

ESSEX COUNTY SCHOOLS FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

1. The Association shall be called the “Essex County Schools” and shall be under the aegis of the Essex County Football Association.
2. Membership of the County Association shall be open to all Schools, Colleges and District Associations in the County, subject to the approval of the Council. Where no District Association exists, School Sport Partnerships and individual schools may apply directly to the Council for affiliated membership.
3. The objects of the Association shall be the mental, moral and physical development and improvement of school children through the medium of Association football and to help such charities as the Council of the Association may from time to time determine.
4. The Association shall be affiliated to the English Schools’ Football Association and shall be constituted in accordance with the rules laid down for a “properly constituted” Association in the general rules of the ESFA.
5. The Annual subscription for the following season, which shall be payable on or before 1 July each year, shall be decided by the general Purposes Committee each year. Entry into competitions run by the association shall only be open to schools, colleges and District Associations/School Sports Partnerships which have paid this subscription

All Primary Schools and Secondary Schools must affiliate to the Essex County Schools’ Football Association and they should also affiliate to their local District Association/School Sports Partnerships where such an Association exists.

6. The management of the Association shall be vested in a Council consisting of the Officers, Life Members of the Association and two delegates from each District Association which has paid the annual subscription for the year, ten of such members to form a quorum. The delegates shall be chosen by their representative Associations annually. The Council shall meet if required.
7. The Council shall have the power:
 - (a) to appoint any committee or commission as it may deem fit;
 - (b) to fill any vacancy which arises during the year in the case of Officers;
 - (c) to control the finances of the E(C)SFA which must be used solely for the furtherance of the objects stated in Paragraph 2;
 - (d) to make final and binding decision in the event of any appeal by any Association or School against the decisions of the General Purposes Committee.
8. The Officers shall consist of a President, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Hon. General Secretary, Hon. Competition Secretary for Inter-District competition games and Hon. Competition Secretaries for individual Schools’ competitions. Nomination Forms for such offices shall be issued by the General Secretary not later than two weeks before the Annual General Meeting and must be returned to him by the AGM.
9. A General Purposes Committee consisting of the Officers, Life Members, and ten other members shall be elected at the AGM and the same shall have power to deal with any Association, School or Player in Essex Schools’ championships, as they may deem fit. The GPC shall have the power to co-opt subjects to the approval of the Council. Any appeal against a decision of the GPC to the Council must be made in duplicate to the General

Secretary within 14 days, accompanied by a fee of £10 which may be forfeited in whole or in part to the funds of the Association at the discretion of the Council, who shall also decide by whom the cost of the appeal shall be borne. The Appeal shall be heard at the earliest opportunity and certainly within 20 working days of the General Secretary after the appeal has been lodged. The decision of the Council shall be final and binding.

All members of the Council and General Purposes Committee, with the exception of the President and Life Members, shall be serving teachers or retired teachers at the time of the date of election. An immediate Past Chairman shall be an ex-officio member of the GPC if he so wishes. All members of the General Purposes Committee, except the President and Life Members, who fail to attend three successive GPC meetings except for reasons acceptable to the General Purposes Committee shall be deemed to have forfeited membership.

10.(a) The General Purposes Committee shall deal with all matters arising between Council meetings. For the transaction of business at a GPC meeting, six members shall form a quorum.

(b) The necessary grouping and drawing of ties for the completion of competitions shall be arranged by the General Purposes Committee.

(c) The Council shall have power to appoint further Committees or Commissions as they may deem fit.

(d) All expenses for submission to the Hon. Secretary must be itemised and then approved by the General Purposes Committee. Travelling expenses shall be at a rate determined by the General Purposes Committee.

11.All vacancies occurring during the year shall be filled by Associations in the case of appointed delegates terminating their connection with the Council.

12. (a) The Chairman and General Secretary shall be, and are, hereby expressly appointed for all intents and purposes. Trustees as legal owners of all property of the Association and shall deal with the same according to the instructions of the Council.

(b) In the event of the Association being dissolved, the Trustees shall realise the property and assets and call in all monies due to the Association and, after discharge of all liabilities, hand the surplus to such charitable institutions or charities as shall be determined by the AGM or a General Meeting called for that purpose.

13. (a) All Associations shall insure as per the rules of the English Schools' FA.

(b) No team affiliated to the E(C)SFA shall be allowed to play a team not affiliated to the English Schools' F.A. except by special permission of the E(C)SFA.

14.The Annual General Meeting shall be held in June (or such other month as the GPC prescribe). At any General Meeting, the voting powers shall be vested in the Officers, Life Members, members of the GPC, together with two teachers' delegates from each affiliated Association

The following business shall be transacted:

(a) Adoption of Report and Balance Sheet;

- (b) Election of Officers, Vice-Presidents, General Purposes Committee, Auditors, one representative on the Executive Council of the Essex County FA;
- (c) Alteration of Rules;
- (d) Other business of which notice has been given to the General Secretary by the date two weeks before the Annual General Meeting.

15. (a) A nomination for Life Member or Vice-President shall be made by the GPC for submission for approval at the Annual General Meeting or may be submitted by membership for consideration by the GPC and, if approved, for submission and approval at the Annual General Meeting.

(b) The Award of Merit, in the form of the presentation of a special tie, shall be awarded for meritorious service to Schools' Football in the County of Essex. Claims for this Award shall be submitted to the General Secretary of the E(C)SFA.

(c) The Referees' Award, in the form of the presentation of a special certificate, shall be awarded for valued services to Schools' Football in the County of Essex. Claims for this Award should be submitted to the General Secretary of the E(C)SFA.

16. With the circulars summoning the Annual General Meeting, the General Secretary shall send to each local Association three copies of the notice containing a list of those nominated and who have not withdrawn their names, and information relevant to Paragraphs 14 (c) and (d).

17. A Special General Meeting may at any time be called by the General Secretary or on receipt of a requisition signed by two Officers of an affiliated Association when accompanied by a fee of £10 which shall be forfeited if the requisition be deemed frivolous. Notice of the business to be considered shall be forwarded with such requisition in duplicate.

No alteration of, or addition to, any of these Rules or those of the Essex County Football Association, shall be made except at the Annual General Meeting or at a Special Meeting convened for that purpose. Notice of any proposed alterations must be sent to the General Secretary on, or before, 15 May for the Annual General Meeting or, in the case of a Special General Meeting, 21 days before the date fixed for calling such a meeting.