



Sheffield & Hallamshire County Football Association **County Cup Competition Rules**

All questions relating to these competition rules or interpretation of the rules must be referred to Sheffield & Hallamshire County Football Association (SHCFA) prior to the commencement of the competition. Entry and participation in a competition will be considered by SHCFA as acceptance of these competition rules.

Table of Contents

1. Ownership of Trophies (All Competitions)	3
2. Medals (All Competitions)	3
3. Control of the Competition (All Competitions).....	3
4. Entry Date & Exemptions (All Competitions)	4
5. Cup Eligibility	5
6. Withdrawing from a Competition (All Competitions).....	7
7. Protests (All Competitions).....	7
8. Provisions Concerning Appeals (All Competitions).....	8
9. Qualification of Players	9
10. Player Eligibility (All Competitions).....	10
11. Disqualification (All Competitions)	10
12. Substitutes.....	10
13. Notification of the Draws (All Competitions)	11
14. Kick Off Times (All Competitions)	11
15. Proceeds of Matches (Men’s Senior Cup Competition Only).....	12
16. Match Venues.....	13
17. General Ground Rules (All Competitions)	13
18. Club Colours (All Competitions)	15
19. Duration of the match (All Competitions).....	15
20. Postponements and abandonment (All Competitions)	15
21. Reporting Results (All Competitions)	16
22. Match Officials.....	16
23. Provisions for Matches (All Competitions).....	17
24. Final Ties (All Competitions).....	19
25. Name / Logo and Images of The Competition & Cup	19
26. Temporary Dismissals (Sin Bins)	19
Appendix 1 - General Information.....	20
Appendix 2 - Kick off Times & Round Dates.....	20



Appendix 3 - Fines Tariff 22
Appendix 4 - Match Officials Fees23

Competition Titles and Format

The Competitions shall be titled:

Sheffield and Hallamshire County Football Association (SHCFA):

Senior Competitions

- I. Men's Senior Cup Competition (11v11)
- II. Women's Senior Cup Competition (11v11)

Saturday Competitions

- III. Saturday Cup Competition (11v11)
- IV. Saturday Trophy Competition (11v11)

Sunday Competitions

- V. Sunday Cup Competition (11v11)
- VI. Sunday Trophy Competition(11v11)

Youth Competitions

- VII. Under 16s Youth Cup Competition (11v11 or any other format as determined from time to time in line with FA guidance)
- VIII. Under 16s Girls Cup Competition (11v11 or any other format as determined from time to time in line with FA guidance)
- IX. Under 13s Youth Cup Competition (11v11 or any other format as determined from time to time in line with FA guidance)
- X. Under 13s Girls Cup Competition (11v11 or any other format as determined from time to time in line with FA guidance)

Disability Competitions

- XI. Disability Cup – 5v5 - *See Disability Cup rules.*
- XII. Disability Cup – 7v7 - *See Disability Cup rule*



The names of any competition may be changed by SHCFA as it sees fit, at any time, particularly, but not limited to, the inclusion of sponsors' names within the title of any competition
Ownership of Trophies (All Competitions)

1. Ownership of Trophies (All Competitions)

The trophy presented shall remain the property of SHCFA. The team awarded the cup is responsible for its return to SHCFA on or before the first day in February in good condition. SHCFA reserves the right to retain or recall the trophy at any time – this is particularly the case with cups having a high historical value.

Should a trophy be lost, destroyed, or damaged whilst under the care or custody of a team, the team shall pay SHCFA the amount of its current insured value, or the cost of repair or replacement, in addition to any other penalty which SHCFA may impose at its sole discretion.

No team shall be allowed to retain the trophy following a final tie unless the official SHCFA liability form has been duly completed by an authorised official of the club and such authorisation is in the possession of the SHCFA.

2. Medals (All Competitions)

In addition to the Trophy / Cup, SHCFA will present Cup / Trophy winners and runners up with up to twenty-two (22) medals for each team to participating players and technical staff.

Match officials will be presented with a suitable memento as determined from time to time by SHCFA.

3. Control of the Competition (All Competitions)

The ownership, organisation, and management of the competitions shall be the sole responsibility of SHCFA. SHCFA shall have the power to make, delete and amend rules and all the decisions shall be binding on all participants in the competition. (Appeals against expulsion from the competition may be made)

The SHCFA Nominations Committee may at their discretion delegate authority to an advisory group (Cups Committee, or some other named group fulfilling the duties of a cups committee) who shall consider all matters arising out of the SHCFA cup competitions, including matters relating to the interpretation and application of the rules, rule breaches and protests.

If any event or circumstance arises that is not covered by these Rules, then the SCOR will be the reference and if such event or circumstance is not covered by either, then the SHCFA, at its sole discretion, will determine the outcome of any such circumstance.



4. Entry Date & Exemptions (All Competitions)

Teams must enter SHCFA cup and trophy competitions via The FA Club Portal. Team entry must be made by midnight on the 1st of August.

All adult clubs are required to enter their most senior team in the relevant County Cup Competition. A Club may enter other teams in a County Cup competition if they wish to do so.

If a club do not wish to enter any of their teams in the relevant County Cup, they must pay a Cup Exemption Fee. A cup exemption fee is added in the same way as adding a team to a competition. The cup exemption fee will be an amount that matches the entry fee for the particular cup or trophy competition from which exemption is sought.

If a club wishes to enter a cup or trophy competition that is at a higher level than the standard of competition at which they normally play and would not under usual circumstances be entered for, then application may be made to SHCFA, stating the reasons for such application. Any such application must be made at the point of application for that season's competition. SHCFA will then, at its sole discretion, determine which competition that the team will play in. Any such decision will be final and binding.

SHCFA reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to refuse the entry of any team into any Cup or Trophy competition.

Any team granted exemption from taking part in any Cup or Trophy competition of the SHCFA will not be allowed to compete in any other trophy/cup or similar competition, including those which are promoted by a Football Association or league in which the club competes. An exception to this shall be in Competitions that form part of the National League System, Regional NLS Feeder Leagues and the Women's Football Pyramid and Girls' Football, as determined from time to time by The Football Association.

Matches must be played on the dates determined by the SHCFA. No consideration shall be given to vary the appointed dates except in only the most extreme of circumstances, the consideration of which shall be at the sole discretion of the SHCFA. The SHCFA Cup / Trophy competitions are County wide competitions and clubs may be drawn against other teams from across any district under the auspices of the SHCFA. For the avoidance of doubt, a closed date with a clubs' own league or circumstances such as, as an example, local professional "derby matches" on the same date, will not be considered to be an extreme circumstance.

5. Cup Eligibility

Only teams affiliated to SHCFA during the current season can enter SHCFA cup competitions.

Senior Cups

I. Men's Senior Cup Competition (11v11)

The Competition shall be competed for by senior teams affiliated to the SHCFA who compete in regional feeder leagues (typically, Sheffield & Hallamshire County Senior League, Premier Division; Central Midlands League, Premier Divisions North and South; West Yorkshire League, Premier Division; Yorkshire Amateur League, Supreme Division) and above.

Leagues may change names through sponsorships or other cause, and the SHCFA, at its sole discretion, will determine which leagues are eligible for this competition.

Grounds provided for the County Cup by the Home team must meet Ground Grading criteria as per the home teams playing level.

Entry will be approved by the SHCFA appointed CUPS Committee, who may delegate this power of approval to officers as it sees fit.

II. Women's Senior Cup Competition (11v11)

The Competition shall be open to all Women's teams affiliated to the SHCFA. The Competition may be seeded according to the level of football at which any team normally plays.

Saturday Competitions

III. Saturday Cup Competition (11v11)

Subject to the considerations of rule 4 and 5, The Competition shall be competed for by Teams affiliated to SHCFA from Top divisions of County Saturday leagues (Typically, Doncaster Rovers Saturday Football league -Premier Division, Sheffield & Hallamshire County Senior League - Division 1, Wakefield & District FA League - Premier Division, Yorkshire Amateur League - Premier & Championship, West Yorkshire League - division 1, Huddersfield & District Association Football League – top 2 divisions, Regional Feeder League/NLS clubs reserve teams) or any leagues that are determined as qualifying leagues by the SHCFA from time to time.

IV. Saturday Trophy Competition (11v11)

Subject to the considerations of rule 4 and 5, The Competition shall be competed for by teams affiliated to SHCFA from 2nd divisions and below of County Saturday Leagues.



(Typically, Doncaster Rovers Saturday Football league- Division 1, Sheffield & Hallamshire County Senior League- Division 2, Central Midlands League, Division 1, Wakefield & District FA League – Division 1 & 2, The Wragg Football League - Premier, 1st Division, 2nd Division & Over 45s Division 1 & 2, Yorkshire Amateur League - Divisions 1 & below, West Yorkshire League - Division 2 & below, Huddersfield and District Association Football League - Division 3 & below or any leagues that are determined as qualifying leagues by the SHCFA from time to time.

Sunday Competitions

V. Sunday Cup Competition (11v11)

Subject to the considerations of rule 4 and 5, The Competition shall be competed for by teams affiliated to SHCFA from Top division of Sunday Leagues, unless they have 4+ divisions, then it's the top two divisions. (RDSFL- Round Table Premier, RDSFL- Cannon PR Championship, Worksop Sunday League- Division 1, Blades Super Draw- CBC Premier Division, Doncaster Rovers Sunday FL- Premier Division, Doncaster Rovers Sunday FL- Championship, Mexborough & District SL- Premier Division, Barnsley & District Sunday League – Premier Division, Sheffield Imperial - The Premier Division, Wakefield & District Sunday League, Premiership 1, Wakefield & District Sunday League, Premiership 2) or any leagues that are determined as qualifying leagues by the SHCFA from time to time.

VI. Subject to the considerations of rule 4 and 5, Sunday Trophy Competition (11v11)

The Competition shall be competed for by teams affiliated to SHCFA from the following Leagues/Divisions (RDSFL- JBM Recycling Division 1, RDSFL- M.S Sports Division 2, RDSFL- Rotherham Building Plastics Division 3, Blade Super Draw- Division 1, Blade Super Draw- Division 2, Doncaster Rovers Sunday FL- Division 1, Doncaster Rovers Sunday FL- Division 2, Mexborough & District SL- Division 1, Mexborough & District SL- Division 2, Barnsley & District Sunday League – Division 1, Sheffield Imperial- Division 1, Sheffield Imperial-Division 2, Wakefield & District Sunday League, Championship 1, Wakefield & District Sunday League, Championship 2) or any leagues that are determined as qualifying leagues by the SHCFA from time to time.

Youth Competitions

VII. Under 16s Youth Cup Competition (11v11 or as determined)

The Competition shall be entered by youth teams affiliated to SHCFA who normally play their matches on Sundays. The team should contain players of an appropriate U16 age as defined by F.A. Rules. The Competition may be seeded according to the level of football at which any team normally plays.

VIII. Under 16s Girls Cup Competition (11v11 or as determined)

The Competition can be entered by youth teams affiliated to SHCFA who normally play their matches on Saturdays. The team should contain players of an appropriate U16 age as



defined by F.A. Rules. The Competition may be seeded according to the level of football at which any team normally plays.

IX. Under 13s Youth Cup Competition (11v11 or as determined)

The Competition shall be entered by youth teams affiliated to SHCFA who normally play their matches on Sunday. The team should contain players of an appropriate U13 age as defined by F.A. Rules. The Competition may be seeded according to the level of football at which any team normally plays.

X. Under 13s Girls Cup Competition (11v11 or as determined)

The competition shall be entered by Youth teams affiliated to SHCFA who normally play their matches on a Saturday. The Team shall contain players of an appropriate U13 age as defined by FA rules. The Competition may be seeded according to the level of football at which any team normally plays.

Disability Competitions

XI. 5 v 5

XII. 7 v 7

6. Withdrawing from a Competition (All Competitions)

Any team intending to withdraw from a Competition must notify their intention to do so to SHCFA before the first draw for any matches in the competition has been made for that season. Failure to do so will incur a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

A team failing to give satisfactory reason for withdrawing from the Competition shall be liable to a penalty decided by the SHCFA Cups Committee. Fines tariff (appendix 3). A “satisfactory reason”, or otherwise, shall be determined by and be at the sole discretion of, the SHCFA Cups Committee or other such delegated body.

In the Final ties any team failing to play without a sufficient cause for such failure to play, may be adjudged by SHCFA to have been guilty of serious misconduct and liable to be dealt with under The Football Association Rule E (1-3). Additionally, any team failing to play a final tie without a sufficient cause will be liable for any expenses actually incurred by all relevant parties as a result of their failure to play without a sufficient cause. “Sufficient cause” and “Relevant parties” will be determined by the SHCFA Cups Committee or other such delegated body.

7. Protests (All Competitions)

All questions relating to the interpretation of the Rules, or any dispute or protest must be referred to SHCFA. Every protest must be made in writing via e-mail to support@sheffieldfa.com and contain the particulars of the grounds upon which it is founded.



The protest must be lodged with SHCFA accompanied by a £25 Protest Fee within two days of the match to which it relates (Sundays & Bank Holidays not included), or two days after the match if the protest relates to events of a match already played. The protest fee shall be forfeited to SHCFA in the event of a protest not being sustained.

Any protest relating to the ground, goal posts or bars, or other appurtenances of the game shall not be entertained by SHCFA unless an objection has been lodged with the Referee before the commencement of the match, and not later than 15 minutes before the official time of the kick-off. The Referee shall require the responsible team to correct the cause of the objection, if this is possible, without unduly delaying the progress of the match.

SHCFA shall send a copy of the protest and particulars to the team protested against. Each team may support its case by witnesses.

If a member of SHCFA (for example a Board, staff, or Cups Committee member) is connected with a team involved in a dispute or protest, or the league in which that team plays, they shall not be involved in any decision making whilst the dispute or protest is being considered.

Neither a barrister nor solicitor shall represent a team at a hearing of a dispute or protest unless they are the Secretary or Chair of the team/club concerned.

Protests will be considered by a SHCFA appointed Cups Committee. Decisions reached by the Committee will be final and binding, except where a team has been removed from a competition. Teams who are removed from a competition retain the right to appeal that decision in accordance with FA Rules.

8. Provisions Concerning Appeals (All Competitions)

A team who are expelled from a competition may appeal against that decision in accordance with FA Rules.

Any such appeal shall only be permitted on one or more of the grounds as determined from time to time by the FA Appeals process and should be submitted to SHCFA via

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/fb231fffdd744d8a8194129145b4e262>

Any appeal must be made in accordance with procedures set out in FA regulations.

An appeal must be made by the team within 7 working days of the Cups Committee's decision being received and an appeal hearing will be arranged within 14 working days of the Cups Committee decision. For the purpose of this rule, the 1st day shall be the day after the decision of the Committee's decision is communicated to the club.

For the avoidance of doubt, a team may not appeal against any penalty imposed on it by the Cups Committee other than expulsion from a competition.



9. Qualification of Players

The Competition shall be competed for annually in accordance with these Rules, and each team shall consist of 11 players, or for Youth, Girls and Disability matches the requisite number as determined from time to time by the FA (see also Disability Cup Rules) who, unless a satisfactory reason is given, shall represent the full available strength of each competing Club. Any team failing to give satisfactory reason will be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

Each Club must provide a list of names of players taking part in the game - The Official Team Sheet (including the names of the substitutes)- to the Referee and a representative of their opponents in the presence of the Referee:

- 45 minutes before kick-off for the Semi Final and Final.
- 30 minutes before kick-off in all other rounds in the Competition.

Any team failing to do so must be reported to SHCFA by the referee and will be liable to be fined a fee according to appendix 3.

All players must have been eligible to play in the original tie in order to play in a postponed match or rearranged fixture; however, a player who had been suspended according to the disciplinary procedures under the Rules of SHCFA may play in a postponed or replayed match after the term of their suspension has expired, provided that they were properly qualified for the original tie.

In all rounds of a competition a player shall be a “registered player” of their team under the rules of the competition. A registered player is one who is registered for their team with a league in which their team competes in the current season.

No player under written contract shall be eligible to compete in a competition except the Sheffield and Hallamshire County Football Association Senior Cup (Men’s) Competition.

No player shall be eligible to take part in a competition who has, in the current season, played for another team in that competition.

In the first round a player must have been a registered player of the team for at least 48 hours prior to the date of the match. In all subsequent rounds of a competition a player must have been a registered player of the team at least 7 days prior to the date of the match. In the Semi-Final and Final Ties of the Competition, a player must have been a registered player of the team at least 28 days prior to the scheduled date fixed for playing the match.

Under extraordinary circumstances, a club may make application to register a player for a game outside of these rules if the player concerned is the goalkeeper and such a player has not played for another club in the competition. Any such circumstance shall be considered on a case-by-case basis by the SHCFA and the outcome shall be determined by and be at the sole discretion of, the SHCFA cups committee or other such delegated body.



10. Player Eligibility (All Competitions)

If SHCFA have any doubts as to the qualifications of a player(s) taking part in a competition, they shall have power to call upon the player(s), or the team for which they play(ed), to prove that they are qualified according to the Rules. Failing satisfactory proof being supplied, as determined by SHCFA, SHCFA may disqualify the player(s), and may remove the team from the competition, and impose any other such penalty as they deem fit. Any disputes regarding the qualification of any player(s) raised by another team will not be considered unless such dispute is raised no later than 7 days after the playing of the game to which the dispute relates. For the avoidance of doubt and for the purpose of this rule the day of the game is determined as day 1. The protest must be lodged within the timescale with SHCFA accompanied by a £25 Protest Fee

11. Disqualification (All Competitions)

SHCFA shall have power to disqualify any competing team, or player, or players from any competing team, who has been proven guilty of any breach of the Rules of the competition.

12. Substitutes

Senior Cup Competitions (Men)

A maximum of five substitutes may be nominated. A team may at its discretion use five of those five substitute players at any time in the match. Substitutions can only be made when play is stopped for any reason and the referee has given permission.

Prior to the substitution being made the club must identify to the match officials the number of the player out and the player in, in accordance with the official team sheet.

(FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBT – SUBSTITUTIONS ARE **NOT** ROLL ON / ROLL OFF)

All Other Competitions

A maximum of five substitutes may be nominated. A club may at its discretion use five of those five substitute players at any time in the match. Substitutions can only be made when play is stopped for any reason and the referee has given permission.

Prior to the substitution being made the club must identify to the match officials the number of the player out and the player in, in accordance with the official team sheet.

All substitutes are roll on/ roll off, i.e., a player who has been substituted becomes a substitute and may replace a player at any time, subject to the referee being informed.



13. Notification of the Draws (All Competitions)

The teams competing in each round of a competition shall be drawn in couples. The couples shall play a match subject to the Laws of the Game. The winners will compete in the next round, the ties of which will be drawn in the same manner. This shall be continued until the Final of the competition. At the discretion of the SHCFA, the draw may be formulated on a “tournament” basis where successive ties are determined by the order of the original draw

After the draw for each round is made, notice shall be given to each team of the name of its opponent and the date and time by which the match should be played. Notification will be via FA Full Time or other such method as adopted by the SHCFA from time to time. All matches in each Round shall normally be played on the same date(s) as decided by SHCFA. (Note some match date flexibility is allowed in the Men’s Senior Cup Competition (for instance - in Senior competitions where teams normally have floodlight facilities, matches may be arranged on midweek dates to accommodate other fixtures but only with prior approval from the SHCFA)

Note; for the avoidance of doubt, with the exception of the Senior Cup as noted above, no match can be arranged to take place after the originally scheduled date as set out by the SHCFA, but with mutual agreement of the teams and with approval of the SHCFA, the match may be brought forward. Only in exceptional circumstances and where the application of such does not cause any hindrance to the efficient running of the Competition, shall a Senior Cup tie be played later than the due date. The SHCFA will have sole discretion in determining what constitutes exceptional circumstances in this regard. Failure to comply with this rule will result in the team(s) responsible for the failure to play being removed from the competition, the team(s) responsible being determined by the SHCFA cups committee or other such delegated body

SHCFA cup matches take precedence over league matches, in accordance with the FA’s Order of Precedence for Competitions. Teams shall not arrange to play any match instead of a SHCFA cup match, without receiving permission from SHCFA. Where teams play in a league that allows teams to nominate “free weeks” where a team does not wish to play for any reason, teams should note that this does not apply to the dates of SHCFA cup dates.

14. Kick Off Times (All Competitions)

The home team shall decide the Kick off time within the parameters set within appendix 2. If there are extenuating circumstances the away team may appeal the Kick off time selected to SHCFA, whose decision on the kick off time shall be final.

Any late kick-off must be reported by the referee to SHCFA, and the offending club will be fined in accordance with the fines tariff (appendix 3).

The referee must allow a reasonable period at their discretion before calling the match off due to the non-arrival of team(s) at the ground. The offending team will be fined in accordance with the fines tariff (appendix 3).



Kick off times specified (appendix 2) cannot be changed unless mutually agreed by the competing teams and approved by SHCFA. Requests for approval to SHCFA to change a kick off time must be made 7 days in advance of the match. Any changes to kick of times may affect the availability of the appointed referee.

SHCFA shall have the authority to adjust kick off times as it deems appropriate.

Match officials and Opponents should be contacted by the Home club with details of the location of the ground on which the match is to be played no later than 4 days before the scheduled date of the game. For the avoidance of doubt, 4 days for the purpose of this rule means that for a Saturday fixture the latest time to contact a Match Official or Opponents will be on the Tuesday preceding a game and for a Sunday fixture a Wednesday. Earlier contact between the Home team and Match Officials and Opponents is encouraged. Such contact must also include (but not limited to); time of kick off, playing surface (for instance is it artificial and therefore specific footwear required) and any other relevant details. Failure to provide the required notification to Match Officials or Opponents will result in a fine in accordance with Appendix 3

15. Proceeds of Matches (Men's Senior Cup Competition Only)

The proceeds of matches shall, after paying out the travelling expenses of the visiting team, the fees and expenses of the match officials, the ground and other expenses of the match (provided the visiting team is notified beforehand of the approximate cost) will be divided as follows:

In all matches prior to the final tie, the net gate receipts of each tie after claims for expenses have been deducted shall be divided as follows – 50% to each team.

The visiting team shall be allowed to claim the following expenses from gate receipts.

- Transport – up to 5 cars, or 1 coach.
- Mileage – 35p per mile car, or £3.60 per mile coach.

The home team shall be allowed to claim the following expenses

- Floodlights - £75 maximum.
- Refreshment (see Rule 17)
- Gate Staff & Supervision
- Match Officials
- Other e.g. programme printing

In final ties SHCFA will take all gate receipts.

In contrast to other rules, where a ground swap results in the originally drawn “Home” team retaining that status, for the purpose of this rule the “Home” team shall be the team on whose ground the match is played or who has responsibility for paying the expenses of hiring the ground if neutral or such like.



In all matches prior to the final tie where the receipts are not sufficient to cover the entire expenses of the match, the deficit shall be shared by the two competing teams.

16. Match Venues

In each tie the game shall be played on the ground of the team first drawn, unless otherwise mutually agreed, and consent is obtained from SHCFA.

However, where a NLS team have a home ground with floodlights, and they are drawn away at a venue which does not have floodlights the match will be reversed if the game is played midweek under said floodlights.

No monetary or other consideration shall be asked for, offered or paid in connection with negotiations for change of venue.

Clubs shall not play on a neutral ground without the consent of SHCFA.

Where a team from an EFL or FA Premier league club is playing (U21 or similar), then irrespective of who is drawn as the “Home” team, the EFL or FA Premier league club shall play the tie at the ground of their opponents, unless the opponents, having being drawn “away”, expressly consent to be the “away” side. The non EFL or FA Premier league side playing at home shall be able to take a gate as the “Home” team in accordance with Rule 15

17. General Ground Rules (All Competitions)

The dimensions of the field of play for all Competitions shall be in accordance with the Laws of the Game and taking into account the age of the players (i.e. Youth players and girls)

Goal nets must be used in all ties and corner flags must be provided, all in accordance with the standards set out in the Laws of the Game. Failure to do so will result in a fine as according to appendix 3.

The spectator area must meet the minimum requirements set out by the FA Respect Code.

Changing accommodation which includes a weatherproof, structurally safe building which is large enough to comfortably accommodate all players and staff, and match officials (separately); a toilet and sink must be provided. If the home team cannot meet these changing requirements, they must make the opposition, officials and SHCFA aware at the earliest opportunity. If the home team are unable to provide such facilities and the away team are, then the away team, if it so wishes, can make application to the SHCFA (having first notified their opponents of their intention to do so) to have the tie transferred to their facility but in doing so accept the responsibilities of the home team as if they had been drawn at home in the first instance. Any such application must be made to the SHCFA within 7 days of the draw being published, the draw date being day 1 for the purpose of this rule. If such application is received the SHCFA will determine the venue and the decision of the SHCFA will be binding and not subject to appeal



SHCFA shall not be held responsible for any injury, damage, loss of property or loss of vehicles incurred at a venue or during travel to or from a competition venue.

Ground Rules (Senior Cup Competition - Men Only)

Club must have use of a ground where charge for admission can be made, and a gate must be taken in all Senior Cup ties.

Refreshments should be provided for the match officials and the officials of the team drawn away from home.

18. Club Colours (All Competitions)

Where the colours (shirts, shorts or stockings) of the two competing teams are similar the Away team must change unless alternative arrangements are mutually agreed by the competing teams. In a Final match the team named first will be considered to be the Home team. It is the responsibility of the Home team to inform the Away team of the colours in which they intend to play at least 5 days before the fixture. If the Home team do not inform their opponents and a colour clash occurs, then in these circumstances the Home team must change, unless alternative arrangements are mutually agreed by the competing teams.

Team colours must not clash with the predominantly black and white outfit worn by the Match Officials. In the event of a clash the team(s) that clash will be responsible for changing to ensure no clash occurs.

Players' shirts shall be clearly numbered on the back in accordance with the 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; failure to comply will result in a fine as according to appendix 3.

Advertising may be worn on player's clothing in accordance with the Rules of The Football Association.

19. Duration of the match (All Competitions)

The Referee shall allow for time wasted or time lost through accident or other cause. The Referee is the sole judge of allowance of time and the Referee's decision on this matter is not subject to appeal.

In the event of any match (including semi-finals and finals) resulting in a draw after the full-time whistle, then the match must be decided by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark, as per the procedure laid down by the laws of the game.

Extra time is not played in any SHCFA cup competitions.

Both teams shall enter the field of play together five minutes prior to the kick-off time, along with the referee. This may be subject to change in a Final Tie.

The half-time interval shall not exceed 15 minutes for all ties in the Competition.

20. Postponements and abandonment (All Competitions)

Postponed or abandoned matches for reasons outside of the control of either team are replayed the following week on the same ground.

If both teams agree and approval is gained from SHCFA a fixture may be reversed if the home ground is or is likely to be unplayable and the away team pitch is available and likely to be playable.

If a fixture is not played after two attempts due to an unfit pitch, then SHCFA may order that the fixture should then be reversed or played on an all-weather pitch, with ground expenses being shared by both Clubs.

If the match had been abandoned during the taking of penalty kicks, and neither team being at fault, it must be played on the ground of the team second drawn, on the following week.

SHCFA shall review all matches abandoned in cases where SHCFA feel it is to the advantage of the competition and, at its sole discretion, may order that the score at the time the match was abandoned stands as the final score or any other determination it may come to in respect of the winners of the tie, especially if a match has been abandoned, in the view of the SHCFA, as a result of one, or both, clubs actions.

In the event of a match not being played due to the fault of either of the competing teams and such none playing only being notified on the day of the match, then the team deemed to be at fault will be liable for payment of the match officials' fees and travel expenses (if travel expenses have been incurred) as a result of such non-playing of the match. The determination of "fault" shall be determined by and be at the sole discretion of, the SHCFA cups committee or other such delegated body. For the purpose and function of this rule only, where an all-inclusive fee is payable and travel expenses have not been incurred, the fee payable shall be 75% of the "all in" fee.

21. Reporting Results (All Competitions)

Each Club must submit the following via FA Full Time match returns, or the Matchday App within 2 working days of a cup match:

- I. The full-time result of the match,
- II. Match statistics
- III. Referee Marks
- IV. Respect marks
- V. Pitch Marks
- VI. Player Statistics

Failure to comply with this Rule shall be subject to a fine as per the fines tariff (appendix 3).

22. Match Officials

In the following competition (Senior Cup Men's, Women's Cup, Sunday Senior Cup, Saturday Senior Cup, Saturday Trophy, Sunday Trophy, U16 Girls Cup and U13 Girls Cup) officials shall be appointed by SHCFA. This list may be amended at the SHCFA's discretion. Officials for Disability Cup Competitions will be appointed by SHCFA.

In all other competitions Officials are appointed by the home team (excluding finals, or where SHCFA deem it appropriate to appoint).

Assistant Referees will normally be appointed to ties where at least one team in the tie have Assistant Referees independently appointed in the league in which they normally play.

SHCFA competitions take precedence over any SHCFA affiliated league match and therefore a referee who is assigned to a SHCFA cup match must officiate that match. SHCFA can raise charges of Improper Conduct against any person alleged to be in breach of this rule.

The expenses of all Match Officials appointed by SHCFA to officiate in any match prior to the Final Tie shall be paid by the club designated as the home team except for Semi Final Ties where, upon SHCFA's sole discretion, Assistant Referees may be appointed to Semi Final Ties as it sees fit and in such cases the fees and expenses of Assistant Referees shall be paid equally by both teams. Please see expenses tariff (appendix 4) for the scale of expenses to be paid to the match officials. (In the event of a ground being changed through weather, the team originally drawn at home remains the home team for the purpose of this rule).

The levels of expenses paid to the match officials shall be decided from time to time by SHCFA.

In the event of a match postponement after the Officials have arrived at the venue the match officials shall receive 50% of their match fee

In the event of SHCFA giving permission for a pitch inspection prior to a match in the rounds of the competition, by a match official other than the match referee, such match official shall be entitled to



expenses only (to include loss of earning where applicable) for the local clubs, but expenses plus half the match fee if not local. Expenses claimable are 35p per mile.

The duties of the referee shall be as defined in the Laws of the Game.

23. Provisions for Matches (All Competitions)

The home team shall provide three suitable match balls for each tie. Failure to adhere to this rule will result in a fine as per the fines tariff (appendix 3).

The home team must advise all match officials as to the location of their ground and time of kick-off by email/electronically or in writing, not less than four days prior to the match. For the avoidance of doubt, for a Saturday match this must be no later than 8pm on the preceding Tuesday and for a Sunday match this must be no later than 8pm on the preceding Wednesday. Failure to do so will incur a fine as per the Fines Tariff.

In any match where the Match Officials are appointed directly by the SHCFA, the appointed officials will not be removed, changed or otherwise altered without the express permission of the SHCFA. Any team responsible for failure to comply with this rule will be subject to a fine and / or sanction as per the Fines Tariff. In the event of the match being ordered to be replayed, the team(s) deemed at fault by the SHCFA will be responsible for the costs of any rearranged tie.

In all Competitions, the number of Players and officials of a Club seated on the team benches, in the designated technical area, must not exceed 11 persons.

Additional seating near or around the team benches in the designated technical area is not permitted.

Only one person at a time has the authority to convey tactical instructions to the Players during the match from within the technical area.

All team officials and substitutes seated on the bench shall be listed on the official Team Sheet when it is submitted to the Match Officials. Only those persons listed on the official Team Sheet shall be permitted in the technical area.

The occupants of the technical area must behave in a responsible manner at all times. Misconduct by occupants of this area will be reported by the Referee to the FA, who shall have the power to impose sanctions as deemed fit. Any occupant dismissed from the technical area shall immediately go to a location within the ground from which they cannot view the remainder of the game.

With the exception of the team manager, the team coach and any substitutes who are warming up or warming down, all other personnel are to remain seated on the trainer's bench. The team manager or team coach is allowed to move to the edge of the technical area to issue instructions to his team.



24. Final Ties (All Competitions)

SHCFA shall determine the ground for the Final Ties and shall have direct control of the arrangements.

SHCFA will secure an appropriate and available ground for each final. For the avoidance of doubt, competing teams must not assume that this ground will be one of the region's professional clubs.

If the score is level at full time, the match shall be decided by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark as per the procedure laid down by the Laws of the game.

25. Name / Logo and Images of The Competition & Cup

If a club wishes to use an image of a competition cup, it shall use the image issued by SHCFA and will follow any directions issued by SHCFA in relation to the use of such image.

SHCFA may attain sponsorship for any competition. The sponsors name can be included within the name of the Competition.

26. Temporary Dismissals (Sin Bins)

Temporary Dismissals (Sin Bins) will operate in all S&H CFA cup competitions except the Men's Senior Cup

Appendix 1 - General Information

Competition	Age group as of 31st August of playing season	Format of football	Match Ball (size)	Goalpost size H x W (ft)	Sin Bins	Substitutions	Duration of match (Mins)
Senior Cup (Men's)	Open Age	11 v 11	5	8 x 24	NO	5 from 5 Nominated	90
Senior Cup (Women's)	Open Age	11 v 11	5	8 x 24	YES	5 from 5 Nominated (Rolling)	90
Saturday Cup	Open Age Non -Contract	11 v 11	5	8 x 24	YES	5 from 5 Nominated (Rolling)	90
Sunday Cup	Open Age Non -Contract	11 v 11	5	8 x 24	YES	5 from 5 Nominated (Rolling)	90
Saturday Trophy	Open Age Non -Contract	11 v 11	5	8 x 24	YES	5 from 5 Nominated (Rolling)	90
Sunday Trophy	Open Age Non -Contract	11 v 11	5	8 x 24	YES	5 from 5 Nominated (Rolling)	90
U16s Youth Cup	Age 15 & 14	11 v 11 or as determined	5	8 x 24	YES	5 from 5 Nominated (Rolling)	80
U16s Girls Cup	Age 15 & 14	11 v 11 or as determined	5	8 x 24	YES	5 from 5 Nominated (Rolling)	80
U13s Youth Cup	Age 12 & 11	11 v 11 or as determined	4	7 x 21	YES	5 from 5 Nominated (Rolling)	70
U13s Girls Cup	Age 12 & 11	11 v 11 or as determined	4	7 x 21	YES	5 from 5 Nominated (Rolling)	70

Rolling Substitutions (rolling): A player who has been substituted becomes a substitute and may replace a player at any time subject to the substitution being carried out in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of Association Football.



Appendix 2 - Kick off Times & Round Dates

Competition	Week of the month	Normal Kick off times
Senior Cup (Men's)	Ties to be played by end of month	1:00pm-3:00pm Saturdays 7:00pm-7:45pm Midweek
Senior Cup (Women's)	Third Sunday	1:00pm-3:00pm Sundays 7:00pm-7:45pm Midweek
Saturday Cup	Second Saturday	1:00pm-3:00pm Saturdays 7:00pm-7:45pm Midweek
Sunday Cup	Second Sunday	09:30am-15:00pm Sunday
Saturday Trophy	Third Saturday	1:00pm-3:00pm Saturdays 7:00pm-7:45pm Midweek
Sunday Trophy	Third Sunday	09:30am-15:00pm Sundays
U16s Youth Cup	Second Sunday	09:30am-15:00pm Sundays
U16s Girls Cup	Third Saturday	10:00am-2:00pm Saturdays
U13s Youth Cup	Second Sunday	09:30am-15:00pm Sundays
U13s Girls Cup	Third Saturday	10:00am-2:00pm Saturdays

Appendix 3 - Fines Tariff

Rule No.	Fines Tariff	Open Age (Maximum)	Youth (Maximum)
1	Non return of Trophy in clean, undamaged condition, by 1 February. Please note that, in addition to any standard fine, the Club shall be held liable for the current value of the Trophy if it is lost, or the cost of its repair if it is damaged. Clubs are advised to ensure that any Trophy is covered by suitable insurance.	£100	£100
6	Withdrawing from the competition after entry or without satisfactory reason.	£35	£35
6	Failure to play a Final Tie without sufficient cause	Liable for costs to relevant parties	Liable for costs to relevant parties
9	Late/no official team sheet to nominated representatives and/or match official	£20	£10
9	Failure to play full strength team	£50	£30
13	Failure to play match by the due date	Removal from Competition	Removal from Competition
14	Late Kick Off (for each 10 minutes or part thereof, up to a period of 30 minutes)	£10	£10
14	Non arrival of teams	£50	£50
14	Failure to notify Match Officials or Opponents of the details of the fixture less than 4 days prior to the scheduled date	£20	£20
17	(Each); Failure to provide Goal Nets; Failure to provide corner flags; Failure to provide refreshments as required.	£20	£20
18	Captain failing to wear a distinguishing armband	£20	£20
20	Failure to comply with decision of SHCFA with respect to Postponed Matches.	£100	£100
21	Late/No Match Report Form to SHCFA Incorrect Match Report Form to SHCFA	£20	£20
23	Failure to provide 3 suitable match day balls	£50	£50
23	Failure to use the appointed Match Officials as appointed by the SHCFA	£50 and where determined by the CFA, replaying of the tie and payment of match fee to official(s)	£50 and where determined by the CFA, replaying of the tie and payment of match fee to official(s)

Failure to make the appropriate payment within the time specified may result in removal from the competition, at the sole discretion of the Association.



Appendix 4 - Match Officials Fees

Competition	Referee	Assistant Referee
All Open Age Competitions	£45	£30
Under 16s Competitions	£35	£20
Under 13s Competitions	£30	£20

UNLESS SPECIFICALLY STATED OTHERWISE, MATCH OFFICIAL'S FEES STATED ABOVE ARE INCLUSIVE OF MATCH FEE AND EXPENSES.