**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**

**FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION LIMITED**

**FUTSAL**

**COUNTY CUP**

**INFORMATION**

**2018-2019**

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**FUTSAL COUNTY CUP** - **COMPETITIONS RULES 2018-2019**

**1. NAMES OF TROPHIES.**

The Futsal County Cup trophies shall never become the absolute property of any Club/team. The President and Business Manager for the time being and for intents and purposes will be the legal owners of the Cups in trust of the Association.

**2. MANAGEMENT OF COMPETITIONS.**

The entire control and management of the County Cup Competitions shall be vested in the Council and the County Cup Committee of the Association.

The County Cup Committee at its meeting in July each season, will confirm the appointment of a Sub-Committee that will deal with all matters of discipline and interpretation of rules relating to the following season.

**3. CUP COMPETITIONS AND STATUS OF CLUBS TO COMPETE THEREIN.**

THE FUTSAL CUP. To be competed for by bona-fide Futsal Teams.

**4. DATES OF CUP TIES.**

The dates of each cup tie for each competition shall be fixed by the Council but under certain circumstances may be subject to change.

**5. ENTRANCE FEES.**

The Futsal Cup entry fees are to be submitted by January 15th 2019. The Futsal Cup entrance fee shall be £15.00 and a additional fee will be charged to each team for each round they participate in.

**6. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE GAME.**

In all Cup Matches, including Finals, the Association shall set the venue, date and times for each round.

The first round will consist of 4 events split regionally and will be a round robin event. Teams are free to choose which regional event they enter into. The winning team from each regional event will go through into the semi-final, and the winners from the semi-final games shall go into the final.

Scoring in the first round robin event will go as follows: 3 points for a win, 1 point for a draw and 0 points if you lose. If after all of the games have been played there is a tie, goal difference shall decide the winner to go through into the next round.

For the semi-final and final matches, if there is a no winner the game will then go to penalty kicks. No extra time to be played.

All arrangements for the day shall be notified to the club/team 5 days prior by the Association.

The Association and venue shall provide all equipment, balls and first aid equipment for the events.

Where a technical area is provided for each team, only the manager(s), physio, 12 named players and the referee(s) are permitted. All other persons are to observe from the viewing area. If a viewing area is not provided, then all are permitted to stand in the surroundings of the pitch as long as they do not obstruct the technical area or in any areas that could affect the game.

**7. APPOINTMENT AND PAYMENT OF REFEREES.**

In all Cup matches the referee shall be appointed and paid, a fee of £10.00 per hour, by the Association.

Referees must report short teams, late starts, abandoned matches, etc. to the Association.

Appointed Match Officials to wear standard black uniform.

**8 (a) THE MATCH.**

Matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

In the semi-final and final, in the event of a draw the match will go straight to penalty kicks.

Matches abandoned through the fault of the clubs shall be dealt with by the Association.

Round Robin first round matches shall last 20 minutes straight through with no half time.

The Semi-Final shall consist of 20 minutes each way with up to 10 minutes of half time.

The Final shall also be 20 minutes each way with up to 10 minutes of half time but played to a stopped clock.

Date, times and venue for all rounds will all be confirmed in December 2018.

**(b) TEAM SHEETS**

For all matches, each club/team must submit a team sheet within 2 days prior to the event. Failure to comply with this rule will make the Club liable to a fine of £10.

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

**9. TEAM COLOURS.**

Where the colours, including shirts, shorts and socks, of two competing teams are similar, bibs shall be provided and worn by the first named team. Goalkeepers must wear colours which distinguish them from other players and the Referee. All shirts must be distinctly numbered on the back and all players within a team must be wearing the same coloured shirts, shorts and socks. No player, including the goalkeeper, shall be permitted to wear black or very dark shirts. Teams failing to comply will be dealt with by the County Cup Committee.

**10. (a) QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS**

(i) A player eligible is one who has been a bona-fide registered playing member of the Club registered with either the Football Association or respective League for at least 24 hours prior to the match.

(ii) A player shall not play for more than one Club in the same Competition.

(iii) All players must be 16 and over.

Semi-final: No player shall be allowed to play in a semi-final unless he was eligible to play in an earlier round, or unless special permission is granted by the County Cup Committee.

Final: No player shall be allowed to play in a final tie unless he has already taken part in a previous round, unless special permission is granted by the County Cup Committee.

**(b) CLUBS WITH TWO OR MORE TEAMS.**

A player who is a member of a Club with more than one team entered in the same Competition is only permitted to play in one team out of the selection of teams throughout the whole Cup Competition.

**(c) POSTPONED AND ABANDONED MATCHES.**

In cases of postponed, abandoned, or replayed matches only those players shall be allowed to play who are eligible on the date originally fixed for the tie to be played, except a player who has been suspended who may play following the expiry of any suspension.

**(d) CONTRAVENTION OF RULES OF QUALIFICATION.**

Any Club contravening this Rule may be struck out of the Competition, and may be fined a minimum of £30.00.

**(e) SUBSTITUTIONS.**

A total of up to 12 players are permitted to play; 5 on the pitch (1 goalkeeper, 4 outfield players) and up to 6 as substitutes.

The substitutes are allowed to be used on a “roll on-roll off” basis.

**11. FAILING TO FULFIL FIXTURE.**

Any Club refusing to play, failing to play, scratching from playing, or failing to complete any match with whom it has been drawn, may be struck from the competition and may also be fined £30.

**12. RESULT OF THE MATCH.**

Clubs/team are asked to submit the results, with names of players and substitutes (used or not) of each game to the NFA within 3 days of the event taking place.

Clubs failing to comply with this rule may be subject to a fine of £20.

Incorrect or falsified result sheets will be referred to the County Cup Committee, who will deal with as deemed necessary.

**13. PROVISIONS CONCERNING PROTESTS**

All issues relating to the interpretation of the Competition Rules, shall be referred to the County Cup Committee, whose decision shall be, subject to Rule 16, final and binding. The County Cup Committee shall consider any such matter and following such procedures as it considers appropriate. The County Cup Committee shall not be bound by any enactment or Rule of Law relating to the admissibility of evidence in proceeding before a Court of Law.

Where a club wishes to protest that there has been a breach of the Competition rules, such protest must be made in writing and must contain the particulars of the grounds upon which it is made.

The County Cup Committee may make such orders as it considers appropriate in relation to any issue or protest referred to it. The County Cup Committee may make such orders as it considers appropriate as to the costs incurred by the parties or the Association.

Any protest relating to the ground, goal posts or bars or other arrangements of the game shall not be considered by the County Cup Committee unless an objection has been lodged with the referee and the home club at least one hour before the official time of the kick off. The referee shall require the home club to correct the cause of the objection, if this is possible without unduly delaying the progress of the match.

Where an objection has been lodged with the referee and the home club as above, a protest must be made to the Association and neither objection or protest may be withdrawn, except be leave of the County Cup Committee.

The Association shall send a copy of any protest to the club protested against, which shall lodge a defence to the protest with particulars of the defence within two working days of receipt of the protest.

Members of the County Cup Committee directly connected with a club concerned in a protest (including membership of a league the club competes in) shall not have any involvement in the consideration of the matter.

A club, or a player or any person directly connected with the management of the club may be summoned to attend at a hearing of a protest. A club may be represented by one or more persons. A barrister or solicitor may represent a club only with prior written consent of the County Cup Committee. Any person summoned to attend a hearing of a protest must attend personally and shall not be legally represented except with the prior written consent of the County Cup Committee.

**14. PROVISIONS CONCERNING APPEALS**

A club that is expelled from the competition may appeal against the decision to an appeal board in accordance with the procedures for NFA appeals with the exception that, in the interests of expediency, the notice and grounds for the appeal must be lodged within 5 days of the County Cup Committee’s decision to expel the club. For the avoidance of doubt, a club may not appeal against any penalty imposed on it other than expulsion from the competition.

**15. POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE.**

If the County Cup Committee should subsequently discover that any rule or spirit of the rules has, in their opinion, been violated by mutual agreements or otherwise, it shall be in the power of The County Cup committee to disqualify one or both Clubs from further competing in the ties, or order the match or matches to be replayed and to impose such other penalty as it may think fit without any protest having been laid by either or any Club. The County Cup Committee reserves the right to re-instate any club to a competition.

All questions of eligibility, disqualification of players, interpretation of the Rule or Laws of the game, as well as other matters in dispute, shall be referred to the County Committee and thereafter the Council, whose decision shall be final.

**16. CUPS AND TROPHIES.**

Following the presentation of the Trophy, a representative of the Association shall ensure that two representatives of the Club sign a document on behalf of the Club accepting same in good condition.

The Trophy to be returned to the Secretary of the Association in good condition on or before the 1st March each year. Any Club failing to return the Cup, properly engraved by 1st March may be fined £50.00. If the Cup be destroyed, damaged, or not in good conditions when returned, the Club concerned shall be responsible for all expenses incurred in the repair or replacement.

**17. MEMENTOES.**

The Association will present mementoes to the winners of the final tie. Mementoes will also be presented to the runners-up in all Competitions.

In order to recognise the service of those Secretaries with at least 5 years’ service, whose Clubs competed in the Final Ties of all Competitions, a memento similar to those presented to the players will be awarded to such Secretaries following an application to the Association in writing.

When a player taking part in any final tie of the Competition is ordered to leave the field of play for misconduct, the award to which he is entitled may be withheld until the matter has been dealt with by the Association.

Applications to purchase extra mementoes with name of Players will be dealt with by the County Cup Committee.

In final ties of Competitions, the appointed Referees, Assistant Referees and Reserve Officials will receive a memento.

The Association may also award a player of the match and a club volunteer award.

**Administration of County Cups – Season 2018-2019**

The County Cup Committee has appointed the following Members of the Committee, to assist the Office in administrating the County Cup Competitions for season 2018-2019.

Should you have any queries in respect of any of the Competitions the first point of contact is: **Georgia Timson – County Administrator - 01604 678402 - Georgia.Timson@northantsfa.com**

If your query is out of work hours (Monday to Friday 9am-5pm), or during the 24 hours prior to the relevant Cup Tie, the following will try to assist:

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| **Maunsell Cup**Steve Inwood/Tony Major07800 660565 / 07887 875671 | **Hillier Senior Cup**Pat Ashby/Tony Major07969 825636 / 07887 875671 | **Les Underwood Junior Cup**Mick Walden07817 841752 |
| **Lower Junior Cup**Richard Gardner07892 666098 / 01604 589534 | **Area Cup**Pete Gurnham07966 228275 | **Sunday Cup**Liam Warren07946 860762 |
| **Sunday Trophy**John Moriarty07931 132911 | **Sunday Vase**Graham Pinney07921 858543 | **U18 David Joyce**Neil Griffin07881 827188 |
| **U18 Youth Cup**Jeff Kitchener07786 635787 | **U12/U14/U16 Boys Invitation**Rob Gross / Tony Major07988 707696 / 07887 875671 | **Girls Invitation/Women’s**Dave Conway/Craig Turnbull07785 791930 / 07910 529221 |

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| **Veteran’s Cup**Paul Clarke07899 786932 | **Futsal/Walking Football Cup**Lawrence Kay07951 497559 |

**Should you find it necessary to call a member of the committee, please respect their privacy and do not call after 9.00pm**