RULES OF THE KENT FA DISABILITY CUPS

**BOARD OF APPEAL**

1. For all Kent County Competitions, the entire control and management of the Competitions shall be vested in the Kent FA (hereinafter known as the “Association”) from whose decision there will be no appeal, with the only exception of when a Club has been removed from a Competition due to a decision from the Association.
2. The Board of Appeal will be independent and will not include members of the Competitions Committee or the Competitions Officer.
3. Within 14 days of the posting of written notification of any decision from the Association, a Club against whom action has been taken may appeal against such decision by lodging particulars in duplicate with the Chief Executive of the Association, including a fee of £25 for adjudication of a Board of Appeal.
4. The grounds of appeal shall be in accordance of FA Rules. The Board of Appeal may order the appeal fee to be forfeited and shall decide by whom the costs of the appeal shall be borne.
5. The decision of the Board of Appeal is final and binding on all parties concerned.
6. **CONTROL OF COMPETITION – RULES AND REGULATIONS**
7. The entire control and management of the Competition shall be vested in Kent County Football Association Limited (hereinafter known as the “Association”) from whose decision there shall be no appeal (with the exception of when the association has removed a team from a competition).
8. The Association shall have the power to appoint Committees or Sub-Committees and may delegate all or any of their powers to such Committees.
9. The Association shall have the power to alter, add or amend the rules of the Competition should it be deemed expedient.
10. The Association, Committee or Sub-Committee appointed by the Association, shall have the power to deal with any incident not catered for specifically in the forgoing Competition rules.
11. **ENTRIES**
12. The Competition shall be open to all Clubs with Pan Disability Teams affiliated to the Association. Any Club may enter more than one Team, in any one season.
13. Applications for entry, accompanied by the appropriate fee of £5, must be made to the Chief Executive of the Association (hereinafter known as the “Chief Executive”) on the appropriate form, to the County Office on or before the 1st March in the season the club proposes to compete in.
14. The competing Teams shall be divided at the sole discretion of the Association into three Competitions designated as the Disability Cup, Disability Trophy and Disability Under 16 Cup, on the basis of the quality of their playing strengths and achievements.
15. The Association may reject the application of any Club if such course is deemed desirable.
16. Any Club withdrawing from the Competition after the draw is made may incur a fine not exceeding £50.
17. **QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS**
18. All players must be bona fide members of the Club and duly registered as playing members on the day prior to the match taking place.
19. Players must have a registered disability, which has been recognised and accepted by the Kent Disability Football League or the Association by 30th April in the current season.
20. Where Clubs have entered 2 or more teams, any one player can only represent 1 team in the Competition in any one season.
21. Players must have reached 12 years of age and be under 16 years of age on the 31st August in the current season to participate in the Under 16 Competition respectively.
22. Competing Teams must complete a player squad list for the competition on the day of the competition. The squad list will contain a maximum of 9 players per team.
23. A player shall not be allowed to play for more than one competing Club in an individual Competition in any season.
24. No player registering to play for a Club after the end of April in the current season shall be eligible to compete.
25. A suspended player shall not be eligible to compete. Emergency registrations are not permitted.
26. Any Club found guilty of playing an ineligible player and failing to give a reason acceptable to the Association will be removed from the Competition and be liable to other penalties as may be imposed by the Association.
27. In this event, where the non-defaulting Club has lost the tie, it may be reinstated back into the Competition at the discretion of the Association.
28. Any player found guilty of doing so shall be disqualified from further participation in the Competition and may be fined up to £50.
29. **SUBSTITUTIONS**
30. All players on the nominated Kent FA squad sheet that do not start any match in the Competition will be classed as a substitute. Substitutes from those nominated to the Referee in accordance with Rule 7 below are permitted at any time other than to replace a player suspended from play by the Referee. A player who has been a substitute himself becomes a substitute and may replace a player at any time. All substitutions are to be carried out in accordance with the Laws of the Game.
31. **COLOURS**
32. Where the colours of competing Teams are similar, the nominated away Team must change colour, which may include bibs.
33. In the Final Tie, where colours are similar, a toss of a coin will decide which Club is required to change colour.
34. Players’ shirts shall be numbered including those of substitutes in all matches of the Competition if possible.
35. The names of sponsors are permissible providing the regulations of the Football Association are conformed with.
36. **GROUNDS FOR TIES**
37. The Competition shall be played on a neutral venue on one day as organised by the Association.
38. The ground shall not be varied from the one selected by the Association, barring for exceptional circumstances.
39. If any fixture is unfulfilled without good and sufficient reason, the offending Club will lose the points or will be removed from the Competition and be liable to a maximum fine of £50.00. In this event, the non-defaulting Club could go forward to the next Round of the Competition.
40. All matches shall be played on the date set by the Association as the Competition Date.
41. On the Competition date any Club that fails to observe the match day instructions may be fined up to £50.
42. **LISTS OF TEAMS TO BE EXCHANGED**
43. Each Team shall hand a completed and accurate Kent FA squad sheet to the Registration Officer at the start of the Competition.
44. Any Team failing to carry out this requirement or furnishing an inaccurate team sheet will result in a £10 fine for each offence.
45. **PROTESTS**
46. All questions of qualifications of competitors shall be referred to the Association or its appointed Sub-Committee whose decision be final and binding on both Clubs.
47. Should either of the two Clubs have Member of Council of the Association, and then they shall not be eligible to sit while a protest is being considered.
48. No reference or protest of any kind shall be entertained unless it is accompanied by a protest fee of £20, which may be forfeited if the protest is dismissed. The Association may, if it deems fit, order the protesting Club to pay a sum as considered necessary to defray expenses of the other Club.
49. A protest shall not be withdrawn except by leave of the Association. In the Final tie, a protest shall not be considered unless it is lodged in writing before the close of the match.
50. All protests, except from those relating to fitness of ground or appurtenances, must be sent in duplicate to the Association together with the requisite fee to arrive no later than three days (excluding Sundays) of the match in which they relate.
51. **DURATION OF MATCHES**
52. Kick off times for all matches will be decided by the Association.
53. The duration of all matches shall be 10 minutes in total. There will be no half-time period.
54. In group stage matches if the scores are level after normal time, the match will end in a draw. In knockout matches, if the scores are level after normal time, there will be 2 minutes of extra time. If scores are still level, then the tie will be decided by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark.
55. The Referee shall allow for time lost through accident or other cause. The Referee is the sole judge of allowance of time and their decision on this matter shall be final.
56. **MATCH OFFICIALS**
57. The Association shall appoint all Match Officials for this Competition.
58. Match Officials shall be entitled to the under mentioned Competition day fees and expenses;
59. Referee £50 inclusive of expenses (£30 for the Youth Cup)

Match Fees are to be shared by the Association.

1. Match Officials who fail to accept County appointments without good and sufficient reason will be dealt with at the discretion of the Association.
2. In the event of an appointed Official failing to arrive, The Association will agree on a replacement.

1. **MATCH EXPENSES**
2. All matches will be arranged by the Association, who shall retain any excess and meet any deficit incurred in staging all matches.
3. All competing Teams shall be responsible for meeting their own travelling expenses for the competition.
4. **TROPHY**
5. The Trophy is the property of the Association. When the winning Club has been ascertained, the Association shall deliver the Trophy to such Club who shall be responsible for its return in good condition on or before the first day in March in the ensuing year. Failure to do so will incur a fine of £100.
6. The Trophy will be insured by the Association. The holder will be required to pay the standard £250 excess fee for each and every claim made against the insurance to the Association for the period that the Trophy is held by the holder.
7. A Club must take every precaution to ensure the safe custody of the Trophy whilst it is in its possession. Should the Trophy become lost or damaged in any way, the Association reserves the right to issue charges against the Club and act in any other manner deemed to be fitting.
8. The winning Club must have the Trophy suitably inscribed before returning it to the Association. Failure to do so will incur a fine not exceeding £50.
9. **MEDALS**
10. In addition to the Trophy, the Association will present souvenirs to the winners and runners-up in the Final tie.
11. A player guilty of misconduct in the Final tie may forfeit his right to a souvenir at the discretion of the Association.
12. **CONDUCT OF PARTICIPANTS**
13. Clubs entering the Competition are responsible for the actions of their players, officials and spectators. Any Club whose conduct is found to be objectionable will be dealt with at the discretion of the Association and may, if the Association deem it, be disqualified.

**MATCH RULES**

1. All matches will be 6 a-side, and every team can have a maximum of 9 players in a squad
2. Kick-off is taken from the centre spot at the start of the match and after every goal. Opponents must be in their own half and at least 3 metres from the ball at kick-off.
3. A goal may not be scored directly from a start or restart of play
4. When the ball is out of play on the side lines, the ball has to be rolled in.
5. The ball may be played over head height.
6. Only the goalkeeper is allowed in the penalty area and the goalkeeper is not allowed out of the area
7. If an attacking player enters or plays the ball in the penalty area a free kick is awarded to the defending team.
8. If a defending player enters or plays the ball in the penalty area a penalty is awarded to the attacking team.
9. The goalkeeper may only throw or roll the ball
10. The ball may be passed back to the goalkeeper
11. Slide tackling is not permitted
12. All free kicks (except for penalties) are indirect, with defenders having to retreat at least 3 metres from the place of the kick.
13. Referees will assist deaf players by using a flag to indicate decisions in addition to blowing the whistle. On hearing the whistle non-deaf players should stand still.
14. Each team has to field at least 4 players (1 of which must be a goalkeeper) to constitute a team, failure to do so will result in a walkover to the opposition.
15. If a player with a frame purposefully receives touches or intercepts the ball during open play, they will be allowed 10 seconds to play the ball without being challenged by an opponent. If the ball hits or deflects onto the frame or player that will not be deemed as purposeful contact