

## **Rules of the Lincolnshire Football Association Ltd**

### **Senior Trophy**

1. This Competition shall be called "THE LINCOLNSHIRE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION LTD SENIOR TROPHY, and shall be conducted on the knock-out system, but the Cup Committee may at its discretion introduce a series of qualifying matches, split into sections if required, to decide which teams shall pass through to the knock-out stages of the Competition. All matches shall be played in accordance with the Rules, Regulations and Byelaws of the Football Association and the Laws of the Game.
2. The Hon Treasurer and Secretary for the time being of the Lincolnshire Football Association Ltd shall be, for all intents and purposes, the legal owners of the Cup in trust for the Association.
3. The Cup shall be competed for annually. Only Clubs whose ground has floodlights to the approved standard shall be allowed to play in the Competition. All teams affiliated to the Lincolnshire County Football Association at steps 5 and 6 will be automatically entered into the competition which shall play off as drawn. The date of the various rounds for the succeeding season shall be fixed by the Cup Committee.

Any club wishing to opt out of the competition may do so on making an annual payment of £500 (Five Hundred Pounds) to the LFA no later than 1st July of the calendar year of which they wish to opt out.

Entrance fee for each competing Club: £40.00.
4. No individual shall be allowed to play for more than one competing Club, but the members of each representative team may be changed during the series of matches if thought necessary. Each individual must have been a registered playing member for which club he proposes to compete by twelve noon on the Friday prior to the date of the game. A playing member is one who is a properly registered player of that Club thus making him eligible to play in one or other of their respective League Competitions. Only players who are eligible to play in any rounds up to and including the Semi-finals shall be allowed to play in the Final.

No player shall be allowed to play in more than one Lincolnshire FA County Cup Competition during the same season. (Lincolnshire Intermediate, Youth and Sunday Challenge Competitions excepted.)
5. The Cup Committee shall divide the competing clubs into geographical divisions in all rounds prior to the final. Matches brought forward from the original week ending date of any Cup Round must be notified to the Secretary of the Lincolnshire Football Association Limited by both clubs at least fourteen (14) days prior to playing the game. Clubs may not postpone matches without permission from the cup committee. In cases of postponed matches, only those players shall be allowed to play who were eligible to play on the original date fixed for playing the

first match. A player who has been suspended may, if otherwise qualified, play in the postponed tie after the term of his suspension has expired.

A Club not having an enclosed ground where gate money can be taken shall play on its opponents' ground.

6. Each Club shall send within three days after the match to the Secretary of the Association, in writing, notice of the result, together with a list of its players and substitutes taking part, along with their numbers, failing which a fine of £30.00 shall be imposed. Any objection to the qualification of any player or substitute of the opposing Club shall be made within three days after the match with a protest fee of £100.00. Any team short of complement at the commencement of the game shall be fined up to a maximum of £100.00 at the discretion of the Cup Committee. Clubs must hand copies of a list of names of players taking part in the game (including the names of nominated substitutes) , along with their numbers to the referee and a representative of their opponents in the presence of the referee at least thirty minutes before the advertised time of kick-off. Any Club failing to carry out these provisions will be fined a sum not exceeding £30.00.
7. In all rounds up to the final, the Club drawn first in the ballot shall have choice of ground, and the duration of the game being ninety minutes. Half-time interval shall be ten minutes duration which may be altered only with the permission of the Referee. In the event of a draw the match will be decided on the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with instructions in the Football Association handbook. 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/her decision on this matter is not subject to appeal. The inspection of the home clubs pitch, due to weather conditions, shall be carried out by a fully qualified and registered referee (minimum Level 5) who is not an official of the club. Any postponements must be notified immediately to the secretary of the Lincolnshire County Football Association by an official of the home club. In all matches the Home Team shall notify in writing the Visiting Club and match officials the date of the match, situation of ground, playing colours and time of kick-off not less than seven days prior to the match taking place. Failure to notify, a fine of £30.00 shall be imposed in each case. The visiting team to acknowledge this notification in writing and to give details of their playing colours. In the event of the Club colours liable to clash the visiting team shall change.  
Each Club must take every precaution to keep its ground in playing condition. Clubs shall not mutually agree to play a match in lieu of a cup-tie.

In the event of a match not being played or abandoned owing to causes which neither Club has control it shall (subject to the following relevant clauses) be replayed in its entirety on a date and ground to be fixed by the Cup Committee. The Cup Committee shall review all abandoned matches and in cases where it is to the advantage of the Competition and does no injustice to either Club, shall be empowered to order the score at the time of abandonment to be recorded as the result. In all cases where the Cup Committee is satisfied that the game has been abandoned owing to the conduct of one team or its Club member or members, it

shall be empowered to award the game to its opponents and/or take whatever other action is deemed necessary. In cases where a game is abandoned owing to the conduct of both teams or their Club members, the Cup Committee shall take such action as it considers appropriate.

8. The Cup Committee shall select the ground on which the Final Tie is to be played. The gate money for such match after expenses are paid, go to the funds of the Association, or as the Cup Committee may determine. A sum considered reasonable by the Cup Committee to cover expenses for travelling actually paid by the visiting team or teams may be paid out of the gate money for the match providing such match receipts are sufficient to cover such claim(s) and said claim is submitted within fourteen days of playing the match.
9. The dimensions of the field of play shall be in accordance with Football Association Laws of the Game. The ground must be marked out by the Home Club, and goal nets must be used. The playing area **MUST** be enclosed by rope or other barrier.
10. In all matches prior to the final the home club shall take gate receipts, but pay its own expenses, including that incurred in preparation of the ground including the cost of floodlights and will be responsible for payment of Referee and Assistant Referee's expenses. The visiting club will be responsible for its own travelling expenses. The remaining gate receipts will be then divided equally between the two competing clubs once expenses have been paid. Gate receipts to be paid to the opposition within 14 days of the fixture.
11. Referees and Assistant Referees for all matches shall be appointed by the LFA Referee Committee. Referees' fees for all matches up to the Final shall be £30.00, Assistant Referee's fees for all matches up to the Final shall be £20.00. Fourth Officials will be appointed in the Semi-Finals at a fee of £20.00. In the Final, Referee, Assistant Referees and Fourth Official shall receive trophies in lieu of fee, and in all games shall be allowed travelling expenses of 30p per mile.  
  
In the event of a match not being played because of circumstances over which the Clubs have no control the match officials, if present shall be entitled to half fee plus allowed expenses. Where a match is not played owing to one being in default, that Club shall pay the officials, if they attend at the ground, full fee plus allowed expenses.
12. All questions of eligibility, qualification of players or interpretations of the Rules shall be referred to the Cup Committee of the Association, whose decisions shall be final. No objection to the arrangement of the ground, or the goalposts, bar and ball shall be entertained by the Cup Committee unless a protest is lodged with the Referee in writing before the commencement of the match, nor shall any reference or protest of whatever kind be entertained by the Cup Committee, unless the Club lodging the protest shall have deposited with the Secretary of the Association a sum of £100.00, which shall be forfeited to the fund of the Association if the protest fails. If the Cup Committee deem fit they may also order the protesting Club to pay such sum as they may think necessary towards defraying the expenses of the Club

protested against. All protests must be confirmed in writing to the Secretary of the Association within three days after the match. (Sundays not included.) Any club deemed guilty of playing an ineligible player shall be struck out of the competition and fined £100.00.

13. The entire control and management of the Competition shall be vested in the Cup Committee of the Lincolnshire Football Association Ltd whose decisions shall be final. The Cup Committee shall have power for breach of rule, or other misconduct, to impose fines upon Clubs, to suspend or expel any player or Club from taking part in the Competition. The Cup Committee shall have power to alter or add to the Rules as they from time to time deem expedient.
14. Kick-off time shall be fixed or agreed with the Cup Committee. Any Club turning out later than the specified time, failing a satisfactory explanation being given, shall be fined according to the severity of the offence. In the event of any late start preventing the completion of the match, the defaulting Club shall be liable to forfeit the match. Both Clubs and Referees must within three days of playing the match, report to the Association Secretary in writing the time of kick-off, in case of late starts, any shortage in complement of players at the commencement of the game, and in cases of matches not started or not completed, stating the reason.
15. Substitution of Players. A Club may at its discretion, use seven substitute players from the seven named to the Referee before the commencement of the match at any time except to replace a player who has been suspended from the field of play by the Referee. The substitutions can only be made when play is stopped for any reason and the Referee has given permission. A player who has been selected, appointed or named as a substitute before the start of a match but does not actually play in the game shall not be considered to have been a player within the meaning of Rule 4 of this Competition.
16. No Club shall be allowed to withdraw without the consent of the Cup Committee. Any Club failing to play in any tie without showing a good and sufficient cause for such failure to play, may be judged to have been guilty of serious misconduct, and shall be dealt with by the Cup Committee and fined £100.00
17. In all matches players' shirts shall be clearly numbered or a fine of £20.00 will be imposed.
18. In the Final the Association shall present trophies to the players, substitutes, and one official of each Club. Due to insurance purposes County Cup / Trophy will be presented to the winning team but then retained by the County Association and a memento presented in its place, which the winning team shall keep.
19. Artificial grass pitches may be used in competitions provided the pitch is listed on the football associations register of artificial grass pitches and with the prior consent of the Lincolnshire Football Association, consent must be requested at the time of entry into the competition in each season.