



## North Riding Ability Counts League

- PAN Disability League – therefore incorporates a variety of disabilities within the league. **Please refer to the eligibility document, it is the responsibility of managers to ensure all players are eligible. In the event of someone questioning eligibility, this should be reported to the eligibility coordinator at their earliest opportunity.**
- **The league will operate the following divisions: Open Age, Under 16, Under 12 and Under 8 with the appropriate 4-year age bandings.**

### Match Day / Playing Specific Rules

- Fixtures will take place across the county on pre-planned round-robin dates, during which each team will play all other teams in their age band. Whereby a team is not present for their fixture they will automatically forfeit the game and a 3-0 win will be awarded to the opposition team. Should both teams fail to attend then neither team will be awarded any points.
- 3 points per win, 1 point per draw, 0 points for loss.
- Should any team take a 3-goal lead they will be awarded a win with the result being capped at 3 goals. This is to encourage teams to play the remainder of the fixture in a friendly nature and to make it more of a level playing field for the losing team.
- Affiliated referees to be used for all fixtures.
- At the end of the fixtures if there are teams that are level on points, then there shall be a final match to determine the winners, if it fails to distinguish a winner penalty shall then be played. **If there are more than 2 teams level on points, there will be a round-robin competition. If this remains level, a penalty shootout will decide the winner.**
- Mini Soccer rules apply.
- No offside rule to be implemented.
- Games will be played in a 5v5 format where applicable. Whereby any team does not have enough players to field a full team then this may be changed to 4v4 or a minimum of 3v3 to ensure fixtures will be fulfilled.
- From the goalkeeper the ball must **NOT** cross the halfway line, the opposing team will be awarded an **indirect free kick from where the ball is when the game is stopped.**
- Sin bins to be utilised where appropriate.
- Unlimited substitutions can be made during the game. Substitutions can only be made when the ball is out of play.
- **All players must wear shin pads – please note that ‘mini shin pads’ are not permitted and must be full-sized. For guidance on this please see -**  
<https://www.EnglandFootball.com/articles/2024/Feb/14/shin-pad-guidance-for-grassroots-football-in-england-20241402>



### **Junior Specific Rules**

- Game duration will be 15 minutes straight through.
- There will be NO deliberate heading of the ball from Under 8 – Under 12 divisions, for a deliberate header will result in an indirect free kick at the point where the ball was deliberately headed. Exclusion to this rule is in the penalty area where the indirect free kick will be from the nearest sideline of the penalty area.
- Kick-ins / dribble-in will be introduced instead of throw-ins. When the whole of the ball passes over the touchline this is awarded. The Kicker that takes the pass in may touch the ball again before it is touched by another player. The opponents must stand at least 5 yards from the point on the touchline. A goal cannot be scored directly from a pass/dribble-in.

For further details on heading and Kick ins please refer to

<https://www.EnglandFootball.com/participate/learn/Brain-Health/Heading-in-Football>

### **Open Age-Specific Rules**

- Open Age will play 20 minutes straight through.
- Throw in's/roll-ins permitted.

### **Reporting & Fines**

- Completed fixtures and results to be sent to Jasmine Morris to update on FA full-time website, within 48 hours of the fixtures being completed.
- All players must be registered via the club portal and submitted to the league 48 hours before kick-off. Failure to register players, or playing unregistered players will result in a fine of £30 and/or points gained deducted at the discretion of the management committee.
- If a team is unable to fulfil a fixture date or chooses not to play, this will be marked as a loss and 3 points awarded to the opposing team. This should be communicated to the league at least 48 hours before the fixture date. Failure to fulfil a fixture without communication 48 hours before, will result in a penalty fine of no more than £30.