

LANCASHIRE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

THE COUNTY GROUND, THURSTON ROAD, LEYLAND, LANCASHIRE, PR25 2LF

Telephone 01772 624000 Fax: 01772 624700



YOUTH CUP COMPETITION RULES

SEASON 2021/2022

(Applies to the following Sunday Competitions)

U12 Boys	9v9
U12 Girls	9v9
U13 Boys	11v11
U13 Girls	9v9
U14 Boys	11v11
U14 Girls	11v11
U15 Boys	11v11
U15 Girls	11v11
U16 Boys	11v11
U16 Girls	11v11
U18 Boys	11v11
U18 Girls	11v11

1. CUP OWNERSHIP

All the Trophies are the property of the Lancashire Football Association. When the winning Club shall have been ascertained, the Lancashire Football (The Association) shall present the Cup to the representatives of such Club, upon receipt of a document to the following effect and subscribed by three persons whose names shall be previously submitted to and approved by the Committee: -

"We AB, CD, and EF members of the () Club and representing the () Club, which has now been declared to have won the Lancashire Football Association (insert competition name) and the same having been delivered to us by the said Association, do hereby on behalf of the said Club, and individually and collectively engage to return the Cup to the Secretary of the Association, on or before 26th January of the next calendar year, in good order and condition and that should the said Cup be destroyed or damaged by fire or by other cause, or lost whilst under our care, we agree to refund the Association the amount of its original value or the cost of thorough repair."

It shall be clean and undamaged in condition and failure to return by the required date and in a good clean condition will result in a fine of £50.

2. MEDALS

In addition to the Cup, the Association shall present 20 souvenirs or medals to Playing Staff and Officials of both Clubs in the Final. When a Player or Club Official taking part is dismissed or ordered to leave the field of play for misconduct, the medal to which they may be entitled may be withheld at the discretion of the Youth Competitions Committee (The Committee).

3. CONTROL OF COMPETITION

- (a) The ownership, organisation, control and management of the Competition and any rights associated with it of any nature shall be vested entirely and exclusively in The Association.
- (b) The Committee shall have the power to make, delete and amend regulations for the organisation, control, and management of the Competition as it, from time to time, deems expedient (The "Competition Rules").
- (c) All Clubs participating in the Competition shall be bound by and comply with the Competition Rules.
- (d) The Committee shall have the power to exercise all powers in relation to the Competition and to make decisions on all matters arising out of or in relation to the organisation, control, and management of the Competition (including as to eligibility and qualification) which shall be final and binding on all participants in the Competition. In relation to these and any other matters not specifically mentioned in the Competition Rules, the Committee shall have the power to take such action and make such decisions, orders, rulings and impose such penalties as it deems necessary. Following such procedures as it considers appropriate, decisions shall be final and binding on all participants, subject to Rule 22. In considering such matters, the Committee shall not be bound by any enactment or Rule of Law relating to the admissibility of evidence in proceedings before a Court of Law.

The Committee shall have the power to appoint a Sub-Committee to exercise the powers of the Committee to expedite decisions to ensure the progress of the Competition.

- (e) A Club participating in the Competition shall have only such rights in relation to the Competition (and any match in the Competition) as are expressly granted to the Club under these Competition Rules or by The Association in writing.

4. ELIGIBLE CLUBS

- (a) Participation in the Competition shall be open to Clubs whose First Affiliation is to the Association and who are eligible and approved by the Committee.
- (b) The Committee may reject the application of any Club to participate in the Competition at its entire discretion.
- (c) A Club which has been allowed to participate in the Competition may not assign or otherwise transfer the ability/right to participate without the prior written approval of the Committee. A request for transfer must be in writing, setting out the details of the intended transferee and the reason for the transfer. The decision whether or not to approve a transfer shall be made by the Committee in its absolute discretion. A transfer shall be granted only on condition that the transferee shall be treated for the purposes of these Competition Rules and the Rules of The Association as being the same entity as the transferor.
- (d) If a Club is removed from the League in which it is playing, once it has been accepted into the Competition, The Committee has the power to remove the Club from the Competition.
- (e) Each Trophy shall be competed for annually by clubs who are Full Members, Associate Members or Youth Members of the Association, and who are members of a registered Full Member, Associate Member or Youth League only, approved by the Committee.

5. ENTRY DATE AND FEES

A Club wishing to participate in the Competition shall complete and return an entry form together with the required entrance fee to be received at The Association on or before 1st August prior to the to the season in which such Club proposes to compete in the Competition. No entries will be accepted after that date.

6. ORGANISATION OF THE COMPETITION

- (a) The Competition shall be on a knock-out basis.
- (b) Only Clubs who are First Affiliation Members of the Association will be eligible to enter the Competition.
- (c) All matches shall be played on a Sunday.

7. DRAWS FOR ROUNDS

- (a) The Clubs competing in each round of the Competition shall be drawn in couples. The Couples shall play a match subject to the Laws of the Game and the winners compete in the next round and be drawn in the same manner. This shall be continued until the Final of the Competition.

- (b) After the draw for each round is made, notice shall be given to each Club of the name of its opponent Club, and the date when the match shall be played. All matches in each round shall be played on such a date as the Committee determine.
- (c) Any Club refusing or failing to play the Club against which it has been drawn upon the date fixed for the tie to be played shall, unless otherwise decided by the Committee be adjudged to have lost the match and fined £50.
- (d) Within seven days following the notification by The Association of the draw for each round, the Club first drawn must communicate with the opponent Club to notify the location of the ground and other match details and notify The Association of its receipt. Failure to comply with this requirement shall incur a fine of £10.

8. VENUE FOR MATCHES

(a) *Venue*

- (i) The Club first drawn shall be entitled to have the match played on its home ground, providing it meets the requirements of the Competition Rules. Such match shall be played on that ground unless the consent of the Committee has been obtained to any change of venue.
- (ii) No monetary or other consideration shall be asked for, offered or paid in connection with negotiations for change of venue.
- (iii) A match shall not be played on a neutral ground without the consent of the Committee.
- (iv) The Committee shall have power to order that any match be played on an alternative ground or date, if it is considered appropriate and necessary.
- (v) No other activity must be played on the day of the match on the same pitch to be used for the match.

(b) *Dimensions of Field of Play and Ground Facilities*

- (i) All matches shall be played on either a natural grass pitch, or a 3G surface which is listed on the FA approved pitch register (<http://goo.gl/4XIDLD>). If 3G facilities are to be used, they must be booked for a minimum of the match length plus 30 minutes. This will allow time for warmups/cool downs and penalties should the match result in a tie. For matches up to and including the Semi-Final stages, the grounds of all Clubs whose entry is received and accepted for the Competition shall be accepted as meeting the requirements, as to dimensions, notwithstanding Law 1 of the Laws of The Game.
- (ii) The dimensions of the field of play for all matches shall be compliant with the Laws of The Game or the Football Association's recommendations on pitch sizes.

	<u>Max Length</u>	<u>Min Length</u>	<u>Max Width</u>	<u>Min Width</u>
U12 Boys	80yds / 73.15m	70yds / 64m	50yds / 45.75m	40yds / 36.6m
U12 Girls	80yds / 73.15m	70yds / 64m	50yds / 45.75m	40yds / 36.6m
U13 Boys	100yds / 91.44m	90yds / 82.3m	60yds / 54.9m	50yds / 45.75m
U13 Girls	80yds / 73.15m	70yds / 64m	50yds / 45.75m	40yds / 36.6m
U14 Boys	100yds / 91.44m	90yds / 82.3m	60yds / 54.9m	50yds / 45.75m
U14 Girls	80yds / 73.15m	70yds / 64m	50yds / 45.75m	40yds / 36.6m
U15 Boys	110yds / 100.58m	90yds / 82.3m	70yds / 64m	50yds / 45.75m
U15 Girls	110yds / 100.58m	90yds / 82.3m	70yds / 64m	50yds / 45.75m
U16 Boys	110yds / 100.58m	90yds / 82.3m	70yds / 64m	50yds / 45.75m
U16 Girls	110yds / 100.58m	90yds / 82.3m	70yds / 64m	50yds / 45.75m
U18 Boys	130yds / 118.87m	100yds / 91.44m	100yds / 91.44m	50yds / 45.75m

U18 Girls 130yds / 118.87m 100yds / 91.44m 100yds / 91.44m 50yds / 45.75m

The length of the touchline must be greater than the length of the goal line.

(iii) Goal nets must be used in all matches, and shall be provided by the Home Club

<u>Age Groups</u>	<u>Format</u>	<u>Recommended Goal Size (H x L)</u>
U12 Boys & Girls, U13 Boys, u14 Girls	9v9	16ft x 7ft
U13, U14 Boys	11v11	21ft x 7ft
U15, U16, U18 Boys & U15, U16, U18 Girls		11v11 24ft x 8ft

(iv) Changing, washing and toilet facilities must be available on site for each Team and Match Officials. Clubs failing to provide any of the said facilities will be expelled from the Competition and fined £50.

(v) Each Club should provide, if possible, separate areas adjacent to the pitch for the sole use of Team Officials, Medical Staff and Substitutes. Such designated areas shall have direct access to the pitch, be located as near as possible equidistant from the halfway line and be under cover if possible. It is mandatory that a spectator viewing area be designated, which is separated from the pitch using either ropes or barriers.

(vi) The home club shall supply suitable match balls.

<u>Age Groups</u>	<u>Ball Size</u>
U12 – U14 Boys & Girls	4
U15 – U18 Boys & Girls	5

(c) Protests Regarding the Suitability of Ground

(i) A Club may protest to the Committee that the ground of the Home Club is unsuitable for the match. Such protest must be made in writing to the Committee within four days of the date of the draw and must be accompanied by a fee of £25, which shall be forfeited if the protest is not sustained.

(ii) The Committee shall have the power to consider the protest in such manner and following such procedures as it considers appropriate. The Committee may amongst other things order the match to be played on the ground of the protesting Club, or on a neutral ground. The payment of the costs incurred by both Club and The Association incidental to the protest shall be at the discretion of the Committee.

(d) Playing Condition of the Ground

(i) Each Club must take every precaution to ensure that its ground is in a fit playing condition.

(ii) In the event of any doubt as to the condition of the pitch, the match Referee or a local registered Referee should whenever possible examine the ground and decide as to its fitness for play in sufficient time to save the expense of unnecessary journeys being incurred by Clubs.

(iii) Subject to this rule, the Referees shall have power to decide as to the fitness of the ground in all matches. The referee shall have the power to abandon or postpone the match if they believe the weather conditions are detrimental to the welfare of the participants

(iv) The Referee must report to the ground 45 minutes before the time of kick-off. If necessary, the Home Club or The Association may, by notice, require the Referee to

visit the ground more than 60 minutes before the time of kick-off any time during the season.

(v) Except in instances where Local Authorities, Schools, Colleges or privately owned pitches declare a blanket postponement for pitches which they control, all grounds must be inspected by a registered Referee before a match is postponed. Failure to have the pitch inspected by a registered Referee before postponing a game shall result in the matter being referred to the Committee, who may adjudge the home side to have lost the tie and impose a fine of £50.

(vi) In the event of a match being postponed, the Home Club Secretary must notify the Match Official and their opponents immediately, and in addition, complete the online postponement notification form, found under the competitions tab of LancashireFA.com within 12 hours of the tie being postponed. Failure to comply with this rule will result in a fine of £10 being imposed.

9. CLUB COLOURS

- (a) Where the colours (shirts, shorts, or stockings) of two competing Clubs are similar (as determined by the Committee), the Home Club must change. In the Semi-Final and Final Tie where the colours are similar, a coin will be tossed by a representative of The Association to determine the colours.
- (b) In the event of the Clubs not agreeing upon the colours to be worn, the Committee shall decide. Goalkeepers must wear colours which distinguish them from the other Players, and the Match Officials.
- (c) No Player, including the goalkeeper, shall be permitted to wear black or very dark shirts.
- (d) Players' shirts shall be clearly numbered on the back in accordance with the Official Team Sheet. No change of numbers during the match shall be allowed except on a change of Goalkeeper or where a player has been required by the Referee to change their shirt because of a blood injury. The Captain of each Team shall wear a distinguishing armband to indicate their status.
- (e) Advertising may be worn on players' clothing in accordance with the Rules of The Football Association.

10. DURATION OF MATCHES

- (a) Kick off times can vary between 10.30am – 1.30pm as determined by the Home Clubs normal League match time unless.
 - (i) Both Clubs mutually agree on a different kick-off time which **MUST** be confirmed to the County FA no later than 7 days prior to your fixture. Any Club failing to fulfil this rule shall be dealt with by the Committee or
 - (ii) The Away Club face a round travelling distance in excess of 140 miles. In this case, in the event both Clubs being unable to agree to a mutual kick-off time, this shall be determined by the Association.
- (b) The duration of each match shall be as listed below, except in special cases, provided for in these Competition Rules. The Referee shall allow for time wasted or lost through accident or other cause. The Referee is the sole judge of allowance of time whether

lost through accident or other cause and his decision on this matter is not subject to appeal.

Competition Durations

U12 Boys & Girls	60 minutes in two equal halves of 30 minutes
U13/U14 Boys & Girls	70 minutes in two equal halves of 35 minutes
U15/U16 Boys & Girls	80 minutes in two equal halves of 40 minutes
U18 Boys & Girls	90 minutes in two equal halves of 45 minutes

- (c) The half-time interval shall be up to 15 minutes in all games.
- (d) In the event of inclement weather, and provided that the Referee is notified prior to the commencement of the tie, Clubs may prior to the kick-off mutually agree to play less than the time stated in rule 10 (b). The minimum time of games for each age group is as follows:

U12 Boys	50 minutes in two equal halves of 25 minutes
U13/U14 Boys & Girls	50 minutes in two equal halves of 25 minutes
U15/U16 Boys & Girls	70 minutes in two equal halves of 35 minutes
U18 Boys & Girls	70 minutes in two equal halves of 35 minutes

- (e) Any Club being reported for a late kick off will be dealt with by the Committee. If a Club is found guilty of such misconduct, they will be fined a minimum of £10 and up to a maximum of £25 as determined by the Committee.

11. PROVISIONS FOR MATCHES PRECEDING THE SEMI-FINALS

- (a) *For all matches preceding the Semi-Finals the following provisions shall apply:*

- (i) Clubs shall not mutually arrange to play a match in lieu of a Cup match.
- (ii) Any late kick-off shall be reported by the Referee to The Association.
- (iii) Any Club failing to fulfil a fixture shall be dealt with by the Committee.

(b) *Kicks from the Penalty Mark*

When a match is drawn at full time, the winner shall be determined by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the procedure adopted by The International Football Association Board, and shall be in the A,B,A,B format

(c) *Matches which are Postponed or Abandoned*

- (i) In the case of a game being postponed or abandoned both Clubs and Match Official must submit a report to the Association Secretary stating the reason/s for the game being postponed or abandoned. The Association will consider the reports and decide, in the case of an abandoned game, whether the game will be replayed or the result at the time of abandonment will stand.
- (ii) When a match has been postponed or is abandoned before full time and neither Club being at fault, it shall be played on the chosen ground of the first drawn Club on the following Sunday.
- (iii) If the match has been postponed again or is abandoned again before full time and neither Club being at fault, it shall be played as directed by the Committee.
- (iv) If a first match is postponed on two occasions, the Committee shall have the power to order the match to be played on the ground of the Club second drawn.

- (v) Matches abandoned through the fault of the Clubs shall be dealt with by the Committee.
- (d) The Committee shall have the power to vary these arrangements if it is deemed necessary.

12. REPORTING RESULTS

- (a) Each Club shall send the result of the match, with the names of the players competing and goal scorers, together with the marking of the Referee's performance on the official team sheet, including the Referees signature, to be received at The Association within four days after the playing of the match (excluding Sundays). Failure to comply with this rule will incur a fine of £15 being imposed. In the case of any dispute, proof of postage must be provided. Any club marking the Referee 40 or lower, must forward a letter to the Association giving reasons for the low mark.
- (b) After each tie, the Home Club Secretary must report the result within 12 hours of the completion of the tie to the Competitions department. Results to be reported via the FA Fulltime system

Failure to comply with this rule will result in a fine of £20 being imposed.

- (c) Where the home team are requested to complete a safeguarding risk assessment, the form provided must be returned to the Designated Safeguarding Officer at CountyWO@LancashireFA.Com within 4 working days of the fixture being completed. Failure to submit this risk assessment, where required, will result in a fine of upto £100

13. PROVISIONS FOR THE SEMI-FINALS

- (a) The First drawn club shall have Home advantage in the Semi-Finals.
- (b) When a Semi-Final has resulted in a draw at full time, the winners shall be determined by the taking of penalty kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the procedures adopted by The International Football Association Board, and shall be in the A,B,A,B format
- (c) Matches which are Postponed or Abandoned
 - (i) When a match has been postponed or is abandoned before full time and neither Club being at fault, it shall be played on the chosen ground of the first drawn Club on the following Sunday.
 - (ii) If the match has been postponed again or is abandoned again before full time and neither Club being at fault, it shall be played as directed by the Committee.
 - (iii) If a first match is postponed on two occasions, the Committee shall have the power to order the match to be played on the ground of the Club second drawn.
 - (iv) Matches abandoned through the fault of the Clubs shall be dealt with by the Committee.
- (d) The Committee shall have the power to vary these arrangements if it is deemed necessary.

14. PROVISIONS FOR THE FINAL

- (a) The Association shall fix the ground for the Final and shall have direct control of the arrangements.
- (b) When the Final has resulted in a draw at full time, the winners shall be determined by the taking of penalty kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the procedures adopted by The International Football Association Board, and shall be in the A,B,A,B format
- (c) If the Final is postponed or abandoned it shall be played as directed by the Committee.
- (d) The venue staging a Final shall be entitled to a payment agreed by the Committee.

In the Semi- Final and Final Ties, the net proceeds shall be divided as follows:

33% to each Club

33% to the Association

- (f) At least seven days prior the Final Tie, the Secretaries of both competing Clubs must forward to the Association Secretary a list of Players from which the team will be selected, and the colours in which they play. Failure to do so will result in a £15 fine being imposed.

15. PROVISIONS FOR WITHDRAWING FROM THE COMPETITION

- (a) Any Club intending to withdraw from the Competition after the affiliation process will be charged, a fine of £50 will be incurred.
- (b) In addition, the Committee shall have power to compel such offending Club to pay the expenses incurred and to take such other action as the Committee considers appropriate.
- (c) If a Club decides to withdraw from the Competition after a postponement or an abandoned match, notice must be given to The Association and its opponent immediately. Any club withdrawing under these circumstances shall be dealt with by the Committee.
- (d) A Club failing to give satisfactory reason for withdrawing from the Competition shall in addition to any other action considered appropriate not be allowed to enter the Competition in the following season and shall be liable to such fine as the Committee considers appropriate.
- (e) No Club will be permitted to withdraw from the Semi-Final or Final of the Competition.

16. PROVISIONS CONCERNING PLAYERS

- (a) Only those players who have attained the ages below, as at midnight on 31st August of the current season will be eligible to participate in the competition.

Age on 31 August of the relevant Playing Season	Eligible Age Groups	Maximum Permitted Format	Minimum Pitch Sizes		Maximum Pitch Sizes		Recommended Goal Sizes in feet	Ball Size
			Yards	Metres	Yards	Metres		
10		9v9	70 x 40	64 x 36.6	80 x 50	73.15 x 45.75	16 x 7	4
	Under 12		70 x 40	64 x 36.6	80 x 50	73.15 x 45.75	16 x 7	
11	Under 12	9v9	70 x 40	64 x 36.6	80 x 50	73.15 x 45.75	16 x 7	4
	Under 13	11v11	90 x 50	82.3 x 45.75	100 x 60	91.44 x 54.9	21 x 7	

12	Under 13	11v11	90 x 50	82.3 x 45.75	100 x 60	91.44 x 54.9	21 x 7	4
	Under 14		90 x 50	82.3 x 45.75	100 x 60	91.44 x 54.9	21 x 7	
13	Under 14	11v11	90 x 50	82.3 x 45.75	100 x 60	91.44 x 54.9	21 x 7	4
	Under 15		90 x 50	82.3 x 45.75	110 x 70	100.58 x 64	24 x 8	5
14	Under 15	11v11	90 x 50	82.3 x 45.75	110 x 70	100.58 x 64	24 x 8	5
	Under 16		90 x 50	82.3 x 45.75	110 x 70	100.58 x 64	24 x 8	
15	Under 16	11v11	90 x 50	82.3 x 45.75	110 x 70	100.58 x 64	24 x 8	5
	Under 17		100 x 50	91.44 x 45.75	130 x 100	118.87 x 91.44	24 x 8	
	Under 18		100 x 50	91.44 x 45.75	130 x 100	118.87 x 91.44	24 x 8	
16	Under 17	11v11	100 x 50	91.44 x 45.75	130 x 100	118.87 x 91.44	24 x 8	5
	Under 18		100 x 50	91.44 x 45.75	130 x 100	118.87 x 91.44	24 x 8	
	Open Age		100 x 50	91.44 x 45.75	130 x 100	118.87 x 91.44	24 x 8	

- (b) No player under written contract, including Centre of Excellence or Academy players, shall be eligible to compete.
- (c) A club may name 7 substitutes, and these may roll on / roll off an unlimited number of times. A substitution can only be made when play is stopped, and the Referee has given permission. Substitutions must be carried out in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of Association Football.
- (d) All Players shall be qualified as Players according to the Rules of the Association.
- (e) A Player shall not play for more than one Club in the Competition in the same season.
- (f) A Player who has been suspended according to the disciplinary procedures under the Rules of The Association may play in a postponed or replayed match after the term of his suspension has expired.
- (g) A Substitute who does not play in a match is entitled to play for another Club in the Competition in the same season, subject to being transferred as per the procedure.
- (h) (i) In matches up to and including the Semi-Final, each Club shall provide a list of names of Players taking part in the game (including the names of substitutes) to a representative of their opponents in the presence of the Referee at least 15 minutes prior to kick-off. In all Final ties they shall be presented at least 45 minutes before the time of kick-off. Any Club failing to do so will be liable to a fine of £15.
- (ii) Both clubs shall obtain the signature of the referee in ink on the official team sheet prior to the scheduled kick-off of the match. Any Club failing to comply with the above will be liable to a fine of £20.
- (iii) Should any nominated Player or Substitute sustain an injury after the submission of the Official Team Sheet to the Referee and before the kick-off, they may be replaced, provided both the Referee and the opponents are informed before the commencement of the match.
- (i) In all rounds of the Competition, a “registered Player” is one who is registered with the League in which their Team competes in the current season. Any such registration must have been received and accepted by the League by 12 noon on the Friday previous to the date fixed for playing the round and the registration must be continuous through to the date of the match.
- (j) Unless dispensation has been given, in order to be eligible for the Semi-Final and Final, the Players must have been correctly registered and eligible for the Quarter Final round of the Competition. In the event that not all Quarter finals are played on the same date, the Friday previous to the last quarter final to be played will be the standard accepted date

- (k) A player who was not eligible for a tie that was postponed, but is then registered in time for the revised date, will be eligible providing that all other criteria is met
- (l) Any Club found to have played an ineligible Player shall be fined up to £100 and expelled from the Competition.

17. VALIDITY OF PLAYERS' QUALIFICATIONS

- (a) The Committee shall have power to call upon a Player, and/or the Club to which they are registered, or for which they have played, to prove that the Player is qualified according to the Competition Rules.
- (b) Failing satisfactory proof, the Committee may disqualify such Player, and may remove the Club from the Competition, and impose such other penalty as it considers appropriate. The Committee shall also have the power to impose penalties against Clubs already knocked out of the Competition.

18. DISQUALIFICATION

In addition to any other action or penalty, the Committee shall have the power to disqualify any competing Club, or Player for any competing Club(s), which it determines to have breached the Rules of The Association or the Competition Rules, and the decision of the Committee shall be final and binding.

19. PROVISIONS CONCERNING MATCH OFFICIALS

- (a) Match Referees and Assistant Referees shall be appointed by the Association for the Semi-Final and Final Ties. Fourth Officials will be appointed for the Final Tie.
 - (i) In the event of the official Referee failing to attend, then both Clubs must agree to a registered Referee, who may be connected to one of the competing Clubs, officiating. If there is no registered Referee in attendance, then both Clubs must agree to another person officiating. If the Clubs cannot agree on a match Referee, then the Home Clubs nominee must take charge of the game. If the game fails to go ahead, the matter will be referred to the Committee for their consideration.
- (b) Scale of Expenses to be paid to Match Officials:
 - (i) An allowance of £0.40 per mile (paid by the Home Club) will be allowed to all Officials officiating in the Competition who travel using their own private car. Where practical, Officials should travel together.
 - (ii) Match Officials shall be entitled to the following fees:

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Referee</i>	<i>Assistant Referee</i>	<i>4th Official</i>	<i>Travel Expenses</i>
U12 Boys & Girls, U13 & U14 Girls 9v9	£25	£20	£18	£0.40p Per Mile
U13-U18 Boys & U15-U18 Girls	£30	£20	£18	£0.40p Per Mile

- (c) Unless otherwise instructed by the committee, in all rounds prior to the Semi Final:
 - (i) The Home Club must pay 100% of the Match Officials travel Expenses.
 - (ii) The Match Officials fee shall be split between both clubs.

- (iii) It is the responsibility of the home club to ensure the Match Official receives their payment
- (iv) For the Semi Final, the home team will be responsible for paying all the match officials fees & expenses and can claim these back from the Association. For the Final the Association will be responsible for the fees & expenses
- (d) Match Officials are entitled to their travelling expenses if incurred and half their fees if the match to which they were appointed is not played.
- (e) Match Officials shall acknowledge acceptance of appointments for all matches in the Competition to The Association.
- (f) The Home Club must notify the appointed Match Officials of the precise details of the match, specifically the name and location of, and directions to the ground and the kick-off time, this information to be received by the Match Official not later than 7.00 p.m. on the Wednesday prior to the date of match. Failure to comply will result in the Home Club being fined up to a maximum of £10. Referees must immediately, upon receipt of the draw, acknowledge receipt to the Association.
- (g) The duties of the Match Officials shall be as defined in the Laws of the Game. This also includes the use of Temporary Dismissals (Sin Bins)
- (h) If, by Thursday 5pm prior to the scheduled tie, the appointed Referee is not available, it is the responsibility of the Home Club to contact their League Referees Appointment Officer who will appoint a replacement Referee for that tie.
- (i) In all matches preceding the Quarter Final, Clubs must provide an Assistant Referee, whose duties will be determined by the match official on the day. Failure to do so will result in a £25 fine. In addition, the Match Official at their discretion may request both Club Assistant Referees give offside as one of their duties.
- (j) Match Officials are allowed to wear coloured shirts in these Competitions in accordance with the following provisions:
 - (i) Black shirts shall be worn wherever possible.
 - (ii) There will be no designated colour for the alternative shirt, however it shall not clash with the Team's colours. With Teams unable to wear black or dark colours, when there are instances of a colour clash, the Referee must revert back to their black shirt.
 - (iii) When Assistant Referees and Fourth Officials are appointed, all the Officials must wear the same coloured shirt.
 - (iv) Officials must wear black shorts and socks at all times.

20. PROVISIONS CONCERNING PROTESTS

- (a) All issues relating to the interpretation of the Competition Rules shall be referred to the Committee, whose decision shall be final and binding. The Committee shall consider any such matter in such manner and following such procedures as it considers appropriate. The Committee shall not be bound by any enactment or Rule of Law relating to the admissibility of evidence in proceedings before a Court of Law.
- (b) Where a Club wishes to protest that there has been a breach of the Competition Rules by their opponents, such protest must be made in writing and must contain the particulars of the grounds upon which the protest is made. The protest must be received by The Association accompanied by a fee of £25, within 4 days after the

playing of the match to which it relates (Sundays not included). The fee shall be forfeited to The Association in the event of the protest not being sustained. No appeal will be accepted against decisions made (pre, during or post-match) by the Referee.

- (c) The Committee may make such orders as it considers appropriate in relation to any issue or protest referred to it. The Committee may make such orders as it considers appropriate as to the costs incurred by the parties or The Association.
- (d) Any protest relating to the ground, goal posts or bars or other appurtenances of the game shall not be considered by the Committee unless an objection has been lodged with the Referee and the Home Club at least 15 minutes before the official time of the kick-off. The Referee shall require the Home Club to correct the cause of the objection, if this is possible without unduly delaying the progress of the match.
- (e) Where an objection has been lodged with the Referee and Home Club as above, a protest must be made to The Association and neither objection nor protest may be withdrawn, except by leave of the Committee.
- (f) The Association shall send a copy of any protest to the Club protested against, which shall lodge a defence to the protest with particulars of the defence within seven days of receipt of the protest.
- (g) Members of the Committee directly connected with a Club concerned in a protest shall not have any involvement in the consideration of the matter.
- (h) A Club, or Player or any person directly connected with the management of the Club may be summoned to attend at a hearing of a protest. A Club may be represented by one or more persons. A Barrister or Solicitor may represent a Club only with the prior written consent of the Committee. Any person summoned to attend a hearing of a protest must attend personally and shall not be legally represented except with the prior written consent of the Committee.
- (i) All fines must be paid within 14 days of date of issue or the club may be suspended from all football.

21. APPEALS

- (a) A Club may appeal against any penalty imposed on it by the Committee.
- (b) An Appeal Board shall comprise of three members of Council, selected by the Chairman of the Discipline Committee, or his nominee. Any such appeal shall only be permitted on one or more of the following grounds:
 - (i) The Committee or Sub-committee appointed to consider the charge misinterpreted/failed to comply with the procedures relevant to the hearing of the charge.
 - (ii) The Committee or Sub-committee appointed to consider the Charge came to a decision on the facts of the case which no reasonable body could have reached.
 - (iii) The Committee or Sub-committee appointed to consider the Charge imposed a sanction that is excessive.
- (c) Any appeal must be made in writing within four days (Sundays excluded) of the Club being notified of the decision of the Committee, and accompanied by a fee of £25, which shall be forfeited in the event of the appeal being dismissed.
- (d) Once in receipt of the appeal, the Association shall arrange a hearing to be held within five days (Sundays excepted) of its receipt. The decision of this hearing shall be final

and binding on all parties, and shall have no bearing on any other matters, including those of any disciplinary hearing.

22. FIRST AID

It is the responsibility of the Home or Host Club to ensure that First Aid facilities and equipment are available whenever possible.

23. NOTICES

All notices required to be given to The Association by any of these Competition Rules shall be addressed to The Chief Executive, Lancashire F.A., The County Ground, Thurston Road, Leyland PR25 2LF.

24. TARIFFS

Rule	Description	Fee
5	Entry Fee	£30
8C(i)	Protest Fee – Ground unsuitable	£25
20B	Protest Fee	£25
21C	Protest Fee	£25

Rule	Description	Fee
1	Trophy returned late / returned dirty	£50
7C	Failed to fulfil a fixture	£50
7D	Failure to confirm match details with your opponents	£10
8B(iv)	No Changing or Toilet Facilities	£50
8D(v)	No Official pitch inspection prior to postponement	£50
8D(vi)	Failure to notify the Association of a postponement	£10
10E	Late Kick-Off	£10 - £25
12A	Late Team Sheet	£15
12B	Late Result	£20
12C	Failure to provide Safeguarding Risk Assessment	£100
14F	Failure to provide list of players for Final	£15
15A	Club withdrawing without due notice	£50
16H(i)	Team sheet provided late to Referee	£15
16H(ii)	No Referee's signature prior to kick-off	£20
16K	Ineligible Player	£100
19E	Failure to confirm match details with the Referee	£10
19H	Failure to provide a Club Assistant Referee	£25