

Key Changes to County Cups for the 2019/20 Season

Below is a summary of the key changes implemented in Hertfordshire FA County Cup Competitions for the 2019/20 season. Please refer to the relevant Rules and Guidance Notes for each competition for further information

Sin Bins

Temporary dismissals are to be used for cautions for dissent in all competitions where no clubs from Step 1 (National League) or above are involved. Sin Bins are being introduced all across grassroots football this season having been trialled extensively with positive feedback from clubs and officials.

Youth Competitions Mercy Rule

Once a team has reached a 9 goal advantage (9-0, 10-1, 11-2) the game is considered ended and the result should be reported as such. This has been introduced to help keep matches enjoyable whilst still being competitive. The teams may choose to play a friendly or training match (with potentially more balanced sides) in the remaining time available.

Veterans Cup Age Eligibility

All players in the Veterans Cup must be at least 35 years old on 1st September. Previously teams could have a maximum of 4 players aged over 35 with the rest of the team required to be over 40 years old.

Women's Cup Seeding

In order to provide a better balance to the competition, selected teams will now enter in Round 2. Previously all teams would be entered into Round 1.

Roped Off Pitches

The home club must provide a roped or fenced off playing area in the Semi-finals of the Saturday Junior Cup and all Adult Sunday Competitions. There is no longer a requirement to provide this at the Quarter-final stage.

Assistant Referees

Neutral Assistants will be appointed to the Semi-finals of the Saturday Junior Cup and all Adult Sunday Competitions, but no longer at the Quarter-final stage.