

Cumberland Football Association County Veterans Trophy Rules 2019

Constitution

1. The Competition will be played within the rules and regulations of the Cumberland Football Association and the Football Association and will be in accordance with the 'laws of the game' (as determined by the International Football Association Board).

Entry

2. All teams requesting entry into the competition will be placed into an open draw from the first round stage. Clubs that withdraw may be fined an amount that will be determined by the CFA Sanctions & Competitions Committee
3. Clubs must ensure that they have changing facilities for their visitors.

Qualification of Players

4. A player would be considered as registered for a club in this competition if he is currently registered with that specific club as a league player. To play in this competition a player must have achieved the age of 35.
5. Goalkeepers may be under 35 years of age but must be no younger than 16 year of age.
6. Clubs are allowed to register players up to and including the date stipulated for the semi-final ties of the current season; any additional registrations will not be accepted after that date. Clubs found to play unregistered players will be dismissed from the competition.
7. Any player(s) who has officially transferred, in accordance with league rules, will be allowed to play for their new club providing they have not appeared on a team sheet for their previous club in this competition.
8. A player representing a club without the appropriate transfer will be banned from taking part in the competition and may be fined for his action, the amount to be determined by the CFA Sanctions & Competitions Committee. The offending club will also be expelled from the competition.

Conditions of Play, Times of Kick off, Postponements, Substitutes

9. Matches can be played on 3rd Generation artificial surfaces
10. The dates for each round, indicated with the draw for the competition are binding. Clubs not complying with these dates will be dismissed from the competition.
 - a. Any club wishing to alternate from the specified date must submit a written request to the County FA (countycups@cumberlandfa.com) at least 7 days prior to the specified draw date for their consideration. Any decision made by the CFA is final and binding.

11. Both secretaries are to contact each other to confirm colours and directions to the ground. When colours clash the away team will change. In the event of a colour clash in the final tie both teams will change.
12. The duration of the game will be 90 minutes, 45 minutes each way (minimum period allowed is 35 minutes each way). Any reduction is to be mutually agreed with the referee prior to kick off. Should the game be tied at full time, 30 minutes extra time will be played (15 minutes each way) with a minimum period of 10 minutes each way permissible. If the game is still tied, then kicks from the penalty mark will decide the winners. Extra time can be dispensed with if this is agreed mutually between both teams and notified to the match official. The half time interval shall not exceed 15 minutes and can only be altered with the consent of the match referee.
13. The preliminary round will be an open draw. Winners in the preliminary round will go through to the County Veterans Trophy Competition group stages where they will be placed in two qualifying groups and will play each other once in a round robin format. Once the group stages are completed the top two teams in each group will enter the semi-final stages of the competition (Group A1 v Group B2 and Group B1 v Group A2)
14. A total of five substitutes are allowed, all may then be repeated within the substitute process. The number of substitutes may be increased if agreed mutually between both teams. All substitutes must be named on the team sheet which must be submitted to the match referee.
15. The home team must also provide at least 3 footballs that are 'fit for play'.
16. Clubs reported for late kick off may be fined the sum of £25.
17. Any competition matches postponed on account of the ground conditions should comply with FA procedures. Should the ground be declared unfit it is the responsibility of the home club to immediately advise the visiting club, the Match Officials (if known), and the County FA (via 07771 922164 or e-mail countycups@CumberlandFA.com)
18. Games cancelled due to ground conditions will be rescheduled for the following week at the home club's venue.

If, after the second week, the ground is still not playable then the tie will be transferred to the opposing teams ground to fulfil the fixture. If, following this action, the game is once again cancelled due to ground conditions then it will be re-scheduled for the following week once again at the opposing team's venue.

If the designated venue is considered unplayable then clubs are encouraged to, wherever practically possible, make alternative arrangements. The options available are:

- a) the 'home' team to find an alternative venue and inform the opposing secretary of the new arrangements
- b) travel to the opposing teams ground to fulfil the fixture.

The CFA Sanctions & Competitions Committee shall have the power to order a match to be played on a neutral ground or on the opponents ground if they are satisfied that such action is warranted by the circumstances. Any decision made is final and binding.

19. The CFA Sanctions & Competitions Committee shall review all matches abandoned and rule in line with FA regulations. Any clubs found to be in default of these rules may be subject to any action decided by the CFA Sanctions & Competitions Committee.
20. Both clubs must complete their team sheet prior to kick off with the yellow copy passed to the opposition Secretary. No later than 10 minutes prior to the commencement of the game, the pink copy must be submitted to the match referee. This must indicate the full names of the 11 players and any substitutes which may be used during the game. Numbered shirts must be worn and the names of the players must coincide with their shirt number identified on the team sheet.

Reporting Results

21. Within 2 hours of completion of the game, the home club secretary or a designated contact is responsible for notifying the result to the County Office. This should be done by the automated SMS service.

Where a text has not been received, or you have been instructed otherwise, clubs should ensure the result is confirmed by sending an e-mail to countycups@cumberlandfa.com

Failure to comply will result in the offending club being fined £10. Clubs should also communicate the result of the game to their relevant league secretary.

22. Within 72 hours of the conclusion of the game (Sundays accepted), the white copy must be forwarded to the County Office. Each club secretary is responsible for ensuring that the team sheet is fully completed, including details of scorers, substitutions, referee's name, marks awarded and any cautions or dismissals highlighted against the player concerned. Failure to return the team sheet within the allotted time, returning the sheet incomplete or defaced may result in that club being fined £10.

Referees

23. The match officials' fees will be £30, (where appointed, assistant referees fees will be £15). These fees will be shared equally between both clubs with the club secretary of the team drawn at home being responsible for payment to the match officials as quickly as possible following completion of the game but no later than 30 minutes after this. This is still applicable if the game is transferred to another venue, in compliance with Rule 17.

In the event of a match not being played because of circumstances over which the clubs have no control, the match officials, if present, shall be entitled to half their match fee.

24. A Referee not keeping their engagement, and failing to give a satisfactory explanation as to their non appearance, must be reported to the CFA.

Protests

25. Any protests must be received at the County Office within 72 hours of the completion of the game (Sundays accepted). These must be received in writing, signed and accompanied with a £25 appeal fee.

26. A Club that is expelled from the Competition may appeal in writing within 7 (seven) days against that decision to an appeal board comprising of 3 (three) Members of CFA selected by the Chairman of CFA or his nominee.

Any such appeal shall only be permitted on one or more of the following grounds:

- i. The Cup Committee or appointed Sub Committee misinterpreted / failed to comply with the procedures relevant to dealing with the charge.
- ii. The Cup Committee or appointed Sub Committee came to a decision on the facts of the case which no reasonable body could have reached; or imposed a sanction that is excessive.

Any appeal must be made in accordance with such procedures and appeal fee as may be determined by The Association from time to time.

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

Trophy

27. The CFA shall present a trophy and medals to the winners and runners up (16 Medals) in the competition.

The trophy is the property of the Company and may never be won outright.

The Recipient club must sign an agreement with the CFA and shall be responsible for engraving their details on the trophy.

Any club not returning the Competition trophy by the due date, returning them in poor condition or without being engraved may be fined or charged for the appropriate repair/work.