9-0, 10-1, 13-4 etc. (failure to record a score difference no greater than 9 goals will result in scale A fine)

11. Referee Fees

The League may occasionally appoint a Referee for this age group during the season. The Referee fee is £25, paid by the home team. For League Cup matches, the Referee fee will be **shared** by the Home and Away teams.

12. Cup Competition

12.1 Format and Draw

The format for the Cup Competition may comprise of either a Knock-Out or a Group Tournament. This will be determined by the Management Committee prior to the start of the season and will be based upon the number of teams entered. The draw for the league cup competition will be made during a full committee meeting. Teams will be notified of cup draws by the Fixtures Secretary. League cup competitions will be played in the same format and rules as normal league games. In the event of a tie at the end of normal time the following rules will apply.

12.2 Extra-time and Penalties

If the game is drawn at full time, extra time will be 5 minutes each way. If scores are still level, a penalty shoot-out will decide the outcome.

Each team will take three penalties. If scores are still level, sudden death penalties will decide. Penalty shoot outs will be carried out in line with FA rules.

Only players on the field of play at the end of extra time can take a penalty

The names or shirt numbers of players taking penalties, in the correct order, should be given by both teams to the referee before the shoot-out takes place.

The goalkeeper can be substituted prior to the penalty shoot-out for any other player on the field of play when the extra-time whistle is blown. The goalkeeper can be substituted during the penalty shoot-out only in the case of injury.

There will be no replays for league cup competitions.

In the event of a tie at the conclusion of a Group Tournament the final positions will be determined by the head to head results between the tied sides provided that home and away fixtures have been played. In the event that the competition did not have home and away fixtures a play-off will be used to resolve the group position. The play-off location will be selected by the Management Committee. Goal difference will not apply in determining group positions.

Standard FA rules apply in all cup competitions whether it is a Group Tournament or a Knock-out Tournament.

12.3 Cup-tied Players

Once a player has played in a League Cup competition, including League Cup Plate, during a season she is cup-tied for the remainder of the season. This is regardless of age group played in.

13. Division Manager Roles and Contact

The League Secretary will inform each Age Division the name and contact details of their Age Division Manager. The ADM is there to help with any problems you may have and answer any question regarding the running of the league, including postponements, reversing a fixture and match irregularities.

15. U12 Division

1. Player Age

The age on 31 August of the relevant season will be 10 years; with eligible age groups:

- under 11 (year 6 school age)
- under 12 (year 7 school age)

2. Playing Area

The League expects Member Clubs to adhere to the FA guidelines where possible.

It is the responsibility of the home team to ensure that the playing surface is in good condition and suitable for play.

The pitch sizes recommended by The FA for 9 a-side; for use at U12 is:

Age Grouping	Suggested Pitch Size in Yards		Suggested Size of Goal Posts		Pitch dimensions in Yards				Pitch dimensions in Metres			
					Length		Width		Length		Width	
	Length	Width	Height	Width	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
U12	80	50	7ft	16ft	80	70	50	40	73.2	64	45.75	36.6

Goalposts: Where 7ft x 16ft goalposts are not available, 7ft x 21ft may be used.

Goal Area: 12.8m/14 yards wide and 3.65m/4 yards deep

Penalty Area: 29.2m/32 yards wide and 11.9m/13 yards deep. Each penalty area must contain a mark 8.2m/9 yards from the midpoint between the goalposts and equidistant from them.

Centre Circle: The field of play is divided into two halves by a halfway line. Flag posts may be placed at each end of the halfway line, not less than 1m/1 yard outside the touch line. The centre mark is made at the midpoint of the halfway line. A centre circle with a 7 yards radius is optional.

Corner Arc: A flag post, not less than 1.5m/5 feet high, with a non-pointed top and a flag is placed at each corner. A quarter circle with a radius of 1m/1 yard from each corner flag post is drawn inside the field of play. (Failure to mark pitch correctly will result in a fine of £10 per offence)

The League does expect Member Clubs to adhere to the above FA guidelines where possible

3. Number of Players

Number of players is **nine** versus **nine**.

The number of players that will form a 9 a-side team on the match day shall not exceed 14 and must not be less than 7. Therefore, the maximum number of substitutes allowed is 5.

The minimum number of players required to start a game is 7.

All games must be played 9 a-side if possible. No substitutes will be allowed for a team that only has a match day squad of 9 or less - i.e. match day squad of 9 players, all 9 must play with no substitutes.

The opposition team **will** match the number of players starting.

If a team is reduced (by injury or sending offs) to less than 7 players, the game will be abandoned. The management committee shall review all abandoned matches and where it is to the advantage of the competition and does no injustice to either club, shall be empowered to order the score at the time of the abandonment to stand. In cases where the management committee are satisfied that the match was abandoned due to the conduct of one club or its supporters they shall be empowered to award the points for the match to the opposition and/or take any other action they deem necessary. In cases where a match is abandoned due to the action of both clubs or their supporters then the management committee shall take such action as they consider appropriate. Any action taken by the management committee may be in addition to any disciplinary action taken by the appropriate County Football Association.

4. Duration of Games

The duration of games will be 30 mins each way.

5. Substitutions

Substitutions **may** return to the field of play with the permission of the referee i.e. rolling subs.

6. Offside Rule

The off-side rule shall apply as per current FA rule. Please note that assistants only act as assistants to the referee, it is the referee who decides if an infringement has occurred.

7. Facilities and Equipment

It is the sole responsibility of the first named team to ensure that:-

- Toilet facilities are available (failure to provide toilet facilities will result in a Scale E fine)
- Changing facilities must be made available. (Failure to provide changing facilities will result in a Scale A fine)
- The playing surface is in a good, safe condition.
- Corner posts with flags complying with FA regulations shall be provided by the home team. (failure to provide corner flags will result in a Scale A fine)
- A set of Assistant Referee's flags shall be made available by the home team for the match Referee to use. (failure to provide assistant referee flags will result in a Scale A fine)
- Nets must be provided for the goals by the home team. (failure to provide nets will result in a Scale A fine)
- A referee is arranged (Failure to provide a referee will result in a Scale C fine). In the event the League has not allocated a Referee then one must be supplied by the home team at their own expense.
- Each team will supply one assistant referee. (Failure to provide an assistant will result in a Scale A fine) (failure to provide a referee will result in a Scale C fine)
- Providing Two Match balls **size 4**, inflated to the FA recommendation of 0.5 bar pressure. (Failure to provide suitable match balls will result in a Scale A fine).
- Respect Barriers shall be used around pitches if you don't have a RESPECT barrier use a line of cones or a white marked line.
- Samba goals and goal nets or equivalent shall be used.

It is the responsibility of both teams to ensure that:

- Each team will supply one assistant referee. (Failure to provide an assistant will result in a Scale A fine and failure to provide a referee will result in a Scale C fine).

8. Points

For matches where points are recorded they will be awarded as follows:

- 3 points for a Win
- 2 points for a Draw (score and no-score draw)

- 1 point for a defeat
- 0 points for the opposition team when a match is awarded by the League Disciplinary Committee

In the first instance, a play-off match is recommended for teams that are level on points at the top of the table and the play-off match will determine the championship.

If teams are level on points, the team with the better results between the two teams (points scored against each other) will be placed higher in the league. Goal difference is not used to determine the final league positions. If teams are still level, then the team with more wins in the league will be placed higher. If the teams are still level then, if time allows, a play-off match can take place to determine league position, otherwise the league age division manager will determine final positions.

9. Recorded Result Difference

The maximum goal difference between the two teams shall not exceed 9 goals at U12 for recording purposes. Scores recorded can be: 9-0, 10-1, 13-4 etc. (failure to record a score difference no greater than 9 goals will result in scale A fine)

10. Referee Fees

Referee fee is £25, which is paid by the home team. For League Cup matches, the Referee fee will be **shared** by the Home and Away teams.

11. Cup Competition

11.1 Format and Draw

The format for the Cup Competition may comprise of either a Knock-Out or a Group Tournament. This will be determined by the Management Committee prior to the start of the season and will be based upon the number of teams entered. The draw for the league cup competition will be made during a full committee meeting. Teams will be notified of cup draws by the Fixtures Secretary. League cup competitions will be played in the same format and rules as normal league games. In the event of a tie at the end of normal time the following rules will apply.

11.2 Extra-time and Penalties

If the game is drawn at full time, extra time will be 7 minutes each way. If scores are still level, a penalty shoot-out will decide the outcome.

Each team will take five penalties. If scores are still level, sudden death penalties will decide. Penalty shoot outs will be carried out in line with FA rules.

Only players on the field of play at the end of extra time can take a penalty

The names or shirt numbers of players taking penalties, in the correct order, should be given by both teams to the referee before the shoot-out takes place.

The goalkeeper can be substituted prior to the penalty shoot-out for any other player on the field of play when the extra-time whistle is blown. The goalkeeper can be substituted during the penalty shoot-out only in the case of injury.

There will be no replays for league cup competitions.

In the event of a tie at the conclusion of a Group Tournament the final positions will be determined by the head to head results between the tied sides provided that home and away fixtures have been played. In the event that the competition did not have home and away fixtures a play-off will be used to resolve the final group position. The play-off location will be selected by the Management Committee. Goal difference will not apply in determining group positions.

Standard FA rules apply in all cup competitions whether it is a Group Tournament or a Knock-out Tournament.

11.3 Cup-tied Players

Once a player has played in a League Cup competition, including League Cup Plate, during a season she is cup tied for the remainder of the season. This is regardless of age group.

12. Division Manager Roles and Contact

The League Secretary will inform each Age Division the name and contact details of their Age Division Manager. The ADM is there to help with any problems you may have and answer any question regarding the running of the league, including postponements, reversing a fixture and match irregularities.

16. U13 Division

1. Player Age

The age on 31 August of the relevant season will be 11 years; with eligible age groups:

- under 12 (year 7 school age)
- under 13 (year 8 school age)

2. Playing Area

The League expects Member Clubs to adhere to the FA guidelines where possible.

It is the responsibility of the home team to ensure that the playing surface is in good condition and suitable for play.

The pitch sizes recommended by The FA for 9 a-side; for use at U13 is:

Age Grouping	Suggested Pitch Size in Yards		Suggested Size of Goal Posts		Pitch dimensions in Yards				Pitch dimensions in Metres			
					Length		Width		Length		Width	
	Length	Width	Height	Width	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
U13	80	50	7ft	16ft	80	70	50	40	73.2	64	45.75	36.6

Goalposts: Where 7ft x 16ft goalposts are not available, 7ft x 21ft may be used.

Goal Area: 12.8m/14 yards wide and 3.65m/4 yards deep

Penalty Area: 29.2m/32 yards wide and 11.9m/13 yards deep. Each penalty area must contain a mark 8.2m/9 yards from the midpoint between the goalposts and equidistant from them.

Centre Circle: The field of play is divided into two halves by a halfway line. Flag posts may be placed at each end of the halfway line, not less than 1m/1 yard outside the touch line. The centre mark is made at the midpoint of the halfway line. A centre circle with a 7 yards radius is optional.

Corner Arc: A flag post, not less than 1.5m/5 feet high, with a non-pointed top and a flag is placed at each corner. A quarter circle with a radius of 1m/1 yard from each corner flag post is drawn inside the field of play. (Failure to mark pitch correctly will result in a fine of £10 per offence)

The League does expect Member Clubs to adhere to the above FA guidelines where possible

3. Number of Players

Number of players is **nine** versus **nine**.

The number of players that will form a 9 a-side team on the match day shall not exceed 14 and must not be less than 7. Therefore, the maximum number of substitutes allowed is 5.

The minimum number of players required to start a game is 7.

All games must be played 9 a side if possible. No substitutes will be allowed for a team that only has a match day squad of 9 or less - i.e. match day squad of 9 players, all 9 must play with no substitutes.

The opposition team **will** match the number of players starting.

If a team is reduced (by injury or sending offs) to less than 7 players, the game will be abandoned. The management committee shall review all abandoned matches and where it is to the advantage of the competition and does no injustice to either club, shall be empowered to order the score at the time of the abandonment to stand. In cases where the management committee are satisfied that the match was abandoned due to the conduct of one club or its supporters they shall be empowered to award the points for the match to the opposition and/or take any other action they deem necessary. In cases where a match is abandoned due to the action of both clubs or their supporters then the management committee shall take such action as they consider appropriate. Any action taken by the management committee may be in addition to any disciplinary action taken by the appropriate County Football Association.

4. Duration of Games

The duration of games will be 30 mins each way.

5. Substitutions

Substitutions **may** return to the field of play with the permission of the referee i.e. rolling subs.

6. Offside Rule

The off-side rule shall apply as per current FA rule. Please note that assistants only act as assistants to the referee, it is the referee who decides if an infringement has occurred.

7. Facilities and Equipment

It is the sole responsibility of the first named team to ensure that:-

- Toilet facilities are available (failure to provide toilet facilities will result in a Scale E fine)
- Changing facilities must be made available. (Failure to provide changing facilities will result in a Scale A fine)
- The playing surface is in a good, safe condition.
- Corner posts with flags complying with FA regulations shall be provided by the home team. (failure to provide corner flags will result in a Scale A fine)
- A set of Assistant Referee's flags shall be made available by the home team for the match Referee to use. (failure to provide assistant referee flags will result in a Scale A fine)
- Nets must be provided for the goals by the home team. (failure to provide nets will result in a Scale A fine)
- A referee is arranged (Failure to provide a referee will result in a Scale C fine). In the event the League has not allocated a Referee then one must be supplied by the home team at their own expense.
- Each team will supply one assistant referee. (Failure to provide an assistant will result in a Scale A fine) (failure to provide a referee will result in a Scale C fine)
- Providing Two Match balls **size 4**, inflated to the FA recommendation of 0.5 bar pressure. (Failure to provide suitable match balls will result in a Scale A fine).
- Respect Barriers shall be used around pitches if you don't have a RESPECT barrier use a line of cones or a white marked line.
- Samba goals and goal nets or equivalent shall be used.

It is the responsibility of both teams to ensure that:

- Each team will supply one assistant referee. (Failure to provide an assistant will result in a Scale A fine and failure to provide a referee will result in a Scale C fine)

8. Points

For matches where points are recorded they will be awarded as follows:

- 3 points for a Win
- 2 points for a Draw (score and no-score draw)
- 1 point for a defeat
- 0 points for the opposition team when a match is awarded by the League Disciplinary Committee

In the first instance, a play-off match is recommended for teams that are level on points at the top of the table and the play-off match will determine the championship.

If teams are level on points, the team with the better results between the two teams (points scored against each other) will be placed higher in the league. Goal difference is not used to determine the final league positions. If teams are still level, then the team with more wins in the league will be placed higher. If the teams are still level then, if time allows, a play-off match can take place to determine league position, otherwise the league age division manager will determine final positions.

9. Referee Fees

Referee fee is £30, which is paid by the home team. For League Cup matches, the Referee fee will be **shared** by the Home and Away teams.

10. Cup Competition

10.1 Format and Draw

The format for the Cup Competition may comprise of either a Knock-Out or a Group Tournament. This will be determined by the Management Committee prior to the start of the season and will be based upon the number of teams entered. The draw for the league cup competition will be made during a full committee meeting. Teams will be notified of cup draws by the Fixtures Secretary. League cup competitions will be played in the same format and rules as normal league games. In the event of a tie at the end of normal time the following rules will apply.

10.2 Extra-time and Penalties

If the game is drawn at full time, extra time will be 7 minutes each way. If scores are still level, a penalty shoot-out will decide the outcome.

Each team will take five penalties. If scores are still level, sudden death penalties will decide. Penalty shoot outs will be carried out in line with FA rules.

Only players on the field of play at the end of extra time can take a penalty

The names or shirt numbers of players taking penalties, in the correct order, should be given by both teams to the referee before the shoot-out takes place.

The goalkeeper can be substituted prior to the penalty shoot-out for any other player on the field of play when the extra-time whistle is blown. The goalkeeper can be substituted during the penalty shoot-out only in the case of injury.

There will be no replays for league cup competitions.

In the event of a tie at the conclusion of a Group Tournament the final positions will be determined by the head to head results between the tied sides provided that home and away fixtures have been played. In the event that the competition did not have home and away fixtures a play-off will be used to resolve position. The play-off location will be selected by the Management Committee. Goal difference will not apply in determining group positions.

Standard FA rules per age group apply in all cup competitions whether it is a Group Tournament or a Knock-out Tournament.

10.3 Cup-tied Players

Once a player has played in a League Cup competition, including League Cup Plate, during a season she is cup tied for the remainder of the season. This is regardless of age group.

11. Oxfordshire FA U14 Girls County Cup Competition

Oxfordshire FA manage the County Cup competitions.

FA rules state that girls cannot play against each other with a two year age difference. Therefore, only U13 girls are allowed to enter the competition (U12s in a U13 squad are ineligible to play.)

12. Division Manager Roles and Contact

The League Secretary will inform each Age Division the name and contact details of their Age Division Manager. The ADM is there to help with any problems you may have and answer any question regarding the running of the league, including postponements, reversing a fixture and match irregularities.

17. U14 Division

1. Player Age

The age on 31 August of the relevant season will be 12 years; with eligible age groups:

- under 13 (year 8 school age)
- under 14 (year 9 school age)

2. Playing Area

The League expects Member Clubs to adhere to the FA guidelines where possible.

It is the responsibility of the home team to ensure that the playing surface is in good condition and suitable for play.

The pitch sizes recommended by The FA for 11 a-side; for use at U14 is:

Age Grouping	Suggested Pitch Size in Yards		Suggested Size of Goal Posts		Pitch dimensions in Yards				Pitch dimensions in Metres			
					Length		Width		Length		Width	
	Length	Width	Height	Width	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
U14	90	55	7ft	21ft	100	80	60	50	91	72.8	56	45.5

Goalposts: Where 7ft x 21ft goalposts are not available, 8ft x 24ft may be used.

Goal Area: 18.32m/20 yards wide (5.5m/6 yards from the inside of each goalpost towards the nearest corner) and 5.5m/6 yards deep.

Penalty Area: 40.32m/44 yards wide (16.5m/18 yards from the inside of each goalpost towards the nearest corner) and 16.5m/18 yards deep. Each penalty area must contain a mark 11m/12 yards from the midpoint between the goalposts and equidistant from them. An

arc of a circle with a radius of 9.15m/10 yards is drawn outside the penalty area from each penalty mark.

Centre Circle: The field of play is divided into two halves by a halfway line. Flag posts may be placed at each end of the halfway line, not less than 1m/1 yard outside the touch line. The centre mark is made at the midpoint of the halfway line. A circle with a radius of 9.15m/10 yards is drawn around the centre mark.

Corner Arc: A flag post, not less than 1.5m/5 feet high, with a non-pointed top and a flag is placed at each corner. A quarter circle with a radius of 1m/1 yard from each corner flag post is drawn inside the field of play. (Failure to mark pitch correctly will result in a Scale A fine per offence)

The League does expect Member Clubs to adhere to the above FA guidelines where possible.

New generation rubber infill pitches will be permitted, with prior consent of the league Management Committee, provided that the artificial turf meets the following conditions:

The artificial turf meets any of the applicable FIFA quality standards for artificial turf, currently corresponding to the "FIFA Recommended 2-Star Standard", the "FIFA Recommended 1-Star Standard" in accordance with the "FIFA Quality Concept - Handbook of Test Methods and Requirements for Artificial Turf Football Surfaces" dated February 2005 as well all requirements under the applicable national laws and regulations; and (b) the artificial turf has passed all the necessary tests (laboratory and field tests) and, in the case of "FIFA Recommended 2-Star Standard" or "FIFA Recommended 1-Star Standard", has obtained the required FIFA licence; and (c) the artificial turf has passed all the necessary yearly tests confirming that it still meets the applicable FIFA quality standards. Such tests must be conducted by a FIFA accredited laboratory; and (d) the surface of the artificial turf must be of a green colour.

3. Number of Players

If a team has registered as a 9 aside team then that team shall have a squad maximum of 12 players registered, if 13 or more players are registered the team shall default to a 11v11 format for the remainder of the season.

Number of players is **eleven** versus **eleven**.

The number of players that will form an 11 a-side team on the match day shall not exceed 16 and must not be less than 9. Therefore, the maximum number of substitutes allowed is 5.

The minimum number of players required to start a game is 9.

All games must be played 11a side if possible. No substitutes will be allowed for a team that only has a match day squad of 11 or less - i.e. match day squad of 11 players, all 11 must play with no substitutes.

The opposition team **will** match the number of players starting.

If a team is reduced (by injury or sending offs) to less than 7 players, the game will be abandoned. The management committee shall review all abandoned matches and where it

is to the advantage of the competition and does no injustice to either club, shall be empowered to order the score at the time of the abandonment to stand. In cases where the management committee are satisfied that the match was abandoned due to the conduct of one club or its supporters they shall be empowered to award the points for the match to the opposition and/or take any other action they deem necessary. In cases where a match is abandoned due to the action of both clubs or their supporters then the management committee shall take such action as they consider appropriate. Any action taken by the management committee may be in addition to any disciplinary action taken by the appropriate County Football Association.

4. Duration of Games

The duration of games will be 35 mins each way.

The half time duration shall not exceed 10 minutes. Whilst a half time break is important to allow players to recover, it is also recognised that during the depths of winter standing around soaking wet in the freezing cold is also not fun; so common sense should prevail here.

5. Substitutions

Substitutions *may* return to the field of play with the permission of the referee i.e. rolling subs.

6. Offside Rule

The off-side rule shall apply as per current FA rule. Please note that assistants only act as assistants to the referee, it is the referee who decides if an infringement has occurred.

7. Facilities and Equipment

It is the sole responsibility of the first named team to ensure that:-

- Toilet facilities are available (failure to provide toilet facilities will result in a Scale E fine)
- Changing facilities must be made available. (Failure to provide changing facilities will result in a Scale A fine)
- The playing surface is in a good, safe condition.
- Corner posts with flags complying with FA regulations shall be provided by the home team. (failure to provide corner flags will result in a Scale A fine)
- A set of Assistant Referee's flags shall be made available by the home team for the match Referee to use. (failure to provide assistant referee flags will result in a Scale A fine)
- Nets must be provided for the goals by the home team. (failure to provide nets will result in a Scale A fine)
- A referee is arranged (Failure to provide a referee will result in a Scale C fine). In the event the League has not allocated a Referee then one must be supplied by the home team at their own expense.
- Each team will supply one assistant referee. (Failure to provide an assistant will result in a Scale A fine) (failure to provide a referee will result in a Scale C fine)
- Providing Two Match balls **size 4**, inflated to the FA recommendation of 0.5 bar pressure. (Failure to provide suitable match balls will result in a Scale A fine).

- Respect Barriers shall be used around pitches if you don't have a RESPECT barrier use a line of cones or a white marked line.
- Samba goals and goal nets or equivalent shall be used.

It is the responsibility of both teams to ensure that:

- Each team will supply one assistant referee. (Failure to provide an assistant will result in a Scale A fine) (failure to provide a referee will result in a Scale C fine)

8. Points

For matches where points are recorded they will be awarded as follows:

- 3 points for a Win
- 2 points for a Draw (score and no-score draw)
- 1 point for a defeat
- 0 points for the opposition team when a match is awarded by the League Disciplinary Committee

In the first instance, a play-off match is recommended for teams that are level on points at the top of the table and the play-off match will determine the championship.

If teams are level on points, the team with the better results between the two teams (points scored against each other) will be placed higher in the league. Goal difference is not used to determine the final league positions. If teams are still level, then the team with more wins in the league will be placed higher. If the teams are still level then, if time allows, a play-off match can take place to determine league position, otherwise the league age division manager will determine final positions.

9. Referee Fees

Referee fee is £30, which is paid by the home team. For League Cup matches, the Referee fee will be **shared** by the Home and Away teams.

10. Cup Competition

10.1 Format and Draw

The format for the Cup Competition may comprise of either a Knock-Out or a Group Tournament. This will be determined by the Management Committee prior to the start of the season and will be based upon the number of teams entered. The draw for the league cup competition will be made during a full committee meeting. Teams will be notified of cup draws by the Fixtures Secretary. League cup competitions will be played in the same format and rules as normal league games. In the event of a tie at the end of normal time the following rules will apply.

10.2 Extra-time and Penalties

If the game is drawn at full time, extra time will be 10 minutes each way. If scores are still level, a penalty shoot-out will decide the outcome.

Each team will take five penalties. If scores are still level, sudden death penalties will decide. Penalty shoot outs will be carried out in line with FA rules.

Only players on the field of play at the end of extra time can take a penalty

The names or shirt numbers of players taking penalties, in the correct order, should be given by both teams to the referee before the shoot-out takes place.

The goalkeeper can be substituted prior to the penalty shoot-out for any other player on the field of play when the extra-time whistle is blown. The goalkeeper can be substituted during the penalty shoot-out only in the case of injury.

There will be no replays for league cup competitions.

In the event of a tie at the conclusion of a Group Tournament the final positions will be determined by the head to head results between the tied sides provided that home and away fixtures have been played. In the event that the competition did not have home and away fixtures a play-off will be used to resolve position. The play-off location will be selected by the Management Committee. Goal difference will not apply in determining group positions.

Standard FA rules per age group apply in all cup competitions whether it is a Group Tournament or a Knock-out Tournament.

10.3 Cup-tied Players

Once a player has played in a League Cup competition, including League Cup Plate, during a season she is cup tied for the remainder of the season. This is regardless of age group.

11. Oxfordshire FA U14 Girls County Cup Competition

Oxfordshire FA manage the County Cup competitions.

12. Division Manager Roles and Contact

The League Secretary will inform each Age Division the name and contact details of their Age Division Manager. The ADM is there to help with any problems you may have and answer any question regarding the running of the league, including postponements, reversing a fixture and match irregularities.

18. U15 Division

1. Player Age

The age on 31 August of the relevant season will be 13 years; with eligible age groups:

- under 14 (year 9 school age)
- under 15 (year 10 school age)

2. Playing Area

The League expects Member Clubs to adhere to the FA guidelines where possible.

It is the responsibility of the home team to ensure that the playing surface is in good condition and suitable for play.

The pitch sizes recommended by The FA for 11 a-side; for use at U15 is:

Age Grouping	Suggested Pitch Size in Yards		Suggested Size of Goal Posts		Pitch dimensions in Yards				Pitch dimensions in Metres			
					Length		Width		Length		Width	
	Length	Width	Height	Width	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
U15	100	60	8ft	24ft	110	90	70	50	100.6	82.3	64	45.5

Goalposts: 8ft x 24ft must be used.

Goal Area: 18.32m/20 yards wide (5.5m/6 yards from the inside of each goalpost towards the nearest corner) and 5.5m/6 yards deep.

Penalty Area: 40.32m/44 yards wide (16.5m/18 yards from the inside of each goalpost towards the nearest corner) and 16.5m/18 yards deep. Each penalty area must contain a mark 11m/12 yards from the midpoint between the goalposts and equidistant from them. An arc of a circle with a radius of 9.15m/10 yards is drawn outside the penalty area from each penalty mark.

Centre Circle: The field of play is divided into two halves by a halfway line. Flag posts may be placed at each end of the halfway line, not less than 1m/1 yard outside the touch line. The centre mark is made at the midpoint of the halfway line. A circle with a radius of 9.15m/10 yards is drawn around the centre mark.

Corner Arc: A flag post, not less than 1.5m/5 feet high, with a non-pointed top and a flag is placed at each corner. A quarter circle with a radius of 1m/1 yard from each corner flag post is drawn inside the field of play. (Failure to mark pitch correctly will result in a Scale A fine per offence)

The League does expect Member Clubs to adhere to the above FA guidelines where possible.

New generation rubber infill pitches will be permitted, with prior consent of the league Management Committee, provided that the artificial turf meets the following conditions:

The artificial turf meets any of the applicable FIFA quality standards for artificial turf, currently corresponding to the "FIFA Recommended 2-Star Standard", the "FIFA Recommended 1-Star Standard" in accordance with the "FIFA Quality Concept - Handbook of Test Methods and Requirements for Artificial Turf Football Surfaces" dated February 2005 as well all requirements under the applicable national laws and regulations; and (b) the artificial turf has passed all the necessary tests (laboratory and field tests) and, in the case of "FIFA Recommended 2-Star Standard" or "FIFA Recommended 1-Star Standard", has obtained the required FIFA licence; and (c) the artificial turf has passed all the necessary yearly tests confirming that it still meets the applicable FIFA quality standards. Such tests must be conducted by a FIFA accredited laboratory; and (d) the surface of the artificial turf must be of a green colour.

3. Number of Players

If a team has registered as a 9 aside team then that team shall have a squad maximum of 12 players registered, if 13 or more players are registered the team shall default to a 11v11 format for the remainder of the season.

Number of players is **eleven** versus **eleven**.

The number of players that will form an 11 a-side team on the match day shall not exceed 16 and must not be less than 9. Therefore, the maximum number of substitutes allowed is 5.

The minimum number of players required to start a game is 9.

All games must be played 11a side if possible. No substitutes will be allowed for a team that only has a match day squad of 11 or less - i.e. match day squad of 11 players, all 11 must play with no substitutes.

The opposition team **will** match the number of players starting.

If a team is reduced (by injury or sending offs) to less than 7 players, the game will be abandoned. The management committee shall review all abandoned matches and where it is to the advantage of the competition and does no injustice to either club, shall be empowered to order the score at the time of the abandonment to stand. In cases where the management committee are satisfied that the match was abandoned due to the conduct of one club or its supporters they shall be empowered to award the points for the match to the opposition and/or take any other action they deem necessary. In cases where a match is abandoned due to the action of both clubs or their supporters then the management committee shall take such action as they consider appropriate. Any action taken by the management committee may be in addition to any disciplinary action taken by the appropriate County Football Association.

4. Duration of Games

The duration of games will be 40 mins each way.

The half time duration shall not exceed 10 minutes. Whilst a half time break is important to allow players to recover, it is also recognised that during the depths of winter standing around soaking wet in the freezing cold is also not fun; so common sense should prevail here.

5. Substitutions

Substitutions **may** return to the field of play with the permission of the referee i.e. rolling subs.

6. Offside Rule

The off-side rule shall apply as per current FA rule. Please note that assistants only act as assistants to the referee, it is the referee who decides if an infringement has occurred.

7. Facilities and Equipment

It is the sole responsibility of the first named team to ensure that:-

- Toilet facilities are available (failure to provide toilet facilities will result in a Scale E fine)

- Changing facilities must be made available. (Failure to provide changing facilities will result in a Scale A fine)
- The playing surface is in a good, safe condition.
- Corner posts with flags complying with FA regulations shall be provided by the home team. (failure to provide corner flags will result in a Scale A fine)
- A set of Assistant Referee's flags shall be made available by the home team for the match Referee to use. (failure to provide assistant referee flags will result in a Scale A fine)
- Nets must be provided for the goals by the home team. (failure to provide nets will result in a Scale A fine)
- A referee is arranged (Failure to provide a referee will result in a Scale C fine). In the event the League has not allocated a Referee then one must be supplied by the home team at their own expense.
- Each team will supply one assistant referee. (Failure to provide an assistant will result in a Scale A fine) (failure to provide a referee will result in a Scale C fine)
- Providing Two Match balls **size 5**, inflated to the FA recommendation of 0.6 bar pressure. (Failure to provide suitable match balls will result in a Scale A fine).
- Respect Barriers shall be used around pitches if you don't have a RESPECT barrier use a line of cones or a white marked line.
- Samba goals and goal nets or equivalent shall be used.

It is the responsibility of both teams to ensure that:

- Each team will supply one assistant referee. (Failure to provide an assistant will result in a Scale A fine) (failure to provide a referee will result in a Scale C fine)

8. Points

For matches where points are recorded they will be awarded as follows:

- 3 points for a Win
- 2 points for a Draw (score and no-score draw)
- 1 point for a defeat
- 0 points for the opposition team when a match is awarded by the League Disciplinary Committee

In the first instance, a play-off match is recommended for teams that are level on points at the top of the table and the play-off match will determine the championship.

If teams are level on points, the team with the better results between the two teams (points scored against each other) will be placed higher in the league. Goal difference is not used to determine the final league positions. If teams are still level, then the team with more wins in the league will be placed higher. If the teams are still level then, if time allows, a play-off match can take place to determine league position, otherwise the league age division manager will determine final positions.

9. Referee Fees

Referee fee is £35, which is paid by the home team. For League Cup matches, the Referee fee will be **shared** by the Home and Away teams.

10. Cup Competition

10.1 Format and Draw

The format for the Cup Competition may comprise of either a Knock-Out or a Group Tournament per age group. This will be determined by the Management Committee prior to the start of the season and will be based upon the number of teams entered at each age group. The draw for the league cup competition will be made during a full committee meeting. Teams will be notified of cup draws by the Fixtures Secretary. League cup competitions will be played in the same format and rules as normal league games. In the event of a tie at the end of normal time the following rules will apply.

10.2 Extra-time and Penalties

If the game is drawn at full time, extra time will be 10 minutes each way. If scores are still level, a penalty shoot-out will decide the outcome.

Each team will take five penalties. If scores are still level, sudden death penalties will decide. Penalty shoot outs will be carried out in line with FA rules.

Only players on the field of play at the end of extra time can take a penalty

The names or shirt numbers of players taking penalties, in the correct order, should be given by both teams to the referee before the shoot-out takes place.

The goalkeeper can be substituted prior to the penalty shoot-out for any other player on the field of play when the extra-time whistle is blown. The goalkeeper can be substituted during the penalty shoot-out only in the case of injury.

There will be no replays for league cup competitions.

In the event of a tie at the conclusion of a Group Tournament the final positions will be determined by the head to head results between the tied sides provided that home and away fixtures have been played. In the event that the competition did not have home and away fixtures a play-off will be used to resolve position. The play-off location will be selected by the Management Committee. Goal difference will not apply in determining group positions.

Standard FA rules per age group apply in all cup competitions whether it is a Group Tournament or a Knock-out Tournament.

10.3 Cup-tied Players

Once a player has played in a League Cup competition, including League Cup Plate, during a season she is cup tied for the remainder of the season. This is regardless of age group.

11. Oxfordshire FA U16 Girls County Cup Competition

Oxfordshire FA manage the County Cup competitions.

FA rules state that girls cannot play against each other with a two year age difference. Therefore, only U15 girls are allowed to enter the competition (U14s in a U15 squad are

ineligible to play.)

12. Division Manager Roles and Contact

The League Secretary will inform each Age Division the name and contact details of their Age Division Manager. The ADM is there to help with any problems you may have and answer any question regarding the running of the league, including postponements, reversing a fixture and match irregularities.

19. U16 Division

1. Player Age

The age on 31 August of the relevant season will be 14 years; with eligible age groups:

- under 15 (year 10 school age)
- under 16 (year 11 school age)

2. Playing Area

The League expects Member Clubs to adhere to the FA guidelines where possible.

It is the responsibility of the home team to ensure that the playing surface is in good condition and suitable for play.

The pitch sizes recommended by The FA for 11 a-side; for use at U15 is:

Age Grouping	Suggested Pitch Size in Yards		Suggested Size of Goal Posts		Pitch dimensions in Yards				Pitch dimensions in Metres			
					Length		Width		Length		Width	
	Length	Width	Height	Width	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
U16	100	60	8ft	24ft	110	90	70	50	100.6	82.3	64	45.5

Goalposts: 8ft x 24ft must be used.

Goal Area: 18.32m/20 yards wide (5.5m/6 yards from the inside of each goalpost towards the nearest corner) and 5.5m/6 yards deep.

Penalty Area: 40.32m/44 yards wide (16.5m/18 yards from the inside of each goalpost towards the nearest corner) and 16.5m/18 yards deep. Each penalty area must contain a mark 11m/12 yards from the midpoint between the goalposts and equidistant from them. An arc of a circle with a radius of 9.15m/10 yards is drawn outside the penalty area from each penalty mark.

Centre Circle: The field of play is divided into two halves by a halfway line. Flag posts may be placed at each end of the halfway line, not less than 1m/1 yard outside the touch line. The centre mark is made at the midpoint of the halfway line. A circle with a radius of 9.15m/10 yards is drawn around the centre mark.

Corner Arc: A flag post, not less than 1.5m/5 feet high, with a non-pointed top and a flag is placed at each corner. A quarter circle with a radius of 1m/1 yard from each corner flag post

is drawn inside the field of play. (Failure to mark pitch correctly will result in a Scale A fine per offence)

The League does expect Member Clubs to adhere to the above FA guidelines where possible.

New generation rubber infill pitches will be permitted, with prior consent of the league Management Committee, provided that the artificial turf meets the following conditions:

The artificial turf meets any of the applicable FIFA quality standards for artificial turf, currently corresponding to the "FIFA Recommended 2-Star Standard", the "FIFA Recommended 1-Star Standard" in accordance with the "FIFA Quality Concept - Handbook of Test Methods and Requirements for Artificial Turf Football Surfaces" dated February 2005 as well all requirements under the applicable national laws and regulations; and (b) the artificial turf has passed all the necessary tests (laboratory and field tests) and, in the case of "FIFA Recommended 2-Star Standard" or "FIFA Recommended 1-Star Standard", has obtained the required FIFA licence; and (c) the artificial turf has passed all the necessary yearly tests confirming that it still meets the applicable FIFA quality standards. Such tests must be conducted by a FIFA accredited laboratory; and (d) the surface of the artificial turf must be of a green colour.

3. Number of Players

If a team has registered as a 9 aside team then that team shall have a squad maximum of 12 players registered, if 13 or more players are registered the team shall default to a 11v11 format for the remainder of the season.

Number of players is **eleven** versus **eleven**.

The number of players that will form an 11 a-side team on the match day shall not exceed 16 and must not be less than 9. Therefore, the maximum number of substitutes allowed is 5.

The minimum number of players required to start a game is 9.

All games must be played 11a side if possible. No substitutes will be allowed for a team that only has a match day squad of 11 or less - i.e. match day squad of 11 players, all 11 must play with no substitutes.

The opposition team **will** match the number of players starting.

If a team is reduced (by injury or sending offs) to less than 7 players, the game will be abandoned. The management committee shall review all abandoned matches and where it is to the advantage of the competition and does no injustice to either club, shall be empowered to order the score at the time of the abandonment to stand. In cases where the management committee are satisfied that the match was abandoned due to the conduct of one club or its supporters they shall be empowered to award the points for the match to the opposition and/or take any other action they deem necessary. In cases where a match is abandoned due to the action of both clubs or their supporters then the management committee shall take such action as they consider appropriate. Any action taken by the management committee may be in addition to any disciplinary action taken by the appropriate County Football Association.

4. Duration of Games

The duration of games will be 40 mins each way.

The half time duration shall not exceed 10 minutes. Whilst a half time break is important to allow players to recover, it is also recognised that during the depths of winter standing around soaking wet in the freezing cold is also not fun; so common sense should prevail here.

5. Substitutions

Substitutions **may** return to the field of play with the permission of the referee i.e. rolling subs.

6. Offside Rule

The off-side rule shall apply as per current FA rule. Please note that assistants only act as assistants to the referee, it is the referee who decides if an infringement has occurred.

7. Facilities and Equipment

It is the sole responsibility of the first named team to ensure that:-

- Toilet facilities are available (failure to provide toilet facilities will result in a Scale E fine)
- Changing facilities must be made available. (Failure to provide changing facilities will result in a Scale A fine)
- The playing surface is in a good, safe condition.
- Corner posts with flags complying with FA regulations shall be provided by the home team. (failure to provide corner flags will result in a Scale A fine)
- A set of Assistant Referee's flags shall be made available by the home team for the match Referee to use. (failure to provide assistant referee flags will result in a Scale A fine)
- Nets must be provided for the goals by the home team. (failure to provide nets will result in a Scale A fine)
- A referee is arranged (Failure to provide a referee will result in a Scale C fine). In the event the League has not allocated a Referee then one must be supplied by the home team at their own expense.
- Each team will supply one assistant referee. (Failure to provide an assistant will result in a Scale A fine) (failure to provide a referee will result in a Scale C fine)
- Providing Two Match balls **size 5**, inflated to the FA recommendation of 0.6 bar pressure. (Failure to provide suitable match balls will result in a Scale A fine).
- Respect Barriers shall be used around pitches if you don't have a RESPECT barrier use a line of cones or a white marked line.
- Samba goals and goal nets or equivalent shall be used.

It is the responsibility of both teams to ensure that:

- Each team will supply one assistant referee. (Failure to provide an assistant will result in a Scale A fine) (failure to provide a referee will result in a Scale C fine)

8. Points

For matches where points are recorded they will be awarded as follows:

- 3 points for a Win
- 2 points for a Draw (score and no-score draw)
- 1 point for a defeat
- 0 points for the opposition team when a match is awarded by the League Disciplinary Committee

In the first instance, a play-off match is recommended for teams that are level on points at the top of the table and the play-off match will determine the championship.

If teams are level on points, the team with the better results between the two teams (points scored against each other) will be placed higher in the league. Goal difference is not used to determine the final league positions. If teams are still level, then the team with more wins in the league will be placed higher. If the teams are still level then, if time allows, a play-off match can take place to determine league position, otherwise the league age division manager will determine final positions.

9. Referee Fees

Referee fee is £35, which is paid by the home team. For League Cup matches, the Referee fee will be **shared** by the Home and Away teams.

10. Cup Competition

10.1 Format and Draw

The format for the Cup Competition may comprise of either a Knock-Out or a Group Tournament. This will be determined by the Management Committee prior to the start of the season and will be based upon the number of teams entered. The draw for the league cup competition will be made during a full committee meeting. Teams will be notified of cup draws by the Fixtures Secretary. League cup competitions will be played in the same format and rules as normal league games. In the event of a tie at the end of normal time the following rules will apply.

10.2 Extra-time and Penalties

If the game is drawn at full time, extra time will be 10 minutes each way. If scores are still level, a penalty shoot-out will decide the outcome.

Each team will take five penalties. If scores are still level, sudden death penalties will decide. Penalty shoot outs will be carried out in line with FA rules.

Only players on the field of play at the end of extra time can take a penalty

The names or shirt numbers of players taking penalties, in the correct order, should be given by both teams to the referee before the shoot-out takes place.

The goalkeeper can be substituted prior to the penalty shoot-out for any other player on the field of play when the extra-time whistle is blown. The goalkeeper can be substituted during the penalty shoot-out only in the case of injury.

There will be no replays for league cup competitions.

In the event of a tie at the conclusion of a Group Tournament the final positions will be determined by the head to head results between the tied sides provided that home and away fixtures have been played. In the event that the competition did not have home and away fixtures a play-off will be used to resolve position. The play-off location will be selected by the Management Committee. Goal difference will not apply in determining group positions.

Standard FA rules per age group apply in all cup competitions whether it is a Group Tournament or a Knock-out Tournament.

10.3 Cup-tied Players

Once a player has played in a League Cup competition, including League Cup Plate, during a season she is cup tied for the remainder of the season. This is regardless of age group.

11. Oxfordshire FA U16 Girls County Cup Competition

Oxfordshire FA manage the County Cup competitions.

12. Division Manager Roles and Contact

The League Secretary will inform each Age Division the name and contact details of their Age Division Manager. The ADM is there to help with any problems you may have and answer any question regarding the running of the league, including postponements, reversing a fixture and match irregularities.