

## **RULES OF THE DORSET COUNTY CUP COMPETITIONS**

**Please Note:** Individual Competitions may have a number of exceptions to the Rules of Dorset County Cup Competitions, these are listed below under the appropriate Competition heading further down this document.

### **1. MANAGEMENT**

The entire control and management of these Competitions shall be vested in the Dorset County Football Association Limited.

### **2. TITLE**

Each Cup shall be named appropriately and shall not become the property of any one Club.

### **3. TRUSTEE**

The Secretary of the Association for the time being shall be, to all intents and purposes, the legal holder of the Cup in trust for the Association.

### **4. ELIGIBILITY OF CLUBS**

The Competitions for the Cups shall be annual and open to all Teams that are affiliated to the Dorset County Football Association and teams whose club is affiliated to neighbouring County FA's that play in a Dorset sanctioned League provided that team does not enter a County Cup Competition in their parent County, subject to the approval of the Association.

### **5. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS**

- a) A player must be correctly registered to that team in the league in which the team plays, by no later than 12 noon the day prior (excluding Saturday's, Sunday's and Bank Holiday's) to the original scheduled date of the Cup Tie (see also Rule 5e below).
- b) A player shall not in the same Season play for more than one competing Club in the same Competition.
- c) In the case of replayed and postponed matches, only players shall be allowed to play who were eligible on the date of the original match.
- d) Provided he/she is otherwise eligible, a player who has been suspended may play in postponed, drawn, or replayed Cup Ties after the term of his/her suspension has expired.
- e) No player shall be eligible to play in the Semi-Final or Final Tie unless he/she is a registered player of his/her club at least seven clear days before the *original date* set for the Semi-Final Ties.
- f) Opposing clubs in a Cup Tie shall exchange team sheets in the Referee's dressing room at least 30 minutes prior to the commencement of the match. At the same time each Club shall provide the Referee with a copy of the Team Sheet.
- g) Each Club may use a maximum of five substitutes in a match in any Cup Competition providing that they do not substitute for players who have been dismissed from the field of play by the Referee. A maximum of five substitutes shall be named to the Referee in his/her dressing room at least 30 minutes prior to the kick-off and shall be subject to the authority and jurisdiction of the Referee whether called upon to play or not. Unless a substitute actually plays, his Cup Eligibility will not be affected. A player who has been substituted himself/herself 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. A person who has been accepted to act as Referee may not be used as a substitute in that match.

- h) No player under the age of sixteen shall be eligible to play in this competition.
- i) Any club found guilty of playing an ineligible player shall be removed from the Competition.
- j) In Final Ties and Semi Final Ties of these Competitions clubs must submit to the Referee at least 30 minutes prior to kick off the names of a maximum of 8 persons, five of which must be substitutes, to be within the dug out area during the match. NO OTHER PERSON MAY BE PERMITTED IN THE DUG OUT AREA DURING THE MATCH.

## **6. REGISTERED PLAYERS**

On the request of a competing Club, and upon payment of a fee as shown in Section 'C' of the Financial Appendix, the Secretary of the Association shall supply a list of all players registered by any other competing Club during the current season, together with full particulars. The registration book for the current season shall be open to inspection by the Secretary or other official of any Club upon due notice being given and upon payment of a fee as shown in Section 'C' of the Financial Appendix.

## **7. PARTICULARS OF GROUND**

The ground shall be subject to the approval of the Association.

When the Club drawn at home cannot comply with the grading criteria, the club must provide a suitable alternative ground, or the Association will nominate a suitable ground.

The field of play must be clearly defined as in Law 1, touchlines and goal lines roped off, and goal nets used. Clubs in breach of this section of the Rule will be fined as shown in Section C of the Financial Appendix.

The size of the Match Officials dressing room must be adequate for three officials.

The Home Club shall take proper precautions to preserve Law and Order.

Artificial Football Pitches are allowed in these Competitions providing they meet the required performance standards and are listed on the FA's Register of 3G (Third Generation) Football Turf Pitches. To meet the criteria a Football Turf pitch must pass a test every three years as defined in the FIFA Quality Concept for Football Turf.

The home club is responsible for advising their opponents and Match Officials of limitations or recommendations on the types of boot or stud that may be used on the surface when confirming the match details.

All other Competition Facility criteria shall still apply to this Competition as does the pitch and goal size.

All line markings shall be in accordance with the Laws of Association Football.

## **8. DURATION OF MATCH**

The duration of the match shall be 90 minutes, should the scores be level after the playing of 90 minutes the match shall be decided on kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with guidance given in the given in the Laws of Association Football under the procedures to determine the winner of a match, Extra Time shall not be played.

The referee is the sole judge of allowance of time, whether lost through accident or other cause, and also the power to decide as to the fitness of the ground in all matches. His decision on these matters is not subject to Appeal or Protest.

## **9. COLOURS**

Clubs shall provide their players with individually numbered shirts. Clubs failing to comply with this section of the Rule shall be fined as shown in Section "C" of the Financial Appendix.

In the event of two clubs having the same or similar colours the visiting Club shall make some distinctive change. No club shall wear colours that clash with the referee, who shall wear black. In the event of two Clubs playing upon a neutral ground the club drawn first, or in the case of the Final Tie the winning club from the first drawn Semi Final Tie, shall have the choice of colours. The club drawn first, or in the case of the Final Tie the winning club from the first drawn Semi Final Tie, shall also use the designated Home Dressing Room. The Club changing shall notify their opponents of proposed colours at least seven days before the match.

## **10. DRAWS, ETC.**

- a) Order of Procedure. The names of the Clubs entered for the Competition shall be placed by the Association in one or more lots, and shall be drawn from such lot or lots in couples. The teams comprised in each couple shall compete, the one against the other, and the names of the winning teams shall be placed in one lot, drawn in couples, and competed as in the first round, and so on until the final tie is played, when the winning Club shall hold the Cup for the ensuing year.
- b) Date of Matches. The ties shall be drawn, and the matches played, as the Association may determine. The Association shall fix the date for the Rounds, Semi-Finals and Final ties of all County Cup Competitions. After each drawing the Secretary shall intimate to each Club the name of its opponents and the date on which the match shall be played. For the avoidance of doubt a Club which reaches the quarter final, semi final or final of an FA National Cup Competition shall not be required to play a Dorset Senior Cup Tie (or replay) in the week preceding the FA National Competition date.
- c) A tie which is not played owing to the exigencies of the weather or which is abandoned for any reason beyond the control of either Club must be played on the ground of the Club having first choice of ground seven days later, unless decided by Association.
- d) Final Venues: The Governance Committee shall arrange suitable venues for Final Ties.
- e) Choice of Ground: Unless otherwise mutually agreed, the Club first drawn in each couple shall have the home advantage. In the event of the "home club" postponing the match on two consecutive occasions owing to pitch conditions the Dorset County Football Association reserve the right to order the cup tie to be played on the opponents ground or a neutral ground. If the tie is reversed the hosting club will then be responsible for the ground and match officials expenses and the visiting club shall be responsible for their travelling expenses. Except in County Cup Final ties in the event of a neutral ground being selected for any County Cup Tie, then ten per cent of the nett gate shall be paid to the Club on whose ground the tie is played.
- f) Byes. No Club shall, under normal circumstances, receive more than one bye, but the Association shall have the power to give a sufficient number of Clubs byes to ensure four Clubs competing in the Semi-Final Ties.

## **11. CLUBS REFUSING TO PLAY**

- a) Any Club refusing or failing to play a Club against which it has been drawn, upon the day, or within the time allotted to it, and without sufficient reason

for so doing, shall be adjudged to have lost the match, and shall be liable to such fine as may be imposed by the Association. **Should matches be called off primarily due to illness, signed Medical evidence must be provided within three days of the date of the match to be considered 'Sufficient Reason. Should Matches be called off primarily due to School Trips, then a signed document listing the players concerned from the School should be received by the DCFA at least seven days prior to the date of the match.**

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- B) Scratching. Any Club intending to scratch must give information of their intention to do so to the Association Secretary and the opposing Club not less than seven clear days before the date fixed for playing the tie, and in default the Association shall have power to punish such offending Club in any manner they think fit. Any Club scratching shall be liable to such penalty as may be imposed by the Association.
- C) It is the responsibility of both teams to consider the safety of participants should the Met Office Issue a local weather warning covering Dorset, the safety of all participants should be considered paramount. Teams refusing to play due to a local Amber or Red Met Office Weather Warning will not be penalised by the Governing Body providing the decision is taken not more than 3 hours prior to kick off. Please see the guidance below:

**Yellow: Be aware.** Severely bad weather is possible over the next few days and could affect people in the area concerned. Yellow means that you should plan ahead thinking about possible travel delays, or the disruption of your day-to-day activities. The Met Office is monitoring the developing weather situation and Yellow means keep an eye on the latest forecast and be aware that the weather may change or worsen, leading to disruption of your plans in the next few days.

**Amber: Be prepared.** There is an increased likelihood of severely or extremely bad weather affecting people in the area concerned, which could potentially disrupt people's plans and possibly cause travel delays, road and rail closures, interruption to power and the potential risk to life and property. Amber means people need to be prepared to change plans and protect themselves, their family and community from the impacts of the severe weather based on the forecast from the Met Office.

**Red: Take action.** Extremely bad weather is expected. Red means people in the areas concerned should take action now to keep themselves and others safe from the impact of the weather. Widespread damage, travel and power disruption and risk to life is likely. You must avoid dangerous areas and follow the advice of the emergency services and local authorities.

## 12. TIME OF STARTING MATCHES

The time of starting matches shall be 2.30 p.m. with the exception of November, December, January and February, when the starting time will be 1.30 p.m. In the event of any variation of the above times being required, written application must be made to the Secretary of the Association, whose decision shall be final. In

mid-week and holiday matches the time of kick-off may be agreed by mutual agreement, but no match shall begin at a time that will not permit of its conclusion not later than thirty minutes after sunset (according to calendar), other than floodlit matches.

It shall be the duty of the Home Club to notify the match officials, the visiting Club and the DCFA Member in Charge, if appointed, of match particulars i.e. ground, dressing room, advertised time of kick-off, etc. at least five days before the match where possible. Clubs failing to notify the visiting Club, match officials or the DCFA Member in Charge shall be Fined as shown in Section "C" of the Financial Appendix in each instance. Clubs and referees reported for late start without providing a satisfactory explanation shall be Fined as shown in Section "C" of the Financial Appendix.

### **13. RESULTS OF TIES**

Home Clubs shall telephone or email results of ties to the Dorset County FA within 90 minutes of the completion of matches. Notice of the result of each match shall be sent by both competing Clubs, together with the names and initials of the players, so as to be in the hands of the Secretary of the Association within three days of the date on which the match has been played. If a match is postponed, the home club shall inform the Dorset County FA within one hour of the Tie being postponed.

Referees shall also notify within three days the result of ties in which they officiate.

Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall pay a Fine as shown in Section "C" of the Financial Appendix within seven days of demand; in default of their so doing they shall be struck out of the Competition, or, in the case of a losing Club, be dealt with by the Association.

### **14. REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES**

Referees and Assistant Referees, whose fees and expenses shall be the first charge upon the receipts, shall be appointed by the Association. Fees for Referees and Assistant Referees shall be as shown in Section "B" of the Financial Appendix. Referees and Assistant Referees shall be entitled to travelling expenses. Match Officials must be paid in their dressing room within thirty minutes of the conclusion of the match. If a Referee or Assistant Referee keeps an appointment (unless advised of the postponement) and the match for any reason is not played, the match official/s shall be entitled to travelling expenses and half fee. It shall be the duty of the home drawn club to pay the Match Fee and Expenses of the Match Official except in ties where there are three Match Officials appointed, in such cases the Match Officials Match fee and expenses be split equally between the two competing teams, the home club paying the fee and expenses in full and the away team reimbursing the home club, 50% of the match fee and expenses, within seven days of the date of the match. If a match is postponed and the home club does not notify the match officials in adequate time the home club shall then be responsible for paying half match fee and travelling expenses of the match officials.

The home club shall provide Assistant Referees Flags.

In all matches where Assistant Referees are not officially appointed each Club shall provide an Assistant Referee. Any Club failing to comply with this Rule shall be Fined as shown in Section "C" of the Financial Appendix. Where an appointed Official does not attend, it shall be the responsibility of the home club to provide an Assistant Referee. Where there is only one appointed Official and that

Official fails to attend, either or both clubs shall have the option to postpone the Tie: should they mutually agree upon a replacement Official, both clubs shall signify this agreement on their team sheet prior to the commencement of the match. Where a Cup Tie is not played in these circumstances any expenses shall be shared equally between the competing clubs.

A player dismissed from the field of play by the Referee may not act as an Assistant Referee in that game.

## **15. PROTESTS**

- a) Protests which must disclose grounds of same, must be intimated to the Secretary of the opposing Club and lodged, in duplicate, with the Secretary of the Association within seven days of the match being played accompanied by a deposit as shown in Section "C" of the Financial Appendix which may be forfeited at the discretion of the Association should they consider the protest trivial or groundless.
- b) In the Final Tie the Secretary of the Club he/she represents shall, at least two days prior to the match, give in writing to the Secretary of the opposing Club the names of the players from which the team he represents will be selected and no protests as to the qualification of the competing players shall be entertained unless notice is given in writing to the referee before the commencement of the match. Such notice having been given the protest must be proceeded with in accordance with paragraph (a).
- c) Any objections relative to the ground, goal-posts or bars, or other appurtenances of the game, must be lodged with the Referee before the start of the game and cannot be withdrawn without the consent of the Association.
- d) If the Association shall subsequently discover that any Rule or spirit of the Rule has, in their opinion been violated by mutual agreement or otherwise, by two Clubs or otherwise, it shall be in the power of the Association to disqualify one or both from further competing in the ties, or to order the match or matches to be replayed and that without any protest having been made by either or any Club.

## **16. VOTING OF ASSOCIATION**

Should any member of the Association be an official or member of a Club concerning which there is any protest, dispute or question, the said official or member shall not be eligible to sit on behalf of the Association while the said protest, dispute or question is being considered.

## **17. GUARANTEE FOR THE CUP**

When the winners of the Cup have been ascertained by the match aforesaid, the Secretary of the Association shall hand over the Cup to such winners on their subscribing a document to the following effect:- "We, A.B., the Secretary of the ..... Club, and C.D., E. F., and G.H., members of, and representing the said Club, having been declared the winners of the Dorset County Football Association Limited Challenge Cup and the same having been delivered to us by J. K., the Secretary of the Association, do hereby, on behalf of the said Club, and individually, and collectively, engage to return the same to the said J.K., or Secretary of the Association for the time being, on or before 1 February next, in like good order and condition, with the name of the said Club duly engraved thereon, and undertake to take all reasonable precautions to ensure the safe keeping and condition of this trophy whilst in our possession".

Any Club failing to return the Cup by 1 March, as provided by the above undertaking shall be liable to a Fine as shown in Section "C" of the Financial Appendix.  
The County Association shall insure and pay for all County Cups and Trophies.

## **18. HONOURS**

In addition to the Cup, sixteen awards shall be presented to the teams in the Final Tie. A Club may make application to the Association to purchase not more than four additional awards. The reason for the application must be submitted in writing to the County Office within fourteen days of the Final Tie.

When a player taking part in the Final Tie is ordered to leave the field of play for misconduct the award to which he may become entitled shall be presented unless the misconduct is for Violent Conduct for an Assault on a Match Official.

The Referee and Assistant Referees officiating in the Final Tie shall also be presented with an award.

## **19. FINANCE**

Admission charges for Final Ties shall be fixed by the Association.

In all matches except replayed matches in consequence of breach of Rules, the proceeds shall be equally divided between the two clubs after the following expenses have been paid:

- 1 Match Officials Expenses
- 2 Printing and Advertising
- 3 Police and Gatekeepers

Ten per cent of the net receipts, after deducting items 1 to 3 shall be paid to the Association. If the gate receipts are insufficient to pay items 1 – 3 the Home Club shall be responsible for these amounts.

Where Clubs are given special permission for a match to be played under floodlights the amount to be charged against the match receipts must not exceed £60.

The Home Club shall provide for the sale of tickets, and the Visiting Club for the checking of same and their own travelling expenses.

A full match statement, on Form DC1, which is supplied by the Association, shall be made to the Association and the Opposing Club within fourteen days of the match.

Clubs not complying with this clause may be fined the sum of £50.

In replayed matches in consequence of breach of Rule the receipts shall be dealt with as the Association may determine.

In Semi Final Ties one half of the net receipts after deducting items 2 and 3 shall be paid to the Association, and the balance divided equally between the competing Clubs.

In the Final Tie, after deducting Match Officials expenses and items 2 and 3, one half of the remainder shall be paid to the Association and the balance divided equally between the competing Clubs providing the balance exceeds the sum of £20.

For Semi Final Ties in the Senior Cup Competition and in all Final Ties the amount charged by the Hosting Club for Ground Hire may not exceed £60.

## **20. MATCH BALLS**

It shall be the duty of the Home Club to provide match balls with the exception of the Final Ties, when they shall be supplied by the DCFA.

## **21. POWERS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

In the case of any event arising not covered by these Rules, the Association shall have full power to adjudicate and deal with same.

**Please Note:** Temporary Dismissals should be implemented in all Dorset County Cup Competitions with the exception of the Dorset Senior Cup.

## **RULES OF DORSET SENIOR CUP COMPETITION**

**The Rules of the DCFA Ltd County Cup Competitions shall apply to this Competition with the following exceptions/adjustments:-**

### **1. MANAGEMENT**

The entire control and management of the Competition shall be vested in the Association of the Dorset County Football Association Limited.

### **2. TITLE**

The Cup shall be called the Dorset Senior Challenge Cup, and shall not become the property of any one Club.

### **3. TRUSTEE**

The Secretary of the Association for the time being shall be, to all intents and purposes, the legal holder of the Cup in trust for the Association.

### **4. ELIGIBILITY OF CLUBS**

The Competition for the Cup shall be annual and open to all Clubs playing at Step 7 and above of the National League System who have floodlights at their home ground and are affiliated to the Dorset County Football Association, subject to the approval of Association. Applications from affiliated Clubs to enter Reserve teams will not be accepted.

### **5. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS**

- a) A player must be correctly registered to that Club, by no later than 12 noon the day prior (excluding Saturday's, Sunday's and Bank Holiday's) to the original scheduled date of the Cup Tie.

No player shall be eligible to play in the Final Tie unless he is a registered player of his team at least 7 clear days prior to the Final tie.

### **7. PARTICULARS OF GROUND**

The Ground shall be subject to the approval of the Association and the minimum Grading Criteria shall be that required for entry to Step 6 of the National League System (*National Ground Grading – Category H*).

The Home Club shall take proper precautions to preserve Law and Order. In the Senior Challenge Cup it is the responsibility of the Home or Hosting Club to provide two members wearing clearly identified jackets to escort the Referee from the pitch to the changing rooms.

### **10. DRAWS, ETC.**

- c) The tie shall be played during the midweek of the date set for the Round on the normal nominated day that the home club plays its midweek matches. In the case of the club being involved in a match of higher precedence the DCFA shall determine the date. Each Club shall make every effort to make sure its Ground is in a fit playing condition. Should there be any doubt on the fitness of the playing surface on the day of the match a minimum Level 5 Referee shall be called in by the home drawn club to inspect the pitch, by no later than 3:00pm on

the day of the match.

The Home club shall keep their opponents and the Match Referee informed of any further developments concerning the fitness of the playing surface.

The designated mid week for the playing of matches in the Dorset Senior Cup shall be the mid week of the second Tuesday in the month.

## **12. TIME OF STARTING MATCHES**

The time of starting matches shall be 7:45pm unless otherwise agreed by the two competing clubs.

It shall be the duty of the Home Club to notify the match officials, the visiting Club and the DCFA Member in Charge of match particulars i.e. ground, dressing room, advertised time of kick-off, etc. at least five days before the match where possible. Clubs failing to notify the visiting Club, match officials or the DCFA Member in Charge shall be Fined as shown in Section "C" of the Financial Appendix in each instance. Clubs and referees reported for late start without providing a satisfactory explanation shall be Fined as shown in Section "C" of the Financial Appendix.

## **21. POWERS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

The Association shall appoint a member in charge for all matches.

In the case of any event arising not covered by these Rules, the Association shall have full power to adjudicate and deal with same.

## **RULES OF THE DORSET SENIOR TROPHY**

**The Rules of the DCFA Ltd County Cup Competitions shall apply to this Competition with the following exceptions/adjustments:-**

### **RULE 2: (Title)**

The Cup shall be called the Dorset Senior Trophy and shall not become the property of any one club.

### **RULE 4: (Eligibility of Clubs)**

The Competition for the Cup shall be annual and open to all Clubs who compete in: Dorset Premier League, Dorset Senior League, Bournemouth Premier League and Wyvern Football League inclusive of Reserve teams provided that their first team play in the Dorset Senior Cup Competition or the Senior Cup Competition of their parent County Association, in the current season. No club shall be permitted to enter two teams in this competition.

### **RULE 5. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS**

#### **RULE 7: (Particulars of Ground)**

The ground shall be subject to the approval of the Association and shall be required to meet the Grading Criteria currently applicable to the Senior Division of the Dorset League. The field of play must be clearly defined as in Law 1 and goal nets used. Clubs in breach of this section of the Rule will be fined as shown in Section C of the Financial Appendix. The Home Club shall take proper precautions to preserve Law and Order.

#### **RULE 10: (Draws)**

(c) Where the home club has floodlights the tie **may** be played in the mid week prior to the date set for the round if both teams agree in writing unless either club is involved in a match of higher precedence. On such occasion the Dorset County Football Association shall determine the date. A tie which is not played owing to the exigencies of the weather or which is abandoned for any reason beyond the control of either Club must be played on the ground of the Club having choice of ground on the following Saturday, unless otherwise agreed by Association.

(f) Byes. No Club shall, under normal circumstances, receive more than one bye, but the Association shall have the power to give a sufficient number of Clubs byes to ensure four Clubs competing in the Semi-Final Ties.

## **RULES OF THE DORSET INTERMEDIATE CHALLENGE CUP**

**The Rules of the DCFA Ltd County Cup Competitions shall apply to this Competition with the following exceptions/adjustments:-**

### **RULE 2:(Title)**

The Cup shall be called the Dorset Intermediate Challenge Cup and shall not become the property of any one Club.

### **RULE 4:(Eligibility of Clubs)**

The Competition shall be annual and open to such Clubs who compete in the Dorset League Division One and Two or equivalent Competitions.

### **RULE 5:(Qualification of Players)**

Please consult Player eligibility List.

### **RULE 7:**

The Ground shall be subject to the approval of the Association and the dimensions of the field of play shall be:- Maximum Length 130 yards (120 metres), Minimum Length 100 yards (90 metres), Maximum Breadth 100 yards (90 metres), Minimum Breadth 50 yards (45 metres).

The field of play must be clearly defined as in Law 1, goal lines roped off, and goal nets used. In Semi-Final and Final Ties, touchlines must also be roped off. Clubs in breach of this section of the Rule will be fined as shown in Section C of the Financial Appendix.

Adequate dressing room accommodation, including toilets and washing facilities must be provided and the Home Club shall take proper precautions to preserve Law and Order.

### **RULE 19. (Finance)**

Gate money or a collection shall be taken in all matches.

### **RULE 21. (Powers of the Association)**

The first sentence shall not apply.

## **RULES OF THE DORSET JUNIOR CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITION**

**The Rules of the DCFA Ltd County Cup Competitions shall apply to this Competition with the following exceptions/adjustments:-**

### **RULE 2: (Title)**

The Cup shall be called the Dorset Junior Challenge Cup and shall not become the property of any one Club.

### **RULE 4:(Eligibility of Clubs)**

The Competition shall be annual and open to all Club affiliated to the Association who compete in Dorset League Division Three or equivalent Competitions.

### **RULE 5:(Qualification of Players)**

Please consult Player eligibility List.

### **RULE 7:**

The Ground shall be subject to the approval of the Association and the dimensions of the field of play shall be:- Maximum Length 130 yards (120 metres), Minimum Length 100 yards (90 metres), Maximum Breadth 100 yards (90 metres), Minimum Breadth 50 yards (45 metres).

The field of play must be clearly defined as in Law 1, goal lines roped off, and goal nets used. In Semi-Final and Final Ties, touchlines must also be roped off. Clubs in breach of this section of the Rule will be fined as shown in Section C of the Financial Appendix.

Adequate dressing room accommodation, including toilets and washing facilities must be provided and the Home Club shall take proper precautions to preserve Law and Order.

### **RULE 19:(Finance)**

Gate money or a collection shall be taken in all matches.

### **RULE 21:(Powers of the Association)**

The first sentence shall not apply.

## **RULES OF THE DORSET MINOR CHALLENGE CUP**

**The Rules of the DCFA Ltd County Cup Competitions shall apply to this Competition with the following exceptions/adjustments:-**

### **RULE 2: (Title)**

The Cup shall be called the Dorset Minor Challenge Cup and shall not become the property of any one Club.

### **RULE 4: (Eligibility of Clubs)**

The Competition shall be annual and open to all Dorset Affiliated Clubs who compete in Dorset League Division Four and below or equivalent competitions.

### **RULE 5:(Qualification of Players)**

Please consult Player eligibility List.

### **RULE 7:**

The Ground shall be subject to the approval of the Association and the dimensions of the field of play shall be:- Maximum Length 130 yards (120 metres), Minimum Length 100 yards (90 metres), Maximum Breadth 100 yards (90 metres), Minimum Breadth 50 yards (45 metres).

The field of play must be clearly defined as in Law 1, goal lines roped off, and goal nets used. In Semi-Final and Final Ties, touchlines must also be roped off. Clubs in breach of this section of the Rule will be fined as shown in Section C of the Financial Appendix.

Adequate dressing room accommodation, including toilets and washing facilities must be provided and the Home Club shall take proper precautions to preserve Law and Order.

### **RULE 19.(Finance)**

Gate money or a collection shall be taken in all matches.

### **RULE 21:(Powers of the Association)**

The first sentence shall not apply.

## **RULES OF THE DORSET SUNDAY CUP COMPETITIONS**

**The Rules of the DCFA Ltd County Cup Competitions shall apply to this Competition with the following exceptions/adjustments:-**

### **1. MANAGEMENT**

The entire control and management of these Competitions shall be vested in the Association of the Dorset County Football Association Limited.

### **2. TITLE**

The Cup shall be called the Dorset Sunday Football Challenge Cup and shall not become the property of any one club. Teams knocked out of the Competition prior to the last 16 of the Sunday Football Challenge Cup, shall be entered into a Supplementary Competition that shall be known as the Dorset Sunday Plate Competition. One Entry fee will cover both Competitions.

### **4. ELIGIBILITY OF CLUBS**

The Competition shall be annual and open to all Dorset affiliated Clubs playing in Dorset Sanctioned Leagues, together with those Clubs affiliated to neighbouring County FA's and playing in a Dorset sanctioned Sunday League, subject to the approval of Association.

### **5. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS**

- a) A player shall not in the same Season play for more than one competing Club. For the purpose of Sunday player qualification the Dorset Sunday Football Challenge Cup and the Dorset Sunday Plate Competition, shall be deemed to be one Competition.

### **6. REGISTERED PLAYERS**

On the request of a competing Club, and upon payment of a fee as shown in Section 'C' of the Financial Appendix, the Secretary of the Association shall supply a list of all players registered by any other competing Club during the current season, together with full particulars. The registration book for the current season shall be open to inspection by the Secretary or other official of any Club upon due notice being given and upon payment of a fee as shown in Section 'C' of the Financial Appendix.

- g) Teams playing in the top two divisions of the Bournemouth Sunday League shall be exempt until the last 16 of the Dorset Sunday Football Challenge Cup, together with the top placed teams in the Blackmore Vale Football League and the Weymouth Football League, if the top placed team does not enter this will revert to the second placed team of the appropriate League.

### **12. TIME OF STARTING MATCHES**

The time of starting matches shall be 10.30 a.m. In the event of any variation of the above times being required, written application must be made to the Secretary of the Association, whose decision shall be final. In mid-week and holiday matches the time of kick-off may be agreed by mutual agreement, but no match shall begin at a time that will not permit of its conclusion not later than thirty minutes after sunset (according to calendar), other than floodlit matches. It shall be the duty of the Home Club to notify the match officials, the visiting Club and the DCFA Member in Charge, if appointed, of match particulars i.e. ground, dressing room, advertised time of kick-off, etc. at least five days before the

match where possible. Clubs failing to notify the visiting Club, match officials or the DCFA Member in Charge shall be Fined as shown in Section "C" of the Financial Appendix in each instance. Clubs and referees reported for late start without providing a satisfactory explanation shall be Fined as shown in Section "C" of the Financial Appendix.

## **RULES OF THE DORSET WOMEN'S CUP**

**The Rules of the DCFA Ltd Challenge Cup Competition shall apply to this competition with the following exceptions/adjustments:-**

### **2. TITLE**

The Cup shall be called the Dorset Women's Cup and shall not become the property of any one club. Teams knocked out of the Competition prior to the last 8 of the Dorset Women's Cup, shall be entered into a Supplementary Competition that shall be known as the [Dorset Women's Plate](#). Teams playing in Step 6 and above of the Women's Pyramid are exempt until the last eight of the Competition and those teams knocked out prior to the Quarter Finals will be automatically entered into a Secondary Competition. One Entry fee will cover both Competitions.

### **4. ELIGIBILITY OF CLUBS**

The Competitions for the Cups shall be annual and open to all Teams whose Club is affiliated to the Dorset County Football Association and teams whose club is affiliated to neighbouring County FA's that play in a Dorset sanctioned League provided that team does not enter a County Cup Competition in their parent County, subject to the approval of the Association.

### **RULE 5:**

g) Each Club may use a maximum of five substitutes in a match in any Cup Competition providing that they do not substitute for players who have been dismissed from the field of play by the Referee. A maximum of five substitutes shall be named to the Referee in his/her dressing room at least 30 minutes prior to the kick-off and shall be subject to the authority and jurisdiction of the Referee whether called upon to play or not. Unless a substitute actually plays, her Cup Eligibility will not be affected. A player who has been substituted herself 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. A person who has been accepted to act as an assistant Referee may not be used as a substitute in that match.

### **RULE 12:**

Time of starting matches shall be 2.00pm.

## **RULES OF THE DORSET COUNTY YOUTH CHALLENGE CUP (UNDER 18 an Under 17)**

**The Rules of the DCFA Ltd County Cup Competitions shall apply to this Competition with the following exceptions/adjustments:-**

### **RULE 2: (Title)**

The Cup shall be called the Dorset Youth Challenge (Under 18) Cup and Dorset Youth Challenge (Under 17) Cup and shall not become the property of any one Club.

### **RULE 4: (Eligibility of Clubs)**

The Competition shall be annual and open to such Dorset Clubs whose team compete in a sanctioned 11 aside Sunday based League and teams from other Counties who compete in the Dorset County Youth League: entries shall be approved by Association. Entry shall be made in writing to the Secretary of the Association by 1 June in each year. The fee shall be as shown in Section A of the Financial Appendix.

### **RULE 5 : (Qualification of Players)**

No Contract or YTS players shall be allowed to take part in the Competition. A player shall not in the same season play for more than one competing team.

**h) Under 18 Youth Cup** Under 18 years but over 15 years as at midnight 31 August

**Under 17 Youth Cup** Under 17 years but over 15 years as at midnight 31 August

### **RULE 7:**

The Ground shall be subject to the approval of the Association and the dimensions of the field of play shall be:- Maximum Length 130 yards (120 metres), Minimum Length 100 yards (90 metres), Maximum Breadth 100 yards (90 metres), Minimum Breadth 50 yards (45 metres).

The field of play must be clearly defined as in Law 1, goal lines roped off, and goal nets used. In Semi-Final and Final Ties, touchlines must also be roped off. Clubs in breach of this section of the Rule will be fined as shown in Section C of the Financial Appendix.

Adequate dressing room accommodation, including toilets and washing facilities, must be provided and the Home Club shall take proper precautions to preserve Law and Order.

### **RULE 8:**

The duration of the match shall be 90 minutes. In the event of a draw after 90 minutes an extra 30 minutes must be played. *If the scores are still level at the end of extra time the match shall be decided on kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with guidance given in the Laws of Association Football under the procedures to determine the winner of a match, Extra Time shall not be played.*

### **RULE 15: (Protests)**

In the case of a protest with respect to a player's age that player shall produce for inspection his birth certificate. If the protest is not upheld the protesting Club may be required to pay the expenses incurred by the player in obtaining such certificate. The Association shall have power to deal further with a Club adjudged to have

lodged a frivolous protest.

RULE 19:(Finance)

Gate money or a collection shall be taken at all matches.

RULE 21:(Power of the Association)

The first sentence shall not apply.

## **RULES OF THE DORSET YOUTH CUPS (Under 13 – Under 16)**

**The Rules of the Dorset County Cup Competitions shall apply to these Cup Competitions except where indicated below:**

### **Rule 2(Title)**

The Cup Competitions are as follows:

Under 16 Cup – Glassey Cup  
Under 15 Cup – Dorset Old Boys Cup  
Under 14 Cup – Harold Puley Cup  
Under 13 Cup – Braytown Cup

### **Rule 4(Eligibility of Clubs)**

All the Dorset affiliated Youth teams aged Under 13 – Under 16 years will be required to enter the appropriate Cup Competition, as will those Dorset Clubs who compete in Leagues sanctioned by other County Football Associations. Teams affiliated to any other County Association and who compete in the Dorset Youth League (Under 13 – Under 16 years) may enter the appropriate Cup Competition. Teams whose designated day for playing League matches is not Sunday shall not be permitted to enter the Competition.

### **Rule 5(Qualification of Players)**

b) line 5 – delete “-club” insert “-team”.

g) Each Club may use a maximum of five substitutes in a match in any Cup Competition providing that they do not substitute for players who have been dismissed from the field of play by the Referee. A maximum of five substitutes shall be named to the Referee in his/her dressing room at least 30 minutes prior to the kick-off and shall be subject to the authority and jurisdiction of the Referee whether called upon to play or not. Unless a substitute actually plays, his Cup Eligibility will not be affected. 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. A person who has been accepted to act as Referee may not be used as a substitute in that match.

h) **Under 16** Under 16 years but over 14 years as at midnight 31 August  
**Under 15** Under 15 years but over 13 years as at midnight 31 August  
**Under 14** Under 14 years but over 12 years as at midnight 31 August  
**Under 13** Under 13 years but over 11 years as at midnight 31 August

### **Rule 7 (Particulars of Grounds)**

The field of play must be clearly defined as in Law 1. Adequate dressing room accommodation, including toilets and washing facilities, must be provided.

## Artificial Football Pitches:

Artificial Football Turf pitches are allowed in these Competitions providing they meet the required performance standards and are listed on the FA's Register of 3G (Third Generation) Football Turf pitches. To meet the criteria a Football Turf pitch must pass a test every three years as defined in the FIFA Quality Concept for Football Turf.

When booking the facility, the home club must remember that the tie may require extra time and kicks from the penalty mark, therefore the facility would need to be booked for a suitable period to cover these contingencies.

The home club is responsible for advising their opponents and Match Referee of limitations or recommendations on the types of boot or stud that may be used on the surface when confirming the match details.

All other Competition Facility criteria shall still apply to this Competition as does the pitch and goal size.

All line markings shall be in accordance with the Laws of Association Football.

## Rule 8 (Duration of Match)

The duration of match and size of the ball shall be:

	<b>Size of Ball</b>	<b>Duration</b>
Under 16	5	40 minutes each way
Under 15	5	40 minutes each way
Under 14	4	35 minutes each way
Under 13	4	35 minutes each way

If the scores remain level the match shall be decided on kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with guidance given in the Laws of Association Football under the procedures to determine the winner of the match Extra Time shall not be played.

## Rule 10 (b)

Teams playing in Division One of the Bournemouth Youth League and the Dorset Youth League are exempt until the last sixteen of the Competition. Should the exemptions be greater than 10 then this shall be the last 32.

10( e) Choice of Ground: Unless otherwise mutually agreed, the Club first drawn in each couple shall have the home advantage. In the event of the "home club" postponing the match the home club must contact the away drawn team to see if the fixture can be reversed. in such case the Pitch Fee be split equally between the two competing teams, the home club paying the fee in full and the away team reimbursing the home club, 50% of the pitch fee, within seven days of the date of the match. Except in County Cup Final ties in the event of a neutral ground being selected for any County Cup Tie, then ten per cent of the nett gate shall be paid to the Club on whose ground the tie is played.

### **Rule 12(Time of Starting Matches)**

Matches may kick off between 12 noon and 2:00pm or earlier if both teams mutually agree to do so. Matches may not kick off after 2:00pm unless played under Floodlights.

### **Rule 13(Results of Ties)**

Home Clubs shall telephone results of ties to the Dorset County FA within three hours of the completion of matches. Notice of the result of each match shall be sent by both competing Clubs, together with the names and initials of the players, so as to be in the hands of the Secretary of the Association within three days of the date on which the match has been played.

Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall pay a Fine as shown in Section "C" of the Financial Appendix within seven days of demand; in default of their so doing they shall be struck out of the Competition, or, in the case of a losing Club, be dealt with by the Association.

### **Rule 14(Referees)**

a)Unless a Referee is appointed by the Dorset County Football Association, it is the responsibility of the home club to provide the referee and he/she shall be recognised by the Dorset County FA as the referee for that match and shall exercise all the powers of the referee in accordance with the Laws of the Game. Teams failing to play the fixture will be liable to a fine not exceeding £10.00 and the team/teams found to be at fault will be removed from the Competition.

(b) The Referee (whether qualified and registered or not) shall report to the the Dorset County Football Association Limited all details of misconduct relating to :

- (i) Sending Off Offences
- (ii) Caution Offences
- (iii) Misconduct by players after the match has ended
- (iv) Misconduct by Club Officials
- (v) Misconduct by Spectators

(c)**Club Assistant Referee** - Clubs will provide their own Club Assistant Referee for the duration of the game, who will report to the referee in his/her dressing room before the game. Clubs must provide Club Assistant Referee's flags. Any Club failing to provide a Club Assistant Referee shall be fined as shown in Section "C" of the Financial Appendix.

## **RULES OF THE DORSET YOUTH CUP (Under 12 & Under 11 – 9 v 9)**

**The Rules of the Dorset County Cup Competitions shall apply to this Cup Competition except where indicated below:**

### **Rule 2 (Title)**

The Cup Competition is as follows:

Under 12 Cup – Freddie Hobbs Cup

Under 11 Cup – Val Newbury Cup

### **Rule 4 (Eligibility of Clubs)**

All the Dorset affiliated Youth teams aged Under 12/11 years will be required to enter the appropriate County Cup Competition, as will those Dorset Clubs who compete in Leagues sanctioned by other County Football Associations. Teams affiliated to any other County Association and who compete in the Dorset Youth League (Under 12/11 years) may enter the Under 12/11 Cup Competition if they so wish.

### **Rule 5 (Qualification of Players)**

b) line 5 – delete “-club” insert “-team”.

g) Each team may use a maximum of nine substitutes in a match in the Under 11 County Cup Competition providing that they do not substitute for players who have been dismissed from the field of play by the Referee. A maximum of nine substitutes shall be named to the Referee in his/her dressing room at least 30 minutes prior to the kick-off and shall be subject to the authority and jurisdiction of the Referee whether called upon to play or not. Unless a substitute actually plays, his Cup Eligibility will not be affected. 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. A person who has been accepted to act as Referee may not be used as a substitute in that match.

No team shall play with six or less players.

Under 12--- Under 12 years but over 10 years as at midnight 31 August

Under 11--- Under 11 years but over 9 years as at midnight 31 August

### **Rule 7 (Particulars of Grounds)**

The field of play must be clearly defined as in Law 1. Adequate dressing room accommodation, including toilets and washing facilities, must be provided. The recommended pitch size for 9v9 football is: 80 x 50 yards, goals being 16 or 21 feet x 7 feet.

## **Artificial Football Pitches:**

Artificial Football Turf pitches are allowed in these Competitions providing they meet the required performance standards and are listed on the FA's Register of 3G (Third Generation) Football Turf pitches. To meet the criteria a Football Turf pitch must pass a test every three years as defined in the FIFA Quality Concept for Football Turf.

When booking the facility, the home club must remember that the tie may require extra time and kicks from the penalty mark, therefore the facility would need to be booked for a suitable period to cover these contingencies.

The home club is responsible for advising their opponents and Match Referee of limitations or recommendations on the types of boot or stud that may be used on the surface when confirming the match details.

All other Competition Facility criteria shall still apply to this Competition as does the pitch and goal size.

All line markings shall be in accordance with the Laws of Association Football.

### **Rule 8(Duration of Match)**

The duration of match and size of the ball shall be:

	<b>Size of Ball</b>	<b>Duration</b>
<b>Under 12</b>	4	30 minutes each way
<b>Under 11</b>	4	30 minutes each way

If the scores remain level at Full Time the match shall be decided on kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with guidance given in the Laws of Association Football under the procedures to determine the winner of the match.

### **Rule 10**

10( e) Choice of Ground: Unless otherwise mutually agreed, the Club first drawn in each couple shall have the home advantage. In the event of the "home club" postponing the match the home club must contact the away drawn team to see if the fixture can be reversed. in such case the Pitch Fee be split equally between the two competing teams, the home club paying the fee in full and the away team reimbursing the home club, 50% of the pitch fee, within seven days of the date of the match. Except in County Cup Final ties in the event of a neutral ground being selected for any County Cup Tie, then ten per cent of the nett gate shall be paid to the Club on whose ground the tie is played.

### **Rule 12(Time of Starting Matches)**

Matches may kick off between 10:00am and 12:00noon or earlier if both teams mutually agree to do so.

### **Rule 13(Results of Ties)**

Home Clubs shall telephone results of ties to the Public Relations Officer within three hours of the completion of matches. Notice of the result of each match shall be sent by both competing Clubs, together with the names and initials of the players, so as to be in the hands of the Secretary of the Association within three days of the date on which the match has been played.

Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall pay a Fine as shown in Section "C" of the Financial Appendix within seven days of demand; in default of their so doing they shall be struck out of the Competition, or, in the case of a losing Club, be dealt with by the Association.

### **Rule 14(Referees)**

a) Unless a Referee is appointed by the Dorset County Football Association, it is the responsibility of the home club to provide the referee and he/she shall be recognised by the Dorset County FA as the referee for that match and shall exercise all the powers of the referee in accordance with the Laws of the Game. Teams failing to play the fixture will be liable to a fine not exceeding £10.00 and the team/teams found to be at fault will be removed from the Competition.

(b) The Referee (whether qualified and registered or not) shall report to the Dorset County Football Association Limited all details of misconduct relating to :

- (i) Sending Off Offences
- (ii) Caution Offences
- (iii) Misconduct by players after the match has ended
- (iv) Misconduct by Club Officials
- (v) Misconduct by Spectators

(c) **Club Assistant Referee** - Clubs will provide their own Club Assistant Referee for the duration of the game, who will report to the referee in his/her dressing room before the game. Clubs must provide Club Assistant Referee's flags. Any Club failing to provide a Club Assistant Referee shall be fined as shown in Section "C" of the Financial Appendix.

Footnote: Normal rules of Association Football apply concerning: Ball in and out of play, method of scoring, Offside and Fouls and misconduct.

## **Rules of the Under 10 Cup**

**The Rules of the Dorset County Mini-Soccer League shall apply to this Competition except where stated below;**

### **Rule 1;**

All Dorset Affiliated Clubs with teams competing in the Under 10 Dorset Mini-Soccer League will be required to enter this Competition, as will those Dorset Under 10 teams competing in Mini-Soccer Leagues sanctioned by any other County Association. Teams affiliated to any other County Association and who compete in the Dorset Under 10 Mini-Soccer League may enter this Competition.

### **Rule 2;**

Application shall be to the Secretary of the Dorset County Football Association Limited by 1 June each season, using the proforma provided and accompanied by the entry fee. Any Club withdrawing a team from this Competition may be liable to a fine not exceeding £20.

### **Rule 3;**

A team failing without reasonable cause to play its match on the appointed date will forfeit the match

### **Rule 4;**

The Rounds of the Competition shall be played on a Sunday on dates determined by the Dorset County Football Association Limited. The time of starting matches shall be 2.00 pm, unless mutually agreed otherwise, except in the case of the Final Tie. The Home Club shall take proper precautions to preserve Law and Order.

### **Rule 5;**

Duration of matches shall be 25 minutes each way. If scores are equal at the end of normal time, the match shall be decided on kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with guidance given in Laws of Association Football under the procedures to determine the winner of the match.

### **Rule 6;**

- a) A
  - b) No player shall play for more than one team in this Competition in the same season.
  - c) Emergency Registrations will not be permitted.
  - d) No player may play in a Semi-Final or Final Tie of this Competition unless eligible to play for his/her team seven days before the date set for the Semi Final ties.
  - e) In the case of matches not played on the original date, only players who were eligible on the date of the original match and those returning from suspension shall be allowed to play.

Any team infringing this Rule or part thereof, shall be removed from the Competition.

## **Rule 7; Match Administration**

- a) The home team must confirm match details with their opponents no later than five days prior to the day of the match. Failure to do so will result in the Club being fined the sum of £5.
- b) The home team must telephone the result to the Public Relations Officer by no later than 5.30 pm on the day of the match. Failure to do so will result in the Club being fined the sum of £5. Clubs with more than one team having a home tie on the same day should arrange for one person only to telephone.
- c) Result sheets from both teams must be sent to the County Office within three days of the match. Failure to do so will result in a fine of £5.
- d) The home club must telephone the appointed referee no later than three days prior to the match and notify the Referee of any postponement or changes of details. Failure to do so will result in the club being fined £10.

## **Rule 8;**

The Final Tie shall be played on a ground to be determined by the Dorset County F.A. Ltd. In the Final Tie extra time shall be played if necessary. If the scores are still level at the end the match should be decided on kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the International Board Decision of 27 June 1970.

## **Rule 10**

10( e) Choice of Ground: Unless otherwise mutually agreed, the Club first drawn in each couple shall have the home advantage. In the event of the "home club" postponing the match the home club must contact the away drawn team to see if the fixture can be reversed. In such case the Pitch Fee be split equally between the two competing teams, the home club paying the fee in full and the away team reimbursing the home club, 50% of the pitch fee, within seven days of the date of the match. Except in County Cup Final ties in the event of a neutral ground being selected for any County Cup Tie, then ten per cent of the nett gate shall be paid to the Club on whose ground the tie is played.

## **AWARDS**

In addition to the Cup, the Association shall present up to fourteen awards to both teams in the Final Tie.

## **Artificial Football Pitches:**

Artificial Football Turf pitches are allowed in this Competition providing it meets the required performance standards and are listed on the FA's Register of 3G (Third Generation) Football Turf pitches. To meet the criteria a Football Turf pitch must pass a test every three years as defined in the FIFA Quality Concept for Football Turf.

When booking the facility, the home club must remember that the tie may require extra time and kicks from the penalty mark, therefore the facility would need to be booked for a suitable period to cover these contingencies.

The home club is responsible for advising their opponents and Match Referee of limitations or recommendations on the types of boot or stud that may be used on the surface when confirming the match details.

All other Competition Facility criteria shall still apply to this Competition as does the pitch and goal size.

All line markings shall be in accordance with the Laws of Association Football.

## **RULES OF THE DORSET GIRLS' CUPS (Under 11 - 17, & Plate Competitions)**

**The Rules of the Dorset County Cup Competition shall apply to these Cup Competitions except where indicated below:**

### **Rules of the Under 11 – Under 17 Cup**

#### **Rule 2(Title)**

The Dorset County Football Association shall decide annually which of the following County Cup Competitions shall be administered by the DCFA:

Under 11 Girls' Cup & Plate Competitions

Under 12 Girls' Cup & Plate Competitions

Under 13 Girls' Cup & Plate Competitions

Under 14 Girls' Cup & Plate Competitions

Under 15 Girls' Cup & Plate Competitions

Under 16 Girls' Cup & Plate Competitions

Under 17 Girls' Cup & Plate Competitions

#### **Rule 4(Eligibility of Clubs)**

All the Dorset affiliated Girls Clubs aged Under 11 – Under 17 years will be required to enter the appropriate Cup Competition, as will those Dorset Clubs who compete in Leagues sanctioned by other County Football Associations. Teams affiliated to any other County Association and who compete in the Dorset Youth League (Under 11 – Under 17 years) may enter the appropriate Cup Competition.

Age banding and playing format for Girls' County Cup Competitions are run in line with the Dorset Youth League (Girls Section).

The 'Cup' and 'Plate' Competitions are only run at the discretion of the Women's Committee of the Dorset County Football Association and provided there are a minimum of eight entrants in the 'Cup' Competition. Teams knocked out prior to the semi-final stage will automatically be entered into the relevant 'Plate' Competition.

#### **Rule 5(Qualification of Players)**

- a) A player shall not in the same Season play for more than one competing Club. For the purpose of Girls Cup Competitions player qualification the Girls' Cup & Plate Competitions, shall be deemed to be one Competition.

g) Substitutes: As in the Rules of the Dorset Girls League.

k) A Player who is registered with a Regular Weekly run FA Girls Centre of Excellence may not play in the Competition, although players registered with an FA Advanced Coaching Centre are eligible, as are players registered with the FA South West Girls' Centre of Excellence.

#### **Rule 7. (Particulars of Ground)**

## **Artificial Football Pitches:**

Artificial Football Turf pitches are allowed in these Competitions providing they meet the required performance standards and are listed on the FA's Register of 3G (Third Generation) Football Turf pitches. To meet the criteria a Football Turf pitch must pass a test every three years as defined in the FIFA Quality Concept for Football Turf.

When booking the facility, the home club must remember that the tie may require extra time and kicks from the penalty mark, therefore the facility would need to be booked for a suitable period to cover these contingencies.

The home club is responsible for advising their opponents and Match Referee of limitations or recommendations on the types of boot or stud that may be used on the surface when confirming the match details.

All other Competition Facility criteria shall still apply to this Competition as does the pitch and goal size.

All line markings shall be in accordance with the Laws of Association Football.

## **Rule 8(Duration of Match)**

The duration of match and size of the ball shall be:

	<b>Size of Ball</b>	<b>Duration</b>
Under 11	4	30 minutes each way
Under 12	4	30 minutes each way
Under 13	4	35 minutes each way
Under 14	4	35 minutes each way
Under 15	5	40 minutes each way
Under 16	5	40 minutes each way
Under 17	5	45 minutes each way

If the scores are still level after normal time the match shall be decided on kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with guidance given in the Laws of Association Football under the procedures to determine the winner of the match.

## **Rule 10 (c)**

Delete second and third sentences.

## **Rule 10**

10( e) Choice of Ground: Unless otherwise mutually agreed, the Club first drawn in each couple shall have the home advantage. In the event of the "home club" postponing the match the home club must contact the away drawn team to see if the fixture can be reversed. in such case the Pitch Fee be split equally between the two competing teams, the home club paying the fee in full and the away team reimbursing the home club, 50% of the pitch fee, within seven days of the date of the match. Except in County Cup Final ties in the event of a neutral ground being selected for any County Cup Tie, then ten per cent of the nett gate shall be paid to the Club on whose ground the tie is played.

### **Rule 11 (a)**

Any Club refusing or failing to play a Club against which it has been drawn, upon the day, or within the time allocated to it, and without sufficient reason for so doing, shall be adjudged to have lost the match, and shall be liable to such fine as may be imposed by the Association.

Clubs who are affected by school commitments may make written application for a postponement in writing at least 7 days prior to the game: the request should include a signed letter from the school giving the players names and the nature of the school commitment: once written confirmation has been accepted the re arranged tie shall be played the following Saturday.

### **Rule 12(Time of Starting Matches)**

All matches will kick off at 10:30am except on the Finals Day, when kick off times may be staggered.

### **Rule 13(Results of Ties)**

Home Clubs shall telephone results of ties to the Cup & Competitions Manager within three hours of the completion of matches. Notice of the result of each match shall be sent by both competing Clubs, together with the names and initials of the players, so as to be in the hands of the Secretary of the Association within three days of the date on which the match has been played.

Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall pay a Fine as shown in Section "C" of the Financial Appendix within seven days of demand; in default of their so doing they shall be struck out of the Competition, or, in the case of a losing Club, be dealt with by the Association.

### **Rule 14 (Referees)**

a)Unless a Referee is appointed by the Dorset County Football Association, it is the responsibility of the home club to provide the referee and he/she shall be recognised by the Dorset County FA as the referee for that match and shall exercise all the powers of the referee in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

(b) The Referee (whether qualified and registered or not) shall report to the Dorset County Football Association Limited all details of misconduct relating to:

- (i) Sending Off Offences
- (ii) Caution Offences
- (iii) Misconduct by players after the match has ended
- (iv) Misconduct by Club Officials
- (v) Misconduct by Spectators

(c) **Club Assistant Referee** - Clubs will provide their own Club Assistant Referee for the duration of the game, who will report to the referee in his/her dressing room before the game. Clubs must provide Club Assistant Referee's flags. Any Club failing to provide a Club Assistant Referee shall be fined as shown in Section "C" of the Financial Appendix.

**AWARDS**

In addition to the Cup, the Association shall present up to a maximum of sixteen awards to both teams in the Final Tie of the Under 15 -17 Competition and a maximum of fourteen awards in the Under 11 - 14 Competitions.