

GENERAL RULES OF COUNTY COMPETITION

1. The entire control and management of all County Competitions shall be vested in the Association, whose decision shall, in all matters affecting such Competitions, be final.
2. The various Cups shall be competed for annually in accordance with these Rules and the Special Rules governing each Competition.

The Association may reject the entry of any team for any Competition if they deem such a course desirable, and shall not have power to entertain any application for entry or exemption which is not made in accordance to the Rules. Teams in membership of Leagues in the National League System at Step 6 and above will be required to enter the Frank Pattison Challenge Cup, Teams in membership of Leagues in the FA Women's Football Pyramid at Tier 6 and above will be required to enter the DCFA Women's Challenge Cup, teams below Tier 6 may apply if they are in their leagues top division and their ground grading is at the standard required. All other teams below step 6 and Tier 6 will be required to enter the relevant Competition for their level of football unless the competition is optional.

3. Any club desiring exemption shall make an application prior to 1st August of that season, accompanied by a fee as follows: For a Club in membership of the Mens Premier League - £3000; for a Club in the Womens Super League £1,000; Mens Championship (1st Division) - £2000; Womens Super League Championship £500; Mens League One - £1000; League Two - £800; All Clubs in National League steps or tiers 1-4 or FA Womens Pyramid tiers 3-4 £300, steps or tiers 5-6 - £100, all Clubs below Step or Tier 6 - £50.
4. (a) A player shall not in the same season play for more than one competing team in the same Competition, but the members of each respective team may be changed during the series of matches in any particular Competition. Unless a satisfactory reason is given, each competing Team must play its full available strength team.

(b) In all rounds of a competition a player must have been a registered member of his team for at least SEVEN days previous to the time fixed for the playing of a match. No player will be allowed to compete in any competition's Final unless they have played in an earlier round of that season's competition. A recognised playing member is one, in the case of a player under written contract is registered with The Football Association or, in the case of a non-contract player, is registered with the League in which the Team currently competes at least SEVEN days previous to the time fixed for playing the round, except in the Frank Pattison Challenge Cup where it MUST be NO LATER THAN NOON on the day of playing the fixture.

In the case of postponed matches only those players who were qualified on the date fixed for the playing of the original match shall be eligible to take part.
A Player who has been suspended may play in a postponed tie after the term of their suspension has expired.
- (c) To play in the Frank Pattison Challenge Cup, Women's Challenge Cup, Sunday Cup, Trophy, Bob Strophair Minor Cup, and DCFA Women's Cup a player MUST be at least 16 (sixteen years old). To play in the Youth Cup and Under 18 Sunday Cup a player must be at least 15 (fifteen) years old on

or before the 31st August in the playing season, to play in competitions below under 18 players must be eligible to play as per FA rules two year age banding

5. A list of players must be exchanged on the Official Forms in the presence of the referee at least 30 minutes before kick off and a copy given to the referee . Such list must be sent to the Competition Administrator within SEVENTY-TWO HOURS of the conclusion of the match. Teams infringing this Rule shall be fined the sum of £20.00
6. The Home Team playing in any Competition shall, not less than SEVEN days before the match, send to the opposing Team and Match Officials written details of ground directions and colours.
7. If the Association have any doubt as to the qualification of any player taking part in any Competition, they shall have the power to call upon such player and/ or a Team Official to which the player has played for, to prove that he/she is qualified according to the Rules, and, failing satisfactory proof, the Association may disqualify such player, and may remove the team from such Competition and/or impose such other penalty as they may deem fit, should time permit the Association have the right to reinstate their opponents if the defaulting team won.
8. The Association shall have the power to disqualify any competing team or player, who may be proved to be guilty of any breach of the Rules of the Association.
9. The teams in each Competition shall be drawn in pairs. The winners shall progress to the next round and this shall be continued until the end of the Competition. Immediately after each draw is made notice shall be given to each team of the name of their opponents, and the date and time when the tie shall be played. All ties in each round shall be played on one date and at such hours as the Association may determine (EXCEPT THE FRANK PATTISON CHALLENGE CUP). An earlier date may be mutually agreed in all competitions if seven day notice is given to the Competition Administrator and permission granted. Matches may be played under Floodlights providing the Association has been notified.
10. In each tie the game shall be played on the ground of the first team drawn, unless otherwise directed by the Association or otherwise mutually agreed, and the consent of the Competition obtained. The ground MUST provide changing rooms for both teams and match officials. In such cases the Home team in the original draw must notify their opponents and the Match Officials. A team not having their home ground available shall provide one free of all charges to their opponent's, or play upon its opponent's ground. If the ground of the team having choice is considered unsuitable for a cup tie, the opposing team may appeal to the Association at least SEVEN DAYS before the date stated for the tie, such appeal must be accompanied by a fee of **£25**, which shall be forfeited if the appeal is not upheld. The Association may order the match to be played on the ground of the appealing team or on a neutral ground. If such appeal is not upheld the complaining team may be called upon to pay the expenses incurred in deciding the appeal. Each team must take every precaution to keep its ground in playing condition, and if necessary either team may require the Referee to visit the grounds at least two hours before the advertised kick-off time and decide as to its fitness of play. Teams shall not mutually arrange to play a match in lieu of a cup tie. If a match is played to a conclusion it must be a cup tie, but if for any cause a match is not completed it must be reported to the Association to investigate. Postponed matches shall be played on the following Saturday or Sunday or Midweek (Frank Pattison Challenge Cup) as the case may be, unless

the teams agree to an earlier date and agreed by the Association. This Rule does not apply to the final tie.

11. When the colours of two competing teams are similar the visiting team must change. Goalkeepers must wear colours to distinguish them from other Players and Match Officials.
12. The duration of each match shall be NINETY minutes (except in U12s,U13s,U14s and U 16s Youth Minor), unless otherwise agreed by the captains of the competing teams and the referee prior to kick off, the minimum time in all 90 minute fixtures is 60 minutes (30 minutes each way). The Referee is the sole time keeper and his/her decision is final.
13. There will be NO extra time in any competition. Where the scores are level after normal time a penalty kick competition shall take place to decide the winners.
14. Any team intending to scratch from any competition will be fined the exemption fee for that competition and must give notice of its intention to do so to the Secretary of the opposing team, the match Officials, and the Competition Administrator of the Association, not less than five days before the date fixed for playing. Teams failing to give satisfactory reason for scratching may be barred from entering a County Cup competition the following season.
15. The Association shall fix the ground for the Final Ties in all Competitions and shall have direct control of the arrangements. There shall be no replays in any fixture. Should a fixture (including the Final) result in a draw at normal time then a penalty kick competition shall take place..
16. No team shall be allowed to scratch in the last round of any Qualifying Competition or in any Competition Proper, and any team failing to play, without showing a good and sufficient cause, will be fined the exemption fee for that competition and may be barred from entering a County Cup competition the following season.
17. The dimensions of the field of play shall be within the maximum and minimum lengths as stated within the Laws of the Game and FA Guidelines.
18. In all Ties the Association shall appoint all match officials. Present members of either of the competing teams shall be ineligible. The fees of all Officials appointed by the Association to officiate in any match prior to the Final Tie shall be paid by the team upon whose ground the match takes place. Officials who are present, are entitled to half their fee if the match to which they were appointed is not played due to the game being cancelled due to pitch conditions. In all games match officials are expected to be in attendance 45 minutes prior to kick-off. Referees must report any game that does not commence on time, the defaulting team will be fined £20.00.
19. The appointed Referee shall have power to decide as to the fitness of the ground in all matches and the decision shall be final subject to either in the case of a ground of a Local Authority or the owners of a ground, the Representative of that body is the sole arbiter and whose decision must be accepted. Should any match be postponed on two consecutive occasions due to the Home Team ground being unfit to play, the match must be played on the first available pitch (home or away) on the first available date, a decision of which must be made at least **THREE DAYS** before the fixture is due to be played. In the Frank

Pattison Challenge Cup the game would be expected to be played midweek. If the appointed Referee is not available and there is any doubt about the fitness of the ground the Association shall be empowered to appoint a local Referee to inspect the ground and make a decision.

20. The Secretary of each team shall send notice of the result, to the Competition Administrator within twenty-four hours of the conclusion of the match. Teams failing to comply with this Rule shall be fined £20.00 and should the payment not be received within SEVEN DAYS of notification the team may be removed from the competition if they progressed. In addition the team will be liable for any action the Association consider necessary.
21. All questions relating to the qualifications of competitions or interpretation of the Rules, or any dispute or protest whatever, shall be referred to the Association, whose decision shall be final and binding. Every protest must be made in writing, and must contain the particulars of the grounds upon which it was founded. The protest must be lodged with the Association, accompanied by a fee of £25.00, within seventy-two hours of the conclusion of the match. The fee shall be forfeited to the Association in the event of the protest not being sustained. The Association may order any team engaged in a dispute or protest to pay such sum as may be considered necessary towards any expenses incurred. Any protest relating to the ground, goal posts or cross bars, or other appurtenances of the game, shall not be entertained by the Association unless an objection has been lodged with the Referee and Captain of the opposing team before the commencement of the fixture. The Referee shall require the responsible team to rectify the cause of the objection, if this is possible, without unduly delaying the progress of the match.
22. The Competition Administrator shall, within three days of receipt of the same, send a copy of the protest and particulars to the team the protest is lodged against. Each team must be represented at any hearing by a member of its Committee and may support its case by witnesses. If a member of the Association is connected with a team concerned in a dispute or protest, they shall not sit on the Panel dealing with the dispute or protest being considered. A Barrister or Solicitor may only represent the Association or Team, of which he/she is a member if he/she be the Chair or Secretary of the team involved in the protest. Any person summoned to attend an appeal, protest, complaint, claim or enquiry must attend personally or be represented.
23. In ALL competitions (prior to the final) where a gate is taken, the competing teams shall equally divide the gate receipts (after all expenses have been paid i.e. floodlighting – NOT TO EXCEED **£30.00**. Officials fees and the travelling expenses of the visiting team which shall be assessed at £2.00 per mile, one way, on the straight line distance between the grounds of the competing teams). In ALL Final ties following all necessary payments being made, the remaining gate receipts will be divided equally between the Durham County Football Association and both competing Teams. Ground and other expenses referred to are:- Printing, posting, advertising, police charges and Referees' charges. The home team shall provide for the taking of admission money and the visiting team for checking the same. All members and season ticket holders must pay the admission charges to the ground and stands. The gate receipts must be divided immediately after the match, and a full statement and settlement must be made within seven days of the match, and a copy thereof, to the Competition Administrator in the Frank Pattison Challenge Competition only. In matches where the gate receipts are not sufficient to pay the expenses described above, the deficit must be shared by the competing teams after deductions. In all final ties the Association shall take the whole of the gate receipts and pay all expenses.

24. When a match is postponed through causes over which neither team has any control, the expenses shall be paid out of the receipts of the second match.
25. In any match ordered to be replayed in consequences of a breach of Rule, the team in default shall not receive any share of the proceeds of such replayed match without the consent of the Association, and such consent shall only be given under special circumstances. If consent is not given, the share will be allocated to the Association.
26. In all Final Ties the Association shall have power to demand from any affiliated team the use of its ground.
27. When the winning team in any Competition is known the Association shall present the Trophy to such team along with a Bond to be signed by three Club Officials. The Frank Pattison Challenge Cup, Sunday Cup, Trophy, Bob Strophair Minor Cup and Youth Cup shall be returned to the Association immediately after the presentation and a replacement cup provided to the winners who will be responsible for its return to the Association on or before the first day of March in the ensuing year, in good order, condition and engraved. Should the Trophy be destroyed or damaged by fire or other accident whilst under care or custody of the team, the team shall refund to the Association the amount of its current value or the cost of thorough repair, and should the Trophy be lost or destroyed from any other cause whilst under the care or custody of the team, the team shall, in addition to any other penalty which the Association may impose, pay the Association a sum of £100 as and for liquidated damage, any team failing to return a Trophy by 1st March in good order, clean condition and engraved as required, will be fined £50.
28. All fines imposed upon teams etc. (other than fines upon suspended players), shall be paid to the Association within **SEVEN DAYS** from the date of the notification of the fine. Should the fine not be paid within that period a charge may be levied and the team may be barred from entering a County Cup competition the following season.
29. All notices required to be given to the Association by any of these Rules or Special Rules of a Competition shall be addressed to the Competition Administrator.
30. Numbered shirts must be worn in all cup ties. Referees are to report any club in default of this rule. teams in default of the Rule will be fined £25.00.
31. The closing date and entry fees for ALL County Cup Competitions shall be decided Association.
32. In all County Cup ties corner flags and goal nets must be used. If a team is reported for not providing goal nets they will be fined £50.00.
33. The minimum charges for admission shall be fixed by the Association.
34. The fees and expenses for Match Officials shall be fixed by the Association.
35. The Home team must provide suitable changing accommodation for both teams and match officials.
36. The half-time interval shall be five minutes and not exceed **fifteen** minutes.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR DURHAM COUNTY CUP COMPETITIONS

1. Home Secretary must communicate with the Referee (and Assistant Referees if appointed) and opponents, at least SEVEN DAYS before the stated date of the tie, who should reply without delay.
2. Referees failing to accept appointments must immediately notify the Competition Administrator and Referee Development Officer of their inability to accept same stating reasons of such inability.
3. Referees MUST report late starts within seventy-two hours of the conclusion of the match.
4. In cases of a postponed fixture, the same Official(s) will be appointed, unless the Official has closed that date, or a written statement from both teams declaring the unsuitability of such referee is received. Such notice from the Referee, or such notice from both teams, must reach the Competition Administrator within forty eight hours of the conclusion of the match.
5. Secretaries must carefully note the alterations in the General Rules for County Cup Competitions, and the Special Rules of the Competition in which the team is competing.
6. Where the percentage of gate receipts is paid, a statement will be enclosed with the draw for each Round for the purpose of the home team. The visiting team must sign each Statement.
7. **There is NO EXTRA TIME in any Durham County FA County Cup competition.**
8. In accordance with Rule 5, General Rules of County Competitions, a list of players must be exchanged on the Official Forms in the presence of the referee at least 30 minutes before kick off and a copy given to the referee .

Such list must be sent to the Competition Administrator within SEVENTY-TWO HOURS of the conclusion of the match. Teams infringing this Rule shall be fined the sum of £20.00
9. The Secretary of each team shall send notice of the result, to the Competition Administrator within twenty-four hours of the conclusion of the match. Teams failing to comply with this Rule shall be fined £20.00 and should the payment not be received within SEVEN DAYS of notification the team may be removed from the competition if they progressed. In addition the team will be liable for any action the Association consider necessary.
10. Referee and Assistant Referees when appointed, shall be in attendance at ground a minimum of 45 minutes (Frank Pattison and Women's Challenge Cups) before the advised time of kick-off.
11. When a match has a Referee and two Assistant Referees appointed by Durham County Football Association, the pitch must be cordoned off so that spectators cannot obstruct the Assistant Referees view or carrying out their duties.
12. The half-time interval should be FIVE minutes and not exceed **fifteen** minutes.
13. Ties in all rounds of the DURHAM COUNTY FRANK PATTISON CHALLENGE CUP ONLY **must** be played **midweek** and under floodlights.

THE DURHAM COUNTY FA FRANK PATTISON CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITION

The Competition shall be called “**THE DURHAM COUNTY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION FRANK PATTISON CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITION**”.

1. The Competitions shall be open to reserve teams of the Affiliated Professional Clubs and the first teams of all other clubs affiliated to the Association possessing a private and enclosed ground and approved by Association.
2. The minimum ground standards are:-
 - (a) A good playing area including artificial turf pitches (which are on the FA register) and enclosed in permanent fencing.
 - (b) Changing accommodation of good standard with separate room for both teams and match officials and with separate washing and showering facilities.
 - (c) Ability to take a gate.
 - (d) Separate toilet facilities for spectators.
3. All teams at FA National League step 6 and above must enter the competition or pay the relevant exemption fee as stated in General Rule 3. Application must be accompanied by an entrance fee of £20.00.
4. A player must be a recognised playing member of his team as set out in Rule 4 of the General Rules of County Cup Competitions which includes being at least 16 (sixteen years old) before playing in the competition
5. Each match must be started by the Referee punctually at the appointed time. Failing this, the Referee must report the circumstances to the D.C.F.A. within seventy-two hours of the conclusion of the match. The team responsible for the late kick off will be fined £25.00.
6. **Substitutes: Five substitutes from five nominated to the Referee prior to kick off ALL will be allowed to play.**
7. The duration of each match shall be NINETY minutes (both half of 45 minutes) unless otherwise agreed by the captains of the competing teams and the referee prior to kick off, the minimum time in all 90 minute fixtures is 60 minutes (30 minutes each way). The Referee is the sole time keeper and his/her decision is final.
8. The competition shall be conducted in the following manner. There shall be: A Qualifying Competition and a Competition Proper The last sixteen teams which competed in the previous season shall be exempted until the Competition Proper.
9. The Qualifying Competition shall consist of all the other teams and they shall compete until only sixteen are left. These teams shall enter the Competition Proper.
10. The Competition Proper shall consist of the sixteen teams which are exempted from the Qualifying Competition and the sixteen winners of the Qualifying Competition. These shall compete until the Final Tie is played.

11. Where floodlights are used in any tie in this competition the Home team may make a charge not exceeding £30.00 towards the cost of same.
12. The charges of admission to the ground, shall be a minimum of £3.00 per adult and £1.00 for concessions.
13. The match official's fees shall be as set by the Association.
14. In accordance with Rule 5, General Rules of County Competitions, a list of players must be exchanged on the Official Forms in the presence of the referee at least 30 minutes before kick off and a copy given to the referee . Such list must be sent to the Competition Administrator within SEVENTY-TWO HOURS of the conclusion of the match. Teams infringing this Rule shall be fined the sum of £20.00
15. Goal nets and corner flags must be used in all matches, failure to do so will result in a fine of £50. The appointed Referee shall have power to decide as to the fitness of the ground in all matches and the decision shall be final subject to either in the case of a ground of a Local Authority or the owners of a ground, the Representative of that body is the sole arbiter and whose decision must be accepted.
16. The duration of each match shall be NINETY minutes unless otherwise agreed by the captains of the competing teams and the referee prior to kick off, the minimum time in all 90 minute fixtures is 60 minutes (30 minutes each way). The Referee is the sole time keeper and his/her decision is final.
17. When the draw is issued teams have seven days in which to inform the Association of the date and time it will actually be played.
18. The Secretary of each team shall send notice of the result, to the Competition Administrator within twenty four hours of the conclusion of the match. Teams failing to comply with this Rule shall be fined £20.00 and should the payment not be received within SEVEN DAYS of notification the team may be removed from the competition if they progressed. In addition the team will be liable for any action the Association consider necessary.
19. Before playing in the Final a player must have played in an earlier round of that season's competition.

THE DURHAM COUNTY FA WOMEN'S CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITION

The Competition shall be called **THE DURHAM COUNTY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION "WOMEN'S CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITION"**.

1. All teams at FA Women's Pyramid of Football at Tier 6 and above must enter the competition or pay the relevant exemption fee as stated in General Rule 3. Application must be accompanied by an entrance fee of £20.00.
1. The minimum ground standards are:-
 - a. A good playing area including artificial turf pitches (which are on the FA register) and enclosed in permanent fencing.
 - b. Changing accommodation of good standard with separate room for both teams and match officials and with separate washing and showering facilities.
 - c. Ability to take a gate.
 - d. Separate toilet facilities for spectators.
2. A player must be a recognised playing member of her team as set out in Rule 4 of the General Rules of County Cup Competitions which includes being at least 16 (sixteen years old) before playing in the competition
3. Each match must be started by the Referee punctually at the appointed time. Failing this, the Referee must report the circumstances to the D.C.F.A. within seventy-two hours of the conclusion of the match. The team responsible for the late kick off will be fined £25.00.
4. The Secretary of each team shall send notice of the result, to the Competition Administrator within twenty four hours of the conclusion of the match. Teams failing to comply with this Rule shall be fined £20.00 and should the payment not be received within SEVEN DAYS of notification the team may be removed from the competition if they progressed. In addition the team will be liable for any action the Association consider necessary.
5. **Substitutes: Five substitutes from five nominated to the Referee prior to kick off ALL will be allowed to play.**
6. The duration of each match shall be NINETY minutes (45 minutes each half), unless otherwise agreed by the captains of the competing teams and the referee prior to kick off, the minimum time in all 90 minute fixtures is 60 minutes (30 minutes each way). The Referee is the sole time keeper and his/her decision is final.
7. The competition shall be conducted in the following manner: All teams entered will go into an open draw.
8. Where floodlights are used in any tie in this competition the Home team may make a charge not exceeding £30.00 towards the cost of same.
9. The charges of admission to the ground, shall be a minimum of £3.00 per adult and £1.00 for concessions.

10. The match official's fees shall be as set by the Association.
11. In accordance with Rule 5, General Rules of County Competitions, a list of players must be exchanged on the Official Forms in the presence of the referee at least 30 minutes before kick off and a copy given to the referee . Such list must be sent to the Secretary of the Association within SEVENTY-TWO HOURS of the conclusion of the match. Teams infringing this Rule shall be fined the sum of £20.00
12. Goal nets and corner flags must be used in all matches, failure to do so will result in a fine of £50.
13. The appointed Referee shall have power to decide as to the fitness of the ground in all matches and the decision shall be final subject to either in the case of a ground of a Local Authority or the owners of a ground, the Representative of that body is the sole arbiter and whose decision must be accepted.
14. When the draw is issued teams have seven days in which to inform the Association of the date it will actually be played.
15. Before playing in the Final a player must have played in an earlier round of that season's competition.

DURHAM COUNTY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION
DURHAM TROPHY AND BOB STROPHAIR MINOR CUP COMPETITIONS

IMPORTANT POINTS TO BE OBSERVED

1. Home Secretaries must communicate with the Referee (and Assistant Referees if appointed), at least SEVEN DAYS before the stated date of the tie, who should reply without delay.
2. A player must be a recognised playing member of his team as set out in Rule 4 of the General Rules of County Cup Competitions which includes being at least 16 (sixteen years old) before playing in the competition
3. A list of players must be exchanged on the Official Forms in the presence of the referee at least 30 minutes before kick off and a copy given to the referee . Such list must be sent to the Competition Administrator within SEVENTY-TWO HOURS of the conclusion of the match. Teams infringing this Rule shall be fined the sum of £20.00
4. Each match must be started by the Referee punctually at the appointed time. Failing this, the Referee must report the circumstances to the D.C.F.A. within seventy-two hours of the conclusion of the match. The team responsible for the late kick off will be fined £25.00.
5. The Secretary of each team shall send notice of the result, to the Competition Administrator within twenty four hours of the conclusion of the match. Teams failing to comply with this Rule shall be fined £20.00 and should the payment not be received within SEVEN DAYS of notification the team may be removed from the competition if they progressed. In addition the team will be liable for any action the Association consider necessary.
6. Referees must report full particulars of matches which are not finished.
7. Where the scores are level at normal time a penalty kick competition shall take place to decide the winners.
8. No travelling expenses for teams are paid in these competitions. The Home team is responsible for the payment of match officials if appointed.
9. Visiting teams must be in attendance at least 30 minutes prior to kick-off.
10. Match officials failing to accept appointments must state reason for not accepting game.
11. The duration of each match shall be NINETY minutes (45 minutes each half), unless otherwise agreed by the captains of the competing teams and the referee prior to kick off, the minimum time in all 90 minute fixtures is 60 minutes (30 minutes each way). The Referee is the sole time keeper and his/her decision is final.

TROPHY CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITION

The Competition shall be called **“THE DURHAM COUNTY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION TROPHY COMPETITION”**.

1. The Competition shall be open to all teams playing within the following leagues who must enter, Wearside League, Northern Alliance and North Riding League (Leagues highest division) their playing area must be enclosed, dug outs are provided and a Technical area marked out.
2. Each team wishing to enter the competition shall give notice of such desire to the Association on or before the Date set by the Association for that season accompanied by an entrance fee of £10.00.
3. A player must be a recognised playing member of his team as set out in Rule 4 of the General Rules of County Cup Competitions which includes being at least 16 (sixteen years old) before playing in the competition. No player shall play in this Competition within 28 days of having played in the following Competitions: F.A. Premier League, The English Football League, Northern Premier, Northern Leagues and Frank Pattison Challenge Cup.
4. The Secretary of each team shall send notice of the result, to the Competition Administrator within twenty four hours of the conclusion of the match. Teams failing to comply with this Rule shall be fined £20.00 and should the payment not be received within SEVEN DAYS of notification the team may be removed from the competition if they progressed. In addition the team will be liable for any action the Association consider necessary.
5. The Competition shall be conducted in the following manner. There shall be: A Qualifying Competition, and a Competition Proper.

The four Clubs which competed in the Semi-Final Ties of the previous season (provided they have again entered) shall be exempted until the Competition Proper.

6. The duration of each match shall be NINETY minutes (45 minutes each half), unless otherwise agreed by the captains of the competing teams and the referee prior to kick off, the minimum time in all 90 minute fixtures is 60 minutes (30 minutes each way). The Referee is the sole time keeper and his/her decision is final.
7. Each match must be started by the Referee punctually at the appointed time. Failing this, the Referee must report the circumstances to the D.C.F.A. within seventy-two hours of the conclusion of the match. The team responsible for the late kick off will be fined £25.00.
8. The Association shall appoint Assistant Referees from the last eight (quarter finals).
9. The charges for admission to ground shall be a minimum of £2 for adults and £1 concessions.
9. The scale of charges for match officials shall be set by Council.
10. Goal nets and corner flags shall be used in all matches. If they are not provided the home team will be fined £50.

11. Before playing in the Final a player must have played in an earlier round of this season's competition.
12. Changing accommodation of good standard with separate rooms for both teams and match officials and with separate washing and showering facilities must be provided, if this is not possible then another venue must be provided at the home teams expense or the fixture must be reversed.
13. **SUBSTITUTES: Each Team may nominate a maximum of FIVE (whose names MUST be given to the Referee before Kick Off), from which ALL FIVE may be used at any time, except to replace a player who has been dismissed from the game. A Player who has been substituted becomes a substitute and may replace a Player at any time during a stoppage in play and with the Referees permission. Any substitutes used MUST be shown on the Official Team Sheet**

BOB STROPHAIR MINOR CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITION

The Competition shall be called **“THE DURHAM COUNTY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION BOB STROPHAIR MINOR CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITION”**.

1. The Competition shall be open to all Saturday adult teams who do **NOT play in a League at step 6 and above or in their Leagues Highest Division below step 6** and are affiliate to the Association. All eligible teams must enter.
2. Each team wishing to enter the competition shall give notice of such desire to the Association on or before the Date set by the Association for that season accompanied by an entrance fee of £10.00.
3. A player must be a recognised playing member of his team as set out in Rule 4 of the General Rules of County Cup Competitions which includes being at least 16 (sixteen years old) before playing in the competition

No player shall play in this Competition within **twenty-eight days of having played in the following Leagues and Competitions: FA Premier, The Football League, Northern Premier, Northern League along with Wearside League, Northern Alliance or North Riding League highest division or Durham County FA Frank Pattison Challenge Cup or Trophy Competitions.**

4. The Competition shall be conducted in the following manner. There shall be a Qualifying Round and a Competition Proper

The four Clubs which competed in the Semi-Final Ties of the previous season (provided they have again entered) shall be exempted until the Competition Proper.

5. The duration of each match shall be NINETY minutes (45 minutes each half), unless otherwise agreed by the captains of the competing teams and the referee prior to kick off, the minimum time in all 90 minute fixtures is 60 minutes (30 minutes each way). The Referee is the sole time keeper and his/her decision is final.
6. Each match must be started by the Referee punctually at the appointed time. Failing this, the Referee must report the circumstances to the D.C.F.A. within seventy-two hours of the conclusion of the match. The team responsible for the late kick off will be fined £25.00.
7. The Secretary of each team shall send notice of the result, to the Competition Administrator within twenty four hours of the conclusion of the match. Teams failing to comply with this Rule shall be fined £20.00 and should the payment not be received within SEVEN DAYS of notification the team may be removed from the competition if they progressed. In addition the team will be liable for any action the Association consider necessary.
8. The scale of charges for Referees as directed by the Association
9. The Association shall appoint the Assistant Referees in the Quarter Final (last eight) ties.

10. Goal nets and corner flags shall be used in all matches. If they are not provided the home team will be fined £50.
11. Before playing in the Final a player must have played in an earlier round of this season's competition.
12. Changing accommodation of good standard with separate rooms for both teams and match officials and with separate washing and showering facilities must be provided, if this is not possible then another venue must be provided at the home teams expense or the fixture must be reversed.
13. **SUBSTITUTES: Each Team may nominate a maximum of SEVEN (whose names MUST be given to the Referee before Kick Off), from which ALL SEVEN may be used at any time, except to replace a player who has been dismissed from the game. A Player who has been substituted becomes a substitute and may replace a Player at any time during a stoppage in play and with the Referees permission. Any substitutes used MUST be shown on the Official Team Sheet**

DURHAM COUNTY SUNDAY CUP COMPETITION

The Competition shall be called **"THE DURHAM COUNTY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION SUNDAY CUP COMPETITION"** .

1. The Competition shall be open to the teams affiliated to the Durham County Football Association playing in Leagues whose fixtures are normally arranged to be played on Sundays. Entry is optional.
2. Each team wishing to enter the competition shall give notice of such desire to the Association on or before the Date set by the Association for that season accompanied by an entrance fee of £10.00.
3. A player must be a recognised playing member of his team as set out in Rule 4 of the General Rules of County Cup Competitions which includes being at least 16 (sixteen years old) before playing in the competition
4. Each match must be started by the Referee punctually at the appointed time. Failing this, the Referee must report the circumstances to the D.C.F.A. within seventy-two hours of the conclusion of the match. The team responsible for the late kick off will be fined £25.00.
5. The duration of each match shall be NINETY minutes (45 minutes each half), unless otherwise agreed by the captains of the competing teams and the referee prior to kick off, the minimum time in all 90 minute fixtures is 60 minutes (30 minutes each way). The Referee is the sole time keeper and his/her decision is final.
6. The Secretary of each team shall send notice of the result, to the Competition Administrator within twenty four hours of the conclusion of the match. Teams failing to comply with this Rule shall be fined £20.00 and should the payment not be received within SEVEN DAYS of notification the team may be removed from the competition if they progressed. In addition the team will be liable for any action the Association consider necessary.
7. All ties in this Competition shall kick-off at 10.30am unless the home team play at a 3G venue shared with other teams, the home team will then inform their opponents and match official(s) of the kick off time.
8. Where the scores are level after normal time a penalty kick competition shall take place to decide the winners.
9. The scale of charges for match officials, shall be set by the Association.
10. Goal nets and corner flags shall be used in all matches. If they are not provided the home team will be fined £50.
11. The Competitions shall be conducted in the following manner:
There shall be a Qualifying Competition and a Competition Proper. The 32 Clubs which competed in the last rounds of the previous season (provided they have entered) and 32 from the Qualifying Competition shall go into the First Round Proper.

12. No Player under written contract, including trainee players, registered with The Football Association shall be eligible to play in this Competition.
13. Before playing in the Final a player must have played in an earlier round of this season's competition.
14. The scale of charges for match officials, shall be set by the Association.
15. Changing accommodation of good standard with separate rooms for both teams and match officials and with separate washing and showering facilities must be provided, if this is not possible then another venue must be provided at the home teams expense or the fixture must be reversed.
16. **SUBSTITUTES: Each Team may nominate a maximum of SEVEN (whose names MUST be given to the Referee before Kick Off), from which ALL SEVEN may be used at any time, except to replace a player who has been dismissed from the game. A Player who has been substituted becomes a substitute and may replace a Player at any time during a stoppage in play and with the Referees permission. Any substitutes used MUST be shown on the Official Team Sheet**

WOMEN'S COUNTY CUP COMPETITION

1. The Competition shall be called **“THE DURHAM COUNTY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION WOMEN'S COUNTY CUP COMPETITION”**.
2. The Competitions shall be open to all Women's Teams who play in Leagues below Tier 6 of the FA Womens Pyramid of football and are affiliated to this Association and approved by the Association. Entry is optional.
3. Each team wishing to enter the competition shall give notice of such desire to the Association on or before the Date set by the Association for that season accompanied by an entrance fee of £10.00.
4. A player must be a recognised playing member of her team as set out in Rule 4 of the General Rules of County Cup Competitions which includes being at least 16 (sixteen years old) before playing in the competition.

No player shall play in the competition within 28 days of playing for a team at Tier 6 or above of the FA Women's Pyramid of football.

No team can have more than THREE players on the Field of Play at the same time who have played in a team playing at Tier 6 or above of the FA Women's Pyramid of football.

5. Each match must be started by the Referee punctually at the appointed time. Failing this, the Referee must report the circumstances to the D.C.F.A. within seventy-two hours of the conclusion of the match. The team responsible for the late kick off will be fined £25.00.
6. The duration of each match shall be NINETY minutes (45 minutes each half), unless otherwise agreed by the captains of the competing teams and the referee prior to kick off, the minimum time in all 90 minute fixtures is 60 minutes (30 minutes each way). The Referee is the sole time keeper and his/her decision is final.
7. The Secretary of each team shall send notice of the result, to the Competition Administrator within twenty four hours of the conclusion of the match. Teams failing to comply with this Rule shall be fined £20.00 and should the payment not be received within SEVEN DAYS of notification the team may be removed from the competition if they progressed. In addition the team will be liable for any action the Association consider necessary.
8. All ties in this Competition shall kick-off at 1.30pm unless the home team play at a 3G venue shared with other teams, the home team will inform their opponents and match official(s) of the kick off time.
9. Where the scores are level after normal time a penalty kick competition shall take place to decide the winners.
10. The scale of charges for match officials, shall be set by the Association.

11. Goal nets and corner flags shall be used in all matches. If they are not provided the home team will be fined £50.
12. No Player under written contract, including trainee players, registered with The Football Association shall be eligible to play in this Competition.
13. Before playing in the Final a player must have played in an earlier round of this season's competition.
14. Changing accommodation of good standard with separate rooms for both teams and match officials and with separate washing and showering facilities must be provided, if this is not possible then another venue must be provided at the home teams expense or the fixture must be reversed.
15. **SUBSTITUTES: Each Team may nominate a maximum of SEVEN (whose names MUST be given to the Referee before Kick Off), from which ALL SEVEN may be used at any time, except to replace a player who has been dismissed from the game. A Player who has been substituted becomes a substitute and may replace a Player at any time during a stoppage in play and with the Referees permission. Any substitutes used MUST be shown on the Official Team Sheet**

SATURDAY YOUTH CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITION

The Competition shall be called **“THE DURHAM COUNTY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION SATURDAY YOUTH CUP COMPETITION”**.

1. The Competitions shall be open to all Under 18 and Under 17 Youth teams affiliated to this Association and approved by the Association. Teams from other County FAs may be accepted into the competition providing they are playing in a competition solely sanctioned by the Durham County FA.
2. Every Youth team at Under 18's (which play on Saturdays) must enter the Youth Cup and an application form with details must be submitted with the entrance fee of £5.00 by the date fixed by the Association. The competition is optional for Under 17 teams playing on a Saturday.
3. Each match must be started by the Referee punctually at the appointed time. Failing this, the Referee must report the circumstances to the D.C.F.A. within seventy-two hours of the conclusion of the match. The team responsible for the late kick off will be fined £25.00.
4. The duration of each match shall be NINETY minutes (45 minutes each half), unless otherwise agreed by the captains of the competing teams and the referee prior to kick off, the minimum time in all 90 minute fixtures is 60 minutes (30 minutes each way). The Referee is the sole time keeper and his/her decision is final.
5. The Secretary of each team shall send notice of the result, to the Competition Administrator within twenty four hours of the conclusion of the match. Teams failing to comply with this Rule shall be fined £20.00 and should the payment not be received within SEVEN DAYS of notification the team may be removed from the competition if they progressed. In addition the team will be liable for any action the Association consider necessary.
6. The dimensions of the field of play shall be within the maximum and minimum lengths as stated within the Laws of the Game and FA Guidelines.
7. All ties in this Competition shall kick-off on Saturday am the home team are responsible for informing their opponents and match official(s) of the kick off time.
8. Where the scores are level after normal time a penalty kick competition shall take place to decide the winners.
9. The scale of charges for match officials, shall be set by the Association.
10. Goal nets and corner flags shall be used in all matches. If they are not provided the home team will be fined £25.
11. Players under written contract can only play for a team from the club they are contracted to in this Competition.
12. Before playing in the Final a player must have played in an earlier round of this season's competition.

13. Changing accommodation of good standard with separate rooms for both teams and match officials and with separate washing and showering facilities must be provided, if this is not possible then another venue must be provided at the home teams expense or the fixture must be reversed.

14. **SUBSTITUTES: Each Team may nominate a maximum of SEVEN (whose names MUST be given to the Referee before Kick Off), from which ALL SEVEN may be used at any time, except to replace a player who has been dismissed from the game. A Player who has been substituted becomes a substitute and may replace a Player at any time during a stoppage in play and with the Referees permission. Any substitutes used MUST be shown on the Official Team Sheet**

SUNDAY UNDER 18S YOUTH CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITION

The Competition shall be called **“THE DURHAM COUNTY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION SUNDAY YOUTH CUP COMPETITION”**.

1. The Competitions shall be open to all Under 18 and Under 17 Youth teams that play on Sundays and are affiliated to this Association and approved by the Association. Teams from other County FAs may be accepted into the competition providing they are playing in a competition solely sanctioned by the Durham County FA. The competition is optional.
2. Any team wishing to enter must submit an application form with full details along with the entrance fee of £5.00 by the date fixed by the Association.
3. Each match must be started by the Referee punctually at the appointed time. Failing this, the Referee must report the circumstances to the D.C.F.A. within seventy-two hours of the conclusion of the match. The team responsible for the late kick off will be fined £25.00.
4. The duration of each match shall be NINETY minutes (45 minutes each half), unless otherwise agreed by the captains of the competing teams and the referee prior to kick off, the minimum time in all 90 minute fixtures is 60 minutes (30 minutes each way). The Referee is the sole time keeper and his/her decision is final.
5. The Secretary of each team shall send notice of the result, to the Competition Administrator within twenty four hours of the conclusion of the match. Teams failing to comply with this Rule shall be fined £20.00 and should the payment not be received within SEVEN DAYS of notification the team may be removed from the competition if they progressed. In addition the team will be liable for any action the Association consider necessary.
6. The dimensions of the field of play shall be within the maximum and minimum lengths as stated within the Laws of the Game and FA Guidelines.
7. All ties in this Competition shall kick-off at 1.30pm unless agreed by both teams, the match official and the Competition Administrator notified at least seven days before the date and time fixed. The home team are responsible for informing their opponents and match official(s) of the kick off time.
8. Where the scores are level after normal time a penalty kick competition shall take place to decide the winners.
9. The scale of charges for match officials, shall be set by the Association.
10. Goal nets and corner flags shall be used in all matches. If they are not provided the home team will be fined £25.
11. Players under written contract can only play for a team from the club they are contracted to in this Competition.

12. Before playing in the Final a player must have played in an earlier round of this season's competition.
13. Changing accommodation of good standard with separate rooms for both teams and match officials and with separate washing and showering facilities must be provided, if this is not possible then another venue must be provided at the home teams expense or the fixture must be reversed
14. **SUBSTITUTES: Each Team may nominate a maximum of SEVEN (whose names MUST be given to the Referee before Kick Off), from which ALL SEVEN may be used at any time, except to replace a player who has been dismissed from the game. A Player who has been substituted becomes a substitute and may replace a Player at any time during a stoppage in play and with the Referees permission. Any substitutes used MUST be shown on the Official Team Sheet**

YOUTH MINOR SUNDAY CUP

The Competitions shall be called **“THE DURHAM COUNTY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION YOUTH MINOR SUNDAY CUP”**.

1. The Competitions shall be open to all Under 16 and Under 15 Youth teams affiliated to this Association and approved by the Association. Teams from other County FAs may be accepted into the competition providing they are playing in a competition solely sanctioned by the Durham County FA. The competition is optional.
2. Any team wishing to enter must submit an application form with full details along with the entrance fee of £5.00 by the date fixed by the Association.
3. Each match must be started by the Referee punctually at the appointed time. Failing this, the Referee must report the circumstances to the D.C.F.A. within seventy-two hours of the conclusion of the match. The team responsible for the late kick off will be fined £25.00.
4. The duration of each match shall be EIGHTY minutes (40 minutes each half), unless otherwise agreed by the captains of the competing teams and the referee prior to kick off, the minimum time allowed is 60 minutes (30 minutes each way). The Referee is the sole time keeper and his/her decision is final.
5. The Secretary of each team shall send notice of the result, to the Competition Administrator within twenty four hours of the conclusion of the match. Teams failing to comply with this Rule shall be fined £20.00 and should the payment not be received within SEVEN DAYS of notification the team may be removed from the competition if they progressed. In addition the team will be liable for any action the Association consider necessary.
6. The dimensions of the field of play shall be within the maximum and minimum lengths as stated within the Laws of the Game and FA Guidelines.
7. All ties shall kick-off at 1.30pm on a date stated by the Association. The kick off time can be changed providing both teams and the match official are in agreement and the Competition Administrator notified at least seven days before the date and time fixed. The home team are responsible for informing their opponents and match official(s) of the kick off time.
8. Where the scores are level after normal time a penalty kick competition shall take place to decide the winners.
9. The scale of charges for match officials, shall be set by the Association.
10. Goal nets and corner flags shall be used in all matches. If they are not provided the home team will be fined £25.
11. Players under written contract can only play for a team from the club they are contracted to in this Competition.

12. Before playing in the Final a player must have played in an earlier round of this season's competition.
13. Changing accommodation of good standard with separate changing rooms for both teams and match officials and with separate washing and showering facilities should be provided.
14. **SUBSTITUTES: Each Team may nominate a maximum of SEVEN (whose names MUST be given to the Referee before Kick Off), from which ALL SEVEN may be used at any time, except to replace a player who has been dismissed from the game. A Player who has been substituted becomes a substitute and may replace a Player at any time during a stoppage in play and with the Referees permission. Any substitutes used MUST be shown on the Official Team Sheet**

UNDER 13's & 14'S
SUNDAY YOUTH CUP COMPETITIONS

The Competitions shall be called **"THE DURHAM COUNTY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION UNDER 13's, 14's SUNDAY CUP COMPETITIONS"**.

The Competitions shall be open to all Under 13 and Under 14 Youth teams affiliated to this Association and approved by the Association. Teams from other County FAs may be accepted into the competition providing they are playing in a competition solely sanctioned by the Durham County FA. The competition is optional.

1. Any team wishing to enter must submit an application form with full details along with the entrance fee of £5.00 by the date fixed by the Association.
2. The duration of each match shall be SEVENTY minutes (35 minutes each half), unless otherwise agreed by the captains of the competing teams and the referee prior to kick off, the minimum time allowed is 60 minutes (30 minutes each way). The Referee is the sole time keeper and his/her decision is final.
3. Each match must be started by the Referee punctually at the appointed time. Failing this, the Referee must report the circumstances to the D.C.F.A. within seventy-two hours of the conclusion of the match. The team responsible for the late kick off will be fined £25.00.
4. The Secretary of each team shall send notice of the result, to the Competition Administrator within twenty four hours of the conclusion of the match. Teams failing to comply with this Rule shall be fined £20.00 and should the payment not be received within SEVEN DAYS of notification the team may be removed from the competition if they progressed. In addition the team will be liable for any action the Association consider necessary.
5. The dimensions of the field of play shall be within the maximum and minimum lengths as stated within the Laws of the Game and FA Guidelines.
6. All kick-offs shall be 1.30pm on a date stated by the Association. The kick off time can be changed providing both teams and the match official are in agreement and the Competition Administrator notified at least seven days before the date and time fixed. The home team are responsible for informing their opponents and match official(s) of the kick off time.
7. Where the scores are level after normal time a penalty kick competition shall take place to decide the winners.
8. The scale of charges for match officials, shall be set by the Association.
9. Goal nets and corner flags shall be used in all matches. If they are not provided the home team will be fined £25.
10. Players under written contract can only play for a team from the club they are contracted to in this Competition.

11. Before playing in the Final a player must have played in an earlier round of this season's competition.
12. Changing accommodation of good standard with separate changing rooms for both teams and match officials and with separate washing and showering facilities should be provided.
13. **SUBSTITUTES: Each Team may nominate a maximum of SEVEN (whose names MUST be given to the Referee before Kick Off), from which ALL SEVEN may be used at any time, except to replace a player who has been dismissed from the game. A Player who has been substituted becomes a substitute and may replace a Player at any time during a stoppage in play and with the Referees permission. Any substitutes used MUST be shown on the Official Team Sheet**

UNDER 12's,14'S & 16'S GIRLS CUP COMPETITIONS

The Competitions shall be called "THE DURHAM COUNTY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION GIRLS UNDER 12's, 14's & 16's SUNDAY CUP COMPETITIONS".

1. The Competitions shall be open to all girls Under 12, Under 14 and Under 16s Youth teams affiliated to this Association and approved by the Association. Teams from other County FAs may be accepted into the competition providing they are playing in a competition solely sanctioned by the Durham County FA. The competition is optional.
2. Any team wishing to enter must submit an application form with full details along with the entrance fee of £5.00 by the date fixed by the Association.
3. A player shall be eligible to play for only one team in the competition in any season, but members may be changed during the course of the season. Players must NOT have attained the relevant date of birth for these competitions by 1st September.
4. The team having choice of ground may play on its own ground even if same is not enclosed. If gate money or a collection is not taken, the expenses of the match must be borne by the home team.
5. The scale of charges of Referees (and Assistant Referees) shall be as directed by the Association.
6. Goal nets and corner flags are to be used in all ties.

Playing times:

Under 12's (9 v 9)	30 minutes each way
Under 14's (11 v 11)	35 minutes each way
Under 16's (11 v 11)	40 minutes each way

The Secretary of the team shall be the person held responsible for ensuring that each player taking part is eligible to do so.

7. All players MUST be registered members of their team as stated in Rule 4 of the General Rules.
8. No player shall play in the Final of these Competitions unless they have played in an earlier round.
9. A player must be a recognised player of the team that has entered the respective Cup Competition. A recognised player is one who, in the current season has been registered with the league in which the team plays, at least seven days before the date set for the playing of the tie.
10. **SUBSTITUTES: Each Team may nominate a maximum of SEVEN (whose names MUST be given to the Referee before Kick Off), from which ALL SEVEN may be used at any time, except to replace a player who has been dismissed from the game. A Player who has been substituted becomes a substitute and may replace a Player at any time during a stoppage in play and with the Referees permission. Any substitutes used MUST be shown on the Official Team Sheet**
11. Where the scores are level at normal time a penalty kick competition shall take place to decide the winners.

