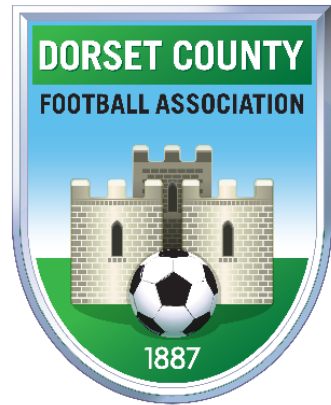


Dorset Women's League Handbook



2019-2020

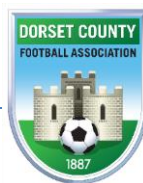


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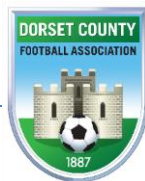
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Whilst the Dorset County Football Association has taken every care in the preparation of the Handbook, we cannot be held responsible for the accuracy of the information herein, or for any consequence arising from it, or any error or omissions.

All information is correct at the time of going to press.

Credits

Front Cover ©2019 Terry Lucas Photography



Dorset Women's League Handbook 2019-2020

**Dorset County Football Association
Specsavers County Ground
Blandford Close
Hamworthy
Poole
BH15 4BF**

www.dorsetfa.com

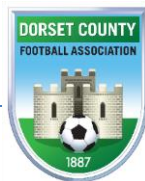
01202 682375

Welcome to the 2019-2020 Season Handbook for the Dorset Women's League. Inside you will find the competition rules and contact details for the Clubs, as well as other useful information.

Please note that all fixtures and results will be viewable on the FA Full-Time website which is accessible at the following address:

<http://full-time.thefa.com/Index.do?league=1645066> (Dorset Women's League)

If you need any support throughout the season with developing your club please contact Justine Mosley, County Development Manager on 01202 688277 or 07908 647052, or at justine.mosley@dorsetfa.com.



Women's League Management Committee

Chair

Name: Stephen Pike
Contact: 07920 755940
Email: stephenpike39@yahoo.com

League Secretary

Name: Alex Rush-Fear
Contact: 01202 688271
Email: alex.rush-fear@dorsetfa.com

Development Officer

Name: Justine Mosley
Contact: 01202 688277
Email: justine.mosley@dorsetfa.com

League Welfare Officer

Name: Kerry Witherington
Contact: 07402 313203
Email: kwitherington.longfleetyfc@gmail.com

Club Representatives

Becky Narramore
Mick Openshaw
TBC

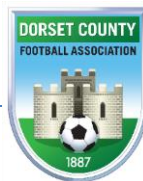
Meeting Dates

Monday 21 October 2019

Wednesday 18 December 2019


Thursday 12 March 2020

Monday 18 May 2020



Hints to Secretaries and Managers

- Notify the County Office of any alteration to your contact details or visit the Whole Game System Portal to do so yourself.
- Be sure that all your players are properly registered. Failure to comply with the Rules in this respect may result in your Club being fined and/or deducted points. Remember that in Dorset County Cup Competitions all players must be properly registered with the League in which they play.
- If in doubt as to the qualification of a player in any Competition consult the County Office.
- See that your players are ready to start at the time appointed for the commencement of the game, both home and away.
- Post or email result sheets on the day of the match.
- If your colours are similar to those of the Home Club arrange to play in your alternative strip.
- In the event of the postponement of a fixture notify your opponents, the Match Official, and the League Secretary (if a Cup Match, the County Office). Match Officials may claim their fee plus expenses if they keep an appointment, not having been notified to the contrary.
- Study the rules of the competition in which your club is competing and see that they are complied with.
- Attend all meetings at which your Club should be represented, or arrange for someone else to attend.
- Always have someone available to act as Referee should an appointed Referee not be available.
- Notify your opponents and the Referee of match details in good time.
- Ensure any trophies won by your club are returned to the Competition administrators, suitably engraved before the Competitions return date.



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Winton Tel 01202 515353

Christchurch Tel 01202 480 707

Ringwood Tel 01425 484 480

Poole Tel 01202 675 789

Blandford Forum Tel 01258 488 633

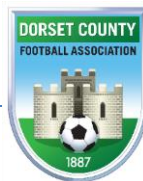


Specsavers

Valid for one test on or before 30 November 2019. Present voucher at time of test. Cannot be exchanged for cash, used with other vouchers, eye-health clinic appointments or OCT, redeemed by customers already entitled to a free NHS-funded eye test. One per person, at named Specsavers stores only.



Cannot be used with any other offers. Second pair from the same price range or below, and to the same prescription. Both pairs include standard 1.5 (or 1.0 for £169 Rimless ranges) single-vision lenses. Multifocal/bifocal pay for lenses in first pair only. Additional charge - Extra options. Excludes safety eyewear SKU 30307873. ©2019 Specsavers.



Women's League Club Contact Details

Directory of Clubs – Division One

Broadstone

Contact: Sam Hawes
Phone: 07473 852511
Email: broadstonefcourclub@gmail.com
Colours: Orange (Shirt) Black (Short) Black (Socks)
Ground: Broadstone Recreation Ground, BH18 8NZ

Dorchester Town Ladies

Contact: Becky Narramore
Phone: 07792 391548
Email: bn_bn_88@hotmail.com
Colours: Black and White (Shirt) Black (Short) Black (Socks)
Ground: Dorchester Sports Centre/Thomas Hardy School, DT1 2HR

Gillingham Town

Contact: Paul Tiller
Phone: 07545 828683
Email: paul.gtlf@gmail.com
Colours: Tangerine (Shirt) Tangerine (Short) Tangerine (Socks)
Ground: Woodwater Lane, SP8 4HX

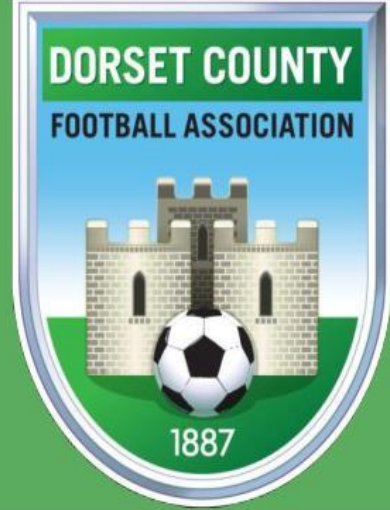
Merley Cobham Sports Youth

Contact: Sean Hill
Phone: 07907 033699
Email: sean.v.hill1997@gmail.com
Colours: Sky Blue and White (Shirt) Navy (Short) Navy (Socks)
Ground: Cobham Sports and Social Club, BH21 3DA

Poole Town Ladies

Contact: Lisa Dootson-Gill
Phone: 07765 439993
Email: sfclisaandy@aol.com
Colours: Red and White (Shirt) Red (Short) White (Socks)
Alt. Colours: Light Blue (Shirt) Light Blue (Short) Light Blue (Socks)
Ground: Ashdown Leisure Centre, BH17 8RE

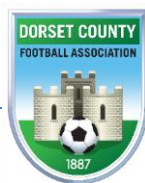
DCFA U18 REFEREES ZERO TOLERANCE



Our young referees are better than you think.
Support them.

And they will be back next week.

We operate Zero Tolerance towards questioning and
abuse of our referees.

**Redlands**

Contact: Tim Davis
Phone: 07974 885259
Email: tim_wfc@live.co.uk
Colours: Sky Blue and Navy (Shirt) Navy and Sky Blue (Short) Sky Blue (Socks)
Alt. Colours: White and Red (Shirt) Red and White (Short) Red (Socks)
Ground: Redlands Community Sports Hub, DT3 5AW

Shaftesbury Town

Contact: Jeanette Head
Phone: 07427 651577
Email: netty.head@sky.com
Colours: Red and White (Shirt) Black (Short) Black (Socks)
Alt. Colours: Blue (Shirt) Black (Short) Black (Socks)
Ground: Coppice Street, SP7 8PF

Verwood Town

Contact: Nigel Watts
Phone: 07517 077566
Email: wattsy58@yahoo.co.uk
Colours: White and Red (Shirt) Red (Short) Red (Socks)
Ground: Mick Loader Memorial Recreation Ground, BH21 5QE

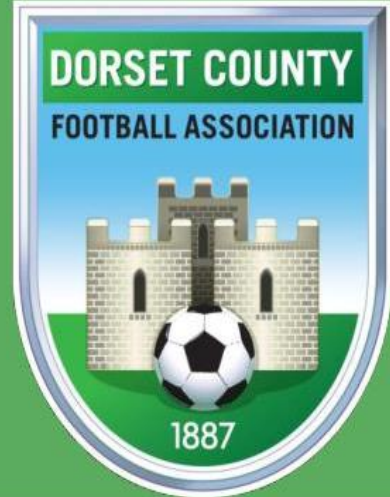
Wimborne Town

Contact: Sammy Watson
Phone: 07971 329902
Email: sammy-watson@live.co.uk
Colours: Black and White (Shirt) Black (Short) Black (Socks)
Ground: The Cuthbury, BH21 4EL

Wool and Winfrith

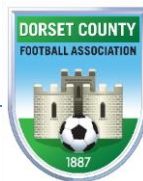
Contact: Bobby Stoker
Phone: 07583 107215
Email: graham.stoker735@hotmail.com
Colours: Purple and White (Shirt) Purple and White (Short) Purple and White (Socks)
Ground: Winfrith Playing Fields, DT2 8LE

DCFA U18 REFEREES ZERO TOLERANCE



Referees under the age of 18 will now wear yellow armbands to signify their age ensuring all managers, coaches, players and spectators are aware that they subject to safeguarding children legislation.

Just like young players, sometimes referees make mistakes, it is all part of the learning process. If you have an issue we ask that you contact DCFA directly. Please think twice about questioning, criticising or abusing a referee



Recreational Division

Beaminster

Contact: Zak Hawker
Phone: 07534 272773
Email: zak.hawker@hotmail.co.uk
Colours: Black and Green (Shirt) Black (Short) Black (Socks)
Ground: Memorial Playing Fields, DT8 3AL

Bournemouth University

Contact: Michael Barry
Phone: 01202 965830
Email: mbarry@bournemouth.ac.uk
Colours: Navy (Shirt) Sky (Short) Yellow (Socks)
Alt. Colours: Yellow (Shirt) Navy (Short) Sky (Socks)
Ground: Wallisdown Recreation Ground, BH12 5EA

Bridport Youth

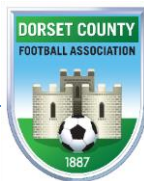
Contact: Martin Phillips
Phone: 07341 828929
Email: martinwphillips@live.co.uk
Colours: Red (Shirt) Black (Short) Red and Black (Socks)
Alt. Colours: Purple (Shirt) Black (Short) Black (Socks)
Ground: Salwayash Village Hall, DT6 5HU

Broadstone

Contact: Sam Hawes
Phone: 07473 852511
Email: broadstonefcourclub@gmail.com
Colours: Orange (Shirt) Black (Short) Black (Socks)
Ground: Broadstone Recreation Ground, BH18 8NZ

Longfleet

Contact: Dee Cooper
Phone: 07536 0712320
Email: dcooper.longfleetyfc@gmail.com
Colours: Blue (Shirt) Blue (Short) Blue (Socks)
Ground: Poole High School, BH15 2BW



Sturminster Newton United

Contact: Lucy Johnson

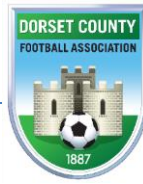
Phone: 07715 332611

Email: lucyjohanson2009.lj@gmail.com

Colours: Red and Black (Shirt) Black and Red (Short) Black and Red (Socks)

Alt. Colours: Blue and Yellow (Shirt) Blue and Yellow (Short) Blue and Yellow (Socks)

Ground: Barnetts Field, DT10 1EW



Equality and Diversity Policy and Statement June 2019

This statement demonstrates the commitment of **Dorset County Football Association** to meet the legislative requirements of Equality and Diversity, specifically the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) in order to comply with the general equality duty of the Equality Act 2010 and extra specific duties.

The Equality Duty is a duty on public bodies and others carrying out public functions. It ensures that public bodies consider the needs of all individuals in their day to day work – in shaping policy, in delivering services, and in relation to their own employees.

The three aims of the Equality Duty

The Equality Duty has three aims. It requires public bodies to have **due regard** to the need to:

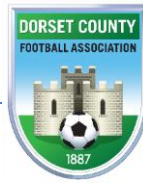
1. Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the Act.

- Direct discrimination in services and public functions happens when someone is treated less favourably than another person because of a protected characteristic.
- Harassment is “unwanted conduct related to a relevant protected characteristic, which has the purpose or effect of violating an individual’s dignity or creating an intimidating, hostile, degrading, humiliating or offensive environment for that individual”.
- Victimisation occurs when someone is treated badly because they have done something in relation to the Equality Act, such as making or supporting a complaint or raising a grievance about discrimination, or because it is suspected that they have done or may do these things.

2. Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it. This involves considering the need to:

- Remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by people due to their protected characteristics
- Meet the needs of people with protected characteristics
- Encourage people with protected characteristics to participate in public life or in other activities where their participation is low

3. Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it. Fostering good relations involves tackling prejudice and promoting understanding between people who share a protected characteristic and others.



Protected Characteristics

The Equality Duty covers the following protected characteristics:

- age
- disability (Including mental health)
- gender reassignment
- race – this includes ethnic or national origins, colour or nationality
- religion or belief – this includes lack of belief
- sex
- sexual orientation
- pregnancy and maternity

Background:

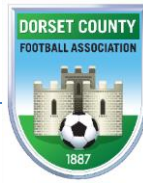
As the governing body for football in Dorset, the Dorset County Football Association is responsible for setting standards and values that apply throughout the game at every level. Football belongs to, and should be enjoyed by, anyone who wants to participate in it.

The aim of this policy is to ensure that everyone is treated fairly and with respect and that football is equally accessible to all and where all can feel welcome. It has been compiled to reflect the requirements of the Equality Act 2010, and everyone who participates in football across the County should be aware of, and comply with the principles that underpin the policy.

Dorset County FA's commitment is to promote inclusion, to confront and eliminate discrimination whether by reason of age, gender, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, marital status or civil partnership, race, nationality, ethnic origin, colour, religion or belief, ability or disability, pregnancy and maternity, and to encourage equal opportunities. This Policy is fully supported by the Board of Dorset County FA, and the Chief Executive and Board Equality Champion have overall responsibility for the implementation of this policy, with Dorset FA Inclusion Advisory Group guidance and support.

Statement

The Equality Standard (A Framework for Sport) was launched by the UK in November 2004 to help address the inequalities that exist within the sports sector. It is a framework to guide sports organisations, including national governing bodies of sport, towards achieving equality. In 2010 Dorset FA achieved the Foundation Level of the Standard and we are currently in the process of reviewing the Standard to ensure we fulfil the criteria. It is important that we comply with the Standard to ensure that we continue to be an inclusive organisation who are committed to offer football for all, no matter age, sex, gender



reassignment, sexual orientation, marital status or civil partnership, race, religion or belief, ability or disability including mental health, pregnancy or maternity to encourage equality and inclusion at all levels.

We recognise that there are still in the case of some of our diverse / protected characteristics communities, for example those from sexual minorities, major challenges to their feeling and being welcome, safe, and valued in the setting of football. Dorset FA is committed to explore with all our partners, members and beyond, effective solutions to address these issues.

The FA have a clear Equality & Inclusion Strategic Plan in place and The County Association are funded by The FA to deliver on National Game Strategy targets for male, female and disability players and female and Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) coaches and referees. As an organisation we must also ensure that any players, coaches, referees or volunteers wishing to access football in Dorset have the opportunity to do so, regardless of those protected characteristics described above.

This work will include our Equality Policy and Equality Statement, our staff and board members, how we communicate with our stakeholders and customers, and our Human Resources policies. This work will be led by the Board Champion for Equality, Andy Mercer and the Equality Lead, Justine Mosley, supported by the Chief Executive, Sue Hough.

We will also look to support others in our community not covered by legislation.

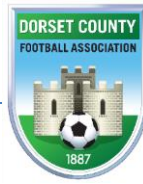
We continue to make considerable strides in realising our statutory obligations to pay due regard and to promote equality across the equality strands, which we can be proud of and encouraged by.

We will continually build on our foundations that have been laid to achieve high standards in equality, diversity and inclusion.

Dorset FA is committed to developing, supporting and sustaining a diverse workforce, representative of the community it serves, through the creation of a work environment where staff are able to do their jobs to the best of their abilities without having to face discrimination or harassment.

Key Principles:

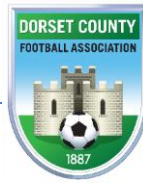
Dorset County FA will ensure that it treats people fairly and with respect, and will provide access and opportunities for all members of the community to take part in, and enjoy, football activities. Dorset County FA will not tolerate harassment, including sexual harassment, bullying, abuse or victimisation of any participant, or any form of discrimination direct or indirect, whether physical or verbal (including 'banter').



Dorset County FA will work to ensure that any such behaviour is met with appropriate action in whatever context it occurs, and actively encourages its reporting from those targeted and those witnessing/aware of it. Dorset County FA commits itself to the immediate investigation of any allegation of harassment, bullying or discrimination, as soon as it is brought to their attention, and where such is found to be the case, applying relevant and proportionate sanctions

Dorset County FA is committed to inclusion and anti-discrimination and will raise awareness of these issues through education, campaigning, the achievement and maintenance of independently verified equality standards, widening diversity and representation and the promotion of diverse role models all key actions to promote inclusion and eradicate discrimination within football, encouraging maximum opportunities for talent to be nurtured, not lost.

Dorset FAs commitment is that in the 2018/19 season our aim is to confirm the Foundation Level of the Standard so that we can achieve the Preliminary Level during the 2019/20 season.



Safeguarding

The Dorset County Football Association's Senior Safeguarding Lead is **Kevin Pike** who can be contacted on **01202 688270** or email: kevin.pike@dorsetfa.com.

The Designated Safeguarding Officer is **Zoe Pollard** who can be contacted on **01202 688281** or email: Zoe.Pollard@dorsetfa.com.

Every child or young person (CYP) who plays or participates in football should be able to take part in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from abuse. This is the responsibility of every adult involved in football, thus every club is required to endorse and adhere to The Association's Safeguarding Children Policy.

The FA recognises its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of CYP who play or participate in football by protecting them from abuse and harm. This means creating a safe and inclusive atmosphere where everyone works together to tackle both bullying and discrimination, ensure safer recruitment, and tackle poor practice which leads to harm and reduces equal opportunities. Best practice in inclusion, anti-bullying, equality and the respect agenda are all part of making safer cultures and prevention of harm and abuse.

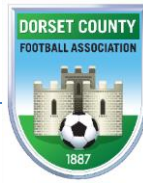
The FA is committed to working to provide a safe environment for all CYP to participate in the sport to the best of their abilities for as long as they choose to do so.

For a full copy of The FA Safeguarding Children Policy go to <http://www.thefa.com/football-rules-governance/safeguarding>

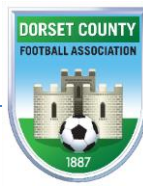
Reporting your concerns about the welfare of a child or young person

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility if you are worried about a child it is important that you report your concerns – no action is not an option.

1. If you are worried about a child then you need to report your concerns to the Club Welfare Officer.
2. If the issue is one of poor practice the Club Welfare Officer will either:
 - a. Deal with the matter themselves, or;
 - b. Seek advice from our League Welfare Officer.
 - c. Seek advice from Dorset FA Designated Safeguarding Officer.
3. If the concern is more serious – possible child abuse, where possible, contact the Dorset FA Designated Safeguarding Officer first, then immediately contact the Police or Children's Social Care.
4. If the child needs immediate medical treatment take them to a hospital or call an ambulance and tell them this is a child protection concern. Let your Club Welfare Officer know what action you have taken, they in turn will inform the Dorset FA Designated Safeguarding Officer.



5. If at any time you are not able to contact your Club Welfare Officer or the matter is clearly serious then you can either:
 - a. Contact Dorset FA Designated Safeguarding Officer directly;
 - b. Contact The FA Safeguarding Team on 0800 169 1863 or Safeguarding@TheFA.com;
 - c. Contact the Police or Children's Social Care;
 - d. Call the NSPCC 24 hour Helpline for advice on 0808 800 5000 or text 88858 or email help@nspcc.org.uk.



RESPECT League

RESPECT is a continuous FA programme, not a one-off initiative, aimed at creating a fair, safe and enjoyable environment in which the game can take place. Leagues are pivotal in the promotion of RESPECT; this is achieved through four main steps:

Step 1 – Codes of Conduct

Specific RESPECT codes of conduct for players, spectators and parents/carers, coaches and team managers, match officials.

Step 2 – Manage the match day environment

Creation of designated spectator areas.

Step 3 – Captain takes responsibility

Referees will look towards Captains to manage their players and be accountable for their actions.

Step 4 - Referee manages the game

Referees should manage the game effectively and diffuse situations appropriately in conjunction with team captains and the application of the laws of the game.

The Dorset Women's League will be actively promoting RESPECT at all league fixtures. For more information on respect please visit:



www.thefa.com/RESPECT

Set the standards for a great game.

Use your position to set a
positive example for the people
you're responsible for and lead
a better game for everyone.

Play Your Part (Code of Conduct)

Coaches, Team Managers and Club Officials

**Play your part and support
The FA's Code of Respect:**

On and off the field, I will:

- Always show respect to everyone involved in the game
- Stick to the rules and celebrate the spirit of the game
- Encourage fair play and high standards of behaviour
- Always respect the Referee and encourage players to do the same
- Never enter the field of play without the referee's permission
- Never engage in, or tolerate offensive, insulting or abusive behaviour
- Be aware of the potential impact of bad language on others
- Be gracious in victory and defeat
- Respect the facilities home and away



RESPECT



When working with players, I will:

- Place the well-being, safety and enjoyment of each player above everything
- Never tolerate any form of bullying
- Ensure all activities are suited for the players' ability and age
- Work with others (e.g. officials, doctors, welfare officers, physiotherapists) for each player's best interests

I understand that if I do not follow the Code, I may be:

- Required to meet with the club or league Welfare officer or your CFA Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO).
- Suspended by the club from attending matches
- Suspended or fined by the County FA
- Required to leave, lose my position and/or have my license withdrawn

**we ONLY
do
Positive.**

*whether you win or lose,
make it a better game.*

*Treat your team, other players
and Match Officials with
respect so that everyone
has a more enjoyable time,
on and off the pitch.*

Play Your Part (Code of Conduct)

Adult Players

**Play your part and support
The FA's Code of Respect:**

On and off the field, I will:

- Stick to the rules and celebrate the spirit of the game
- Always show respect to everyone involved in the game
- Never engage in public criticism of the Match Officials and abide by their final decisions
- Win or lose with dignity. Shake hands at the end of every game
- Be aware of the potential impact of bad language on others
- Never engage in abusive language, bullying or intimidating behaviour

**I understand that if I do not follow the Code,
I may:**

- Be asked to apologise to whoever I've upset
- Receive a formal warning
- Be required to attend a FA education course
- Be dropped, substituted or suspended from training
- Not be selected for the team
- Be asked to leave the club and/or issued a fine



RESPECT

*If we behave positively
during practice and matches,
our children will too.*

*By setting a good example, we'll help
build a supportive environment in which
everyone can enjoy themselves.*

Play Your Part (Code of Conduct)

Spectators and Parents/Carers

**Play your part and support
The FA's Code of Respect:**

- Have fun; it's what we're all here for!
- Celebrate effort and good play from both sides
- Always respect the Referee and coaches and encourage players to do the same
- Stay behind the touchline and within the Designated Spectators' Area (where provided)
- When players make mistakes, offer them encouragement to try again next time
- Never engage in, or tolerate offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour

**I understand that if I do not follow the Code,
I may be:**

- Issued with a verbal warning or asked to leave
- Required to meet with the club committee, league or CFA Welfare Officer
- Obligated to undertake an FA education course
- Requested not to attend future games, be suspended or have my membership removed
- Required to leave the club along with any dependents and/or issued a fine



RESPECT

**We ONLY
do
Positive.**

Make your impact a positive one.

*By managing the game in a positive,
calm and confident way, you'll
encourage everyone to have fun.*

Play Your Part (Code of Conduct)

Match Officials

**Play your part and support
The FA's Code of Respect:**

I will:

- Respect the game, the competition and all other participants
- Maintain my integrity and approach each game with a positive mind set
- Be knowledgeable of the laws of the game, regulations and competition rules
- Set a positive personal example, by promoting good behaviour
- Embrace and empathise with the spirit of the game
- Submit accurate and concise reports and misconduct
- Complete and submit accurate and concise reports
- Apply the laws of the game, promoting positive actions and not tolerating actions that do not fit the image of the game

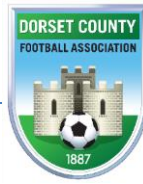
**I understand that if I do not follow the Code,
I may be:**

- Required to meet with The FA, County FA Referee Development Staff or Referees Committee
- Suspended by the County FA



RESPECT

*We ONLY
do
Positive.*



Charter Standard League

The FA Charter Standard League programme delivers on the vision of the FA Charter Standard Brand: "Offering everyone in grassroots football a high quality, safe, enjoyable experience, that is nationally recognised"

The FA Charter Standard League Programme helps to:

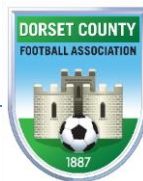
- Target investment
- Deliver an improved service and support structure to leagues
- Improve communication with leagues
- Ensure succession planning within leagues
- Rationalise existing league structures
- Help implement the principles of Long Term Player Development
- Grow football for underrepresented groups
- Improve efficiency and sustainability of leagues
- Deliver on the Respect Programme

The Charter Standard League Programme assesses the ability of leagues to provide a high quality, safe and enjoyable football experience against a standard set of criteria. It also encourages leagues to continuously develop, through on-going support from the County FA and the review and update of a league development plan, as part of an annual health check.

Benefits to Leagues

By signing up to working towards Charter Standard League status, leagues will be demonstrating that it is willing to work towards a minimum operating standard and to raising standards and addressing poor behaviour within the league and member clubs, by encouraging teams to gain Charter Standard Club status as part of the Charter Standard League criteria. It will also be demonstrating, by reviewing what it does well, what it wants to do better and by identifying how it can improve, that it is committed to developing better players and to investing in its workforce.

The benefits of achieving Charter Standard League status are that your league will have a clear development plan in place, together with an agreed support package with the County FA. The league will also be demonstrating that it is committed to the Respect programme and will have procedures in place to improve standards and address poor behaviour in the game, a key priority for all those involved in Football. Leagues will also gain recognition that it is committed to a quality experience for all and that you are a well-run league.



WOMEN'S LEAGUE STANDARD CODE OF RULES

DEFINITIONS

1. (A) In these Rules:

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

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

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

"Competition" means the Dorset Women's League.

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

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

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

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

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

"Ground" means the ground on which the Club's Team(s) plays its Competition Matches.

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

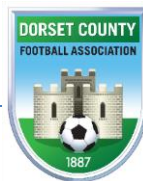
"Match Officials" means the referee, the assistant referees and any fourth official appointed to a Competition Match.

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

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

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

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



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

"Rules" means these rules under which the Competition is administered.

"Sanctioning Authority" means the Dorset County Football Association Limited.

"Scholarship" means a Scholarship as set out in Rule C3(a)(i) of the rules of The FA.

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

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

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

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

"The FA" means The Football Association Limited.

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

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

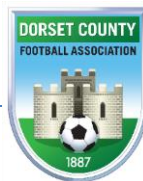
- (B) Unless stated otherwise, terms referring to natural persons are applicable to both genders. Any term in the singular applies to the plural and vice-versa.

GOVERNANCE RULES

COMPETITION NAME, CONSTITUTION

2.

- (A) The Competition will be known as the Dorset Women's League (or such other name as the Competition may adopt). The Clubs participating in the Competition must be members of the Competition. A Club which ceases to exist or which ceases to be entitled to play in the Competition for any reason whatsoever shall thereupon automatically cease to be a member of the Competition.
- (B) This Competition shall consist of not more than 24 Clubs approved by the Sanctioning Authority.
- (C) The geographical area covered by the Competition membership shall be the county of Dorset.
- (D) The administration of the Competition under these Rules will be carried out by the Competition acting (save where otherwise specifically mentioned herein) through the Management Committee in accordance with the rules, regulations and policies of The FA.

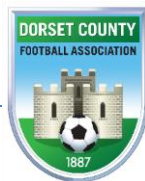


- (E) All Clubs shall adhere to the Rules. Every Club shall be deemed, as a member of the Competition to have accepted the Rules and to have agreed to abide by the decisions of the Management Committee in relation thereto, subject to the provisions of Rule 7.
- (F) The Rules are taken from the Standard Code of Rules (the "Standard Code") determined by The FA from time to time. In the event of any omissions from the Standard Code then the requirements of the Standard Code shall be deemed to apply to the Competition.
- (G) All Clubs must be affiliated to an Affiliated Association and their names and particulars shall be returned annually by the appointed date in a manner prescribed by the Sanctioning Authority and must have a constitution approved by the Sanctioning Authority. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

This Competition shall apply annually for sanction to the Sanctioning Authority and the constituent Teams of Clubs may be grouped in divisions, each not exceeding 12 in number.

(H) Inclusivity and Non-discrimination

- (i) The Competition and each Club must be committed to promoting inclusivity and to eliminating all forms of discrimination and should abide and adhere to The FA Equality Policy and any legislative requirements (to include those contained in the Equality Act 2010).
- (ii) This Competition and each Club must make every effort to promote equality by treating people fairly and with respect, by recognising that inequalities may exist, by taking steps to address them and by providing access and opportunities for all members of the community, irrespective of age, gender, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, marital status, race, nationality, ethnic origin, colour, religion or belief, ability or disability or otherwise.
- (iii) Any alleged breach of the Equality Act 2010 legislation must be referred to the appropriate Sanctioning Authority for investigation.
- (I) Clubs must comply with the provisions of any initiatives of The FA which are adopted by the Competition including, but not limited to, Charter Standard and RESPECT programmes. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
- (J) All Participants shall abide by The Football Association Regulations for Safeguarding Children as determined by The FA from time to time.
- (K) Clubs shall not enter any of their Teams playing in the Competition in any other competitions (with the exception of FA and County FA Competitions) except with the written consent of the Management Committee. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.



- (L) At the AGM or a SGM called for the purpose, a majority of the delegates present shall have power to decide or adjust the constitution of the divisions at their discretion. When necessary this Rule shall take precedence over Rule 22.
- (M) Only one Team shall be permitted from any Club to participate in the same division as another Team from the same Club unless there is no viable alternative because of logistical issues and/or reasons linked to participation and geographical boundaries. The Competition will obtain the prior approval of the Sanctioning Authority in the event of a division comprising of more than one Team from the same Club. This Competition will ensure that, where permission is given, Teams from a Club operating in the same division are run as separate entities with no interchange of players other than via transfers of registration in accordance with these Rules.

CLUB NAME

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

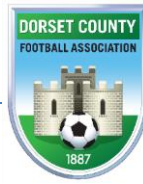
ENTRY FEE, SUBSCRIPTION, DEPOSIT

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

At the discretion of a majority of the accredited voting members present applications, of which due notice has been given, may be received at the AGM or an SGM.

When Rule 22(B) is applied or a Team seeks a transfer or, is compulsorily transferred to another division, no Entry Fee shall be payable.

- (B) The annual subscription shall be payable in accordance with the Fees Tariff per Team payable on or before the AGM of the Competition in each year.
- (C) In the event of any issue concerning the membership of any Club with the Competition the Management Committee may require a Deposit to be paid (in accordance with the Fees Tariff) by or on behalf of the Club on such terms and for such period as it may in its entire discretion think fit. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
- (D) A Club shall not participate in this Competition until the entry fee, annual subscription and deposit (if required) have been paid.
- (E) Clubs must advise annually to the Secretary in writing by 1 July of its Sanctioning Authority affiliation number for the forthcoming Playing Season. Clubs must advise the Secretary in writing, or on the prescribed form, of details of its headquarters, its Officers and any other information required by the Competition. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

**MANAGEMENT, NOMINATION, ELECTION**

5. (A) The Management Committee shall comprise the Officers of the Competition and 4 members who shall all be elected at the AGM.
- (B) Retiring Officers shall be eligible to become candidates for re-election without nomination provided that the Officer notifies the Secretary in writing not later than 1 May in each year.

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

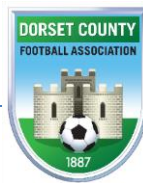
- (C) The Management Committee shall meet as and when required, save that no more than three calendar months shall pass between each meeting.

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

- (D) Except where otherwise mentioned all communications shall be addressed to the Secretary who shall conduct the correspondence of the Competition and keep a record of its proceedings.
- (E) All communications received from Clubs must be conducted through their Officers and sent to the Secretary. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

POWERS OF MANAGEMENT

6. (A) The Management Committee may appoint sub-committees and delegate such of their powers as they deem necessary. The decisions of all sub-committees shall be reported to the Management Committee for ratification. The Management Committee shall have power to deal only with matters within the Competition and not for any matters of misconduct that are under the jurisdiction of The FA or Affiliated Association.
- (B) Subject to the permission of the Sanctioning Authority having been obtained, the Management Committee may order a match or matches to be played each Season, the proceeds to be devoted to the funds of the Competition and, if necessary, may call upon each Club (including any club which may have withdrawn during the Season) to contribute equally such sums as may be necessary to meet any deficiency at the end of the Season.
- (C) Each member of the Management Committee shall have the right to attend and vote at all Management Committee meetings and have one vote thereat, but no member shall be allowed to vote on any matters directly appertaining to such member or to the Club so represented or where there may be a conflict of interest.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

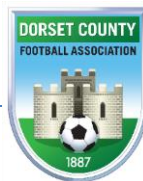
With the exception of Teams playing at Step 7 of the National League System, the maximum fine permitted for any breach of a Rule is £250 and, when setting any fine, the Management Committee must ensure that the penalty is proportional to the offence, taking into account any mitigating circumstances.

No Participant under the age of 18 can be fined.

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

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

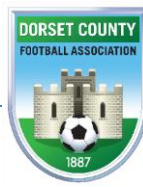
Decisions of the Management Committee must be notified in writing to those concerned within 7 days.



- (F) 50% of its members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business by the Management Committee or any sub-committee thereof.
- (G) The Management Committee, as it may deem necessary, shall have power to fill in an acting capacity, any vacancies that may occur amongst their number.
- (H) A Club must comply with an order or instruction of the Management Committee and must attend to the business and/or the correspondence of the Competition to the satisfaction of the Management Committee. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
- (I) Subject to a Club's right of appeal in accordance with Rule 7 below, all fines and charges must be paid within 14 days of the date of notification of the decision. Any Club failing to do so will be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff. Further failure to pay the fine including the additional fine within a further 14 days will result in fixtures being withdrawn until such time as the outstanding fines are paid.
- (J) A member of the Management Committee appointed by the Competition to attend a meeting or Competition Match may have any reasonable expenses incurred refunded by the Competition.
- (K) The Management Committee shall have the power to fill any vacancy that may occur in the membership of the Competition between the AGM or SGM called to decide the constitution and the commencement of the Playing Season.
- (L) The business of the Competition as determined by the Management Committee may be transacted by electronic mail or facsimile.

PROTESTS, CLAIMS, COMPLAINTS, APPEALS

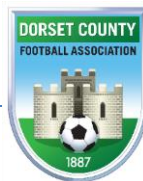
- 7. (A) (i) All questions of eligibility, qualification of Players or interpretations of the Rules shall be referred to the Management Committee or a sub-committee duly appointed by the Management Committee.
- (ii) Objections relevant to the dimensions of the pitch, goals, flag posts or other facilities of the venue will not be entertained by the Management Committee unless a protest is lodged with the referee before the commencement of the Competition Match.
- (B) Except in cases where the Management Committee decide that there are special circumstances, protests and complaints (which must contain full particulars of the grounds upon which they are founded) must be lodged with the Secretary within 7 days (excluding Sundays) of the Competition Match or occurrence to which they refer. A protest or complaint shall not be withdrawn except by permission of the Management Committee. A member of the Management Committee who is a member of any Club involved shall not be present (except as a witness or representative of his Club) when such protest or complaint is being determined.
- (C) No protest of whatever kind shall be considered by the Management Committee unless the complaining Club shall have deposited with the Secretary a sum in accordance with the Fees Tariff. This may be forfeited in whole or in part in the



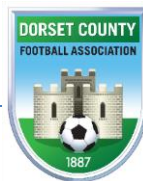
event of the complaining or protesting Club losing its case. The Competition shall have power to order the defaulting Club or the Club making a losing or frivolous protest or complaint to pay the expenses of the inquiry or to order that the costs to be shared by the parties.

- (D) All parties to a protest or complaint must receive a copy of the submission and must be afforded an opportunity to make a statement at least 7 days prior to the protest or complaint being heard.
 - (i) All parties must have received 14 days' notice of the hearing should they be instructed to attend.
 - (ii) Should a Club elect to state its case in person then it should indicate such when forwarding the written response.
- (E) The Management Committee shall also have power to compel any party to the protest to pay such expenses as the Management Committee shall direct.
- (F) Any appeal against a decision of the Management Committee must be lodged with the Sanctioning Authority within 14 days of the posting of the written notification of the decision causing the appeal, accompanied by a fee (as set out in the Fees Tariff), which may be forfeited in the event of the appeal not being upheld. A copy of the appeal must also be sent to the Secretary. The procedure for the appeal shall be determined by the Sanctioning Authority, in such respect the Sanctioning Authority may (but is not obliged to):
 - (i) invite submissions by the parties involved;
 - (ii) convene a hearing to hear the appeal;
 - (iii) permit new evidence; or
 - (iv) impose deadlines as are appropriateAny appeal shall not involve a rehearing of the evidence considered by the Management Committee.
- (G) No appeal can be lodged against a decision taken at an AGM or SGM unless this is on the ground of unconstitutional conduct.
- (H) All protests, claims or complaints relating to these Rules and appeals arising from a Player's contract shall be heard and determined by the Management Committee, or a sub-committee duly appointed by the Management Committee. The Clubs or Players protesting, appealing, claiming or complaining must send a copy of such protest, appeal, claim or complaint and deposit a fee (as set out in the Fees Tariff) which shall be forfeited in the event of the protest, appeal, claim or complaint not being upheld, and the party not succeeding may, in addition, be ordered to pay the costs at the direction of the Management Committee.

All such protests claims complaints and appeals must be received in writing by the Secretary within fourteen days of the event or decision causing any of these to be submitted.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

8. (A) The AGM shall be held not later than 1 August in each year. At this meeting the following business shall be transacted provided that at least 50% of members are present and entitled to vote:-
- (i) To receive and confirm the minutes of the preceding AGM.
 - (ii) To receive and adopt the annual report, balance sheet and statement of accounts.
 - (iii) Election of Clubs to fill vacancies.
 - (iv) Constitution of the Competition for the ensuing Season.
 - (v) Election of Officers of the Competition and the Management Committee members.
 - (vi) Appointment of auditors.
 - (vii) Alteration of Rules, if any (see Rule 14)
 - (viii) Fix the date for the commencement of the Playing Season and kick off times applicable to the Competition.
 - (ix) Fix the date for the end of the Playing Season (save for Step 7 which shall be determined by The FA).
 - (x) Other business of which due notice shall have been given and accepted as being relevant to an AGM.
- (B) A copy of the duly audited/verified balance sheet, statement of accounts and agenda shall be forwarded to each Club at least 14 days prior to the meeting, together with any proposed Rule changes.
- (C) A signed copy of the duly audited/verified balance sheet and statement of accounts shall be sent to the Sanctioning Authority within 14 days of its adoption by the AGM
- (D) Each Club shall be empowered to send two delegates to an AGM. Each Club shall be entitled to one vote only. 14 days' notice shall be given of any AGM.
- (E) Clubs who have withdrawn their membership of the Competition during the Playing Season being concluded or who are not continuing membership shall be entitled to attend but shall vote only on matters relating to the Season being concluded. *This provision will not apply to Clubs expelled in accordance with Rule 12.*
- (F) All voting shall be conducted by a show of voting cards unless a ballot be demanded by at least 50% of the delegates qualified to vote or the Chairman so decides.
- (G) No individual shall be entitled to vote on behalf of more than one Club.
- (H) Any continuing Club must be represented at the AGM. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
- (I) Officers of the Competition and Management Committee members shall be entitled to attend and vote at an AGM.
- (J) Where a Competition is an incorporated entity, the Officers of the Competition shall ensure that the Articles of Association of the Competition are consistent with the requirements of these Rules.

**SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS**

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

The Management Committee may call a SGM at any time.

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

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

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

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

AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED

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

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

The agreement shall be signed by:

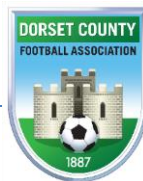
- (i) Where a Club is an unincorporated association, the Club chairman and secretary; or
- (ii) Where a Club is an incorporated entity, two directors of the Club.

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

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

CONTINUATION OF MEMBERSHIP, WITHDRAWAL OF A CLUB

11. (A) Any Club intending, or having a provisional intention, to withdraw a Team from the Competition on completion of its fixtures and fulfilment of all other obligations to the Competition must notify the Secretary in writing by 31st March each season. This does not apply to a Club moving in accordance with Rule 22(B). Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
- (B) The Management Committee shall have the discretion to deal with a Team being unable to start or complete its fixtures for a Playing Season, including, but not limited to, issuing a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.



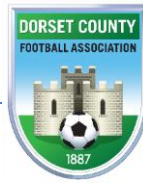
- (c) Notwithstanding the powers of the Management Committee pursuant to Rule 6(l), in the event of a Club failing to discharge all its financial obligations to the Competition in excess of £50, the Management Committee shall be empowered to refer the debt under The FA Football Debt Recovery provisions.

EXCLUSION OF CLUBS, TEAMS. MISCONDUCT OF CLUBS, OFFICERS, PLAYERS, MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

12. (A) At the AGM or SGM called for the purpose in accordance with the provisions of Rule 9, notice of motion having been duly circulated on the agenda by direction of the Management Committee, the accredited delegates present shall have the power to:
- (i) remove a member of the Management Committee from office;
 - (ii) exclude any Club or Team from membership, both of which must be supported by more than two thirds (2/3) of those present and voting. Voting on this point shall be conducted by ballot. A member of the Management Committee or Club which is the subject of the vote being taken shall be excluded from voting.
- (B) At the AGM, or at a SGM called for the purpose in accordance with the provisions of Rule 9, the accredited delegates present shall have the power to exclude from further participation in the Competition any Club whose conduct has, in their opinion, been undesirable, which must be supported by more than two-thirds (2/3) of those present and voting. Voting on this point shall be conducted by ballot. A Club whose conduct is the subject of the vote being taken shall be excluded from voting.
- (C) Any Officer or member of a Club proved guilty of either a breach of Rule, other than field offences, or of inducing or attempting to induce a Player or Players of another Club in the Competition to join them shall be liable to such penalty as a General Meeting or Management Committee may decide, and their Club shall also be liable to expulsion in accordance with the provisions of clause (A) and/or (B) of this Rule.

TROPHY

13. (A) The following agreement shall be signed on behalf of the winners of the cup or trophy:-
- “We [name] and [name], the Chairman and Secretary of [] FC, members of and representing the Club, having been declared winners of cup or trophy, and it having been delivered to us by the Competition, do hereby on behalf of the Club jointly and severally agree to return the cup or trophy to the Competition Secretary on or before 1 March. If the cup or trophy is lost or damaged whilst under our care we agree to refund to the Competition the amount of its current value or the cost of its thorough repair.”
- Failure to comply will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
- (B) At the close of each Competition awards shall be made to the winners and runners-up if the funds of the Competition permit.

**ALTERATION TO RULES**

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

Notice of proposed alterations to be considered at the AGM shall be submitted to the Secretary by 1 April in each year. The proposals, together with any proposals by the Management Committee, shall be circulated to the Clubs by 1 May and any amendments thereto shall be submitted to the Secretary by 1 June. The proposals and proposed amendments thereto shall be circulated to Clubs with the notice of the AGM. A proposal to change a Rule shall be carried if a majority of those present, entitled to vote and voting are in favour.

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

FINANCE

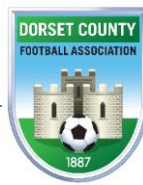
15. (A) The Management Committee shall determine with which bank or other financial institution the funds of the Competition will be lodged.
- (B) All expenditure in excess of £100 shall be approved by the Management Committee. Cheques shall be signed by at least two Officers nominated by the Management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

INSURANCE

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

DISSOLUTION

17. (A) Dissolution of the Competition shall be by resolution approved at a SGM by a majority of three quarters (3/4) of the members present and shall take effect from



the date of the relevant SGM.

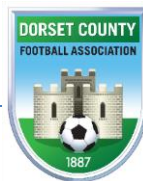
- (B) In the event of the dissolution of the Competition, the members of the Management Committee are responsible for the winding up of the assets and liabilities of the Competition.
- (C) The Management Committee shall deal with any surplus assets as follows:
 - (i) Any surplus assets, save for a trophy or any other presentation, remaining after the discharge of the debts and liabilities of the Competition shall be transferred only to another Competition or Affiliated Association or The Football Association Benevolent Fund or to such other charitable or benevolent object in the locality of the Competition as determined by resolution at or before the time of winding up, and approved in writing by the Sanctioning Authority.
 - (ii) If a Competition is discontinued for any reason a trophy or any other presentation shall be returned to the donor if the conditions attached to it so provide or, if not, dealt with as the Sanctioning Authority may decide.

MATCH RELATED RULES

QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

18. (A) A Player is one who, being in all other respects eligible, has:
- (i) signed a fully and correctly completed Competition registration form in ink, countersigned by an Officer of the Club, which is submitted to the Competition two days prior to the Player playing and whose registration has been confirmed by the Competition prior to that Player playing in a Competition Match;
- or
- (ii) signed a fully and correctly completed Competition registration form in ink on a match day prior to playing which is countersigned by an Officer of the Club and witnessed by an Officer of the opposing Club, and submitted to the Competition within two days (Sundays excluded) subsequent to the Competition Match. The Player shall not play again on a subsequent match day until the Club is in possession of the approval of the Competition. A maximum of three Players may be registered in accordance with this paragraph 18(A)(ii);
- or
- (iii) registered through WGS.

Any registration form which is sent by either of the means set out at Rules 18(A) (i) or (ii) above that is not fully and correctly completed will be returned to the Club unprocessed. If a Club attempts to register a player via WGS but does not fully and correctly complete the necessary information via WGS, the registration will not be processed.



For Clubs registering Players under Rules 18(A) (i) or (ii), registration forms will be provided in a format to be determined by the Competition. For Clubs registering Players via WGS (under Rule 18 (A) (iii)), Clubs must access WGS in order to complete the registration process.

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

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

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

(ii) Each Club must have at least 11 Players registered 7 days before the start of each Playing Season. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

- (C) A Player that owes a Football Debt (as defined under the Football Debt Recovery Regulations) to any club(s) shall be permitted to register and play for a Club in Competition Matches, save that the Player may be liable to be suspended from playing for that Club should the Player fail to comply with the terms of the Football Debt Recovery Regulations in respect of that Football Debt.

- (D) A fee as set out in the Fees Tariff shall be paid by each Team for each Player registered.

- (E) The Management Committee shall decide all registration disputes.

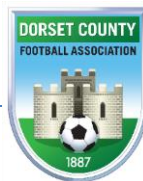
In the event of a player signing a registration form or having a registration submitted for more than one Club, priority of registration shall decide for which Club the Player shall be registered. The Secretary shall notify the Club last applying to register the player of the fact of the previous registration.

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

- (i) Play for more than one Club in the Competition in the same Playing Season without first being transferred.
- (ii) Having registered for one Club in the Competition, register for another Club in the Competition in that Playing Season except for the purpose of a transfer.
- (iii) Submit a signed registration form or submit a registration through WGS for registration that the Player had wilfully neglected to accurately or fully complete.

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

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



- (ii) The Management Committee shall have power to refuse, cancel or suspend the registration of any Player or may fine any Player, at their discretion (in accordance with the Fines Tariff) who has been charged and found guilty of registration irregularities (subject to Rule 7).
- (iii) The Management Committee shall have power to make application to refuse or cancel the registration of any Player charged and found guilty of undesirable conduct (subject to Rule 7) subject to the right of appeal to the Sanctioning Authority. Application should be made to the parent County of the Club the Player is registered or intending to be registered with.

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

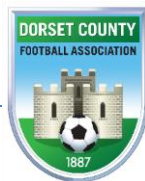
- (iv) For a Player who has previously had a registration removed in accordance with Rule 18(G)(iii) but has a registration accepted at the expiry of exclusion will be considered to be under a probationary period of 12 months. Whilst under a probationary period, should the Player commit a further act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

(Note: Action under Rule 18(G) (iii) shall not be taken against a Player for misconduct until the matter has been dealt with by the Sanctioning Authority, and then only in cases of the Player bringing the Competition into disrepute and will in any event be subject to an appeal to the Sanctioning Authority or The FA. All decisions must include the period of restriction. For the purpose of this Rule, bringing the Competition into disrepute can only be considered where the Player has received in excess of 112 days' suspension, or 10 matches in match based discipline, in any competition (and is not restricted to the Competition) in a period of two years or less from the date of the first offence.)

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

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

- (I) A Player may not be registered for a Club nor transferred to another Club in the Competition after 1 April except by special permission of the Management



Committee.

- (J) A Club shall keep a list of the Players it registers and a record of all matches in which those Players have played for the Club, and shall produce such records upon demand by the Management Committee.
- (K) A register containing the names of all Players registered for each Club, with the date of registration, shall be kept by the Secretary and shall be open to the inspection of an Officer of the Club at all Management Committee meetings or at other times mutually arranged. Registrations are valid for one Playing Season only.

In the event of a Non Contract Player without a written contract changing her status to that of a Contract Player with the same Club, another Club in the Competition or with a club in another competition her registration as a Non Contract Player will automatically be cancelled and declared void unless the Club conforms to the exception detailed in Rule 18(B)(i).

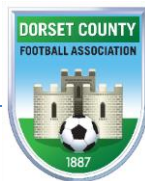
- (L) A Player shall not be eligible to play for a Team in any special championship, promotion or relegation deciding Competition Match (as specified in Rule 22(A)) unless the Player has played in 25% of that Team's Competition Matches in the current Playing Season.
- (M) A Team shall not include more than 3 Players who have taken part in 7 or more senior Competition Matches during the current Playing Season unless a period of 21 days has elapsed since they last played.

For the purpose of this Rule senior competitions are Step 6 and above of the Women's Pyramid of Football.

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

(N)

- (i) Subject to Rule 18(N)(ii), any Club found to have played an ineligible Player in a Competition Match or Matches where points are awarded shall have the points gained from that Competition Match deducted from its record, up to a maximum of 12 points, and have levied upon it a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).
- (ii) The Management Committee may vary the sanction as relates to the deduction of points set out at Rule 18(N)(i) only in circumstances where the ineligibility is due to the failure to obtain an International Transfer Certificate or where the ineligibility is related to the Player's status.
- (iii) Where a Club is found to have played an ineligible Player in accordance with Rule 18(N)(i) above, the Management Committee may also, at its discretion:
 - a) Award the points available in the Competition Match in question to the opponents, subject to the Competition Match not being ordered to be replayed; or
 - b) Levy penalty points against the Club in default; or
 - c) Order that such Competition Match or Matches be replayed (on such terms as are decided by the Management Committee).



- (O) The following clause applies to Competitions involving Players in full-time secondary education:-
- (i) Priority must be given at all times to school and school organisations activities. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
 - (ii) The availability of children must be cleared with the Head Teachers (except for Sunday leagues competitions).
 - (iii) To play open age football the player must have achieved the age of 16.
- (P) A Player who has played for a Team in Division One four times or more shall not in that Playing Season be eligible to play in a lower division (including the Recreational Division) except by permission of the Management Committee.

CLUB COLOURS

19. Every Club must register the colour of its shirts and shorts with the Secretary by 1 August who shall decide as to their suitability. Any Club wishing to change its colours during the Playing Season must obtain permission from the Management Committee. Goalkeepers must wear colours which distinguish them from all other Players and the Match Officials. No Player, including the goalkeeper, shall be permitted to wear black or very dark shirts.

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

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

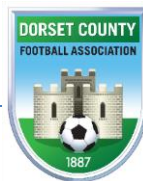
Shirts must be numbered, failing which a fine will be levied in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

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

20. (A) All Competition Matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game as determined by the International Football Association Board.

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

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



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

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

Within the National League System ("NLS") all Competition Matches shall have a duration of 90 minutes. All Competition Matches outside of the NLS shall have duration of 90 minutes unless a shorter time (not less than 60 minutes) is mutually arranged by the two Clubs in consultation with the referee prior to the commencement of the match, and in any event shall be of equal halves. Two matches involving the same two Teams can be played on the same day providing the total playing time is not more than 120 minutes.

The times of kick-off shall be fixed at the AGM and can only be altered by the mutual consent of the two competing Clubs prior to the scheduled date of the Competition Match with written notification given to the Competition at least 7 days prior.

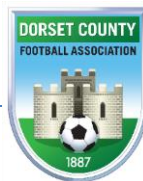
Referees must order matches to commence at the appointed time and must report all late starts to the Competition.

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

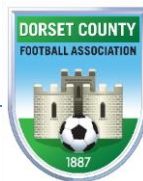
- (B) Except by permission of the Management Committee all Competition Matches must be played on the dates originally fixed but priority shall be given to The FA and parent County Association Cup Competitions. All other matches must be considered secondary. Clubs may mutually agree to bring forward a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

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

- (C) An Officer of the home Club must give notice of full particulars of the location of, and access to, the Ground and time of kick-off to the Match Officials and an Officer of the opposing Club at least five clear days prior to the playing of the match. If not so provided, the away Club shall seek such details and report the circumstances to the Competition. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
- (D) In accordance with the Laws of the Game, the minimum number of Players that will constitute a Team for a Competition Match is 7. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.



- (E) (i) Home and away matches shall be played. In the event of a Club failing to keep its engagement the Management Committee shall have power to impose a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff), deduct points from the defaulting Club, award the points from the Competition Match in question to the opponents, order the defaulting Club to pay any reasonable expenses incurred by the opponents or otherwise deal with them except the award of goals. Notwithstanding the foregoing home and away provision, the Management Committee shall have power to order a Competition Match to be played on a neutral ground or on the opponent's Ground if they are satisfied that such action is warranted by the circumstances.
- (ii) Any Club with more than one Team in the Competition shall always fulfil its fixture, within the Competition, in the following order of precedence:- First Team, Reserve Team, A Team.
- (iii) Any Club unable to fulfil a fixture or where a Competition Match has been postponed for any reason must, without delay, give notice to the Secretary, the secretary of the opposing Club and the Match Official(s).
- (iv) In the event of a Competition Match not being played or abandoned owing to causes over which neither Club has control, it should be played in its entirety on a date to be mutually agreed by the two Clubs and approved by the Management Committee. Failing such agreement and notification to the Secretary within 7 days the Management Committee shall have the power to order the Competition Match to be played on a date or on or before a given date. Where it is to the advantage of the Competition and the Clubs involved agree, the Management Committee shall also be empowered to order the score at the time of an abandonment to stand. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
- (v) The Management Committee shall review all Competition Matches abandoned in cases where it is consequent upon the conduct of either or both Teams. Where it is to the advantage of the Competition and does no injustice to either Club, the Management Committee shall be empowered to order the score at the time of the abandonment to stand. In all cases where the Management Committee are satisfied that a Competition Match was abandoned owing to the conduct of one Team or its Club member(s) they shall be empowered to award the points for the Competition Match to the opponent. In cases where a Competition Match has been abandoned owing to the conduct of both Teams or their Club member(s), the Management Committee shall rule that neither Team will be awarded any points for that Competition Match and it shall not be replayed. No fine(s) can be applied by the Management Committee for an abandoned Competition Match.
- (vi) The Management Committee shall review any Competition Match that has taken place where either or both Teams were under a suspension imposed upon them by The FA or Affiliated Association. In each case the Team that was



under suspension would be dealt with in the same manner as if they had participated with ineligible players in accordance with Rule 18(N) above. Where both Teams were under suspension the game must be declared null and void and shall not be replayed.

- (F) A Club may at its discretion and in accordance with the Laws of the Game use substitute Players in any Competition Match. A Club may name up to 5 substitute Players of whom not more than 5 may be used.

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

The referee shall be informed of the names of the substitute Players not later than 15 minutes before the start of the Competition Match and a Player not so named may not take part in that Competition Match.

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

- (G) The half time interval shall be of 10 minutes' duration, but it shall not exceed 15 minutes. The half time interval may only be altered with the consent of the referee.
- (H) The Teams taking part in a Competition Match shall identify a Team captain who may wear an armband and shall have a responsibility to offer support in the management of the on-field discipline of her teammates. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

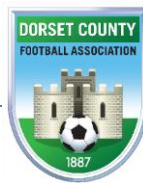
REPORTING RESULTS

21. (A) The Secretary must receive within 2 days of the date played, the result of each Competition Match. This must include the first name and surname of the Team Players and any other information required by the Competition. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
- (B) Both Clubs shall notify the result of each Competition Match to the Secretary by 10am the following day. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

DETERMINING CHAMPIONSHIP

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

In the event of two or more Teams being equal on points at the end of the Playing Season, rankings shall be determined by goal difference (where the goals scored against each Team shall be deducted from the goals scored by that Team and the Team with the most favourable goal difference shall be placed highest).



In the event of two or more Teams still being equal, the Team which has scored the most goals during the Playing Season shall be placed highest.

In the event of two or more Teams still being equal, the Team that has won the most matches during the Playing Season shall be placed highest.

In the event of two or more Teams still being equal, the Team which has the better playing record against the other Team in their head to head Competition Matches during the Playing Season will be placed highest.

If the records of two or more Teams are still equal and it is necessary for any reason to determine the position of each then the Teams affected shall play a deciding match or matches under conditions as determined by the Management Committee.

(B) n/a

(C) n/a

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

MATCH OFFICIALS

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

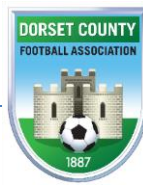
(B) In the event of the non-appearance of the appointed referee the appointed senior assistant referee shall take charge and a substitute assistant referee appointed by the competing Teams. In cases where there are no officially appointed Match Officials in attendance, the Clubs shall agree upon a referee. An individual thus agreed upon shall, for that Competition Match, have the full powers, status and authority of a registered referee. Individuals under the age of 16 must not participate either as a referee or assistant referee in any Competition Match.

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

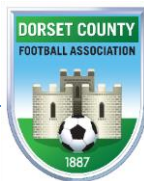
(D) The appointed referee shall have power to decide as to the fitness of the Ground in all Competition Matches and that decision shall be final, subject to the determination of the Local Authority or the owners of a Ground, which must be accepted.

(E) Subject to any limits/provisions laid down by the Sanctioning Authority, Match Officials appointed under this Rule shall be paid a match fee of £25 and travel expenses of 35p per mile.

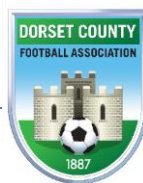
Match Officials will be paid their fees and expenses by the home Club before or immediately after the Competition Match. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.



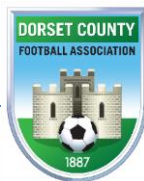
- (F) In the event of a Competition Match not being played because of circumstances over which the Clubs have no control, the Match Officials, if present, shall be entitled to half fee plus expenses. Where a Competition Match is not played owing to one Club being in default, that Club shall be ordered to pay the Match Officials, if they attend the Ground, their full fee and expenses. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.
- (G) A referee not keeping their engagement, and failing to give a satisfactory explanation as to their non-appearance, may be reported to the Affiliated Association with which they are registered.

**SCHEDULE A**

FEES TARIFF		
RULE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM FEE
4 (A)	CLUB ENTRY FEE	£25
4 (B)	TEAM ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION	£25
4 (C)	DEPOSIT	As required
7 (C), 7 (E), 7(G)	PROTEST/APPEAL FEES	£50
18 (D)	PLAYER REGISTRATION FEE	£3
18 (H)	TRANSFER FEE	£20
23 (E)	REFEREE FEES	£25 + 35p per mile
23 (E)	ASSISTANT REFEREE FEES (where appointed)	£15 + 35p per mile



FINES TARIFF		
RULE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM FINE
2 (G)	FAILURE TO AFFILIATE	£20
2 (I)	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH FA INITIATIVES	£20
2 (K)	UNAUTHORISED ENTRY OF TEAMS INTO COMPETITIONS	£20
3	FAILURE TO OBTAIN CONSENT FOR A CHANGE OF CLUB NAME	£20
4 (C)	FAILURE TO PAY A DEPOSIT	£20
4(E)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE AFFILIATION NUMBER/DETAILS FORM	£20
5(E)	COMMUNICATIONS CONDUCTED BY PERSONS OTHER THAN NOMINATED OFFICERS	£20
6 (H)	FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH AN INSTRUCTION OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	£50
6 (I)	FAILURE TO PAY A FINE WITHIN REQUIRED TIMEFRAME	Double the original fine
8 (H)	FAILURE TO BE REPRESENTED AT AGM	£50
9	FAILURE TO BE REPRESENTED AT SGM	£50
10	FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED WRITTEN AGREEMENT OR TO NOTIFY CHANGES TO SIGNATORIES	£20
11(A)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL BEFORE DEADLINE	£20
11 (B)	FAILURE TO COMMENCE/COMPLETE FIXTURES	£50
13 (A)	FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED WRITTEN AGREEMENT REGARDING THE TROPHY	£20
16(A)	FAILURE TO HAVE THE REQUIRED INSURANCE	£20
16(B)	FAILURE TO HAVE THE REQUIRED INSURANCE	£20
18 (A)	FAILURE TO CORRECTLY REGISTER A PLAYER	£50
18 (B) (ii)	FAILURE TO HAVE THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF REGISTERED PLAYERS PRIOR TO THE SEASON COMMENCING	£20
18 (F)	REGISTERING OR PLAYING FOR MULTIPLE CLUBS, OR INACCURATE COMPLETION OF A REGISTRATION FORM	£50
18 (G)(ii)	REGISTRATION IRREGULARITIES	£50
18 (M)	FIELDING MORE THAN THE PERMITTED NUMBER OF PLAYERS WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN SENIOR COMPETITIONS MATCHES	£20
18 (N)	PLAYING AN INELIGIBLE PLAYER	£50
19	DELAYING KICK OFF DUE TO NO CHANGE OF COLOURS	£20
19	FAILURE TO NUMBER SHIRTS	£20
20(A)	DELAYING KICK OFF DUE TO FAILURE TO PROVIDE REQUIRED EQUIPMENT	£20
20 (C)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE DETAILS OF A FIXTURE	£20
20 (E) (i) & (iv)	FAILURE TO PLAY FIXTURE	£50
21 (B)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE RESULT	£20
23 (C)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE CLUB ASSISTANT REFEREE	£20
23 (E)	FAILURE TO PAY MATCH OFFICIALS' FEES AND EXPENSES	£50
23 (F)	FAILURE TO PAY MATCH OFFICIALS WHERE A MATCH IS NOT PLAYED	£50
23 (H)	FAILURE TO PROVIDE REFEREE'S MARK	£20

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