



Birmingham County Football Association

Membership Rules

ADOPTED EGM 1 JULY 2021

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INTRODUCTION

In accordance with PART 5: MEMBERS: BECOMING AND CEASING TO BE A MEMBER of the Articles of Association for Birmingham County Football Association Limited, reproduced below, the Directors have established the rules for Membership of the Association.

PART 5: MEMBERS

BECOMING AND CEASING TO BE A MEMBER

20. Applications for Membership

- 20.1 The subscribers to the memorandum shall be members of the Association.
- 20.2 No person shall become a member of the Association unless:
 - 20.2.1 That person has completed an application for membership in a form approved by the directors; and
 - 20.2.2 That person has paid the annual subscription.
- 20.3 The directors may from time to time establish rules for membership of the Association setting out, inter alia, criteria for membership, categories of membership, rights and obligations of members, and fees payable by members, provided that such rules do not:
 - 20.3.1 Conflict with the articles; and
 - 20.3.2 Allow open membership to all without discrimination on any grounds.

21. Termination of Membership

- 21.1 A person shall immediately cease to be a member (provided that at least one member remains on the Register of Members thereafter):
 - 21.1.1 If the member is removed by notice in writing to the Association signed by a majority of the remaining members;
 - 21.1.2 If by notice in writing to the Association, the member resigns his or her membership;
 - 21.1.3 If he or she dies; or
 - 21.1.4 If he or she fails to pay any subscription as soon as it is due and payable.

22. Transfer of Membership

- 22.1 Membership of the Association is not transferable.

RULES FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE ASSOCIATION

1. Application of the Rules of The Football Association Limited (The Association)

- 1.1. The Association shall have as members (which, for the avoidance of doubt, does not mean 'shareholders' or owners) those Clubs and Affiliated Associations such as Council may approve, and which are otherwise qualified hereunder
- 1.2. All Clubs and Affiliated Associations shall play and/or administer football in conformity with these Rules and also:
 - 1.2.1. The Laws of the Game and
 - 1.2.2. The statutes and regulations of FIFA and UEFA which are from time to time in force

2. Conduct of Members

- 2.1. Every Participant in Membership of the BCFA agrees to be bound by the Articles of Association of the Company and is deemed to have given their assent to any rules and regulations made pursuant thereto including the Rules and Regulations of The Association
- 2.2. In addition, each Member Club must abide by any FA Codes of Conduct from time to time in force

3. Disciplinary Procedures

- 3.1. All matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game as determined by IFAB
- 3.2. Any breach of this instruction shall be deemed as misconduct and shall be dealt with by the BCFA or The Association in accordance with Relevant Rules and Regulations and/or FA Discipline Regulations from time to time in force

4. Matters not Provided for in Membership Rules

- 4.1. In all matters which are not especially provided for in these Membership Rules and in which the common rules and practices of football are concerned, the mandatory Rules or any relevant principles and policies established by The FA shall apply
- 4.2. All Participants which have Membership with the BCFA, either directly or indirectly, are responsible for the observance of these Rules, Regulations and Byelaws
- 4.3. In all cases where these Rules, Regulations and Byelaws are at variance with those of The Football Association, The Rules of The Football Association shall take precedence

MEMBERSHIP RULES FOR CLUBS

5. Eligibility of Membership

- 5.1. All Clubs in membership of the Birmingham County Football Association Limited (BCFA) shall satisfy the BCFA Board that they are properly constituted Clubs and playing football according to the Laws of the Game as approved by the International Football Association Board (IFAB)
- 5.2. Membership of the BCFA is dependent on having:
 - 5.2.1. For ALL CLUBS – Valid Public Liability Insurance as included within the Affiliation Fee as from time to time in force
 - 5.2.2. For ADULT TEAMS ONLY – Personal Accident Insurance where the period of cover is for the playing season to which the Membership relates and where the Temporary Total Disablement (TTD) – (Employed) Benefit has a minimum Sum Insured of £30.00 per week
 - 5.2.3. For YOUTH TEAMS ONLY – Personal Accident Insurance where the period of cover is for the playing season to which the Membership relates and where the minimum Benefits and levels of Sum Insured are, from time to time, determined by The Association
 - 5.2.4. The BCFA will require ALL CLUBS to provide a copy of such valid Personal Accident Insurance at the time of affiliation and at any other time it may consider
- 5.3. All Associations, Leagues and other Combinations affiliated to the BCFA shall also satisfy the BCFA Board that they consist of properly constituted Clubs

6. Fees

- 6.1. The Club Affiliation Fee payable shall be determined by the football level of the highest ranked team in the Club Affiliation Application. The fee as shown in the Fees Tariff plus Public Liability Insurance for All Clubs as from time to time in force
- 6.2. All teams in the Club Affiliation Application irrespective of gender, age group, day of play, disability etc. shall affiliate as a team of the parent club under the highest ranked team. The fee as shown in Fees Tariff
- 6.3. Any club where the affiliation remains unpaid on or after a date as determined by the BCFA shall pay an additional affiliation fee supplement. The fee as shown in the Fees Tariff
- 6.4. Other
 - 6.4.1. Recreational Football
 - 6.4.1.1. A Club that is of such a standard as not to be accepted into full membership
 - 6.4.1.2. A Club that is not regularly competing on a league basis throughout the season
 - 6.4.1.3. A Club that will not be entitled to the rights and privileges of a Full Member Club including, but not limited to, voting
 - 6.4.2. Charity Cup Competitions
 - 6.4.2.1. These Competitions are not considered as regularly competing
 - 6.4.3. Alterations to Fees
 - 6.4.3.1. In any financial year the BCFA Board, on or before their January meeting, are empowered to set the Fees for the forthcoming season
 - 6.4.3.2. Any changes to the Fees for the forthcoming season will be notified to Clubs, Leagues and Competitions in a manner as determined by the BCFA Board
 - 6.4.3.3. Additional subscriptions may be authorised by the Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting of BCFA called in accordance with the Articles of Association

7. Requirements from Clubs

- 7.1. The Secretary of each Club shall complete electronically, through the Whole Game System, supplying to the BCFA the particulars of their affiliation on or before a date determined the BCFA
- 7.2. Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be dealt with by the BCFA

LEAGUES AND COMPETITIONS

8. Requirements for Leagues and Competitions

- 8.1. Each League or Competition shall complete on or before 31 July in each year electronically, through the Whole Game System, a return in accordance with FA Regulations as from time to time in force
- 8.2. The return will require a copy of the Standard Code of Rules for the Competition and a copy of the certified statement of accounts and balance sheet for the previous season
- 8.3. Any Association, League or Combination registering more than one Association, League or Combination shall complete separate electronic returns, submit separate Standard Code of Rules for the Competition and a separate balance sheet for the previous season for all Competitions operating with the same Officers and Committee
- 8.4. Each League or Competition must forward a copy of any proposed alteration of Rules which they intend to place before the Annual General Meeting to the BCFA 28 days prior to the date fixed for the Annual General Meeting of the League or Competition
- 8.5. No existing League or Competition will be allowed to change the day on which it normally plays (i.e. Leagues or Competitions which normally play on a Sunday will not be allowed to change to play on Saturday and vice-versa)
- 8.6. 5.5 also applies to Leagues and Competitions wishing to start a Section to run on another day thereby having a separate League or Competition on Saturday and Sunday
- 8.7. Applications for the formation of new Leagues or Competitions will be considered on their merits taking into consideration their effect on existing Leagues and Competitions Leagues and Competitions
- 8.8. The sanction fee for each Affiliated League or other Competition is as shown in the Fees Tariff
- 8.9. All Affiliated Leagues and Competitions shall pay an additional sanction fee for each sanctioned internal cup competition. The fee is shown in the Fees Tariff
- 8.10. Any Affiliated League or Competition where the sanction fee remains unpaid on or after a date determined by the BCFA shall pay an additional sanction fee supplement. The fee is as shown in the Fees Tariff

FEES

9. Fees Tariff

Rule Relevant to Fee	Club Affiliation Product	Amount £
6.1	Highest Ranked Team: Premier League, Football League (All Divisions), NLS Steps 1 to 5	158.00
6.1	Highest Ranked Team: NLS Step 6 and Regional NLS Feeder Leagues	43.00
6.1	Highest Ranked Team: Non NLS	33.00
6.1	Development Group	18.00
6.1	Highest Ranked Team: Youth (U7 to U18)	18.00
6.1	Recreational/Walking	18.00
6.1	Futsal/Small Sided	18.00
6.1	Public Liability Insurance for All Clubs	As from time to time in force
6.2	Affiliation per TEAM (in addition to fee payable under 6.1)	5.00
6.3	Unpaid Affiliation Fee Supplement	20.00

Rule Relevant to Fee	League Sanction Product	Amount £
8.8	League and Competition Sanction	20.00
8.9	Each Sanctioned Internal Cup Competition	5.00
8.10	Unpaid Sanction Fee Supplement	20.00

LIFE VICE PRESIDENT AND FELLOWSHIP OF BIRMINGHAM COUNTY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

10. Life Vice President of Birmingham County Football Association

- 10.1. Those persons, who under the previous Articles of Association [10. Life Vice Presidents], are Life Vice Presidents of BCFA will remain as such for the rest of their life
- 10.2. Life Vice Presidents will be entitled to such benefits as determined, from time to time, by the BCFA Board
- 10.3. Subject to the approval of the BCFA Board, on the date of the adoption of the revised Articles of Association, and on this one and only occurrence, any person who has completed twenty-five [25] years of service to Council will become a Life Vice President of BCFA for the rest of their life

11. Fellowship of Birmingham County Football Association

- 11.1. Subject to the approval of the BCFA Board, a Fellowship of Birmingham County Football Association shall be those Participants, as defined in the Rules of The Football Association, identified as having made a “significant” contribution to the game of Association Football in the area administered by Birmingham County Football Association
- 11.2. Fellows of BCFA will be entitled to such benefits as determined, from time to time, by the BCFA Board

OTHER MEMBERSHIP RULES

12. Associated Matches

- 12.1. All Clubs must, if required, place any player or players without a written contract at the disposal of the BCFA for BCFA matches during the season
- 12.2. Players who have been selected to play for the BCFA may not play for any club on the day or within the previous 72 hours of the match, if stipulated, for which they have been selected to play for the BCFA
- 12.3. A player failing to represent the BCFA, without a good and sufficient reason, may be charged with misconduct and dealt with by the BCFA
- 12.4. Following selection of a player to represent the BCFA any Club(s) with whom the player is currently registered may request the players release no later than 72 hours prior to the date of the fixture by contacting the BCFA whereupon a response will be given to accede or to deny such request
- 12.5. Any player selected will not be allowed to play for his Club on that same day
- 12.6. Any Club that contravenes the Rule may be charged with misconduct and dealt with by the BCFA

END OF MEMBERSHIP RULES