

# JUNIOR CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITIONS

## 1. TITLES

The Junior Challenge Cup Competitions of the North Riding County Football Association Ltd shall be known as the:

Group 2 - North Riding County Football Association Challenge Cup (Under 12)  
Group 2g - North Riding County Football Association Girls Challenge Cup (Under 12).  
Group 3 - North Riding County Football Association Challenge Cup (Under 13).  
Group 4 - North Riding County Football Association Challenge Cup (Under 14)  
Group 4g - North Riding County Football Association Girls Challenge Cup (Under 14).  
Group 5 - North Riding County Football Association Challenge Cup (Under 15).  
Group 6 - North Riding County Football Association Challenge Cup (Under 16)  
Group 6g - North Riding County Football Association Girls Challenge Cup (Under 16).

All Competitions are 11 a side with the exception of Groups 2, 2(g), 4(g) and 6(g), which are 9-a-side competitions.

Other Competitions may be promoted as and when thought desirable. The North Riding County Football Association Ltd shall be referred to hereafter in these Rules as the Association and their Chief Executive as the 'Secretary'. The rules following shall apply equally to each Competition unless otherwise stated.

## 2. CONTROL

The Association, or any other Committee as may be appointed from time to time to act on its behalf, shall have the entire control and management of the Competitions. The Association shall have the powers to amend, cancel or add to the Rules as they deem expedient.

## 3. NOTICES

All communications required by any of these rules shall be addressed to the Secretary of the Competition, or in the case of correspondence to competing teams, to the Secretary of such team.

## 4. (a) CUPS - OWNERSHIP AND CARE

The Cups are the property of the Association to be competed for annually. For all intents and purposes the Board of Directors of the Association shall be legal holders of the Cups in trust for the Association.

When the winning team of the Cup shall have been ascertained the Secretary shall deliver the Cup for Presentation to such team, and receive a document of receipt, and such team shall be responsible for the return of the Cup as and when requested by the Secretary or be fined a minimum of £50.

The Association shall insure the Cups against fire and other accidents but reserve the right to require a team under whose care a Cup is held to meet such costs as the Association may determine should the Cup be damaged, destroyed, stolen or lost.

## (b) SOUVENIRS - PROVISION

In addition to the Cup, the Association may present suitable souvenirs to the players, substitutes and one team Official of each team appearing in the Final Tie.

When a player taking part in a Final Tie is ordered to leave the field of play for misconduct, the souvenir to which he/she may be entitled shall be with-held at the discretion of the Association.

## 5. TEAMS - ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

The Competitions are open to all junior clubs whose first affiliation is with the North Riding County Football Association Ltd.

Each club shall give notice of the competitions each of its teams are desirous of competing in, together with the appropriate fee on or before 1<sup>st</sup> August in each year.

The Association may reject the entry of any team in any competition if such a course is deemed desirable.

**All Competitions** – The closing date is 1<sup>st</sup> August each season, but the Association shall have the power to extend the entry date of any Cup if considered necessary, and if so clubs will be circulated.

**Any Club which fails to enter at least one of its teams in a County Cup Competition will be required to pay an exemption fee of £10.**

**6. TEAMS - WITHDRAWAL AFTER COMMENCEMENT OF THE COMPETITION OR FAILURE TO FULFIL A CUP FIXTURE**

Any team intending to withdraw from a Competition after its commencement must give explanation in writing/by e-mail of such intention to the Secretary and information of such intention to the Secretary of the opposing team not less than 7 days before the date fixed of playing the match. In the case of a postponed match, the period of time

here indicated shall be observed so far as circumstances permit. Their opponents will progress to the next round.

Teams failing to give a satisfactory reason for withdrawal shall be liable to a minimum fine of £10.

A team failing to comply with this rule shall be reported to the Competition Committee who shall have the power to compel the withdrawing team to pay any expense incurred by their opposing team and to take such other action as may be deemed expedient.

Any team failing to fulfil a cup fixture must, by written/e-mail notice, give an explanation of such failure to the Secretary no later than 2 days following the scheduled date for the playing of the fixture. If the Association considers the explanation to be unsatisfactory and/or unacceptable, the defaulting team will be eliminated from the respective Competition and fined a minimum of £10. Their opponents will progress to the next round of the Competition

**7. PLAYERS - QUALIFICATIONS**

A player shall not, in the same season, play for more than one team in any Competition but the players of a team may be changed during the series of matches.

Contract players, as defined in FA Rules are not permitted to play in these Competitions.

No player registered with a F.A. Premier League or Football League Academy under the Elite Player Performance Plan contained within Youth Development Rules will be permitted to play in this Competition. (Details of the Youth Development Rules are published on the FA web site). This shall also apply to players registered with an FA Girls Regional Talent Centre. Players released on or before 31<sup>st</sup> January in the current playing season shall become eligible to play in these competitions.

A player must be a recognised player of the team that has entered the respective Cup Competition. A recognised player is one who, in the current season has been registered with the league in which the team plays, at least seven days before the date set for the playing of the tie.

In Group 2 & 2g a player must have attained the age of 10 but must be under the age of 12 as of midnight on 31st August in the playing season.

In Group 3 a player must have attained the age of 11 but must be under the age of 13 as of midnight on 31st August in the playing season.

In Groups 4 & 4g a player must have attained the age of 12 but must be under the age of 14 as of midnight on 31st August in the playing season.

In Group 5 a player must have attained the age of 13 but must be under the age of 15 as of midnight on 31st August in the playing season.

In Group 6 & 6g a player must have attained the age of 14 but must be under the age of 16 as of midnight on 31st August in the playing season.

In the case of postponed matches or matches due to be replayed for any reason, only those players shall be allowed to play who were qualified to play on the date fixed for the playing of the original match providing the players status is unchanged.

In case of a dispute lodged in accordance with these rules and arising as to the age of a player competing in this Competition, the team objected to shall be required to produce the requisite certificate of birth, the expense of obtaining such evidence to be paid by the team losing the dispute. The cost of any certificate obtained shall be lodged with the Secretary.

In a Semi Final or Final Tie a player must, in the current season, have played in at least 3 games (which include League, League Cup and County Cup Competition games but not friendlies) for his/her team.

8. **PLAYERS - EXCHANGE OF LISTS**

The home team playing in any Competition shall, not less than five days before the match, send to the opposing team and Match Officials in writing/by e-mail, details of ground directions and colours or be fined a minimum of £10. A written list of actual players (Christian name and Surname) on the official Team Sheet shall be exchanged prior to the commencement of the match in the presence of the Referee, who shall also be given copies of the Team Sheets. A copy of such list must be received by the Secretary of the Association within 5 days of the conclusion of the match. Teams infringing this Rule shall be fined a minimum of £10.

Shirts must be numbered and the numbers must correspond to the numbers and names of players on the team sheet.

9. **PLAYERS - SUBSTITUTION**

For all Competitions, a team may at its discretion and in accordance with the Laws of the Game, use five substitute players in any match who may be selected from not more than five players. A player who has been substituted himself becomes a substitute and may replace another player at any time subject to the substitution being carried out in accordance with Law 3 of The Laws of Association Football.

In all age groups the names of all substitutes must be given to the referee prior to the commencement of the match. Substitutes not named may NOT take part in a match.

10. **BALLS**

U12, U13 & U14 (groups 2, 2g, 3, 4 and 4g) shall use a size 4 ball.

All other age groups shall use a size 5 ball.

The home team must provide at least two balls suitable for match use.

11. **OFFICIALS - REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES**

The Competitions Committee shall make provision to appoint Referees and Assistant Referees, if appropriate, who in any match shall not be members of either of the competing teams, except in an emergency.

An official appointed to a match shall make a written/e-mail acknowledgement to reach the Secretary within five days (Sunday excepted) of receipt of the appointment, failing which the appointment may be withdrawn. He/she shall also acknowledge match details received from the home team in writing/by e-mail.

The duties of the Referee and Assistant Referees shall be as defined in the Laws of the Game.

Any objection lodged with the Referee in accordance with these Rules must be reported in writing/by e-mail by the Referee to reach the Secretary within 3 days. A Referee must not adjudicate on the qualification of any competing team or player.

The expenses of officials shall be halved by the competing clubs except for the Final Tie when they shall be paid by Council.

<b>Fees</b>	<b>Referee</b>	<b>Assistant</b>
<b>Rounds Proper</b>	£25.00	£15.00
<b>Semi Finals</b>	£25.00	£15.00

**In the Final Tie Match Officials will receive a souvenir and their travel expenses.**

Half fee shall be paid in respect of any match cancelled before its commencement by the Referee because of ground or weather conditions subject to the Match Official actually being in attendance at the ground

12. **DRAW AND NOTIFICATION**

The competitions shall commence and be continued, the rounds shall be drawn, the dates fixed and the matches played as the Association may determine.

Matches must be played on the dates and times determined by the Association on the ground of the team first drawn and if the ground is not available, provision must be made to provide a ground or play on the opponents ground which must be notified to the Secretary. The Association shall decide the grounds for the playing of the Final Ties.

13. **MATCHES - PRIORITY**

Except by permission of the Competitions Committee, only matches in Cup Competitions of the Football Association shall take preference.

**14. MATCHES – DURATION**

Games in Groups 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 will normally be played on a Sunday. Games in Groups 2g, 4g and 6g will normally be played on a Saturday.

The duration of matches shall be as follows:-

Group 2 & 2g	-	60 minutes
Groups 3, 4 & 4g	-	70 minutes
Groups 5, 6 & 6g	-	80 minutes

If the scores are level at end of normal time, the result of the match shall be decided by each side taking part in a penalty kick competition in accordance with the procedures as laid down by FIFA.

If a match is postponed or is not completed through no fault of either team it must be played to the full time of the applicable group, ON THE FOLLOWING SATURDAY or SUNDAY, unless the competing teams mutually agree to an earlier date approved by the Secretary or on a date agreed by the Secretary.

**15. MATCHES - NOTIFICATION**

The home team must, not less than 5 days before a match, notify the visiting team in writing/by e-mail of its colours (shirts, shorts and stockings) or be fined a minimum of £10. When the colours are similar to the home team, the visiting team must change unless alternative arrangements are mutually agreed by the competing teams. The home team must inform the Match Officials in writing/by e-mail, not less than 5 days before a match, of match details, ground location etc., failure to do so will result in a minimum fine of £10.

**16. MATCHES - NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS**

Each team shall send notice, on the official team sheet, to the Secretary of the result of a match together with the surnames and Christian names who represented the team and the marks awarded to the Referee. Such notice should reach the Secretary within 5 days following the match. A team failing to comply with this rule shall be subject to a minimum fine of £10. If in default of payment the team will be dealt with by the Association as it thinks fit.

**Official Team Sheets must only be sent to the Association Secretary.**

**Both teams are required to communicate the result of the game by SMS Text immediately after the game has ended. In the unlikely event of problems being encountered with the SMS Text system, the result of the game must then be communicated to the County Office no later than the close of business on the first working day following the playing of the game. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in an automatic fine of £10 (for the first offence), and this will be increased for any further offences during the same season.**

**17. GROUNDS - FIELD OF PLAY**

The Association will permit each home team in these Competitions (except the Final Tie) to play on the ground on which it is accustomed to play. Goal nets are compulsory.

**18. GROUNDS - CHOICE**

A match shall be played on the ground of the team first drawn except with the approval of the Secretary. No monetary or other consideration shall be asked for, offered or paid in connection with negotiations for any change of venue.

Matches must be played on dates determined by the Association and if a ground is not available, provision must be made to provide a ground or play on the opponents ground.

The Association will allow matches to be played on artificial grass surface pitches provided they comply with current FA Requirements.

In the event of a match not being completed and neither team at fault it shall be replayed on the ground of the team which had the choice for the incomplete match.

The Association shall decide the ground for the playing of Final Ties.

**19. GROUNDS - UNSUITABILITY**

If the ground of a team having choice of ground is considered unsuitable, the opposing team may protest to the Association in writing/by e-mail, within 5 days of the receipt of the official intimation of the draw and the Association may order the match to be played on the original ground or on the ground of the appealing team or on a neutral ground. If the protest be not sustained the protesting team may be required to pay expenses incurred in deciding the protest.

Each team must take every precaution to keep its ground in playing condition and, if necessary, either team may apply to the Secretary who at the team's expense, shall require the Referee or some other official to examine the ground and decide as to its fitness for play in sufficient time to save expenses of unnecessary journeys being incurred by the Teams.

Subject to this Rule, the Referee shall have power to decide as to the fitness of the ground in all matches. If there is any doubt as to the fitness of the home team's pitch provision must be made to provide an alternative ground, or play on the ground of the opponents. Teams should warn their players that the game may be switched to an alternative ground or the opponents ground. On a Saturday, if there are any doubts to the fitness of the ground, an inspection by a match Referee, County FA or affiliated league official must take place before 6.00 p.m. on a Friday for a Saturday morning kick off. For evening games, if there are any doubts about the fitness of the ground, an inspection must take place no later than 2.00 p.m. on the day of the match. If the game has to be switched this should give teams time to make alternative travel arrangements. For Sunday games, if there are any doubts about the fitness of the ground, an inspection must take place no later than 6.00 p.m. on a Saturday for a Sunday morning kick off. For a Sunday afternoon kick off, if there are any doubts to the fitness of the ground, an inspection by a match Referee, County FA or affiliated league official must take place before 10.00 a.m. on the day of the match. If the game has to be switched this should give teams time to make alternative travel arrangements.

After two postponements of a tie by the home team then the tie will automatically switch to the ground of the away team.

North Riding County FA shall have the power to instruct that a ground be used for any given tie throughout the competition.

**20. FINAL TIE**

Any team failing or refusing to play in a Final Tie shall be adjudged to have been guilty of serious misconduct and shall be liable to be dealt with under the Rules of the Association.

**21. PROTESTS**

Any objections relating to the ground, goal posts or bars, or other appurtenances of the game shall not be entertained by the Association unless an objection has been lodged with the Referee by a representative of the complaining team in the presence of the representative of the opposing team before the commencement of the match and not later than 30 minutes before the official time of kick-off. The Referee shall require the responsible team to remedy the objection where practicable to do so without unduly delaying the kick-off.

When an objection has been lodged with the Referee a protest must be made by the complaining team to the Association.

Any protest, dispute or complaint of whatever kind in respect of a Cup game must be made in writing/by e-mail by one of the Competing Clubs from the game in question and must contain the particulars of the grounds upon which it is founded. Protests must be lodged with the Secretary, accompanied by a protest fee of £50 (£100 in respect of a Final Tie), not later than 5 days after the completion of the match or other occurrences to which it relates. The Secretary shall send a copy of such protest and particulars to the competitor protested against, who shall return an answer to the Secretary, in writing/by e-mail, who shall then send a copy of the answer to the protesting competitor. At the hearing of a protest each competitor may support his/her case by witnesses.

No protest, objection or complaint may be withdrawn except by leave of the Association.

The Association shall have power to require the protest fee to be forfeited into the funds of the Association in the event of the protest not being sustained or may return it should they consider the circumstances warrant such return. Where a protest is not sustained the Association may also require the protesting competitor to pay such amount as may be considered necessary towards defraying the expenses of the competitor protested against and contribute to the costs of the Commission.

The protest fee referred to in these Rules shall be £25, £50 in respect of a Final Tie.

If a member of the Association is connected with a team, player or official concerned in a protest, dispute or complaint he/she shall not sit on the adjudicating Committee while the protest or dispute is being considered.

**22. DISQUALIFICATION - TEAM OR PLAYER**

The Association shall have power to disqualify from any Competition or otherwise deal with any competing team or teams, player or players of any competing team which or who may be proved to be guilty of any breach of the Rules of the Association or of these Competitions.

**23. INTERPRETATION OF THE RULES:**

Anything not covered within these rules shall be dealt with by the Association, whose decision shall be final and binding.

