RULES OF THE FA SUNDAY CUP COMPETITION

1. CONTROL OF COMPETITION – RULES AND REGULATIONS

(a) The ownership, organisation, control and management of the Competition and any rights associated with it of any nature shall be vested entirely and exclusively in The Association.

(b) The National Game Board shall have the power to make, delete and amend regulations for the organisation, control and management of the Competition as it, from time to time, deems expedient (the "Competition Rules") subject only to the authority of the Board where such matters relate to financial or commercial matters. Unless explicitly provided for within the Competition Rules definitions of terms used within the Competition Rules are those included within the Rules of The Association for the relevant season.

(c) All Participants participating in any way in the Competition shall be bound by and comply with the Competition Rules (and any rules or regulations issued pursuant to the Competition Rules).

(d) The National Game Board shall have the power to make decisions on all matters arising out of or in relation to the organisation, control and management of the Competition (including as to eligibility and qualification) which shall be final and binding on all participants in the Competition. In relation to these and any other matters relating to the Competition but not specifically mentioned in the Competition Rules, the National Game Board shall have the power to take such action and make such decisions, orders, rulings and impose such penalties as it deems necessary and following such procedures as it considers appropriate and such shall, subject to Rule 29, be final and binding on all participants. In considering such matters, the National Game Board shall not be bound by any enactment or Rule of Law relating to the admissibility of evidence in proceeding before a Court of Law.

The Sunday Cup Committee shall have the power to appoint a Sub-Committee to exercise the powers of National Game Board in order to expedite decisions to ensure the progress of the Competition.

(e) The National Game Board may, at its sole discretion, appoint from time to time a Committee to take such action and make such decisions, orders, rulings and impose penalties on its behalf which shall be deemed decisions of the National Game Board.

(f) A Club participating in the Competition shall have only such rights in relation to the Competition (and any match in the Competition) as are expressly granted to the Club under these Competition Rules or by The Association in writing.

(g) In addition to any other action or penalty, the National Game Board shall have the power to disqualify any competing Club, or Player for any competing Club(s), which it determines to have breached the Rules of The Association or the Competition Rules (and any rules or regulations issued pursuant to the Competition Rules), and the decision of the National Game Board shall be final and binding.

2. CONTROL OF COMPETITION – COMMERCIAL CONTRACTS

(a) In relation to each match in the Competition, The Association shall itself be exclusively entitled to, or otherwise to authorise or grant to others, rights of access to and attendance at the ground of the Home Club ("Access Rights") for the purposes of transmitting or filming or otherwise recording on or by any media, any audio and/or visual materials depicting or describing all or any part or parts of a match ("the Copyright Materials").

(b) In relation to each match in the Competition, The Association shall itself be exclusively entitled throughout the world, or to grant to or otherwise authorise others:

(i) on a live, delayed, recorded or highlighted basis to broadcast or otherwise transmit by any method whatsoever (now known or hereinafter devised) the Copyright Materials by way of any and all forms of television or similar technology (now known or hereinafter devised) including, without limitation, free to air television, pay television, pay per view, "not-video-on-demand" internet or other on-line media and "video-on-demand" ("the Television Rights").

(ii) on a live or delayed basis to broadcast or to otherwise transmit the Copyright Materials (or audio) by way of radio broadcast or internet, or other on-line media or similar technology (now known or hereinafter devised) ("the Radio Rights").

(iii) to use, sell, publish, distribute and otherwise exploit the Copyright Materials in any manner whatsoever including, without limitation, clip licensing, videos, videograms, CD Rom, CDI, internet or other on line media ("the Footage Rights").

(c) In relation to each match in the Competition, the Association shall be exclusively entitled, either by itself or to authorise others, to use sell or otherwise exploit all commercial and other marketing rights associated with the Competition including, without limitation, fixture list copyright, sponsorship, supplier rights, licences, perimeter board branding or other commercial arrangements ("the Marketing Rights").

(d) Clubs shall be bound by and comply with the terms of all contracts entered into by The Association from time to time in relation to Access Rights, the Television Rights, the Radio Rights, the Footage Rights and the Marketing Rights (collectively "the Commercial Contracts") in relation to the Competition.

(e) Clubs shall provide access to grounds and provide all other rights, facilities and services as may be necessary to enable The Association to fulfil the Commercial Contracts.

(f) The Clubs acknowledge that The Association may issue more detailed rules and regulations regarding the provisions of the Commercial Contracts (including, but not limited to in relation to, broadcasting, perimeter board advertising, interview backdrops, centre circle banners, side of goal mats, substitute/added time boards, tickets and match programmes) and the Clubs agree that they shall be bound by such rules and regulations as amended from time to time by The Association.

(g) Each Club undertakes to indemnify and keep indemnified The Association and its officers, directors, employees and authorised representatives from and against any claims for direct or consequential loss or damage by any party to a Commercial Contract caused or otherwise attributable to any failure or any breach by the Club fully to perform or observe its obligations and responsibilities under these provisions.

(h) Nothing in the above shall be construed or interpreted so as to prevent or restrict Clubs, subject to applicable FIFA, UEFA or other rules or regulations or decisions of The Association, from entering into commercial arrangements in relation to matches in the Competition which do not in any way conflict with the Commercial Contracts and duties of Clubs as set out herein.

(i) In relation to the Commercial Contracts, the Association shall make provision for payments to Clubs as it shall from time to time consider appropriate.

3. NAME / LOGOS AND IMAGES OF THE COMPETITION AND IMAGES OF THE CUP

(a) The Competition shall be called "The Football Association Sunday Cup Competition". The Competition shall be marketed under the title 'The FA Carlsberg Sunday Cup' (the "Official Title").

(b) Each Club shall include the Official Title at least once on all (if any) materials produced by or on behalf of it which relate to the Competition (including, but not limited to, tickets, programmes, press releases and (where possible) scoreboard displays) and (where possible) shall refer to the Official Title at least once over (any) public address system operating on the day of each FA Sunday Cup match.

(c) The Association shall from time to time issue a FA Sunday Cup Logo. The FA Sunday Cup Logo may incorporate branding for the lead FA Sunday Cup sponsor.

(d) Each participating Club shall include The FA Sunday Cup Logo on all FA Sunday Cup communication materials produced by or on behalf of it (including, but not limited to, the front page of each FA Sunday Cup match programme, match tickets (if it is not possible to include The FA Sunday Cup Logo on tickets the Club shall include a reference to the Official Title), fixture posters, stadium giant screens (if any) and Club websites).

(e) The Association may from time to time issue images of The FA Sunday Cup to Clubs. If so, a Club which wishes to use an image of The FA Sunday Cup shall use the image issued by The Association and will follow any directions issued by The FA in relation to the use of such image.

4. ORGANISATION OF THE COMPETITION

(a) The Competition shall be on a knock-out basis.

(b) All Rounds prior to the Fifth Round shall be played on a regional basis. The National Game Board shall decide whether the remaining Rounds shall also be played on a geographical basis.

5. ELIGIBLE CLUBS

(a) Participation in the Competition shall be open to all Clubs taking part in a Sunday League sanctioned by The Association or an Affiliated Association.

(b) The National Game Board may reject the application of any Club to participate in the Competition at its entire discretion.

(c) A Club which has been allowed to participate in the Competition may not assign or otherwise transfer the ability/right to participate without the prior written approval of the National Game Board. A request for transfer must be in writing, setting out the details of the intended transferee and the reason for the transfer. The decision whether or not to approve a transfer shall be made by the National Game Board in its absolute discretion. In considering a request for transfer the National Game Board may assess the request from any Club allowed to participate in the Competition in relation to the minimum requirements set out at Rule A 3 (g) of The Association for that season. The National Game Board may use the requirements of Rule A 3 (g) and any other conditions in its absolute discretion in deciding whether to approve the request. A transfer shall be granted only on condition that the transferee shall be treated for the purposes of these Competition Rules and the Rules of The Association as being the same entity as the transferor.

(d) If a Club is removed from the League in which it is playing **or its League fixtures are suspended**, once it has been accepted into the Competition, the National Game Board has the power to remove the Club from the Competition.

6. ENTRY DATE

A Club wishing to participate in the Competition must complete the application and payment process on or before 1 August in the season previous to the season in which such Club proposes to compete in the Competition.

7. PROVISIONS FOR WITHDRAWING FROM THE COMPETITION

(a) Any Club intending to withdraw from the Competition must notify its intention to do so to The Association and the opposing Club, not less than eight days before the date fixed for playing the match.

(b) A Club failing to comply with this Rule shall be reported to the National Game Board, who shall have power to compel such offending Club to pay the expenses incurred and to take such other action as the National Game Board considers appropriate.

(c) If a Club decides to withdraw from the Competition after a postponed or an abandoned match, notice must be given to The Association and its opponent immediately.

(d) A Club failing to give satisfactory reason for withdrawing from the Competition shall in addition to any other action considered appropriate not be allowed to enter the Competition in the following season and shall be liable to such fine as the National Game Board considers appropriate.

8. DRAWS FOR ROUNDS AND KICK OFF TIMES

(a) The Clubs competing in each Round of the Competition shall be drawn in couples. The Couples shall play a match subject to the Laws of the Game and the winners compete in the next Round and be drawn in the same manner. This shall be continued until the Final of the Competition.

(b) After the draw for each Round is made, notice shall be given to each Club of the name of its opponent Club, and the date and time when the match shall be played. All matches in each Round shall be played on such date and at such time as the National Game Board shall determine.

(c) The time of kick-off shall be 2.00pm unless mutually agreed otherwise, subject to the approval of the National Game Board. For matches played in November, December and January, the kick-off time shall be 1.00pm. The National Game Board shall have power to

order that a kick-off time is changed, as it deems appropriate. Any late kick-off shall be reported by the Referee to The Association and the National Game Board shall have power to impose a fine.

(d) Where approved floodlighting is available, the National Game Board shall have power to order that the kick-off time shall be 3.00pm.

(e) Immediately following publication by The Association of the draw for each Round, the Club first drawn must communicate with the opponent Club to notify the location of the ground and other match details and notify The Association of these arrangements by completing the Match Arrangements form which must be received by The Association and away Club within seven days of the date of the draw.

(f) Clubs shall not mutually arrange to play a match in Lieu of a Sunday Cup match.

9. VENUE FOR MATCHES

(a) *Venue*

(i) The venue for each Match (save for the Semi-Finals and Final which will played at a venue selected by the National Game Board) will be that of the first named Club (providing it meets the requirements of the Competition Rules) unless the consent of the National Game Board has been obtained to any change of venue.

(ii) No monetary or other consideration shall be asked for, offered or paid in connection with negotiations for change of venue.

(iii) A match shall not be played on a neutral ground without the consent of the National Game Board.

(iv) The National Game Board shall have power to order that any match be played on an alternative ground or date, other than a Sunday, if it is considered appropriate and necessary.

(v) No other activity must be played on the pitch, on the day of the match, prior to an FA Sunday Cup tie.

(b) *Protests Regarding the Suitability of Ground*

(i) A Club may protest to the National Game Board that the ground of the Home Club is unsuitable for the match. Such protest must be made to the National Game Board and must be accompanied by a fee of £250, which may be forfeited if the protest is not sustained.

(ii) The National Game Board shall have the power to consider the protest in such manner and following such procedures as it considers appropriate. The National Game Board may amongst other things order the match to be played on the ground of the protesting Club, or on a neutral ground. The payment of the costs incurred by either Club and The Association incidental to the protest shall be at the discretion of the National Game Board.

10. DURATION OF MATCHES

(a) The duration of each match shall be 90 minutes, except in special cases, provided for in these Competition Rules, where an extra 30 minutes shall be played. The Referee shall allow for time wasted or lost through accident or other cause. The Referee is the sole judge of allowance of time whether lost through accident or other cause and his decision on this matter is not subject to appeal.

(b) The half-time interval shall be 15 minutes for all ties in the Competition.

(c) Both teams shall enter the field of play together five minutes prior to the kick-off time, along with the Match Officials.

(d) *Extra Time and Kicks from the Penalty Mark*

(i) When a match is drawn after 90 minutes, an extra 30 minutes shall be played and 15 minutes shall be played in each half.

(ii) If the score is still level at the end of extra-time, the winner shall be determined by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the procedure adopted by The International Football Association Board.

11. POSTPONED AND ABANDONED MATCHES (MATCHES PLAYED PRIOR TO THE SEMI-FINALS)

(a) *Matches which are Postponed or Abandoned*

(i) When a match has been postponed, or is abandoned before the completion of 90 minutes and neither Club being at fault, it shall be played on the chosen ground of the first drawn Club on the following Sunday.

(ii) If a match is abandoned at any stage after the completion of 90 minutes and neither Club being at fault, the result at 90 minutes shall stand and the match shall be played on the ground of the Club second drawn on the following Sunday.

(iii) If a first match is postponed on two occasions, the National Game Board shall have the power to order the match to be played on the ground of the Club second drawn.

(iv) Matches abandoned through the fault of the Clubs shall be dealt with by the National Game Board.

(b) The National Game Board shall have the power to vary these arrangements if it is deemed necessary.

(c) Any Club failing to fulfil a fixture shall be dealt with by the National Game Board.

12. REPORTING RESULTS

(a) Each Club shall send the result of the match, with the names of their players competing and goalscorers, together with the marking of the Referee's performance to be received at The Association within six days of the match.

(b) The Home Club shall communicate the result to The Association and designated press agencies immediately after the end of the match, according to the instructions issued prior to the match.

13. FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

(a) *Dimensions of Field of Play and Ground Facilities*

(i) **3G football turf** may be used in the Competition provided the pitch is listed on The Associations register of **3G football turf** pitches and with the prior consent of The Association. This should be requested at the time of entry to the Competition in each Season, provided that the artificial turf meets the following conditions:-

(a) the pitch shall be surfaced with **3G football turf** that has laboratory type approval according to the FIFA Quality Concept for Football Turf (2009 edition) – FIFA Recommended One Star quality level or the International Artificial Turf Standard (2009 edition) and have satisfied the performance and construction requirements at the time of its last annual assessment. Where an artificial surface is installed, the FIFA Performance Test must be completed by no later than 28 February each year and the result and details submitted to **The FA and** League by 31 March. Any remedial work must be carried out once the season ends and the pass Performance Test Certificate submitted to **The FA and** League by 31 May.

(b) the **3G football turf**, including run-offs, shall be one continuous playing surface and shall be green in colour. All line markings shall be in accordance with the Laws of Association Football.

(c) the home Club shall allow their opposition the opportunity to use the pitch and train on the surface two hours prior to the kick-off and there must not be another game or event on the pitch following the training period. If it is intended to water the pitch before the match, the pitch shall be watered prior to the training period.

(d) the Club using the **3G football turf** shall advise their opposition at least 10 days before the match of limitations or recommendations on the types of boot or stud that may be used on the surface.

(e) the Club shall provide all necessary assistance and data relating to player assessments, injury records, maintenance etc as requested by The FA, FIFA or UEFA.

(ii) The dimensions of the field of play for all matches shall be as follows:

Maximum length: 110 metres

Minimum length: 100 metres

Maximum breadth: 75 metres

Minimum breadth: 64 metres

(iii) Goal nets must be used in all matches.

(iv) The playing area must be enclosed fully by a permanent or temporary barrier, the only exception being those areas and spaces excluded from spectator viewing. Wire may not be used in rope form to connect the posts.

(v) Dressing and washing accommodation must be separate for each team and Match Officials. Dressing Rooms must have heating and hot water and be secure and independent of any public access. Dressing room areas must be cleaned and maintained to a satisfactory standard.

(vi) Separate toilets must be provided for dressing rooms used by players and Match Officials, which must not be available for spectator use.

(vii) Each Club shall provide separate areas adjacent to the pitch for the sole use of team officials, medical staff and substitutes. Such designated areas shall be clearly marked “home” and “away”, have direct access to the pitch, be located as near as possible equidistant from the halfway line and be under cover. The team benches should also comply with Competition Rule 28.

(viii) Hospitality for Visiting Club Officials and Match Officials must be provided at half time and full time.

(ix) Refreshment facilities for spectators must be provided. Glasses, Glass bottles or cans containing alcohol are not permitted outside of the Clubhouse and must not be brought into grounds. No alcohol is to be consumed in the ground or premises during the period of any match, except as may be governed by the terms of the club licence with regard to its own members, but, not withstanding such, no alcohol is to be taken or consumed outside the licensed clubhouse or any other authorised area during such match period or brought into the ground.

(x) A technical area is to be provided. The technical area extends one metre on either side of the designated seated area and extends forward up to a distance of one metre from the touch-line. Markings are to be used to define this area.

(xi) A telephone must be connected and available at the ground.

(b) *Playing Condition of the Ground*

(i) Each Club must take every precaution to ensure that its ground is in a fit playing condition. In the event of doubt regarding the condition of the pitch, the Home Club shall immediately notify The Association to enable a Referee to conduct a pitch inspection.

(ii) A Referee shall whenever possible examine the ground and decide as to its fitness for play in sufficient time to save the expense of unnecessary journeys being incurred by Clubs.

(iii) Subject to this Rule, the Referees shall have power to decide as to the fitness of the ground in all matches.

(iv) The Referee must report to the ground 90 minutes before the time of kick-off. If necessary, the Home Club or The Association may, by notice, require the Referee to

visit the ground more than 90 minutes before the time of kick-off any time during the season.

(c) *Floodlighting*

(i) Where it has been agreed to play a match under floodlight conditions, the National Game Board shall have the power to order that the kick-off time shall be 3.00pm.

(ii) The Referee will decide at what point in the game the floodlights shall be switched on. This will necessitate a discussion with responsible Officials of the competing Clubs before the game, when a signal must be agreed.

14. CLUB COLOURS

(a) Where the colours (shirts, shorts or stockings) of two competing Clubs are similar (as determined by the National Game Board), the away Club must change. In the Semi-Final where the colours are similar the second drawn team must change. In Final Tie where the colours are similar a coin will be tossed to determine the colours. The toss of coin shall be made by a representative of The Association immediately after the Semi-Finals.

(b) In the event of the Clubs not agreeing upon the colours to be worn, the National Game Board shall decide. Goalkeepers must wear colours which distinguish them from the other players, and the Match Officials.

(c) Clubs' colours must not clash with the Black and White outfit worn by the Match Officials.

(d) Players' shirts shall be clearly numbered on the back in accordance with the Official Team Sheet. No change of numbers during the match shall be allowed except on a change of Goalkeeper or where a player has been required by the Referee to change his shirt because of a blood injury. The Captain of each team shall wear a distinguishing armband to indicate his status.

(e) Advertising may be worn on players' clothing in accordance with the Rules of The Association.

(f) In the Final, the participating Clubs may be required to wear sleeve badges branded with The FA Sunday Cup Logo.

15. PROVISIONS CONCERNING PLAYERS

(a) No player under written contract shall be eligible to compete.

(b) Each team participating in a match shall represent the full available strength of each competing Club.

(c) A Club may at its discretion use three substitute players at any time in a match. A substitution can only be made when play is stopped for any reason and the Referee has given permission. A maximum of five substitutes may be nominated and they must be included on the Official Team Sheet handed to the Referee before the match.

(d) All players shall be qualified as players according to the Rules of the Association.

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

(f) A player who has been suspended according to the disciplinary procedures under the Rules of The Association may play in a postponed or replayed match after the term of his suspension has expired.

(g) A substitute who does not play in a match is entitled to play for another Club in the Competition in the same season.

(h) (i) Each Club shall provide a list of names of players taking part in the game (including the names of substitutes) to the Referee and a representative of their opponents in the presence of the Referee at least 30 minutes, in matches prior to the Semi-Final, and 60 minutes in the Semi-Final and Final, before the time of kick-off (the "Official Team Sheet").

(ii) Any Club failing to do so will be liable to be fined by the National Game Board a sum not exceeding £100. Should any nominated player or substitute sustain an injury after the submission of the Official Team Sheet to the Referee and before the kick-off, he may be replaced without fine if he is injured warming up after the exchange of the

Official Team Sheet, provided the Referee and opponents is informed before the commencement of the match.

(i) In all Rounds of the Competition a player shall be a "registered player" of his Club under the Rules. In the case of postponed or replayed matches, only those players shall be allowed to play who were eligible to play at the time fixed for playing the original Round, except for under the provisions of Competition Rule 15(f).

(j) (i) A "registered player" is one who is registered for his Club with a Sunday League in which his Club competes in the current season. Any such registration must have been received and accepted by the League by 12 noon on the Saturday previous to the date fixed for playing the round, and the registration must be continuous through to the date of the match[1].

(ii) An International Transfer Certificate for Players coming from overseas associations (including Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland) takes precedence over a Player's registration. Therefore, this is also required by 12 noon on the Saturday previous to the date fixed for playing the round for the Player's registration to be valid.

(k) In order to be eligible for the Semi-Final and Final, the players must have been correctly registered and eligible for the Fifth Round of the Competition.

16. VALIDITY OF PLAYERS' QUALIFICATIONS

(a) The National Game Board shall have power to call upon a Player, and/or the Club to which he is registered, or for which he played, to prove that the Player is qualified according to the Competition Rules.

(b) **Subject to (c) below, where an ineligible player plays for a club in a Competition match, the National Game Board shall remove the club from the Competition, and may impose further penalties against the club**.

(c) **However, where the club satisfies the National Game Board that the club (or any of its officers) did not know and could not reasonably have known, even had it made every reasonable enquiry (with the exercise of the utmost caution), that the player was ineligible, the club shall not be removed from the Competition but may still be subject to any other penalty. (e.g. fine, ordered to replay the match).**

17. PROGRAMME

A Programme or Team Sheet must be produced for spectators with details of both teams.

18. TEAM BENCHES

(a) In all Rounds of the Competition, the number of Clubs players and Officials seated on the team benches, in the designated technical area, must not exceed 11 unless the team bench facility provides more than 11 individual seats.

(b) Only one person has the authority to convey tactical instructions to the players during the match. This person shall be the Team Manager or the Team Coach. He is allowed to move to the edge of the technical area to issue instructions to his team.

(c) All Team Officials and substitutes seated on the bench shall be listed on the Official Team Sheet when it is submitted to the Match Officials. Only those persons listed on the Official Team Sheet shall be permitted in the technical area.

(d) The occupants of the technical area must behave in a responsible manner at all times. Misconduct by occupants of this area will be reported by the Referee to The Association, who shall have the power to impose sanctions as deemed fit.

(e) With the exception of the Team Manager, the Team Coach and any substitutes who are warming up or warming down, all other personnel are to remain seated on the team bench. The Team Manager or Team Coach is allowed to move to the edge of the technical area to issue instructions to his team.

[1] There is no dispensation for any players after the Round deadline to be eligible to play in a tie.

(f) In the Semi-Final and Final, Clubs will be advised by The Association of the number of technical staff and substitutes who may occupy the team benches and a list of the permitted number of authorised personnel must be provided by each Club to the Referee at least one hour before kick-off.

19. PROVISIONS CONCERNING MATCH OFFICIALS

(a) (i) Match Officials shall be appointed by The Association. Neither past nor present members of either of the contending Clubs shall be eligible to be appointed.

(ii) The Association reserves the right to appoint a Reserve Official to officiate in the event of an appointed Match Official failing to arrive or being incapacitated.

(iii) In the event of any of the Match Officials failing to arrive or being incapacitated, the two Clubs shall agree to a substitute, providing one is available who is currently eligible to officiate in a League equivalent to the lowest level of football in which either of the two teams participates.

(b) The fees and expenses of all Match Officials appointed by The Association to officiate in any match prior to the Semi-Finals and Final shall be paid by the Club upon whose ground the match takes place unless otherwise instructed by the National Game Board.

(c) *Scale of Expenses to be Paid to Match Officials*

(i) In all rounds of the Competition, standard class railway fares at the cheapest available rate operating on the day of the match may be allowed.

(ii) An allowance of £0.40 per mile will be allowed to all officials officiating in the Competition who travel by private car.

(d) *Scale of Fees to be paid to Match Officials*

(i) *Matches preceding the Fifth Round:*

Referee, £30.00; Assistant Referees, £15.00 each.

(ii) *Fifth Round matches:*

Referee, £40.00; Assistant Referees, £20.00 each; Fourth Official, £20.00

(iii) *Semi-Finals:*

Referee, £60.00; Assistant Referees, £30.00 each; Fourth Official £30.00.

(iv) *Final:*

Referee, £100.00; Assistant Referees, £50.00 each; Fourth Official, £50.00 and a Souvenir Medal each.

(e) In the event of The Association giving permission for a pitch inspection prior to a match, by an Official other than the Match Referee, such Official shall be entitled to expenses plus half the match fee if not local. The Home Club will pay any expenses.

(f) Match Officials are entitled to their travelling expenses if incurred and half their fees if the match to which they were appointed is not played.

(g) The Home Club must notify the Match Officials of the precise details of the match, this is to include a map with the location of the ground indicated, kick-off time, whether extra time is to be played, if necessary, colours of both teams and other details to be received not later than five days prior to the match by the Match Officials who shall acknowledge receipt.

(h) Match Officials shall acknowledge acceptance of appointments for all matches in the Competition to The Association.

(i) The duties of the Match Officials shall be as defined in the Laws of the Game.

20. ADMISSION TO MATCHES - SALE OF TICKETS

(a) Wherever possible, an admission charge shall be made, the minimum admission to matches in the Competition shall be £2.00.

(b) A higher admission charge may be mutually agreed between the Clubs concerned.

(c) When an admission charge is agreed, each Club shall be entitled to 10 complimentary tickets.

(d) The admission prices are to be confirmed in writing to The Association and the visiting club as part of the Match Arrangement Form.

(e) All questions in dispute must be immediately referred to The Association for settlement.

21. PROCEEDS OF MATCHES

(a) The net gate receipts of a match preceding the Semi-Finals (except replayed matches in consequence of a breach of the Rules) shall be the total ticket sales for the match less VAT if applicable, the travelling expenses of the Visiting Club, the fees and expenses of the Match Officials, and other match expenses allowed under the Rules. The National Game Board shall have the power from time to time to issue instructions as to what shall and shall not be allowed as a match expense.

(b) The net gate receipts shall be approximately divided immediately after the match. A full statement of account for the match shall be prepared by the Club playing at its home ground, on the prescribed Statement of Receipts and Payments Form, and payment shall be made in full to the Visiting Club within 14 days of the match. A Club failing to comply with this clause may be ordered to pay a fine and any other punishment, including non-admission to the Competition, may be imposed as determined by the National Game Board.

(c) Any Club failing to comply with these provisions may at the discretion of the National Game Board:

(i) be ordered to pay daily interest on the money due calculated at 5% per annum over Barclays Bank Base Rate in force for the time being from the due date to the actual date of payment, and/or;

(ii) be removed from the Competition for the current and/or future seasons and any other order as is deemed appropriate until such time as the money has been paid.

(d) A Club that alleges that it has been financially disadvantaged by another Club failing to meet its financial obligations under these Rules must bring the circumstances to the attention of the National Game Board in writing. The National Game Board shall consider the circumstances and take any action that it considers appropriate under the Competition Rules.

(e) When a match is postponed through causes over which neither Club has any control, the expenses shall be paid out of the receipts of the match when played.

(f) In any match ordered to be replayed in consequence of a breach of the Competition Rules, the Club in default shall not receive any share of the gate receipts of any nature of such replayed match (except the approved travelling costs in accordance with Competition Rule 24) without the consent of the National Game Board, and such consent shall only be given under special circumstances. If consent is not given, any such share shall be remitted to The Association.

(g) A Club may at its own expense erect temporary stands and take the proceeds in cases where the opposing Club declines to join in the expense of the erection. A temporary stand becomes a permanent one if used after the match for which it was erected.

(h) In cases where the gate receipts are not sufficient to cover the entire expenses of the match, the deficit shall be shared by the two competing Clubs.

(i) In the Semi-Finals and Final, the net proceeds, after payment of the match expenses shall be divided as follows:

45% to each Club

10% to The Association

22. PAYMENT OF EXPENSES

(a) *Travelling Expenses*

(i) In all Rounds, match expenses shall include travelling expenses, actually incurred, which must not exceed £3.00 per coach mile. If private cars are used, then the expenses which can be claimed will be for a maximum of five cars at £0.40 per mile.

(ii) The travelling expenses for the Visiting Club are to be calculated on a direct route from the Club's headquarters and the total mileage based on a return journey must be agreed between both Clubs prior to the first match.

(iii) When travelling by rail, the cost of 20 standard class fares at the cheapest available rate may be claimed.

(b) *Hotel Expenses*

(i) Where agreement concerning hotel accommodation has been reached, Clubs must confirm the agreement in writing and send a copy to The Association.

(ii) Where mutual agreement concerning hotel accommodation cannot be reached, and the visiting Club considers it necessary or desirable to claim hotel expenses, written application must be made to The Association with a copy to the home Club at least seven days in advance of the first match. The National Game Board shall have the power at its absolute discretion whether or not to grant permission.

(iii) The grounds for making such an application are that it would be necessary or desirable for the visiting Club to leave its Headquarters before 8.00am on the day of the match, alternatively, not be possible to arrive back at its Headquarters within five hours travelling time of the conclusion of the match. Expenses, which may be claimed, if actually incurred, shall not exceed £30 per person for up to 20 persons. In the Semi-Final and Final, expenses, which may be claimed, if actually incurred, shall not exceed £50 per person for up to 20 persons.

The grounds for making an application are that if the travelling time exceeds five hours which includes a stop of not more than forty five minutes then expenses can be allowed with travelling times based on Auto Route details.

(iv) A Club that has been granted hotel expenses by The Association must stay within a 30 mile radius of the ground where the match will be played.

23. DUAL INTERESTS AND ASSOCIATION

(a) Save with the prior written consent of the National Game Board, no Club may participate in the Competition at any stage where that Club is interested in another Club which is participating in the Competition or wishing to participate in the Competition (the "Second Club"). The Second Club shall similarly not be permitted to participate in the Competition at any stage.

(b) Save with the prior written consent of the National Game Board, no Club may participate in the Competition at any time where a person, or any associate of that person, is interested in such Club and a Second Club participating or wishing to participate in the Competition. The Second Club shall similarly not be permitted to participate in the Competition at any stage.

(c) For the purposes of this clause, a Club or person, or associate of that person, shall be deemed to be interested in a Club if that Club, person or associate:

(i) holds or deals in (or has made any application to hold or deal in or underwrite any issue of) the securities or shares of that Club; or

(ii) is a member of that Club; or

(iii) is involved in any capacity whatsoever in the management or administration of that Club; or

(iv) has any power whatsoever to influence the financial, commercial or business affairs or the management or administration of that Club; or

(v) has lent money to or guaranteed the debts or obligations of that Club, otherwise than in the ordinary course of banking at arms length.

(d) The holding or acquisition by any person (but not a Club) of not more than 10% of the issued share capital of any Club may be disregarded for the purposes of this clause provided that those shares are, in the opinion of the National Game Board, held purely for investment purposes only.

(e) For the purposes of this clause, an associate of a person shall be deemed to be:

(i) anyone of a close relationship with that person who, in the opinion of the National Game Board, is or is likely to be acting with that person; or

(ii) any company of which that person is a director or over which that person is able to exercise control or influence; or

(iii) any person who is an employee or partner of that person or is in close relationship with any such employee or partner; or

(iv) if that person or any associate of that person is a company, then any holding company or subsidiary of that company or a subsidiary of its holding company, or any director or employee of the company or any such holding company or subsidiary or person in a close relationship with any such director or employee; or

(v) if that person has an agreement or arrangement (whether legally binding or not) with any other person in relation to the exercise of their voting power in a Club or in relation to the holding or disposal of their interests in a Club, then that other person.

(f) Any act or thing prohibited in the above sections of this clause in relation to a Club or a person if done by such Club or person itself is likewise prohibited through agents, trusts, trustees, nominees, or other third parties.

24. MATCH GRANT

(a) A Match Grant shall be sent to each Club for all rounds prior to the Semi Final, within seven working days of the completion of each round. The sum paid shall be determined by the National Game Board from time to time.

(b) In the event that a Club is found to have breached the Competition Rules the National Game Board may, in accordance with Rule 1(d), order the repayment of any Match Grant earned by such Club.

25. PROVISIONS FOR THE SEMI-FINALS

(a) The Association shall fix the grounds for the Semi-Final and shall have direct control of the arrangements.

(b) When a Semi-Final has resulted in a draw after extra time, the winners shall be determined by the taking of free kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the procedures adopted by the International Football Association Board.

(c) Competing Clubs must settle all ticket accounts with the staging Club/Organisation within 14 days of the match.

(d) If the Semi-Final is postponed or abandoned it shall be played as directed by the National Game Board.

(e) The venue staging a Semi-Final shall be entitled to a payment agreed by the National Game Board.

26. PROVISIONS FOR THE FINAL

(a) The Association shall fix the ground for the Final and shall have direct control of the arrangements.

(b) When the Final has resulted in a draw after extra time, the winners shall be determined by the taking of free kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the procedures adopted by the International Football Association Board.

(c) Competing Clubs must settle all ticket accounts with the staging Club/Organisation within 14 days of the match.

(d) If the Final is postponed or abandoned it shall be played as directed by the National Game Board.

(e) The venue staging a Final shall be entitled to a payment agreed by the National Game Board.

27. THE FA SUNDAY CUP / FINALIST MEDALS

(a) The Cup is the property of The Association. When the winning Club shall have been ascertained, the Association shall loan the Cup to such Club, which shall be responsible for its return to the Association on or before the first day in March in the ensuing year, in good order and condition. The Association reserves the right to request the return of the Vase at any time by giving seven days notice. Should the Cup be lost, destroyed or damaged by fire or any other cause whilst under the care or custody of the Club, the latter shall refund to the Association the amount of its current insured value or the cost of thorough repair in addition to any other penalty which The Association may impose.

(b) In addition to the Cup, the Association shall present 25 medals to playing staff and officials of both Clubs in the Final. When a player taking part is ordered to leave the field of play for misconduct, the medal to which he may be entitled may be withheld at the discretion of the National Game Board.

28. PROVISIONS CONCERNING PROTESTS

(a) All issues relating to the interpretation of the Competition Rules, shall be referred to the National Game Board, whose decision shall be, subject to Rule 29, final and binding. The National Game Board shall consider any such matter in such manner and following such procedures as it considers appropriate. The National Game Board shall not be bound by any enactment or Rule of Law relating to the admissibility of evidence in proceeding before a Court of Law.

(b) Where a Club wishes to protest that here 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 protest must be received by The Association accompanied by a fee of £100, within two days of the match to which it relates (Sundays not included). The fee may be forfeited to The Association in the event of the protest not being sustained.

(c) The National Game Board may make such orders as it considers appropriate in relation to any issue or protest referred to it. The National Game Board may make such orders as it considers appropriate as to the costs incurred by the parties or The Association.

(d) Any protest relating to the ground, goal posts or bars or other appurtenances of the game shall not be considered by the National Game Board 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.

(e) Where an objection has been lodged with the Referee and Home Club as above, a protest must be made to The Association and neither objection nor protest may be withdrawn, except by leave of the National Game Board.

(f) 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 days of receipt of the protest.

(g) Members of the National Game Board directly connected with a Club concerned in a protest shall not have any involvement in the consideration of the matter.

(h) A Club, or 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 the prior written consent of the National Game Board. 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 National Game Board.

29. PROVISIONS CONCERNING APPEALS

(a) A Club that is expelled from the Competition may appeal against that decision to an appeal board comprising of 3 members of Council selected by the Chairman of Council or his nominee. Any such appeal shall only be permitted on one or more of the following grounds:

(i) The National Game Board or a Committee appointed by the National Game Board misinterpreted/failed to comply with the procedures relevant to the hearing of the charge.

(ii) The National Game Board or a Committee appointed by the National Game Board came to a decision on the facts of the case which no reasonable body could have reached; or

(iii) The National Game Board or a Committee appointed by the National Game Board imposed a sanction that is excessive.

(b) Any appeal must be made in accordance with such procedures as may be determined by the Association from time to time.

(c) For the avoidance of doubt, a Club may not appeal against any penalty imposed on it other than expulsion from the Competition.

30. NOTICES

All notices required to be given to The Association by any of these Competition Rules shall be addressed to the Competitions Manager, at the offices of The Association.