

Rule Changes are in BOLD

GENERAL RULES OF COUNTY COMPETITION

1. The entire control and management of all County Competitions shall be vested in the Council, 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.
3. The Council may reject the entry of any club for any Competition if they deem such a course desirable, and shall not have power to entertain any application for entry to exemption which is not made in accordance to the Rules. **Clubs in membership above Supply League level will be required to enter the Challenge Cup and Supply League Clubs will be required to enter the Trophy.** The final decision will be made by the Council of The Durham County FA.
4. (a) A player shall not in the same season play for more than one competing Club 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 give, each competing Club must play its full available strength.

(b) In all rounds of a competition a player must have been a registered member of his club 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 Club currently competes at least SEVEN days previous to the time fixed for playing the round, except in the 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 his suspension has expired.

(e) Three substitutes from five nominated to the Referee will be allowed in the Challenge Cup **and Trophy**, in all other competitions Seven Substitutes from Seven nominated to the Referee prior to kick off can be used as repeat substitutions, ie if a player is substituted then he/she becomes a substitute, except to replace a player who is dismissed by the Referee. Substitutes must be nominated prior to kick-off, and the substitution must take place at the half-way line, and the referee must have given permission.

(f) To play in the Challenge Cup, Sunday Cup, Trophy, Minor Cup and Women's cup a player **MUST** be at least 16 (sixteen years old). To play in the Youth 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.
5. The Home Club playing in any Competition shall, not less than SEVEN days before the match, send to the opposing Club and Match Officials written details of ground directions and colours. A written list of actual players (Christian name and Surname) on the official Team Sheet shall be exchanged 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. Clubs infringing this Rule shall be fined the sum of £20.00
6. If the Council 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, or the Club to which the player belongs or for which he/she has

played, to prove that he/she is qualified according to the Rules, and, failing satisfactory proof, the Council may disqualify such player, and may remove the club from such Competition and/or impose such other penalty as they may deem fit, should time permit the Council have the right to reinstate their opponents if the defaulting team won.

7. The Council shall have the power to disqualify any competing Club, or player, or players for any competing Club, who may be proved to be guilty of any breach of the Rules of the Association.
8. The Clubs in each Competition shall be drawn in pairs. These pairs shall compete, and the winners shall be drawn and shall compete in the same manner, and this shall be continued until the end of the Competition. Immediately after each draw is made notice shall be given to each Club of the name of its opponent, and the date and hour when the tie shall be played. All ties in each round shall be played on one date and at such hours as the Council may determine (EXCEPT THE CHALLENGE CUP). An earlier date may be mutually agreed upon if seven days notice be given to the Secretary of the Association. Matches may be played under Floodlights providing the Secretary of Durham C.F.A. has been notified.
9. In each tie the game shall be played on the ground of the first Club drawn, unless otherwise directed by the Council or otherwise mutually arranged, and the consent of the Council obtained. The ground MUST provide changing rooms for both teams and match officials. In such cases the Home Club in the original draw must notify the controlling Official or Officials. A club not having a ground shall provide one free of all charge to the visiting club, or play upon its opponent's ground. If the ground of the Club having choice of ground is considered unsuitable for a cup tie, the opposing club may appeal to the Council 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 sustained. The Council may order the match to be played on the ground of the appealing Club or on a neutral ground. If such appeal be not sustained: the complaining Club may be called upon to pay the expenses incurred in deciding the appeal. Each Club must take every precaution to keep its ground in playing condition, and if necessary either Club may require the Referee to visit the grounds two hours before the advertised kick-off time and decide as to its fitness of play. Clubs 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 played again at the same venue. Postponed matches shall be played on the following Saturday or Sunday or **Midweek (Challenge Cup)** as the case may be, unless the Club agrees to an earlier date. This Rule does not apply to the final tie.
10. When the colours of two competing Clubs are similar the visiting team must change. Goalkeepers must wear colours to distinguish them from other Players, Spectators and Match Officials.
11. The duration of each match shall be one hour and a half (except in U12s, U13s, U14s and Youth Minor), unless otherwise agreed by the captains of the competing teams, when not less than 70 minutes duration (two [2] periods of 35 minutes) may be played, notice of the same being given to the Referee before the commencement of the match. The Referee shall allow for time wasted or lost through accident or other causes.
12. **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.
13. Any Club 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 Club, the controlling Official or Officials, and the Secretary of the Association, not less than five days before the date fixed for playing. If a Club decides to scratch after a drawn game, intimation must be given to its opponent's at the close of the match. Clubs failing to give satisfactory reason for scratching may not be allowed to enter the Competition the following season, and be fined the exemption fee for that competition.

14. The Council 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 Final. Should the Final, result in a draw at normal time then a penalty kick competition shall take place. Where it is considered necessary, the Council may arrange for the Final Tie of any Competition to be played on a home and away basis.
15. No Club shall be allowed to scratch in the last round of any Qualifying Competition or in any Competition Proper, and any Club failing to play, without showing a good and sufficient cause, will be fined the exemption fee for that competition.
16. The dimensions of the field of play for Cup Ties 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).
17. In all Ties the Council shall appoint all match officials. Present members of either of the competing Clubs shall be ineligible. The expenses of all Officials appointed by the Council to officiate in any match prior to the Final Tie shall be paid by the Club upon whose ground the match takes place. Officials who are present, are entitled to their travelling expenses and half their fee if the match to which they were appointed is not played. 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.
- 18. 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 Challenge Cup the game **must** be played midweek. If the appointed Referee is not available and there is any doubt about the fitness of the ground the Secretary of the Association shall be empowered to appoint a local Referee to inspect the ground and make a decision.
19. The Secretary of each Club shall send notice of the result, to the Secretary of the Association, within seventy-two hours of the conclusion of the match. Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be fined ten pounds and in default of the payment shall be struck out of the Competition. In addition the Club will be liable for any action the Council consider necessary.
20. All questions relating to the qualifications of competitions or interpretation of the Rules, or any dispute or protest whatever, shall be referred to the Council, whose decision shall be final and binding on both Clubs. Every protest must be made in writing, and must contain the particulars of the grounds upon which it was founded. Three copies of 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 Council may order any Club engaged in a dispute or protest to pay such sum as may be considered necessary towards defraying expenses incurred. Any protest relating to the ground, goal posts or bars, or other appurtenances of the game, shall not be entertained by the Council unless an objection has been lodged in writing, with the Referee and Captain of the opposing team before the commencement of the match. The Referee shall require the responsible Club to remove the cause of the objection, if this is possible, without unduly delaying the progress of the match.

21. The Secretary of the Association shall, within three days of receipt of the same, send a copy of the protest and particulars to the Club protested against. Each Club must be represented by its Secretary or a member of its Committee and may support its case by witnesses. If a member of the Council is connected with a Club concerned in a dispute or protest, he shall not sit on the Council while the dispute or protest is being considered. A Barrister or Solicitor may only represent an Association Competition or Club, of which he is a member if he be the Chairman or Secretary. Any person summoned to attend an appeal, protest, complaint, claim or enquiry must attend personally and be legally represented.
22. In ALL competitions (prior to the final) where a gate is taken, the competing clubs 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 Clubs). 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 each competing Club. Ground and other expenses referred to are:- Printing, posting, advertising, police charges and Referees' charges. Travelling expenses to be allowed shall be the actual amount paid, but not exceeding the return fare by nearest bus route. The home Club shall provide for the taking of admission money and the visiting Club for checking the same. The expenses of gate-keepers and checkers shall not be a charge on the gate except when turnstiles are used, when Clubs may charge for those who work them. All members and season ticket holders must pay the admission charges to the ground and stands. The gate receipts must be approximately 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 Association shall be sent to the Secretary of the Association in the Challenge Competition only. In matches where the gate receipts are not sufficient to pay the expenses described above, the deficit must be paid in equal shares by the two Clubs. In all final ties the council shall take the whole of the gate receipts and pay all expenses.
23. When a match is postponed through causes over which neither Clubs has any control, the expenses shall be paid out of the receipts of the second match.
24. In any match ordered to be replayed in consequences of a breach of Rule, the Club in default shall not receive any share of the proceeds of such replayed match without the consent of the Council, and such consent shall only be given under special circumstances. If consent be not given, the share be taken by the Association.
25. In all Final Ties the Council shall have power to demand from any affiliated Club the use of its ground.
26. When the winning Club in any Competition shall have been ascertained the Association shall deliver the Trophy to such Club, which shall give a Bond signed by the Secretary and two Bondsmen, who shall be responsible for its return to the Secretary of the Association on or before the first day of March in the ensuing year, in good order and condition. Should the Trophy be destroyed or damaged by fire or other accident whilst under care or custody of the Club, the Club 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 Club, the Club 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 Club failing to return a Trophy by 1st March in good and clean condition as required, will be fined £25.
27. All fines imposed upon Clubs etc. (other than fines upon suspended players), shall be paid to the Association within 14 days from the dates of the meeting at which fines are imposed.
28. 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 Secretary.

29. Numbered shirts must be worn in all cup ties. Referees are to report any club in default of this rule. Clubs in default of the Rule will be fined £25.00.
30. The closing date and entry fees for ALL County Cup Competitions shall be decided by Council.
31. In all County Cup ties corner flags and goal nets must be used. If a club is reported for not providing goal nets they will be fined £50.00.
32. The minimum charges for admission shall be fixed by Council.
33. The fees and expenses for Match Officials shall be fixed by Council.
34. The Home Club must provide suitable changing accommodation for both teams and match officials.
35. The half-time interval shall not exceed **fifteen** minutes.

Durham County Football Association

INSTRUCTIONS FOR DURHAM COUNTY CUP COMPETITIONS

1. Home Secretary 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. Referees failing to accept appointments must immediately notify the Secretary of the Association of their inability to accept same stating reasons of such inability.
3. Referees MUST report late starts and the defaulting Club or Referee must forward a full explanation 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 CLUBS DECLARING THE UNSUITABILITY OF SUCH REFEREE IS RECEIVED. Such notice from the Referee, OR SUCH NOTICE FROM BOTH CLUBS, must reach the Secretary of the Association within seventy-two 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 Clubs 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 Club. The visiting Club must sign each Statement.
7. **There is NO EXTRA TIME in any Durham County FA County Cup competition.**
8. The list of players exchanged before the match commences must be sent to the Secretary of the Association. See Rule 5, General Rules of County Competition.
9. Referee and Assistant Referees when appointed, shall be in attendance at ground a minimum of 45 minutes before the advised time of kick-off.
10. 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. Matches in the Challenge Cup special rules apply.
11. The half-time interval should not exceed **fifteen** minutes.
12. Ties in all rounds of the DURHAM COUNTY CHALLENGE CUP ONLY **must** be played **midweek** and under floodlights.

THE DURHAM COUNTY CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITION

1. The Competition shall be called "THE DURHAM COUNTY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITION".
2. The Competitions shall be open to reserve teams of the Affiliated Professional Clubs and the first teams of all other clubs belonging to the Association possessing a private and enclosed ground and approved by Council.
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. Each Club desirous of competing shall give notice of such desire to the Secretary of the Association on or before the Date set by Council for that season in which the Club proposes to compete and shall with such notice forward an entrance fee of £20.00.
4. A player must be a recognised playing member of his Club 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. The competition shall be conducted in the following manner. There shall be:
A Qualifying Competition and A Competition Proper
The last eight Clubs which competed in the previous season and eight others shall be exempted until the Competition Proper.
6. The Qualifying Competition shall consist of all the other clubs and they shall compete until only sixteen are left. These clubs shall enter the Competition Proper.
7. The Competition Proper shall consist of the sixteen Clubs which are exempted from the Qualifying Competition and the sixteen winners of the Qualifying Competition. These shall compete until the Final Tie is played, when the winning Club shall hold the Cup for the current year.
8. Where floodlights are used in any tie in this competition the Home Club may make a charge not exceeding **£30.00** towards the cost of same.
9. The charges of admission to ground, shall be a minimum of £3.00 per adult and £1.00 for concessions.
10. The scale of charges for **match officials** shall be as set by Council.
11. Goal nets must be used in all matches.
12. **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.**
13. When the draw is issued clubs have seven days in which to inform the Association they wish the match to be brought forward, otherwise the matches shall be played as advised time.
14. 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 MINOR CHALLENGE 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 Club 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. 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. Clubs infringing this Rule shall be fined the sum of £10.00
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. and the defaulting Club or Referee must forward an explanation within seventy-two hours of the conclusion of the match. Clubs and Referees will be fined for a breach of this instruction.
5. Result of match must be forwarded as per Rule 19, General Rules for County Competitions, to the Secretary of the D.C.F.A.
6. Referees must report full particulars of matches which are not finished.
7. **Where the scores are level after normal time a penalty kick competition shall take place to decide the winners.**
8. Avoid frivolous protests and carefully read Rule 20, General Rules for County Competitions. Protest will NOT be accepted after seventy-two hours of the conclusion of the match.
9. No travelling expenses for teams are paid in these competitions. The Home club is responsible for the payment of match officials if appointed.
10. Visiting clubs must make ample provision to be in attendance at the ground in time for the kick-off.
11. Match officials failing to accept appointments must state reason for not accepting same.

TROPHY CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITION

1. The Competition shall be called "THE DURHAM COUNTY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION TROPHY COMPETITION".
2. The Competition shall be open to all Clubs belonging to the Association approved by the Council.
3. Each Club desirous of competing shall give notice of such to the Secretary of the Association on or before the date fixed by Council for the season in which the Club proposes to compete and shall with such notice forward an entrance fee of £10.00.
4. **Clubs in the following leagues must enter the Trophy, Wearside, Northern Alliance (Premier Division), Teesside (providing their playing area is enclosed, dug outs are provided and a Technical area marked out).**
4. A player must be a recognised playing member of his Club 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 Leagues:- F.A. Premier, The Football League, Northern Premier and Northern Leagues.

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 Qualifying Competition shall consist of all the other clubs and they shall compete until eight clubs are left.
7. The Competition Proper shall consist of twenty-four Clubs which are exempted from the Qualifying Competition and the last eight Clubs left in at the termination of the Qualifying Competition. These shall compete until the Final Tie is played, when the winning Club shall hold the Cup for the current year. The council shall have the power to divide the Clubs into districts until the Semi-Final Ties.
8. The Council shall appoint Assistant Referees **in all rounds.**
9. The charges for admission to ground shall be a **minimum of £2 for adults and £1 concessions.**
10. The scale of charges for match officials shall be set by Council.
11. Goal nets shall be used in all ties.
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.
14. **In all matches FIVE substitutes shall be nominated to the Referee prior to kick off of which ONLY THREE can play.**

MINOR CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITION

1. The Competition shall be called "THE DURHAM COUNTY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION MINOR CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITION".
2. The Competition shall be open to all clubs belonging to the Association and approved by the Council.
3. Each Club desirous of competing shall give notice of such desire to the Secretary of the Association on or before the date fixed by Council for the season in which such Club proposes to compete, and shall with notice forward an entrance fee of £10.00. **Saturday Clubs outside of the National League System and play on afternoons must enter the Minor Challenge Cup.**
4. A player must be a recognised playing member of his Club 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, Wearside, **Northern Alliance (Premier Division), Teesside** or Durham Challenge Cup Competition.

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 scale of charges for Referees as directed by Council.
7. The Council shall appoint the Assistant Referees in the **Quarter Final Ties**.
8. Goal nets shall be used in all ties.
9. Before playing in the Final a player must have played in an earlier round of this seasons competition.
10. 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 the fixture must be reversed.
14. In all matches seven substitutes nominated to the Referee prior to kick off can play. Any player substituted then becomes a substitute (repeat substitutions).

DURHAM COUNTY SUNDAY CUP COMPETITION

1. The Competition shall be called "THE DURHAM COUNTY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION SUNDAY CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITION" .
2. The Competition shall be open to the Clubs affiliated to the Durham County Football Association playing in Leagues whose fixtures are normally arranged to be played on Sundays.
3. Each Club desirous of competing shall give notice of such desire to the Secretary of the Association on or before date fixed by Council for the season in which the Club proposes to compete and with such notice shall forward an entrance fee of £10.00
4. The scale of charges for match officials, shall be set by Council.
5. All ties in this Competition shall kick-off at 10.30am. **Where the scores are level after normal time a penalty kick competition shall take place to decide the winners.**
6. Clubs who normally play in a Sunday Afternoon League when drawn together have the right to a 1.30 kick-off providing application is made to the Association within three days of the draw being published.
7. Goal nets shall be used in all matches.
8. 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 five rounds of the previous season (provided they have entered) and 32 from the Qualifying Competition shall go into the First Round Proper.
9. A player must be a recognised playing member of his Club 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 under written contract, including trainee players, registered with The Football Association shall be eligible to play in this Competition.
10. Before playing in the Final a player must have played in an earlier round of this seasons competition.
14. In all matches seven substitutes nominated to the Referee prior to kick off can play. Any player substituted then becomes a substitute (repeat substitutions).

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 up to and including the Women's Combination League and are affiliated to this Association and approved by Council.
3. Each Club desirous of competing shall give notice of such desire to the Secretary of the Association on or before the date fixed by Council for the season in which such Club proposes to compete, and shall with notice forward an entrance fee of £10.00.
4. The scale of charges for Referees and Assistant Referees, if appointed, shall be as directed by Council.
5. Goal nets shall be used in all ties.
6. A player must be a recognised playing member of his Club 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 playing for a Club in a League higher than the Women's Combination League.
7. No player shall play in the Final of this Competition unless they have played in an earlier round.
8. The Secretary of the Club shall be the person held responsible for ensuring that each player taking part is eligible to do so.
9. No player under written contract including Trainee Players registered with the F.A. shall be eligible to compete in this competition.
10. In all matches seven substitutes nominated to the Referee prior to kick off can play. Any player substituted then becomes a substitute (repeat substitutions).
11. **Where the scores are level after normal time a penalty kick competition shall take place to decide the winners.**

YOUTH CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITION

1. The Competition shall be called "THE DURHAM COUNTY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION YOUTH CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITION".
2. The Competitions shall be open to all Youth Clubs and Youth Teams of Senior Clubs affiliated to this Association and approved by Council.
3. Every Youth team up to age 18 (which play on Saturdays) are required to enter the Youth Cup and Application form with details must be submitted with the entrance fee of £5.00 by the date fixed by the Council.
4. The minimum length of the field of play shall be 100 yards and the minimum breadth 50 yards. Any Club having a field of play less than the minimum length or breadth should apply to the Association for permission for such ground to be sanctioned.
5. The Club having choice of ground may play on its own ground, even if same is not an enclosed ground. If gate money or a collection is not taken, the expenses of the match must be borne by the home team.
6. The scale of charges for Referees (and Assistant Referees) be as directed by Council.
7. Goal nets shall be used in all ties.
8. No player shall play in the Final of this Competition unless they have played in an earlier round.
9. The Secretary of the Club shall be the person held responsible for ensuring that each player taking part is eligible to do so.
10. Clubs in Over 18's Leagues may enter the County Youth Cup with the following provision: no player over the age of 18 before 1st September each season shall take part.
11. A player must be a recognised playing member of his Club as set out in Rule 4 of the General Rules of County Cup Competitions which includes being at least 15 (fifteen years old) on or before the 31st August in the playing season before playing in the competition

In these competitions, no contract players (with the exception of those Players who are registered under Contract with the same Club who have a team operating at Steps 1 to 6 of the National League System), Centre of Excellence or Y.T.S. player registered with the F.A. (this includes Academy players, unless on six weeks trial) shall be eligible to take part.

12. In all matches seven substitutes nominated to the Referee prior to kick off can play. Any player substituted then becomes a substitute (repeat substitutions).
13. **Where the scores are level after normal time a penalty kick competition shall take place to decide the winners.**

YOUTH SUNDAY MINOR CUP

1. The Competitions shall be called "THE DURHAM COUNTY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION YOUTH SUNDAY MINOR CUP".
2. The Competition shall be open to all Youth Clubs and Youth Teams of Senior Clubs affiliated to this Association and approved by the Council.
3. The competition shall be open to all Youth teams whose players are under the age of 16 and are 14 or 15 on or before the 31st August in the playing season.
4. A player shall play for only one club in the Competition in any season, but the members may be changed during the course of the season.
5. The minimum length of the field of play shall be 100 yards and the minimum breadth 50 yards. Any Club having a field of play less than the minimum length or breadth should apply to the Association for permission for such ground to be sanctioned.
6. The Club having choice of ground may play on its own ground even if same is not an enclosed ground. The expenses of the match must be borne by the home team.
7. The scale of charges of Referees (and Assistant Referees) shall be as directed by Council.
8. Goal nets shall be used in all ties. Playing time shall be 40 minutes each way.
9. The Secretary of the Clubs shall be the person held responsible for ensuring that each player taking part is eligible to do so.
10. A player must be a recognised playing member of his Club as set out in Rule 4 of the General Rules of County Cup Competitions

No player shall be eligible to take part who is 16 or over before the 1st day of September in the current season. 11. In these competitions, no contract players (with the exception of those Players who are registered under Contract with the same Club who have a team operating at Steps 1 to 6 of the National League System), Centre of Excellence or Y.T.S. player registered with the F.A. (this includes Academy players, unless on six weeks trial) shall be eligible to take part.

11. Before playing in the Final a player must have played in an earlier round of this seasons competition.
12. In all matches seven substitutes nominated to the Referee prior to kick off can play. Any player substituted then becomes a substitute (repeat substitutions).
13. **Where the scores are level after normal time a penalty kick competition shall take place to decide the winners.**

UNDER 13's,14'S & 18'S
SUNDAY YOUTH CUP COMPETITIONS

1. The Competitions shall be called "THE DURHAM COUNTY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION UNDER 13's, 14's & 18's SUNDAY CUP COMPETITIONS".
2. The Competitions shall be open to all Youth Clubs and Youth Teams of Senior Clubs affiliated to this Association and approved by Council.
3. Application forms are to be submitted with a fee of £5.00 by the date fixed by Council.
4. A player shall be eligible to play for only one club 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.
5. The club 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.
6. The scale of charges of Referees (and Assistant Referees) shall be as directed by Council.
7. Goal nets are to be used in all ties.
Playing times:

Under 13's and 14's	35 minutes each way
Under 18's	45 minutes each way
8. The Secretary of the Clubs shall be the person held responsible for ensuring that each player taking part is eligible to do so.
9. All players MUST be registered members of their club as stated in Rule 4 of the General Rules.
10. In the Under 18's competitions ONLY, No player under written contract, including Trainees registered with the F.A. shall be eligible to compete. No player shall play in the Final of these Competitions unless they have played in an earlier round.
11. In these competitions, no contract players (with the exception of those Players who are registered under Contract with the same Club who have a team operating at Steps 1 to 6 of the National League System), Centre of Excellence or Y.T.S. player registered with the F.A. (this includes Academy players, unless on six weeks trial) shall be eligible to take part.
12. In all matches seven substitutes nominated to the Referee prior to kick off can play. Any player substituted then becomes a substitute (repeat substitutions).
13. **Where the scores are level after normal time a penalty kick competition shall take place to decide the winners.**

