**DCFA BISHOP AUCKLAND HEART FOUNDATION CHARITY CUP COMPETITION RULES 2023/24**

This competition shall be named the **DCFA BISHOP AUCKLAND HEART FOUNDATION CHARITY CUP COMPETITION**

**Administration:**

* 1. The entry fee shall be TEN pounds, payable to the Association, and made payable to the Durham County FA.
	2. The venue for the final shall be decided by the committee of the competition.
	3. The winners will be presented with the **BISHOP AUCKLAND HEART FOUNDATION CHARITY CUP**, and the beaten finalists plus match officials will be presented with mementos. The replacement Cup is to be returned in a clean condition and engraved no later than the 1st March the following year.

**Eligibility of Players:**

2.1 All players must be registered with the league their club plays in at least seven clear days before playing in the competition.

2.2 To play in the Semi Final or Final a player must have played in an earlier round of the competition and played in at least **two** league fixtures for that team.

2.3 A player can only play for one team in the Competition.

**Match arrangements:**

3.1 All games shall be 90 minutes duration (45 minutes each way) which may be reduced to a minimum of 60 minutes (30 minutes each way) with agreement of both captains and the match referee, prior to kick off.

3.2 All games shall kick off at the stipulated time. Any club causing a late kick off will be £10.00

3.3 The home team must advise the visitors and match official (s), not less than seven days before the date fixed for playing the game, directions to the ground, colours etc. In the event of a colour clash the away team must change.

The home team must also enquire by what means the match officials wish to receive payments.

3.4 If the home teams ground is not available they must provide an alternative venue, if an alternative cannot be found then the fixture will be reversed to their opponents ground, if that is not available/playable the fixture will be rescheduled. No game shall be postponed unless a team is participating in an FA or County Cup competition.

3.5 No club shall cancel any game without giving 28 days’ notice to the competition secretary.

3.6 Both teams must complete a team sheet, which is then to be exchanged with the referee and opponents at least 30 minutes before kick off and a completed copy with result, goal scorers and all participating players **(including substitutes – ensuring you tick if played)** emailed to eve.walker@durhamfa.com within 72 hours of the game being concluded. Alternatively you can submit your Match Day squad and result **(again including substitutes – ensuring you tick if played)** on the Matchday App. Failure to submit either will result in a £10.00 being levied.

Failure to tick a substitute who has taken part in the game will result in that player not being ineligible should the team reach the Cup Final.

3.7 If the score is level at the end of the game, the result will be decided by penalty kicks. THERE IS NO EXTRA TIME.

3.8 Each team may nominate a maximum of seven (whose names must be given to the referee before kick off), all of whom may be used at any time, except to replace a player who has been dismissed from the game. A substituted player then becomes a substitute him/herself (roll on/roll off) and therefore can take part in the game again. The substitution can only take place during a stoppage in play and with the referee’s permission. Any substitutes used MUST be indicated on the official team sheet.

3.9 The half time interval shall be (5) five minutes it can be extended to a maximum of (15) minutes with the referees permission.

**Referees:**

4.1 Referee’s will be appointed by the competition and shall have the power to decide the fitness of the ground of play

4.2 Referees fees will be £35.00 inclusive of travel. The method of payment should be agreed between the home team and match officials in advance of the fixture.

4.3 In the semi-final ties Assistant referees will be appointed and entitled to a fee of £25.00 inclusive of travel.

4.4 The home team is responsible for all match officials fees.

4.5 Referees are requested to report all late kick offs and late confirmations to the competition secretary within

 three (3) days

**General:**

5.1 Protests must be submitted within (3) three days of the event being protested accompanied by a fee of £25.00,

 in duplicate in the event of the protest being upheld and deposit will be returned to the protesting club.

5.2 Any club playing an ineligible player will be fined £30.00 pounds and excluded from the competition and their

 opponents automatically included in the next round.

5.3 Any club failing to play a game will be fined £30.00 and their opponents automatically included in the next round

5.4 The Annual General meeting of the competition shall be held no later than 14th June. The venue is to be chosen

 by the Secretary all nominations and/or amendments to any rule must be received no later than 14th May each

 year and signed by the secretary of the proposing club and seconded by another club secretary.

ANY LAST MINUTE EMERGENCIES OUTSIDE OF OFFICE HOURS (8.30AM-5PM MON-FRI) CONTACT:

Sebastian Stockbridge or John Topping (07721401192)