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2025/26 COUNTY CUPS HANDBOOK



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N.B.

All additional rules or amendments to existing rules which are NEW for the coming season are shown in ***Bold Italics***
Please familiarise yourself with any changes.

Email correspondence for all cup matters, including team sheet returns, should be sent to:

Countycupadmin@somersetfa.com

County Office & Postal Address:

**Charles Lewin House,
Wirral Park Road, Glastonbury, Somerset. BA6 9FR**

The Office will normally be available

MONDAY to FRIDAY

9.00 am to 1.00 pm and 1.30 pm to 5.00pm

Phone: 01458 832359

Then select from the following Switch Board Options:

1. Football Services & Discipline
2. Development
3. Welfare

This may cause problems to some Club Secretaries but nevertheless every effort should be made to contact the County Office during these times.

Outside normal Office Hours, but only in URGENT or EXTREMELY IMPORTANT circumstances, please telephone the CUPS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, whose number you will find on page 4 of this Handbook.

NB: *Elsewhere throughout this book reference to the Association Secretary or other pertinent titles shall have the same meaning as CHIEF EXECUTIVE*

SOMERSET FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION LTD

OFFICERS

CHAIRMAN

P M Chaplin (2020)
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DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

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Tel: 01458 832359 Option 3 Mobile: 07535 664988 Email shirley.needham@somersetfa.com

REFEREES' APPOINTMENTS OFFICER

I Harley (Ian)
Tel: 07506 826638

DIRECTORS

R Dyer	P M Chaplin	A G Hurford	D Laing	C Ogilvie-Davidson
N Palmer	A Panwar	S Redman	R Uffendell	B Whitlock

COUNTY CUPS COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN

S Bayliss (Steve)
Ramona, Wet Lane, Draycott, Cheddar. BS27 3TG
Tel: 07976 830823

COMMITTEE

A R Carver (Adrian)	M Counsell (Matt)	G Channing (Grace)	S Densley (Steve)
R Hodgson (Ron)	M Harley-Buller (Megan)	K Lindsay (Karl)	N Marklew (Neil)
H Meager (Helen)	G Smart (Gary)	C Ware (Chris)	P Williams (Paul)
Appointed Director:	D Laing (Danni)		
Referee Appointment Officer	I Harley (Ian)		

SOMERSET FA SAFEGUARDING TEAM
Email: safeguarding@somersetfa.com

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The FA Whistleblowing Policy

If you feel a safeguarding concern has not been adequately dealt with and a child or young person remains at risk of harm, you can contact:

The FA

Phone: 0800 169 1863

Email: safeguarding@thefa.com

NSPCC

Phone: 0808 800 5000

Email: help@NSPCC.org.uk

FRANCIS HILLIER MEN'S PREMIER CUP COMPETITION (1928)
RULES

1. TITLE

The Cup shall be called 'The Somerset Football Association Ltd Francis Hillier Premier Cup Competition'. The Cup shall not become the property of any one Club but shall be competed for annually by Clubs in membership with the Association and whose status has been approved by the Council.

2. CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT

- (a) The Cups Committee of the Association shall have the entire control and management of the Competition and shall have the power to disqualify, impose fines or other such penalties and may order the payment of costs and expenses against any competing Club, for the breach of any of the Rules of the Competition. No appeal will be allowed against a decision of the Management Committee other than to the County Association whose decision shall be final and binding.
- (b) The Cups Committee shall decide upon the interpretation of the Rules of the Competition, adjudicate upon any dispute, claim or protest and their decision shall be final and binding.
- (c) The Competition shall be conducted on the principles of The Football Association Challenge Trophy Competition, and the Rules of that Competition shall apply so far as is practicable.
- (d) All Somerset FA Cup Competitions are to be played in accordance with the FA Respect Programme, to which all competing clubs must adhere
- (e) For the purposes of discipline, the Francis Hillier Premier Cup is designated as Saturday type football

3. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- (a) No Club shall enter the Competition later than 30th June in each year. All competing clubs MUST supply two mobile phone numbers for use with reporting results; these shall be supplied on the entry form. No entry will be accepted without numbers supplied
- (b) All Clubs entering the Competition must have the use of floodlights and must be of minimum Western League status.
- (c) Each Club shall play its full-strength team in all matches, except for the reserve team strength of Football League Clubs, or be dealt with by the Management Committee and Clubs could be fined up to a maximum of £1000.00.
- (d) All clubs shall send the county association a colour photograph of their kit (and change strip if appropriate) before their entrance to the competition is accepted. In the event that their kit is changed during the duration of the competition they shall seek permission to do so from the association and submit a picture at that point. The picture may be in hard or soft copy

4. ENTRANCE FEE

Clubs or teams entering the Competition shall pay a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section in addition to the annual affiliation fee payable in respect of membership of the Association.
The holders from the previous season (if entered in the competition) shall receive free entry into the competition. This is not transferrable if the team enters a different competition in the subsequent season.

5. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

- (a) In all rounds of the Competition a Player must have been a registered member of his Club by 12 noon on the day prior to the date of the match being played. This will also include loan arrangements between clubs, providing that the lending club agrees in writing that the player is permitted to play in the Competition, a copy of which should be available for the County Association. No player shall be eligible if registered after the dates reserved for the playing of semi-final ties.
- (b) A registered member has to have been registered according to the Rules of The Football Association, or with the League of which his Club is a member. The Football Association or League registration receipt to be accepted for the purpose of this Rule.
- (c) A Player shall not in the same Season play for more than one competing Club.
- (d) Substitute(s): Up to a maximum of **FIVE** substitutes may be used: a maximum of **SEVEN** may be nominated. Any substitute(s) who has/have not been used is/are entitled to play for another Club in the same Season if qualified under Clause (a) above.
- (e) Clubs must hand copies of a list of names of players taking part in the game (including names of nominated substitutes) to the Referee and a representative of their opponents, in the presence of the Referee, 30 minutes before commencement of the match. The home Club must supply two match balls. Any Club failing to carry out these provisions will be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

6. VALIDITY OF PLAYERS QUALIFICATIONS

If the Cups Committee have any doubt as to the qualification of any Player taking part in the Competition they shall have power to call upon such Players of the Club to which he belongs, or for which he played, to prove that he is qualified according to the Rules and failing satisfactory proof the Cups Committee may disqualify such Players and may remove the

Club from the Competition and impose such other penalty as they may think fit.

7. DISQUALIFICATION

The Cups Committee shall have the power to disqualify any competing Club, or Player, or Players for any competing Club who may be proved guilty of any breach of the Rules of the Association and impose a minimum fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

8. CONDUCT OF CLUBS

All clubs shall be held responsible for the conduct of their Players, members and spectators and shall give every assistance to the rulings of the Referee whose decisions as to the state of the ground, laws of the game and interference of spectators shall be unquestioned save by the Cups Committee of the Association.

9. THE DRAW

- (a) All ties shall be drawn, the dates fixed and the matches played as the Cups Committee may determine. Clubs shall advise the county office the date agreed for the playing of the match to the county Office no later than 7 days after having received the draw. This shall be the case for all rounds save round 1 in the event the draw is made prior to the commencement of the season and the production of teams fixtures lists in which case the date agreed must be advised to the county office no later than the second week of August. In the event that the draw is made after the production of the fixture list then the rule shall be as all other rounds. Failure to do so shall result in a fine as listed on the tariffs of fines.
- (b) In each tie the game shall be played on the ground of the Club first drawn, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon and the consent of the Cups Committee obtained.
- (c) No Club shall receive a bye in two consecutive rounds.
- (d) No Club shall, unless unavoidable, receive more than one bye in the course of the Competition each Season but the Cups Committee shall have power to give sufficient number of byes to ensure four clubs competing in the Semi-final ties.
- (e) In the event of Clubs sharing the same pitch the first drawn will have priority unless mutually agreed; the second Club to play the following week.
- (f) Where the number of teams in the preliminary or first round will result in a bye or byes being necessary, the holders from the previous season (if entered in the competition) shall receive a bye in that round. Any team receiving a bye in this scenario shall NOT be subject to clause (c) in the subsequent round and/or (d) as above. This is not transferrable if the team enters a different competition in the subsequent season.

10. GROUNDS

For the purpose of this rule where Ground is referenced this shall refer to the entire facility on which the playing pitch is situated and all of the pitches thereof, with the exception of Artificial Grass pitch facilities where it shall refer to the specific artificial grass surface.

- (a) If the ground of the Club having choice of ground is considered unsuitable, the opposing Club may Appeal to the Cups Committee within three days of the receipt of the draw. Such Appeal must be accompanied by a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the Appeal is not upheld. The payment of expenses incidental to the Appeal shall be at the discretion of the Cups Committee.
- (b) Each Club must take every precaution to keep its ground in a playing condition and if necessary the home or visiting Club may apply to the Chief Executive to instruct the Referee or some other suitable person to examine the ground as to its fitness for play, in sufficient time to save expenses being incurred for unnecessary journeys.
- (c) The grounds on which the Final tie is to be played shall be chosen by the Cups Committee. In the Final tie the Referee shall, if requested by the Chief Executive, visit the ground three hours before the time of kick-off.
- (d) On the day of the Final tie no match shall be played within 5 miles of the venue of the tie without the special permission of the Cups Committee.
- (e) The appointed referee shall be the sole judge as to the fitness of the ground in all matches but when adverse weather conditions prevail on the day before or on the morning of the match, the Home Club is empowered to call in a Local Referee, minimum Level 4, (who must be over 18) who shall have the power to postpone the match and must submit a written report to the Chief Executive. The Home Club will notify the Referees Development Officer, Opponents and Match Officials of the postponement. Clubs failing to notify will be fined as set out in the Fees and Fines section. If after the arrival of the visiting team the Referee declares the ground unfit for play, the Cups Committee may order the home Club to pay such part of the expenses of the visiting club as they may consider fair, and half the match fee plus travelling expenses must be paid by the home Club, to the Referee. In the event a match is abandoned for any reason, save for incidents when the abandonment was due to disciplinary issues, the match shall be played the following week unless otherwise specified by the Cups Committee.
- (f) If a match has to be postponed for either of the reasons in paragraph (e) above, it shall be played at the earliest available date unless advised otherwise by the County Cups Committee.
- (g) A Club not having their playing area enclosed and where gate money may be taken, or whose field of play is less than the minimum size allowed by Rule 3(b), (i.e. 110 yards x 70 yards, or metric equivalents) and not having the consent

of the County Cups and Ground Committee to use an alternative ground at the time of entering the Competition, shall play its ties on its opponents' ground.

- (h) A technical area is to be provided. The technical area extends one metre either side of the designated seating area and extends forward up to a distance of one metre from the touch-line. Markings are to be used to define this area. Dressing and washing accommodation must be separate for each team and Match Officials. Dressing rooms must have heating, hot water and be secure and independent of any public access. Dressing room areas must be cleaned and maintained to a satisfactory standard. Substitute boards will be provided by the home clubs and **must** be used. A club failing to carry out any of the above provisions will be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.
- (i) Artificial grass pitches may be used in the Competition provided the pitch is listed on The Association's register of artificial grass pitches and with the prior consent of The Association. This should be requested at the time of entry to the Competition in each Season, provided that the artificial turf meets the following conditions:-
- (i) the pitch shall be surfaced with an artificial grass surface that has laboratory type approval according to the FIFA Quality Concept for Football Turf (2009 edition) – FIFA Recommended One Star quality level or the International Artificial Turf Standard (2009 edition) and have satisfied the performance and construction requirements at the time of its last annual assessment. The pitch must be retested every close season and certificates must be provided to the Association by 1st August each season.
 - (ii) the artificial grass pitch, including run-offs, shall be one continuous playing surface and shall be green in colour. All line markings shall be white and in accordance with the Laws of Association Football. Any other temporary lines must be removed prior to any FA competition match. The manufacturer of the carpet should be contacted to advise on the painting of temporary lines and the correct method of removing lines.
 - (iii) the home Club shall allow their opposition the opportunity to use the pitch and train on the surface two hours prior to the kick-off and there must not be another game or event on the pitch following the training period. If it is intended to water the pitch before the match, the pitch shall be watered prior to the training period.
 - (iv) the Club using the artificial grass pitch shall advise their opposition at least 10 days before the match of limitations or recommendations on the types of boot or stud that may be used on the surface.
 - (v) the Club shall provide all necessary assistance and data relating to player assessments, injury records, maintenance etc as requested by The FA or Somerset FA.
- (j) For all rounds aside from the final, the home club shall provide their visitors with a minimum of 6 complimentary tickets, they may, at their discretion, supply more tickets should they wish up to a maximum of 10 tickets. In the final tie the Association shall provide complimentary tickets to both sides as it determines necessary

11. DURATION OF MATCHES

The duration of matches shall be 90 minutes, (45 minutes each way - with an interval not exceeding 15 minutes). If at the end of 90 minutes the scores are level, a penalty kick competition will take place as described in the Penalty Kick section, for all rounds **up to and including the final**.

12. REPORTING RESULTS

- (a) Both competing clubs **MUST** present a team sheet to the match referee and their opponents prior to the commencement of the match; this **MUST** include the names and initials of Players representing their Club; the number of the shirt that the player is to wear in the match **MUST** be written on the team sheet submitted next to the player's name.
- After the match The Secretary of each Club shall send a copy of that team sheet to the association to include the match result and a mark of the match official's performance in the game (SEE APPENDIX A), so that it is received within four days of the match (Sundays not included). This shall be via post or via electronic copy, if the latter it shall be emailed to Countycupadmin@somersetfa.com Where clubs use electronic copy it should be a scanned version of the team sheet used. Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be subject to a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section and in default of payment shall also be ruled out of the Competition. The club in case will not be allowed to compete in a subsequent round of the competition until the team sheet from the previous round is received by the County Association 7 days prior to the match being played
- (b) A Referee's marking should be inserted on the result sheet. Failure to do so will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section.
- (c) Clubs shall text the result to the number supplied within 1 hour of the completion of the match; failure to do so will see the club fined as listed in the Fees and Fines section (Appendix B)

13. TIME OF KICK-OFF

This is dependant on the home Club's arrangements.

14. REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES

- (a) Referees and Assistant Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association. Where the appointed referee and (where appointed) assistant referees are under the age of 18, this will be communicated to the respective home club in advance of the match by the Referee Appointment Officer. When the under 18 match official(s) arrive at the ground the home club shall get the match official(s) to sign in on the appropriate space on the

team sheet and sign out on the appropriate space on the team sheet after the match when they leave. Failure to carry out this action will result in a fine of £10 against the offending club.

Where a club is informed that the match official(s) are under 18 separate changing/showering facilities from adult officials MUST be provided or if this cannot be arranged, separate changing and showering times from adults MUST be arranged

- (b) It is the responsibility of the Home club to notify the Match Officials and their opponents of the location of their ground and the time of kick off 4 days prior to the match being played. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out under the fees and fines section.
- (c) If a match is postponed on arrival of the Referee, half the match fee plus traveling expenses must be paid by the home Club.

15. LATE STARTS

- (a) All late starts must be reported by the Referee.
- (b) Clubs responsible for late starts shall be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section

16. SHARING OF GATES

From the gate money taken at all matches prior to the Semi-Final tie, the home team shall pay all match expenses (Match Officials, travelling expenses of the visiting team, advertising, printing, postage, floodlighting not to exceed **£100** and police charges).

- (a) In matches prior to the Semi Final, 10 per cent shall be submitted to the Association and the balance equally divided between the two competing clubs.
- (b) In the Semi Final Tie, 15 per cent shall be submitted to the Association and the balance equally divided between the two competing clubs.
- (c) In the Final Tie, the net gate shall be equally divided between the two competing Clubs, and the Association.
- (d) The monies taken in all matches shall be accounted for to the Association within 14 days of the match. The defaulting Clubs shall be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.
- (e) In any match ordered to be replayed in consequence of a breach of Rule, the Club in default shall not receive any share of the proceeds of such replayed match without the consent of the Cups Committee and such consent shall only be given under special circumstances. If consent is not given, the share shall be taken by the Association.
- (f) Charges of the visiting team shall not exceed 80p per mile for the whole party.

17. ADMISSION CHARGE

The minimum charge for admission shall be £4.00. All Club members and Season ticket holders shall pay the admission charge to the ground and any charges for enclosure or stand accommodation.

18. WITHDRAWAL OF CLUBS & FAILURE TO PLAY

- (a) Any Club withdrawing from the Competition after the draw has been made shall be fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than £100, and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary.
- (b) Any club failing to fulfil a fixture in any round prior to the Semi-Final ties, save for unfitness of ground, shall be ruled out of the competition and fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than £100, and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary. In the event that that a club fails to fulfil a tie in the semi-final or final tie the minimum fine shall be no less than £150

Any club withdrawing under clause a, or failing to fulfil a fixture under clause b, MUST inform the County Office, County Referees Appointment Officer, their opponents and appointed match official(s) of such. In the event that some or all of these parties are not informed and either match officials or opposing teams travel, then the Cups Committee shall reserve the right to award costs arising against the defaulting club as they see fit.

The Cups committee shall reserve the right to award any other costs arising from a cancelled match due to a club defaulting under clauses a, and/or b.

19. PROTESTS

All questions arising out of these Rules shall be dealt with by the Cups Committee.

- (a) Any Club wishing to make a protest against the result of a match must do so within seven days of the match being played.
- (b) The protest must be in writing clearly stating the grounds upon which it is made and must be signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Club.
- (c) Two copies of the protest must be sent to the Chief Executive together with a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the protest is not upheld.
- (d) The defaulting Club may be called upon to pay the whole or part of the expenses of the meeting and the expenses of the other Club SEE ALSO MEMBERSHIP RULES 5 AND 6 RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION.

20. TROPHY: SAFE KEEPING AND RETURN

Trophy Agreement

When the winners of an Association Cup shall have been ascertained, the Chief Executive shall hand over the Cup to such winners on their subscribing to the following effect:

We the undersigned on behalf of (name of Club or League) having been declared winner and taken possession of the Somerset Football Association Ltd (Competition) Trophy, which we understand remains the property of the Somerset Football Association Ltd, do hereby jointly and severally, undertake to keep the said Trophy in safe custody.

Furthermore we agree to return the Trophy (and box) no later than 1 March in the ensuing year in good order. We also undertake to pay for any damage to the Trophy whilst in our care.

Signed Club/League Secretary

Signed Position

Any Club or League failing to comply with the above requirements will be fined, as set out in the Fees and Fines Section, in addition to the cost of any repair.

21. MEDALS

Eighteen medals or other mementos shall be awarded to the winners and runners-up of all Association Cup Competitions. (Unless the number of players on a starting team is less than 11, when the number shall be adjusted to the number of players in a starting team plus five substitutes). Competing clubs may request extra medals, this should be made in writing to the association; the cost of any such request for extra medals or mementos shall be met by the requesting club

22. SHIRT COLOURS

- (a) No player or goalkeeper shall be permitted to wear black or very dark coloured shirts.
- (b) Clubs shall play in the colours registered by them for publication in Association Handbook. In the event of a similarity of colours between two teams in a match the visiting team must change. Shorts and Socks must be of different colours between teams. Defaulting clubs shall be fined, as set out in Fees and Fines Section.
- (c) 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 his shirt because of a blood injury.

23. DATES

All reserved County Cup dates are to be strictly adhered to. Failure to do so will mean disqualification from the Competition.

24. RULES

These Rules shall not be altered or rescinded save at the Annual General Meeting or special meeting of the Association of which fourteen days notice shall be given.

25. AGM/MEETING

Any Club not represented at any convened meeting of the Premier Clubs will be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

26. BREACH OF RULES

In the event of an alleged breach of Rules the Club concerned will be informed of the position and invited, should they wish, to submit any comments or observations to the Cups Committee (within 7 days of notification) or request to appear before them.

27. CUPS COMMITTEE

The Cups Committee can deal with any matter not covered by these Rules in accordance with FA Trophy Rules.

FINES REFERRED TO IN THE RULES

Francis Hillier Premier Cup

Rule 4	£30.00
Rule 5(f)	£10.00
Rule 7	£25.00
Rule 9(a)	£20.00
Rule 10(a)	£25.00
Rule 10(e)	£10.00
Rule 10(g)	£10.00
Rule 10(i)	£25.00
Rule 12(a)	£15.00

MEN'S SENIOR CUP COMPETITION (1886) RULES

1. TITLE

The Cup shall be called 'The Somerset Football Association Ltd Men's Senior Cup' and shall be a perpetual trophy to be competed for annually by Clubs in membership of the Somerset Football Association Ltd approved by the County Cups and Ground Committee and who are playing in a Senior Competition as defined by the County Cups and Ground Committee.

2. CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT

- (a) The County Cups Committee of the Association shall have the entire control and management of the Competition and shall have the power to disqualify, impose fines or other such penalties and may order the payment of costs and expenses against any competing Club, for the breach of any of the Rules of the Competition.
- (b) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall decide upon the interpretation of the Rules of the Competition, adjudicate upon any dispute, claim or protest and their decision shall be final and binding.
- (c) All Somerset FA Cup Competitions are to be played in accordance with the FA Respect Programme, to which all competing clubs must adhere.

3. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

No Club shall enter the Competition later than **21st July** in each year. All competing clubs **MUST** supply two mobile phone numbers for use with reporting results; these shall be supplied on the entry form. No entry will be accepted without numbers supplied.

- (a) All clubs shall send the county association a colour photograph of their kit (and change strip if appropriate) before their entrance to the competition is accepted. In the event that their kit is changed during the duration of the competition they shall seek permission to do so from the association and submit a picture at that point. The picture may be in hard or soft copy
- (b) A club may enter more than one team in the competition pursuant with other entry criteria. All subsequent teams shall pay an additional entrance fee commensurate with the entrance fee. Where a club enters more than one team a player shall not play for more than one team within that club in the competition in any one season, see rule 5(c)

4. ENTRANCE FEE

Clubs or teams entering the Competition shall pay a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section in addition to the annual affiliation fee payable in respect of membership of the Association.

The holders from the previous season (if entered in the competition) shall receive free entry into the competition. This is not transferrable if the team enters a different competition in the subsequent season.

5. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

- (a) ***In all rounds of the Competition a Player must have been a registered member of their Club on the FA Player Registration system by the Friday before the date of the match. No player shall be eligible if registered after the dates reserved for the playing of semi-final ties.***
- (b) A registered member is one who is registered with a League in which the Club competes.
- (c) A Player shall not in the same Season play for more than one competing Club or team in the same club where his club enters more the one team in the competition.
- (d) In the case of a postponed or abandoned match, only those Players who were qualified to play on the original date fixed for the round shall be eligible to play in the re-arranged match.
- (e) Substitute(s): Up to a maximum of **FIVE** substitutes may be used: a maximum of five may be nominated. Any substitute(s) who has/have not been used is/are entitled to play for another Club in the same Season if qualified under Clause (a) above.
- (f) Clubs must hand copies of a list of names of players taking part in the game (including names of nominated substitutes) to the Referee and a representative of their opponents, in the presence of the Referee, 30 minutes before commencement of the match. The home Club must supply two match balls. Any Club failing to carry out these provisions will be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) No squad shall include more than three players in its Senior Cup team who played in the immediate preceding Southern, Western league (or league of similar status) or SFA Francis Hillier Premier Cup (or County Competition of similar status). Should any club play more than the permitted number, they shall be eliminated from the Competition and fined in accordance with the Fees and Fines sections (Fine £50). This rule does not apply to teams who are ineligible for the Francis Hillier Premier Cup but are of Western League status.

6. VALIDITY OF PLAYERS QUALIFICATIONS

If County Cups and Ground Committee have any doubt as to the qualification of any Player taking part in the Competition they shall have power to call upon such Players of the Club to which he belongs, or for which he played, to prove that he is qualified according to the Rules and failing satisfactory proof the County Cups and Ground Committee may disqualify such Players and may remove the Club from the Competition and impose such other penalty as they may think fit.

7. DISQUALIFICATION

The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to disqualify any competing Club, or Player, or Players for any competing Club who may be proved guilty of any breach of the Rules of the Association and impose a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

8. CONDUCT OF CLUBS

All clubs shall be held responsible for the conduct of their Players, members and spectators and shall give every assistance to the rulings of the Referee whose decisions as to the state of the ground, laws of the game and interference of spectators shall be unquestioned save by the County Cups and Ground Committee of the Association.

Subsequent to any action completed by the Disciplinary Committee, the Cups Committee shall decide on the eligibility of the club to enter county cup competitions in the following season

9. THE DRAW

- (a) The ties shall be drawn, the dates fixed and the matches played as the County Cups and Ground Committee may determine. Any team entering the competition must be able to fulfil fixtures on the date reserved for that round by the cups committee; failure to do so, save for unfitness of ground due to weather conditions, shall forfeit the fixture. In the event that a reserve team is drawn at home on the same date as a league fixture for their first team, then one of the following shall apply:
- The match shall go ahead on the reserve date with the home team arranging an alternative venue, such venue meeting all conditions of entry commensurate with competition rules
 - The fixture shall go ahead on the reserved date but shall be reversed and take place on the ground of the team drawn away
 - The match shall be brought forward to a date mutually agreed by both sides and played on the home sides ground
- Whichever option is chosen the home team must communicate to the county office no later than seven days prior to the reserved date of the match.
- Requests for an exemption from playing on the reserved date (a "free day") will not be entertained.
- (b) In each tie the game shall be played on the ground of the Club first drawn, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon and the consent of the County Cups and Ground Committee obtained.
- (c) No Club shall receive a bye in two consecutive rounds.
- (d) No Club shall, unless unavoidable, receive more than one bye in the course of the Competition each Season but the County Cups and Ground Committee shall have power to give sufficient number of byes to ensure four clubs competing in the Semi-final ties.
- (e) In the event of Clubs sharing the same pitch the first drawn will have priority unless mutually agreed; the second Club to play the following week.
- (f) Where the number of teams in the preliminary or first round will result in a bye or byes being necessary, the holders from the previous season (if entered in the competition) shall receive a bye in that round. Any team receiving a bye in this scenario shall NOT be subject to clause (c) in the subsequent round and/ or (d) as above. This is not transferrable if the team enters a different competition in the subsequent season.

10. GROUNDS

For the purpose of this rule where Ground is referenced this shall refer to the entire facility on which the playing pitch is situated and all of the pitches thereof, with the exception of Artificial Grass pitch facilities where it shall refer to the specific artificial grass surface. County Cup competition matches shall only take place on grounds where there are changing rooms for both sides, such changing rooms must have showers

- (a) If the ground of the Club having choice of ground is considered unsuitable, the opposing Club may Appeal to the County Cups and Ground Committee within three days of the receipt of the draw. Such Appeal must be accompanied by a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the Appeal is not upheld. The payment of expenses incidental to the Appeal shall be at the discretion of the County Cups and Ground Committee.
- (b) Each Club must take every precaution to keep its ground in a playing condition and if necessary the home or visiting Club may apply to the Association Secretary to instruct the Referee or some other suitable person to examine the ground as to its fitness for play, in sufficient time to save expenses being incurred for unnecessary journeys.
- (c) The grounds on which the Final tie is to be played shall be chosen by the County Cups and Ground Committee. In the Final tie the Referee shall, if requested by the Association Secretary, visit the ground three hours before the time of kick-off.
- (d) The appointed referee shall be the sole judge as to the fitness of the ground in all matches but when adverse weather conditions prevail on the day before or on the morning of the match, the Home Club is empowered to call in a Local Referee, Level 6 or higher (who must be over 18 years of age) who shall be independent of the home club, who shall have the power to postpone the match and must submit a written report to the Association Secretary. The Home Club to notify the Referee's Officer, Opponents and Match Officials of the postponement. Clubs MUST phone the match official(s) and leave a message informing them of the cancellation. Failure to do so shall result in a fine of £10 along with other sanctions as proscribed later in this rule. Clubs failing to notify will be fined as set out in the

Fees and Fines section. If after the arrival of the visiting team the Referee declares the ground unfit for play, the County Cups Committee may order the home Club to pay such part of the expenses of the visiting club as they may consider fair, and half the match fee must be paid by the home Club, to the Referee. If the match is cancelled, for any reason, (other than unfitness of ground) but the club fails to inform their opponents and/or match official(s) causing them to travel to the game, then the home team SHALL pay the match official(s) their FULL match fee the visiting team travelling expenses as deemed appropriate by the Cups Committee along with any other expenses the Cups Committee deem appropriate. In the event that this tie is a semi-final then the team shall NOT be eligible to claim the match official's expenses from the County FA as outlined in Rule 14. Where a club plays on a ground owned by a third party and that party makes a decision to cancel the match the home club must provide written confirmation from their landlord of the decision to cancel said match to the county office within 5 working days of the match. Failure to do so may see the club excluded from the competition.

- (e) If a match has to be postponed for either of the reasons in paragraph (d) above, it shall be played the weekend following unless advised otherwise by the County Cups Committee. The match shall have the same referee as appointed to the original date unless otherwise advised by the Referees Appointment Officer. Where a match has been postponed for two weeks the side drawn at home shall consider finding an alternate ground or reversing the fixture for the third week if there is a possibility that their ground may not be fit to host the game for the third week if (they have not already done so in the initial two weeks). In the event a match is abandoned for any reason, save for incidents when the abandonment was due to disciplinary issues, the match shall be played the following week unless otherwise specified by the Cups Committee
- (f) Any ground of a club in membership of the Somerset County League where that ground is deemed fit for use in that league will be suitable to stage a Senior Cup tie. Grounds of clubs not in membership of the Somerset County shall be inspected by members of the Cups Committee prior to the start of the season, who shall decide if the ground is suitable to stage a tie in the Senior Cup competition
- (g) A technical area is to be provided. The technical area extends one metre either side of the designated seating area and extends forward up to a distance of one metre from the touch-line. Markings are to be used to define this area. Dressing and washing accommodation must be separate for each team and Match Officials. Dressing rooms must have hot water and be secure and independent of any public access. Dressing room areas must be cleaned and maintained to a satisfactory standard. All pitches MUST be enclosed by a perimeter barrier, rope will suffice, no closer than 2m from the edge of the playing surface in its entirety. A club failing to carry out any of the above provisions will be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.
- (h) The use of third generation (3g) artificial grass pitches will be allowed for use in the competition. To be eligible the pitch must be on the FA register of approved 3g surfaces register. The home must club must provide a list of acceptable footwear for use on the pitch to their opposition and appointed referee no less than 5 days prior to the date of the tie (unless a shorter period is mutually acceptable to both parties). The home team shall be liable for ALL costs (excluding opposition expenses) arising from the hire for use of such a pitch. The use of any other artificial pitch other than a 3g (artificial grass) will NOT be entertained.

11. DURATION OF MATCHES

The duration of matches shall be 90 minutes, (45 minutes each way - with an interval not exceeding 15 minutes). If at the end of 90 minutes the scores are level, a penalty kick competition will take place as described in the Penalty Kick section, for all rounds up to and including the final.

12. REPORTING RESULTS

- (a) Both competing clubs MUST present a team sheet to the match referee and their opponents prior to the commencement of the match; this MUST include the names and initials of Players representing their Club; the number of the shirt that the player is to wear in the match MUST be written on the team sheet submitted next to the players name. After the match The Secretary of each Club shall send a copy of that team sheet to the association to include the match result and a mark of the match official's performance in the game (SEE APPENDIX A), so that it is received within four days of the match (Sundays not included). This shall be via post or via electronic copy, if the latter it shall be emailed to Countycupadmin@somersetfa.com Where clubs use electronic copy it should be a scanned version of the team sheet used. Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be subject to a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section and in default of payment shall also be ruled out of the Competition. The club in case will not be allowed to compete in a subsequent round of the competition until the team sheet from the previous round is received by the County Association 7 days prior to the match being played
- (b) A Referees marking out of 100, (a marking guide is provided in Appendix A at the rear of the book) should be inserted on the result sheet. Failure to do so will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section. Any mark of 60 or below MUST be accompanied by a letter explaining the mark. Failure to do so to lead to a fine of £15.
- (c) The home club shall input the result via FA match day app on the same day of the match, (in the event that the App is not working then the result must be emailed to countycupadmin@somersetfa.com on the same day of the match); failure to meet the provisions of this rule will see the club fined as listed in the Fees and Fines section (Appendix B)

13. TIME OF KICK-OFF

All matches shall kick off at 14.00

Kick-off times can be varied, if lights are available, and mutually agreed.

14. REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES

- (a) Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association. Where the appointed referee and (where appointed) assistant referees are under the age of 18, this will be communicated to the respective home club in advance of the match by the Referee Appointment Officer. When the under 18 match official(s) arrive at the ground the home club shall get the match official(s) to sign in on the appropriate space on the team sheet and sign out on the appropriate space on the team sheet after the match when they leave. Failure to carry out this action will result in a fine of £10 against the offending club.
Where a club is informed that the match official(s) are under 18 separate changing/showering facilities from adult officials MUST be provided or if this cannot be arranged, separate changing and showering times from adults MUST be arranged
- (b) In all rounds prior to the semi-final tie, the competing Clubs MUST each provide a Club Assistant Referee.
- (c) It is the responsibility of the Home club to notify the Match Officials and their opponents of the location of their ground and the time of kick off 4 days prior to the match being played. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out under the fees and fines section.
- (d) If a match postponed on arrival of the Referee, half the match fee must be paid by the home Club.
- (e) Both clubs shall provide a flag for use by their respective club assistant referees for all rounds where a neutral assistant is not appointed by the association.
- (f) The Match Referee shall retain the team sheet provided by both sides until the end of season for inspection by the Cups Committee if requested.
- (g) The **AWAY** club shall pay the Referee's fee, as stated in appendix B (Note this will not apply if the provisions of Rule 10 (d) and 14 (d) apply when the cost will be met by the home club). This may be either electronic payment or cash, as agreed with the match official. If the latter this shall take place in the dressing room 15 minutes prior the kick off, or within 15 minutes of the completion of the game, whichever is the wish of the referee having ascertained the referees preference before the match. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out in the fees and fines section.

In the Semi Final ties the cost of the match official's fees shall be paid for by the home club who shall then be reimbursed this amount by the County Association, less any gate receipts taken by the home club. (please see provision of rule 16). This shall be claimed by the home club submitting an expenses sheet as supplied by the Association.

15. LATE STARTS

- (a) All late starts must be reported by the Referee
- (b) Clubs responsible for late starts shall be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

16. SHARING OF GATES

From the gate money taken at all matches prior to the Semi-Final tie, the home team shall pay all match expenses, excluding the travelling expenses of the visitors and bear any loss or retain any net proceeds. The visiting team shall pay their own expenses.

- (a) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to revise match expense charges which in their opinion are excessive.
- (b) In any match ordered to be replayed in consequence of a breach of Rule, the Club in default shall not receive any share of the proceeds of such replayed match without the consent of the County Cups Committee and such consent shall only be given under special circumstances. If consent is not given, the share shall be taken by the Association.
- (c) Charges of the visiting team shall not exceed 70p per mile for the whole party.

In semi-finals the gate receipts shall be used to pay the referee and assistant referee's fee, with the County Association paying the balance of any amount not so covered by the gate takings. The home club shall submit a receipt of their match takings.

17. ADMISSION CHARGE

Admission is to be charged at the discretion of the Home Club.

18. WITHDRAWAL OF CLUBS & FAILURE TO PLAY

- (a) Any Club withdrawing from the Competition after the draw has been made shall be fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary.
- (b) Any club failing to fulfil a fixture in any round prior to the Semi-Final ties, save for unfitness of ground, shall be ruled out of the competition and fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition

for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary. In the event that that a club fails to fulfil a tie in the semi-final or final tie the minimum fine shall be no less than (see below) Any club with drawing under clause a or failing to fulfil a fixture under clause b, MUST inform the County Office, County Referees Appointment Officer, their opponents and appointed match official(s) of such. In the event that some or all of these parties are not informed and either match officials or opposing teams travel, then the Cups Committee shall reserve the right to award costs arising against the defaulting club as they see fit. The Cups committee shall reserve the right to award any other costs arising from a cancelled match due to a club defaulting under clauses a and/or b
 The **MINIMUM** fines that shall apply are as follows:
 Withdraw £40 Failure to play £40 Failure to play semi-final and final £50

19. PROTESTS

All questions arising out of these Rules shall be dealt with by the County Cups and Ground Committee.
 (a) Any Club wishing to make a protest against the result of a match must do so within seven days of the match being played.
 (b) The protest must be in writing clearly stating the grounds upon which it is made and must be signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Club.
 (c) Two copies of the protest must be sent to the Chief Executive together with a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the protest is not upheld.
 (d) The defaulting Club may be called upon to pay the whole or part of the expenses of the meeting and the expenses of the other Club SEE ALSO MEMBERSHIP RULES 5 AND 6 RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION.

20. TROPHY: SAFE KEEPING AND RETURN

Trophy Agreement
 When the winners of an Association Cup shall have been ascertained, the Chief Executive shall hand over the Cup to such winners on their subscribing to the following effect:
We the undersigned on behalf of (name of Club or League) having been declared winner and taken possession of the Somerset Football Association Ltd (Competition) Trophy, which we understand remains the property of the Somerset Football Association Ltd, do hereby jointly and severally, undertake to keep the said Trophy in safe custody. Furthermore we agree to return the Trophy (and box) no later than 1 March in the ensuing year in good order. We also undertake to pay for any damage to the Trophy whilst in our care.
 Signed Club/League Secretary
 Signed Position
 Any Club or League failing to comply with the above requirements will be fined, as set out in the Fees and Fines Section, in addition to the cost of any repair.

21. MEDALS

Sixteen medals or other mementos shall be awarded to the winners and runners-up of all Association Cup Competitions. (Unless the number of players on a starting team is less than 11, when the number shall be adjusted to the number of players in a starting team plus five substitutes). Competing clubs may request extra medals, this should be made in writing to the association; the cost of any such request for extra medals or mementos shall be met by the requesting club

22. SHIRT COLOURS

(a) No player or goalkeeper shall be permitted to wear black or very dark coloured shirts.
 (b) The home club shall inform the opposition of their kit colours to avoid a possible colour clash on the day, along with directions to the ground if required, no later than 3 days prior to the date of the match. Both teams shall provide their players with individually numbered shirts which must correspond to the numbers listed on the team sheet. Shorts and socks must be of different colours between teams. In the event of a similarity of colours between two teams in a match the visiting team must change. In the final tie the team drawn first shall be deemed the home club and shall have choice of colours in the event of a similarity of colours. Defaulting clubs shall be fined, as set out in Fees and Fines Section.
 (c) No change of numbers during the match shall be allowed except for a change of goalkeeper or where a players has been required by the referee to change his shirt because of a blood injury.

23. DATES

All reserved County Cup dates are to be strictly adhered to. Failure to do so will mean disqualification from the Competition.

24. RULES

These Rules shall not be altered or rescinded save at the Annual General Meeting or special meeting of the Association of which fourteen days notice shall be given.

FINES REFERRED TO IN THE RULES

Senior Cup

Rule 4	£20.00
Rule 5(f)	£10.00
Rule 7	£25.00
Rule 10(a)	£25.00
Rule 10(d)	£10.00
Rule 10(e)	£10.00
Rule 10(i)	£25.00
Rule 12(a)	£15.00
Rule 12(b)	£10.00
Rule 12(c)	£10.00
Rule 14(d)	£10.00
Rule 14(h)	£10.00
Rule 15(b)	£10.00 - for first 15 minutes or part thereof and £5.00 - for each succeeding 5 minutes or part thereof
Rule 18(a)	£40.00 (Minimum)
(b)	£40.00 (Minimum)
	£50.00 (Minimum) Re: Semi Final & Final
Rule 20(c)	£25.00
Rule 21	£50.00
Rule 22(b)	£16.00

Referees Fees **£52 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Assistant Referees **£39 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Travel Expenses - Referees and Assistant Referees

N.B. The county mileage rate shall be decided by the Board of Directors at their discretion, from time to time. When this change may occur after the printing of this handbook the new rate shall apply in place of the one listed here. The new rate shall be communicated by the county office to all members as and when it occurs

HELEN MARCHMENT WOMEN'S SENIOR CUP (1997) RULES

1. TITLE

The Cup shall be called 'The Somerset Football Association Ltd Helen Marchment Women's Senior Cup' and shall be a perpetual trophy competed for annually by Clubs in membership of the Association and approved by the Council.

2. CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT

- (a) The County Cups Committee of the Association shall have the entire control and management of the Competition and shall have the power to disqualify, impose fines or other such penalties and may order the payment of costs and expenses against any competing Club, or the Players of any competing Club, in breach of any of the Rules of the Competition.
- (b) The County Cups Committee shall decide upon the interpretation of the Rules of the Competition, adjudicate upon any dispute, claim or protest and their decision shall be final and binding.
- (c) All Somerset FA Cup Competitions are to be played in accordance with the FA Respect Programme, to which all competing clubs must adhere.

3. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- (a) The Competition shall be open only to any Ladies teams affiliated with the Association. All competing clubs MUST supply two mobile phone numbers for use with reporting results; these shall be supplied on the entry form. No entry will be accepted without numbers supplied.
- (b) No Club shall enter the Competition after **21st July** in each year.
- (c) All clubs shall send the county association a colour photograph of their kit (and change strip if appropriate) before their entrance to the competition is accepted. In the event that their kit is changed during the duration of the competition they shall seek permission to do so from the association and submit a picture at that point. The picture may be in hard or soft copy
- (d) A club may enter more than one team in the competition pursuant with other entry criteria. All subsequent teams shall pay an additional entrance fee commensurate with the entrance fee. Where a club enters more than one team a player shall not play for more than one team within that club in the competition in any one season, see rule 5(c)

4. ENTRANCE FEE

Clubs or teams entering the Competition shall pay a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section in addition to the annual affiliation fee payable in respect of membership of the Association.

The holders from the previous season (if entered in the competition) shall receive free entry into the competition. This is not transferrable if the team enters a different competition in the subsequent season.

5. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

- (a) ***In all rounds of the Competition a Player must have been a registered member of their Club on the FA Player Registration system by the Friday before the date of the match. No player shall be eligible if registered after the dates reserved for the playing of semi-final ties***
- (b) A registered member is one who is registered with a League in which the Club competes.
- (c) A Player shall not in the same Season play for more than one competing Club or team in the same club where her club enters more the one team in the competition.
- (d) In the case of a postponed or abandoned match, only those Players who were qualified to play on the original date fixed for the round shall be eligible to play in the re-arranged match.
- (e) Substitute(s): Up to a maximum of **FIVE** substitutes may be used: a maximum of five may be nominated. Any substitute(s) who has/have not been used is/are entitled to play for another Club in the same Season if qualified under Clause (a) above.
- (f) Clubs must hand copies of a list of names of players taking part in the game (including names of nominated substitutes) to the Referee and a representative of their opponents, in the presence of the Referee, 30 minutes before commencement of the match. The home Club must supply two match balls. Any Club failing to carry out these provisions will be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) In the case of Schools, any active member of a School shall be qualified to play for that School.

6. VALIDITY OF PLAYERS QUALIFICATIONS

If County Cups and Ground Committee have any doubt as to the qualification of any Player taking part in the Competition they shall have power to call upon such Players of the Club to which she belongs, or for which she played, to prove that she is qualified according to the Rules and failing satisfactory proof the County Cups and Ground Committee may disqualify such Players and may remove the Club from the Competition and impose such other penalty as they may think fit.

7. DISQUALIFICATION

The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to disqualify any competing Club, or Player, or Players for any competing Club who may be proved guilty of any breach of the Rules of the Association and impose a fine as set out

under the Fees and Fines Section.

8. CONDUCT OF CLUBS

All clubs shall be held responsible for the conduct of their Players, members and spectators and shall give every assistance to the rulings of the Referee whose decisions as to the state of the ground, laws of the game and interference of spectators shall be unquestioned save by the County Cups and Ground Committee of the Association.

Subsequent to any action completed by the Disciplinary Committee, the Cups Committee shall decide on the eligibility of the club to enter county cup competitions in the following season

9. THE DRAW

- (a) The ties shall be drawn, the dates fixed and the matches played as the County Cups and Ground Committee may determine.
Requests for an exemption from playing on the reserved date (a "free day") will not be entertained.
- (b) In each tie the game shall be played on the ground of the Club first drawn, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon and the consent of the County Cups and Ground Committee obtained.
- (c) No Club shall receive a bye in two consecutive rounds.
- (d) No Club shall, unless unavoidable, receive more than one bye in the course of the Competition each Season but the County Cups and Ground Committee shall have power to give sufficient number of byes to ensure four clubs competing in the Semi-final ties.
- (e) In the event of Clubs sharing the same pitch the first drawn will have priority unless mutually agreed; the second Club to play the following week.
- (f) Where the number of teams in the preliminary or first round will result in a bye or byes being necessary, the holders from the previous season (if entered in the competition) shall receive a bye in that round. Any team receiving a bye in this scenario shall NOT be subject to clause (c) in the subsequent round and/or (d) as above. This is not transferrable if the team enters a different competition in the subsequent season.

10. GROUNDS

For the purpose of this rule where Ground is referenced this shall refer to the entire facility on which the playing pitch is situated and all of the pitches thereof, with the exception of Artificial Grass pitch facilities where it shall refer to the specific artificial grass surface. County Cup competition matches shall only take place on grounds where there are changing rooms for both sides, such changing rooms must have showers

- (a) If the ground of the Club having choice of ground is considered unsuitable, the opposing Club may Appeal to the County Cups and Ground Committee within three days of the receipt of the draw. Such Appeal must be accompanied by a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the Appeal is not upheld. The payment of expenses incidental to the Appeal shall be at the discretion of the County Cups and Ground Committee.
- (b) Each Club must take every precaution to keep its ground in a playing condition and if necessary, the home or visiting Club may apply to the Association Secretary to instruct the Referee or some other suitable person to examine the ground as to its fitness for play, in sufficient time to save expenses being incurred for unnecessary journeys.
- (c) The grounds on which the Final tie is to be played shall be chosen by the County Cups and Ground Committee. In the Final tie the Referee shall, if requested by the Association Secretary, visit the ground three hours before the time of kick-off.
- (d) The appointed referee shall be the sole judge as to the fitness of the ground in all matches but when adverse weather conditions prevail on the day before or on the morning of the match, the Home Club is empowered to call in a Local Referee, Level 7 or higher (who must be over 18 years of age) who shall be independent of the home club, who shall have the power to postpone the match and must submit a written report to the Association Secretary. The Home Club to notify the Referee's Officer, Opponents and Match Officials of the postponement. Clubs MUST phone the match official(s) and leave a message informing them of the cancellation. Failure to do so shall result in a fine of £10 along with other sanctions as proscribed later in this rule. Clubs failing to notify will be fined as set out in the Fees and Fines section. If after the arrival of the visiting team the Referee declares the ground unfit for play, the County Cups Committee may order the home Club to pay such part of the expenses of the visiting club as they may consider fair, and half the match fee must be paid by the home Club, to the Referee. If the match is cancelled, for any reason, (other than unfitness of ground) but the club fails to inform their opponents and/or match official(s) causing them to travel to the game, then the home team SHALL pay the match official(s) their FULL match fee the visiting team travelling expenses as deemed appropriate by the Cups Committee along with any other expenses the Cups Committee deem appropriate. In the event that this tie is a semi-final then the team shall NOT be eligible to claim the match official's expenses from the County FA as outlined in Rule 14. Where a club plays on a ground owned by a third party and that party makes a decision to cancel the match the home club must provide written confirmation from their landlord of the decision to cancel said match to the county office within 5 working days of the match. Failure to do so may see the club excluded from the competition.
- (e) If a match has to be postponed for either of the reasons in paragraph (e) above, it shall be played the weekend following unless advised otherwise by the County Cups Committee. The match shall have the same referee as appointed to the original date unless otherwise advised by the Referees Appointment Officer.

Where a match has been postponed for two weeks the side drawn at home shall consider finding an alternate ground or reversing the fixture for the third week if there is a possibility that their ground may not be fit to host the game for the third week if (they have not already done so in the initial two weeks).

In the event a match is abandoned for any reason, save for incidents when the abandonment was due to disciplinary issues, the match shall be played the following week unless otherwise specified by the Cups Committee.

- (f) The home Club must notify their opponents of ground location. Failure to comply will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) Separate accommodation is preferred for Match Officials.
- (h) The use of third generation (3g) artificial grass pitches will be allowed for use in the competition. To be eligible the pitch must be on the FA register of approved 3g surfaces register. The home club must provide a list of acceptable footwear for use on the pitch to their opposition and appointed referee no less than 5 days prior to the date of the tie (unless a shorter period is mutually acceptable to both parties). The home team shall be liable for ALL costs (excluding opposition expenses) arising from the hire for use of such a pitch. The use of any other artificial pitch other than a 3g (artificial grass) will NOT be entertained.

11. DURATION OF MATCHES

The duration of matches shall be 90 minutes, (45 minutes each way - with an interval not exceeding 15 minutes). If at the end of 90 minutes the scores are level, a penalty kick competition will take place as described in the Penalty Kick section, for all rounds up to and including the final.

12. REPORTING RESULTS

- (a) Both competing clubs MUST present a team sheet to the match referee and their opponents prior to the commencement of the match; this MUST include the names and initials of Players representing their Club; the number of the shirt that the player is to wear in the match MUST be written on the team sheet submitted next to the player's name.

After the match The Secretary of each Club shall send a copy of that team sheet to the association to include the match result and a mark of the match official's performance in the game (SEE APPENDIX A), so that it is received within four days of the match (Sundays not included). This shall be via post or via electronic copy, if the latter it shall

be emailed to Countycupadmin@somersetfa.com Where clubs use electronic copy it should be a scanned version of the team sheet used. Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be subject to a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section and in default of payment shall also be ruled out of the Competition. The club in case will not be allowed to compete in a subsequent round of the competition until the team sheet from the previous round is received by the County Association 7 days prior to the match being played

- (b) A Referees marking out of 100, (a marking guide is provided in Appendix A at the rear of the book) should be inserted on the result sheet. Failure to do so will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section. Any mark of 60 or below MUST be accompanied by a letter explaining the mark. Failure to do so to lead to a fine of £15.
- (c) The home club shall input the result via FA match day app on the same day of the match, (in the event that the App is not working then the result must be emailed to countycupadmin@somersetfa.com on the same day of the match); failure to meet the provisions of this rule will see the club fined as listed in the Fees and Fines section (Appendix B)

13. TIME OF KICK-OFF

All matches shall kick off at 14.00

14. REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES

- (a) Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association. Where the appointed referee and (where appointed) assistant referees are under the age of 18, this will be communicated to the respective home club in advance of the match by the Referee Appointment Officer. When the under 18 match official(s) arrive at the ground the home club shall get the match official(s) to sign in on the appropriate space on the team sheet and sign out on the appropriate space on the team sheet after the match when they leave. Failure to carry out this action will result in a fine of £10 against the offending club.

Where a club is informed that the match official(s) are under 18 separate changing/showering facilities from adult officials MUST be provided or if this cannot be arranged, separate changing and showering times from adults MUST be arranged

- (b) In all rounds prior to the Semi-final tie the competing Clubs MUST each provide a Club Assistant Referee.
- (c) In the Semi-final and Final ties, Assistant Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association.
- (d) It is the responsibility of the Home club to notify the Match Officials and their opponents of the location of their ground and the time of kick off 4 days prior to the match being played. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out under the fees and fines section.
- (e) If a match is postponed on arrival of the Referee, half the match fee must be paid by the home Club.
- (f) Both clubs shall provide a flag for use by their respective club assistant referees for all rounds where a neutral assistant is not appointed by the association.
- (g) The Match Referee shall retain the team sheet provided by both sides until the end of season for inspection by the

Cups Committee if requested.

- (h) The AWAY club shall pay the Referee's fee, as stated in appendix B (Note this will not apply if the provisions of Rule 10 (d) and 14 (d) apply when the cost will be met by the home club). This may be either electronic payment or cash, as agreed with the match official. If the latter this shall take place in the dressing room 15 minutes prior the kick off, or within 15 minutes of the completion of the game, whichever is the wish of the referee having ascertained the referees preference before the match. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out in the fees and fines section.

In the Semi Final ties the cost of the match official's fees shall be paid for by the home club who shall then be reimbursed this amount by the County Association, less any gate receipts taken by the home club. (please see provision of rule 16). This shall be claimed by the home club submitting an expenses sheet as supplied by the Association.

15. LATE STARTS

- (a) All late starts must be reported by the Referee
(b) Clubs responsible for late starts shall be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

16. SHARING OF GATES

From the gate money taken at all matches prior to the Semi-Final tie, the home team shall pay all match expenses, excluding the travelling expenses of the visitors and bear any loss or retain any net proceeds. The visiting team shall pay their own expenses.

- (a) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to revise match expense charges which in their opinion are excessive.
(b) In any match ordered to be replayed in consequence of a breach of Rule, the Club in default shall not receive any share of the proceeds of such replayed match without the consent of the County Cups Committee and such consent shall only be given under special circumstances. If consent is not given, the share shall be taken by the Association.

In semi-finals the gate receipts shall be used to pay the referee and assistant referee's fee, with the County Association paying the balance of any amount not so covered by the gate takings. The home club shall submit a receipt of their match takings.

17. ADMISSION CHARGE

Admission is to be charged at the discretion of the Home Club.

18. WITHDRAWAL OF CLUBS & FAILURE TO PLAY

- (a) Any Club withdrawing from the Competition after the draw has been made shall be fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary.
(b) Any club failing to fulfil a fixture in any round prior to the Semi-Final ties, save for unfitness of ground, shall be ruled out of the competition and fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary. In the event that that a club fails to fulfil a tie in the semi-final or final tie the minimum fine shall be no less than (see below)

Any club with drawing under clause a or failing to fulfil a fixture under clause b, MUST inform the County Office, County Referees Appointment Officer, their opponents and appointed match official(s) of such. In the event that some or all of these parties are not informed and either match officials or opposing teams travel, then the Cups Committee shall reserve the right to award costs arising against the defaulting club as they see fit.

The Cups committee shall reserve the right to award any other costs arising from a cancelled match due to a club defaulting under clauses a and/or b

The MINIMUM fines that shall apply are as follows:

Withdraw £40 Failure to play £40 Failure to play semi-final and final £50

19. PROTESTS

All questions arising out of these Rules shall be dealt with by the County Cups and Ground Committee.

- (a) Any Club wishing to make a protest against the result of a match must do so within seven days of the match being played.
(b) The protest must be in writing clearly stating the grounds upon which it is made and must be signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Club.
(c) Two copies of the protest must be sent to the Chief Executive together with a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the protest is not upheld.
(d) The defaulting Club may be called upon to pay the whole or part of the expenses of the meeting and the expenses of the other Club SEE ALSO MEMBERSHIP RULES 5 AND 6 RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION.

20. TROPHY: SAFE KEEPING AND RETURN

Trophy Agreement

When the winners of an Association Cup shall have been ascertained, the Chief Executive shall hand over the Cup to such winners on their subscribing to the following effect:

We the undersigned on behalf of (name of Club or League) having been declared winner and taken possession of the Somerset Football Association Ltd (Competition) Trophy, which we understand remains the property of the Somerset Football Association Ltd, do hereby jointly and severally, undertake to keep the said Trophy in safe custody.

Furthermore we agree to return the Trophy (and box) no later than 1 March in the ensuing year in good order. We also undertake to pay for any damage to the Trophy whilst in our care.

Signed Club/League Secretary

Signed Position

Any Club or League failing to comply with the above requirements will be fined, as set out in the Fees and Fines Section, in addition to the cost of any repair.

21 MEDALS

Sixteen medals or other mementos shall be awarded to the winners and runners-up of all Association Cup Competitions. (Unless the number of players on a starting team is less than 11, when the number shall be adjusted to the number of players in a starting team plus five substitutes). Competing clubs may request extra medals, this should be made in writing to the association; the cost of any such request for extra medals or mementos shall be met by the requesting club

22. SHIRT COLOURS

- (a) No player or goalkeeper shall be permitted to wear black or very dark coloured shirts.
- (b) The home club shall inform the opposition of their kit colours to avoid a possible colour clash on the day, along with directions to the ground if required, no later than 3 days prior to the date of the match. Both teams shall provide their players with individually numbered shirts which must correspond to the numbers listed on the team sheet. In the event of a similarity of colours between two teams in a match the visiting team must change. Shorts and socks must be of different colours between teams. In the final tie the team drawn first shall be deemed the home club and shall have choice of colours in the event of a similarity of colours. Defaulting clubs shall be fined, as set out in Fees and Fines Section.
- (c) 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 his shirt because of a blood injury.

23. DATES

All reserved County Cup dates are to be strictly adhered to. Failure to do so will mean disqualification from the Competition.

24. RULES

These Rules shall not be altered or rescinded save at the Annual General Meeting or special meeting of the Association of which fourteen days notice shall be given.

FINES REFERRED TO IN THE RULES

Helen Marchmont Women's Senior Cup

Rule 4	£20.00
Rule 5(f)	£10.00
Rule 7	£25.00
Rule 10(a)	£25.00
Rule 10(d)	£10.00
Rule 10(e)	£10.00
Rule 12(a)	£15.00
Rule 12(b)	£10.00
Rule 12(c)	£10.00
Rule 14(d)	£10.00
Rule 14(h)	£10.00
Rule 15(b)	£10.00 - for first 15 minutes or part thereof and £5.00 - for each succeeding 5 minutes or part thereof
Rule 18(a)	£40.00 (Minimum)
(b)	£40.00 (Minimum)
	£50.00 (Minimum) Re: Semi Final & Final
Rule 20(c)	£25.00
Rule 21	£50.00
Rule 22(b)	£16.00

Referees Fees	£52 (<i>Inclusive of travel expenses</i>)
Assistant Referees	£39 (<i>Inclusive of travel expenses</i>)

Travel Expenses - Referees and Assistant Referees

N.B. The county mileage rate shall be decided by the Board of Directors at their discretion, from time to time. When this change may occur after the printing of this handbook the new rate shall apply in place of the one listed here. The new rate shall be communicated by the county office to all members as and when it occurs

BRYAN WELLS MEN'S JUNIOR CUP COMPETITION (1886) RULES

1. TITLE

The Cup shall be called 'The Somerset Football Association Ltd Bryan Wells Junior Cup' and shall be a perpetual trophy competed for annually by Clubs in membership of the Association and approved by the Council.

2. CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT

- (a) The County Cups Committee of the Association shall have the entire control and management of the Competition and shall have the power to disqualify, impose fines or other such penalties and may order the payment of costs and expenses against any competing Club, or the Players of any competing Club, in breach of any of the Rules of the Competition.
- (b) The County Cups Committee shall decide upon the interpretation of the Rules of the Competition, adjudicate upon any dispute, claim or protest and their decision shall be final and binding.
- (c) All Somerset FA Cup Competitions are to be played in accordance with the FA Respect Programme, to which all competing clubs must adhere.

3. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- (a) The Competition shall be open only to Junior Clubs affiliated with the Association, Reserve teams or second elevens, A and B teams of Senior Clubs playing in Saturday Junior football. For the purpose of this Rule, Senior Clubs and Senior Competitions shall be defined by the Council at the commencement of the Season. All competing clubs MUST supply two mobile phone numbers for use with reporting results; these shall be supplied on the entry form. No entry will be accepted without numbers supplied.
- (b) No Club shall enter the Competition after **21st July** in each year.
- (c) All clubs shall send the county association a colour photograph of their kit (and change strip if appropriate) before their entrance to the competition is accepted. In the event that their kit is changed during the duration of the competition they shall seek permission to do so from the association and submit a picture at that point. The picture may be in hard or soft copy.
- (d) A club may enter more than one team in the competition pursuant with other entry criteria. All subsequent teams shall pay an additional entrance fee commensurate with the entrance fee. Where a club enters more than one team a player shall not play for more than one team within that club in the competition in any one season, see rule 5(c)

4. ENTRANCE FEE

Clubs or teams entering the Competition shall pay a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section in addition to the annual affiliation fee payable in respect of membership of the Association.

The holders from the previous season (if entered in the competition) shall receive free entry into the competition. This is not transferrable if the team enters a different competition in the subsequent season.

5. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

- (a) ***In all rounds of the Competition a Player must have been a registered member of their Club on the FA Player Registration system by the Friday before the date of the match. No player shall be eligible if registered after the dates reserved for the playing of semi-final ties***
- (b) A registered member is one who is registered with a League in which the Club competes.
- (c) A Player shall not in the same Season play for more than one competing Club or team in the same club where his club enters more the one team in the competition.
- (d) In the case of a postponed or abandoned match, only those Players who were qualified to play on the original date fixed for the round shall be eligible to play in the re-arranged match.
- (e) Substitute(s): A Club may at its discretion and in accordance with the Laws of the Game use 5 substitute players in any match in this Competition who may be selected from 5 players who must be nominated on the team sheet prior to kick off. A player who has been substituted himself 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." Any substitute(s) who has/have not been used is/are entitled to play for another Club in the same Season if qualified under Clause (a) above.
- (f) Clubs must hand copies of a list of names of players taking part in the game (including names of nominated substitutes) to the Referee and a representative of their opponents, in the presence of the Referee, 30 minutes before commencement of the match. The home Club must supply two match balls. Any Club failing to carry out these provisions will be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) To play in this Competition a Player must be non-contracted and he must not have played more than five senior matches during the Season. An appearance of any duration in a Senior match counts as a full match.
- (h) No application for re-instatement of any Player will be considered.
- (i) In the case of Schools, any active member of a School shall be qualified to play for that School.

6. VALIDITY OF PLAYERS QUALIFICATIONS

If County Cups and Ground Committee have any doubt as to the qualification of any Player taking part in the Competition

they shall have power to call upon such Players of the Club to which he belongs, or for which he played, to prove that he is qualified according to the Rules and failing satisfactory proof the County Cups and Ground Committee may disqualify such Players and may remove the Club from the Competition and impose such other penalty as they may think fit.

7. DISQUALIFICATION

The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to disqualify any competing Club, or Player, or Players for any competing Club who may be proved guilty of any breach of the Rules of the Association and impose a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

8. CONDUCT OF CLUBS

All clubs shall be held responsible for the conduct of their Players, members and spectators and shall give every assistance to the rulings of the Referee whose decisions as to the state of the ground, laws of the game and interference of spectators shall be unquestioned save by the County Cups and Ground Committee of the Association.

Subsequent to any action completed by the Disciplinary Committee, the Cups Committee shall decide on the eligibility of the club to enter county cup competitions in the following season

Temporary Dismissals (Sin Bins) will be in used in this competition where FA regulations determine that sanction for specified offences.

9. THE DRAW

(a) The ties shall be drawn, the dates fixed and the matches played as the County Cups and Ground Committee may determine.

Requests for an exemption from playing on the reserved date (a "free day") will not be entertained.

(b) In each tie the game shall be played on the ground of the Club first drawn, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon and the consent of the County Cups and Ground Committee obtained.

(c) No Club shall receive a bye in two consecutive rounds.

(d) No Club shall, unless unavoidable, receive more than one bye in the course of the Competition each Season but the County Cups and Ground Committee shall have power to give sufficient number of byes to ensure four clubs competing in the Semi-final ties.

(e) In the event of Clubs sharing the same pitch the first drawn will have priority unless mutually agreed; the second Club to play the following week.

(f) Where the number of teams in the preliminary or first round will result in a bye or byes being necessary, the holders from the previous season (if entered in the competition) shall receive a bye in that round. Any team receiving a bye in this scenario shall NOT be subject to clause (c) in the subsequent round and/or (d) as above. This is not transferrable if the team enters a different competition in the subsequent season.

10. GROUNDS

For the purpose of this rule where Ground is referenced this shall refer to the entire facility on which the playing pitch is situated and all of the pitches thereof, with the exception of Artificial Grass pitch facilities where it shall refer to the specific artificial grass surface. County Cup competition matches shall only take place on grounds where there are changing rooms for both sides, such changing rooms must have showers

(a) If the ground of the Club having choice of ground is considered unsuitable, the opposing Club may Appeal to the County Cups and Ground Committee within three days of the receipt of the draw. Such Appeal must be accompanied by a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the Appeal is not upheld. The payment of expenses incidental to the Appeal shall be at the discretion of the County Cups and Ground Committee.

(b) Each Club must take every precaution to keep its ground in a playing condition and if necessary the home or visiting Club may apply to the Association Secretary to instruct the Referee or some other suitable person to examine the ground as to its fitness for play, in sufficient time to save expenses being incurred for unnecessary journeys.

(c) The grounds on which the Final tie is to be played shall be chosen by the County Cups and Ground Committee. In the Final tie the Referee shall, if requested by the Association Secretary, visit the ground three hours before the time of kick-off.

(d) The appointed referee shall be the sole judge as to the fitness of the ground in all matches but when adverse weather conditions prevail on the day before or on the morning of the match, the Home Club is empowered to call in a Local Referee, Level 7 or higher (who must be over 18 years of age) who shall be independent of the home club, who shall have the power to postpone the match and must submit a written report to the Association Secretary. The Home Club to notify the Referee's Officer, Opponents and Match Officials of the postponement. Clubs MUST phone the match official(s) and leave a message informing them of the cancellation. Failure to do so shall result in a fine of £10 along with other sanctions as proscribed later in this rule. Clubs failing to notify will be fined as set out in the Fees and Fines section. If after the arrival of the visiting team the Referee declares the ground unfit for play, the County Cups Committee may order the home Club to pay such part of the expenses of the visiting club as they may consider fair, and half the match fee must be paid by the home Club, to the Referee. If the match is cancelled, for any reason, (other than unfitness of ground) but the club fails to inform their opponents and/or match official(s)

causing them to travel to the game, then the home team SHALL pay the match official(s) their FULL match fee the visiting team travelling expenses as deemed appropriate by the Cups Committee along with any other expenses the Cups Committee deem appropriate. In the event that this tie is a semi-final then the team shall NOT be eligible to claim the match official's expenses from the County FA as outlined in Rule 14. Where a club plays on a ground owned by a third party and that party makes a decision to cancel the match the home club must provide written confirmation from their landlord of the decision to cancel said match to the county office within 5 working days of the match. Failure to do so may see the club excluded from the competition.

- (e) If a match has to be postponed for either of the reasons in paragraph above, it shall be played the weekend following unless advised otherwise by the County Cups Committee. The home Club must notify their opponents of ground location. Failure to comply will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section. The match shall have the same referee as appointed to the original date unless otherwise advised by the Referees Appointment Officer.

Where a match has been postponed for two weeks the side drawn at home shall consider finding an alternate ground or reversing the fixture for the third week if there is a possibility that their ground may not be fit to host the game for the third week if (they have not already done so in the initial two weeks).

In the event a match is abandoned for any reason, save for incidents when the abandonment was due to disciplinary issues, the match shall be played the following week unless otherwise specified by the Cups Committee.

- (f) Separate accommodation is preferred for Match Officials.
- (g) The use of third generation (3g) artificial grass pitches will be allowed for use in the competition. To be eligible the pitch must be on the FA register of approved 3g surfaces register. The home must club must provide a list of acceptable footwear for use on the pitch to their opposition and appointed referee no less than 5 days prior to the date of the tie (unless a shorter period is mutually acceptable to both parties). The home team shall be liable for ALL costs (excluding opposition expenses) arising from the hire for use of such a pitch. The use of any other artificial pitch other than a 3g (artificial grass) will NOT be entertained.

11. DURATION OF MATCHES

The duration of matches shall be 90 minutes, (45 minutes each way - with an interval not exceeding 15 minutes). If at the end of 90 minutes the scores are level, a penalty kick competition will take place as described in the Penalty Kick section, for all rounds up to and including the final.

12. REPORTING RESULTS

- (a) Both competing clubs MUST present a team sheet to the match referee and their opponents prior to the commencement of the match; this MUST include the names and initials of Players representing their Club; the number of the shirt that the player is to wear in the match MUST be written on the team sheet submitted next to the players name.

After the match The Secretary of each Club shall send a copy of that team sheet to the association to include the match result and a mark of the match official's performance in the game (SEE APPENDIX A), so that it is received within four days of the match (Sundays not included). This shall be via post or via electronic copy, if the latter it shall be emailed to Countycupadmin@somersetfa.com Where clubs use electronic copy it should be a scanned version of the team sheet used. Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be subject to a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section and in default of payment shall also be ruled out of the Competition. The club in case will not be allowed to compete in a subsequent round of the competition until the team sheet from the previous round is received by the County Association 7 days prior to the match being played

- (b) A Referees marking out of 100, (a marking guide is provided in Appendix A at the rear of the book) should be inserted on the result sheet. Failure to do so will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section. Any mark of 60 or below MUST be accompanied by a letter explaining the mark. Failure to do so to lead to a fine of £15.
- (c) The home club shall input the result via FA match day app on the same day of the match, (in the event that the App is not working then the result must be emailed to countycupadmin@somersetfa.com on the same day of the match); failure to meet the provisions of this rule will see the club fined as listed in the Fees and Fines section (Appendix B)

13. TIME OF KICK-OFF

All matches shall kick off at 14.00

14. REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES

- (a) Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association. Where the appointed referee and (where appointed) assistant referees are under the age of 18, this will be communicated to the respective home club in advance of the match by the Referee Appointment Officer. When the under 18 match official(s) arrive at the ground the home club shall get the match official(s) to sign in on the appropriate space on the team sheet and sign out on the appropriate space on the team sheet after the match when they leave. Failure to carry out this action will result in a fine of £10 against the offending club.

Where a club is informed that the match official(s) are under 18 separate changing/showering facilities from adult officials MUST be provided or if this cannot be arranged, separate changing and showering times from adults MUST

be arranged

- (b) In all rounds prior to the Semi-final tie the competing Clubs MUST each provide a Club Assistant Referee.
- (c) In the Semi-final and Final ties, Assistant Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association.
- (d) It is the responsibility of the Home club to notify the Match Officials and their opponents of the location of their ground and the time of kick off 4 days prior to the match being played. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out under the fees and fines section.
- (e) If a match is postponed on arrival of the Referee, half the match fee must be paid by the home Club.
- (f) Both clubs shall provide a flag for use by their respective club assistant referees for all rounds where a neutral assistant is not appointed by the association.
- (g) The Match Referee shall retain the team sheet provided by both sides until the end of season for inspection by the Cups Committee if requested.
- (h) The AWAY club shall pay the Referee's fee, as stated in appendix B (Note this will not apply if the provisions of Rule 10 (d) and 14 (d) apply when the cost will be met by the home club). This may be either electronic payment or cash, as agreed with the match official. If the latter this shall take place in the dressing room 15 minutes prior the kick off, or within 15 minutes of the completion of the game, whichever is the wish of the referee having ascertained the referees preference before the match. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out in the fees and fines section.

In the Semi Final ties the cost of the match official's fees shall be paid for by the home club who shall then be reimbursed this amount by the County Association, less any gate receipts taken by the home club. (please see provision of rule 16). This shall be claimed by the home club submitting an expenses sheet as supplied by the Association.

15. LATE STARTS

- (a) All late starts must be reported by the Referee
- (b) Clubs responsible for late starts shall be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

16. SHARING OF GATES

From the gate money taken at all matches prior to the Semi-Final tie, the home team shall pay all match expenses, excluding the travelling expenses of the visitors and bear any loss or retain any net proceeds. The visiting team shall pay their own expenses.

- (a) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to revise match expense charges which in their opinion are excessive.
- (b) In any match ordered to be replayed in consequence of a breach of Rule, the Club in default shall not receive any share of the proceeds of such replayed match without the consent of the County Cups Committee and such consent shall only be given under special circumstances. If consent is not given, the share shall be taken by the Association.

In semi-finals the gate receipts shall be used to pay the referee and assistant referee's fee, with the County Association paying the balance of any amount not so covered by the gate takings. The home club shall submit a receipt of their match takings.

17. ADMISSION CHARGE

Admission is to be charged at the discretion of the Home Club.

18. WITHDRAWAL OF CLUBS & FAILURE TO PLAY

- (a) Any Club withdrawing from the Competition after the draw has been made shall be fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary.
- (b) Any club failing to fulfil a fixture in any round prior to the Semi-Final ties, save for unfitness of ground, shall be ruled out of the competition and fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary. In the event that that a club fails to fulfil a tie in the semi-final or final tie the minimum fine shall be no less than (see below)

Any club with drawing under clause a or failing to fulfil a fixture under clause b, MUST inform the County Office, County Referees Appointment Officer, their opponents and appointed match official(s) of such. In the event that some or all of these parties are not informed and either match officials or opposing teams travel, then the Cups Committee shall reserve the right to award costs arising against the defaulting club as they see fit.

The Cups committee shall reserve the right to award any other costs arising from a cancelled match due to a club defaulting under clauses a and/or b

The MINIMUM fines that shall apply are as follows:

Withdraw £25

Failure to play £25

Failure to play semi-final and final £40

19. PROTESTS

All questions arising out of these Rules shall be dealt with by the County Cups and Ground Committee.

- (a) Any Club wishing to make a protest against the result of a match must do so within seven days of the match being played.
- (b) The protest must be in writing clearly stating the grounds upon which it is made and must be signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Club.
- (c) Two copies of the protest must be sent to the Chief Executive together with a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the protest is not upheld.
- (d) The defaulting Club may be called upon to pay the whole or part of the expenses of the meeting and the expenses of the other Club SEE ALSO MEMBERSHIP RULES 5 AND 6 RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION.

20. TROPHY: SAFE KEEPING AND RETURN

Trophy Agreement

When the winners of an Association Cup shall have been ascertained, the Chief Executive shall hand over the Cup to such winners on their subscribing to the following effect:

We the undersigned on behalf of (name of Club or League) having been declared winner and taken possession of the Somerset Football Association Ltd (Competition) Trophy, which we understand remains the property of the Somerset Football Association Ltd, do hereby jointly and severally, undertake to keep the said Trophy in safe custody.

Furthermore, we agree to return the Trophy (and box) no later than 1 March in the ensuing year in good order. We also undertake to pay for any damage to the Trophy whilst in our care.

Signed Club/League Secretary

Signed Position

Any Club or League failing to comply with the above requirements will be fined, as set out in the Fees and Fines Section, in addition to the cost of any repair.

21 MEDALS

Sixteen medals or other mementos shall be awarded to the winners and runners-up of all Association Cup Competitions. (Unless the number of players on a starting team is less than 11, when the number shall be adjusted to the number of players in a starting team plus five substitutes). Competing clubs may request extra medals, this should be made in writing to the association; the cost of any such request for extra medals or mementos shall be met by the requesting club

22. SHIRT COLOURS

- (a) No player or goalkeeper shall be permitted to wear black or very dark coloured shirts.
- (b) The home club shall inform the opposition of their kit colours to avoid a possible colour clash on the day, along with directions to the ground if required, no later than 3 days prior to the date of the match. Both teams shall provide their players with individually numbered shirts which must correspond to the numbers listed on the team sheet. In the event of a similarity of colours between two teams in a match the visiting team must change. Shorts and socks must be of different colours between teams. In the final tie the team drawn first shall be deemed the home club and shall have choice of colours in the event of a similarity of colours. Defaulting clubs shall be fined, as set out in Fees and Fines Section.
- (c) 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 his shirt because of a blood injury.

23. DATES

All reserved County Cup dates are to be strictly adhered to. Failure to do so will mean disqualification from the Competition.

24. RULES

These Rules shall not be altered or rescinded save at the Annual General Meeting or special meeting of the Association of which fourteen days' notice shall be given.

FINES REFERRED TO IN THE RULES

Bryan Wells Junior Cup

Rule 4	£10.00
Rule 5(f)	£10.00
Rule 7	£25.00
Rule 10(a)	£25.00
Rule 10(d)	£10.00
Rule 10(e)	£10.00
Rule 12(a)	£15.00
Rule 12(b)	£10.00
Rule 12(c)	£10.00
Rule 14(d)	£10.00
Rule 14(h)	£10.00

Rule 15(b)	£10.00 - for first 15 minutes or part thereof and £5.00 - for each succeeding 5 minutes or part thereof
Rule 18(a)	£25.00 (Minimum)
(b)	£25.00 (Minimum)
	£40.00 (Minimum) Re: Semi Final & Final
Rule 20(c)	£25.00
Rule 21	£50.00
Rule 22(b)	£16.00

Referees Fees **£47 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**
Assistant Referees **£36 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Travel Expenses - Referees and Assistant Referees

N.B. The county mileage rate shall be decided by the Board of Directors at their discretion, from time to time. When this change may occur after the printing of this handbook the new rate shall apply in place of the one listed here. The new rate shall be communicated by the county office to all members as and when it occurs

WOMEN'S JUNIOR CUP COMPETITION (2009)
RULES

1. TITLE

The Cup shall be called 'The Somerset Football Association Ltd Women's Junior Cup' and shall be a perpetual trophy competed for annually by Clubs in membership of the Association and approved by the Council.

2. CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT

- (a) The County Cups Committee of the Association shall have the entire control and management of the Competition and shall have the power to disqualify, impose fines or other such penalties and may order the payment of costs and expenses against any competing Club, or the Players of any competing Club, in breach of any of the Rules of the Competition.
- (b) The County Cups Committee shall decide upon the interpretation of the Rules of the Competition, adjudicate upon any dispute, claim or protest and their decision shall be final and binding.
- (c) All Somerset FA Cup Competitions are to be played in accordance with the FA Respect Programme, to which all competing clubs must adhere.

3. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- (a) The Competition shall be open only to Women's Junior Clubs affiliated with the Association, Reserve teams or second elevens of Women's Senior Clubs playing in Women's Junior football. For the purpose of this Rule, Senior Clubs and Senior Competitions shall be defined by the Council at the commencement of the Season. All competing clubs MUST supply two mobile phone numbers for use with reporting results; these shall be supplied on the entry form. No entry will be accepted without numbers supplied.
- (b) No Club shall enter the Competition after **21st July** in each year.
- (c) Teams eligible to enter this competition shall also be eligible to enter the Helen Marchmont Women's Senior Cup in the same season, pursuant with other entry criteria for that competition.
- (d) All clubs shall send the county association a colour photograph of their kit (and change strip if appropriate) before their entrance to the competition is accepted. In the event that their kit is changed during the duration of the competition they shall seek permission to do so from the association and submit a picture at that point. The picture may be in hard or soft copy
- (e) A club may enter more than one team in the competition pursuant with other entry criteria. All subsequent teams shall pay an additional entrance fee commensurate with the entrance fee. Where a club enters more than one team a player shall not play for more than one team within that club in the competition in any one season, see rule 5(c)

4. ENTRANCE FEE

Clubs or teams entering the Competition shall pay a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section in addition to the annual affiliation fee payable in respect of membership of the Association.

The holders from the previous season (if entered in the competition) shall receive free entry into the competition. This is not transferrable if the team enters a different competition in the subsequent season.

5. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

- (a) ***In all rounds of the Competition a Player must have been a registered member of their Club on the FA Player Registration system by the Friday before the date of the match. No player shall be eligible if registered after the dates reserved for the playing of semi-final ties***
- (b) A registered member is one who is registered with a League in which the Club competes.
- (c) A Player shall not in the same Season play for more than one competing Club or team in the same club where her club enters more the one team in the competition.
- (d) In the case of a postponed or abandoned match, only those Players who were qualified to play on the original date fixed for the round shall be eligible to play in the re-arranged match.
- (e) Substitute(s): Substitute(s): A Club may at its discretion and in accordance with the Laws of the Game use 5 substitute players in any match in this Competition who may be selected from 5 players who must be nominated on the team sheet prior to kick off. A player who has been substituted herself 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." Any substitute(s) who has/have not been used is/are entitled to play for another Club in the same Season if qualified under Clause (a) above
- (f) Clubs must hand copies of a list of names of players taking part in the game (including names of nominated substitutes) to the Referee and a representative of their opponents, in the presence of the Referee, 30 minutes before commencement of the match. The home Club must supply two match balls. Any Club failing to carry out these provisions will be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) To play in this Competition a Player must be non-contracted and She must not have played more than five senior matches during the Season. An appearance of any duration in a Senior match counts as a full match.
- (h) No application for re-instatement of any Player will be considered.
- (i) In the case of Schools, any active member of a School shall be qualified to play for that School.

6. VALIDITY OF PLAYERS QUALIFICATIONS

If County Cups and Ground Committee have any doubt as to the qualification of any Player taking part in the Competition they shall have power to call upon such Players of the Club to which he belongs, or for which he played, to prove that he is qualified according to the Rules and failing satisfactory proof the County Cups and Ground Committee may disqualify such Players and may remove the Club from the Competition and impose such other penalty as they may think fit.

7. DISQUALIFICATION

The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to disqualify any competing Club, or Player, or Players for any competing Club who may be proved guilty of any breach of the Rules of the Association and impose a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

8. CONDUCT OF CLUBS

All clubs shall be held responsible for the conduct of their Players, members and spectators and shall give every assistance to the rulings of the Referee whose decisions as to the state of the ground, laws of the game and interference of spectators shall be unquestioned save by the County Cups and Ground Committee of the Association.

Subsequent to any action completed by the Disciplinary Committee, the Cups Committee shall decide on the eligibility of the club to enter county cup competitions in the following season

Temporary Dismissals (Sin Bins) will be in used in this competition where FA regulations determine that sanction for specified offences.

9. THE DRAW

- (a) The ties shall be drawn, the dates fixed and the matches played as the County Cups and Ground Committee may determine.
Requests for an exemption from playing on the reserved date (a "free day") will not be entertained.
- (b) In each tie the game shall be played on the ground of the Club first drawn, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon and the consent of the County Cups and Ground Committee obtained.
- (c) No Club shall receive a bye in two consecutive rounds.
- (d) No Club shall, unless unavoidable, receive more than one bye in the course of the Competition each Season but the County Cups and Ground Committee shall have power to give sufficient number of byes to ensure four clubs competing in the Semi-final ties.
- (e) In the event of Clubs sharing the same pitch the first drawn will have priority unless mutually agreed; the second Club to play the following week.
- (f) Where the number of teams in the preliminary or first round will result in a bye or byes being necessary, the holders from the previous season (if entered in the competition) shall receive a bye in that round. Any team receiving a bye in this scenario shall NOT be subject to clause (c) in the subsequent round and/or (d) as above. This is not transferrable if the team enters a different competition in the subsequent season.

10. GROUNDS

For the purpose of this rule where Ground is referenced this shall refer to the entire facility on which the playing pitch is situated and all of the pitches thereof, with the exception of Artificial Grass pitch facilities where it shall refer to the specific artificial grass surface. County Cup competition matches shall only take place on grounds where there are changing rooms for both sides, such changing rooms must have showers

- (a) If the ground of the Club having choice of ground is considered unsuitable, the opposing Club may Appeal to the County Cups and Ground Committee within three days of the receipt of the draw. Such Appeal must be accompanied by a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the Appeal is not upheld. The payment of expenses incidental to the Appeal shall be at the discretion of the County Cups and Ground Committee.
- (b) Each Club must take every precaution to keep its ground in a playing condition and if necessary the home or visiting Club may apply to the Association Secretary to instruct the Referee or some other suitable person to examine the ground as to its fitness for play, in sufficient time to save expenses being incurred for unnecessary journeys.
- (c) The grounds on which the Final tie is to be played shall be chosen by the County Cups and Ground Committee. In the Final tie the Referee shall, if requested by the Association Secretary, visit the ground three hours before the time of kick-off.
- (d) The appointed referee shall be the sole judge as to the fitness of the ground in all matches but when adverse weather conditions prevail on the day before or on the morning of the match, the Home Club is empowered to call in a Local Referee, Level 7 or higher (who must be over 18 years of age) who shall be independent of the home club, who shall have the power to postpone the match and must submit a written report to the Association Secretary. The Home Club to notify the Referee's Officer, Opponents and Match Officials of the postponement. Clubs MUST phone the match official(s) and leave a message informing them of the cancellation. Failure to do so shall result in a fine of £10 along with other sanctions as proscribed later in this rule. Clubs failing to notify will be fined as set out in the Fees and Fines section. If after the arrival of the visiting team the Referee declares the ground unfit for play, the County Cups Committee may order the home Club to pay such part of the expenses of the visiting club as they may consider fair, and half the match fee must be paid by the home Club, to the Referee. If the

match is cancelled, for any reason, (other than unfitness of ground) but the club fails to inform their opponents and/or match official(s) causing them to travel to the game, then the home team SHALL pay the match official(s) their FULL match fee the visiting team travelling expenses as deemed appropriate by the Cups Committee along with any other expenses the Cups Committee deem appropriate. In the event that this tie is a semi-final then the team shall NOT be eligible to claim the match official's expenses from the County FA as outlined in Rule 14. Where a club plays on a ground owned by a third party and that party makes a decision to cancel the match the home club must provide written confirmation from their landlord of the decision to cancel said match to the county office within 5 working days of the match. Failure to do so may see the club excluded from the competition.

- (e) If a match has to be postponed for either of the reasons in paragraph (e) above, it shall be played the weekend following unless advised otherwise by the County Cups Committee. The match shall have the same referee as appointed to the original date unless otherwise advised by the Referees Appointment Officer. Where a match has been postponed for two weeks the side drawn at home shall consider finding an alternate ground or reversing the fixture for the third week if there is a possibility that their ground may not be fit to host the game for the third week if (they have not already done so in the initial two weeks). In the event a match is abandoned for any reason, save for incidents when the abandonment was due to disciplinary issues, the match shall be played the following week unless otherwise specified by the Cups Committee.
- (f) The home Club must notify their opponents of ground location. Failure to comply will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) Separate accommodation is preferred for Match Officials.
- (h) The use of third generation (3g) artificial grass pitches will be allowed for use in the competition. To be eligible the pitch must be on the FA register of approved 3g surfaces register. The home must club must provide a list of acceptable footwear for use on the pitch to their opposition and appointed referee no less than 5 days prior to the date of the tie (unless a shorter period is mutually acceptable to both parties). The home team shall be liable for ALL costs (excluding opposition expenses) arising from the hire for use of such a pitch. The use of any other artificial pitch other than a 3g (artificial grass) will NOT be entertained.

11. DURATION OF MATCHES

The duration of matches shall be 90 minutes, (45 minutes each way - with an interval not exceeding 15 minutes). If at the end of 90 minutes the scores are level, a penalty kick competition will take place as described in the Penalty Kick section, for all rounds ***up to and including the final.***

12. REPORTING RESULTS

- (a) Both competing clubs MUST present a team sheet to the match referee and their opponents prior to the commencement of the match; this MUST include the names and initials of Players representing their Club; the number of the shirt that the player is to wear in the match MUST be written on the team sheet submitted next to the players name. After the match The Secretary of each Club shall send a copy of that team sheet to the association to include the match result and a mark of the match official's performance in the game (SEE APPENDIX A), so that it is received within four days of the match (Sundays not included). This shall be via post or via electronic copy, if the latter it shall be emailed to Countycupadmin@somersetfa.com Where clubs use electronic copy it should be a scanned version of the team sheet used. Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be subject to a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section and in default of payment shall also be ruled out of the Competition. The club in case will not be allowed to compete in a subsequent round of the competition until the team sheet from the previous round is received by the County Association 7 days prior to the match being played
- (b) A Referees marking out of 100, (a marking guide is provided in Appendix A at the rear of the book) should be inserted on the result sheet. Failure to do so will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section. Any mark of 60 or below MUST be accompanied by a letter explaining the mark. Failure to do so to lead to a fine of £15.
- (c) The home club shall input the result via FA match day app on the same day of the match, (in the event that the App is not working then the result must be emailed to countycupadmin@somersetfa.com on the same day of the match); failure to meet the provisions of this rule will see the club fined as listed in the Fees and Fines section (Appendix B)

13. TIME OF KICK-OFF

All matches shall kick off at 14.00

14. REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES

- (a) Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association. Where the appointed referee and (where appointed) assistant referees are under the age of 18, this will be communicated to the respective home club in advance of the match by the Referee Appointment Officer. When the under 18 match official(s) arrive at the ground the home club shall get the match official(s) to sign in on the appropriate space on the team sheet and sign out on the appropriate space on the team sheet after the match when they leave. Failure to carry out this action will result in a fine of £10 against the offending club.

Where a club is informed that the match official(s) are under 18 separate changing/showering facilities from adult

officials MUST be provided or if this cannot be arranged, separate changing and showering times from adults MUST be arranged

- (b) In all rounds prior to the Semi-final tie the competing Clubs MUST each provide a Club Assistant Referee.
- (c) In the Semi-final and Final ties, Assistant Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association.
- (d) It is the responsibility of the Home club to notify the Match Officials and their opponents of the location of their ground and the time of kick off 4 days prior to the match being played. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out under the fees and fines section.
- (e) If a match is postponed on arrival of the Referee, half the match fee must be paid by the home Club.
- (f) Both clubs shall provide a flag for use by their respective club assistant referees for all rounds where a neutral assistant is not appointed by the association.
- (g) The Match Referee shall retain the team sheet provided by both sides until the end of season for inspection by the Cups Committee if requested.
- (h) The **AWAY** club shall pay the Referee's fee, as stated in appendix B (Note this will not apply if the provisions of Rule 10 (d) and 14 (d) apply when the cost will be met by the home club). This may be either electronic payment or cash, as agreed with the match official. If the latter this shall take place in the dressing room 15 minutes prior the kick off, or within 15 minutes of the completion of the game, whichever is the wish of the referee having ascertained the referees preference before the match. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out in the fees and fines section.

In the Semi Final ties the cost of the match official's fees shall be paid for by the home club who shall then be reimbursed this amount by the County Association, less any gate receipts taken by the home club. (please see provision of rule 16). This shall be claimed by the home club submitting an expenses sheet as supplied by the Association.

15. LATE STARTS

- (a) All late starts must be reported by the Referee
- (b) Clubs responsible for late starts shall be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

16. SHARING OF GATES

From the gate money taken at all matches prior to the Semi-Final tie, the home team shall pay all match expenses, excluding the travelling expenses of the visitors and bear any loss or retain any net proceeds. The visiting team shall pay their own expenses.

- (a) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to revise match expense charges which in their opinion are excessive.
- (b) In any match ordered to be replayed in consequence of a breach of Rule, the Club in default shall not receive any share of the proceeds of such replayed match without the consent of the County Cups Committee and such consent shall only be given under special circumstances. If consent is not given, the share shall be taken by the Association.

In semi-finals the gate receipts shall be used to pay the referee and assistant referee's fee, with the County Association paying the balance of any amount not so covered by the gate takings. The home club shall submit a receipt of their match takings.

17. ADMISSION CHARGE

Admission is to be charged at the discretion of the Home Club.

18. WITHDRAWAL OF CLUBS & FAILURE TO PLAY

- a) Any Club withdrawing from the Competition after the draw has been made shall be fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary.
- b) Any club failing to fulfil a fixture in any round prior to the Semi-Final ties, save for unfitness of ground, shall be ruled out of the competition and fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary. In the event that that a club fails to fulfil a tie in the semi-final or final tie the minimum fine shall be no less than (see below)

Any club with drawing under clause a or failing to fulfil a fixture under clause b, MUST inform the County Office, County Referees Appointment Officer, their opponents and appointed match official(s) of such. In the event that some or all of these parties are not informed and either match officials or opposing teams travel, then the Cups Committee shall reserve the right to award costs arising against the defaulting club as they see fit.

The Cups committee shall reserve the right to award any other costs arising from a cancelled match due to a club defaulting under clauses a and/or b

The MINIMUM fines that shall apply are as follows:

Withdraw £25

Failure to play £25

Failure to play semi-final and final £40

19. PROTESTS

All questions arising out of these Rules shall be dealt with by the County Cups and Ground

Committee.

- (a) Any Club wishing to make a protest against the result of a match must do so within seven days of the match being played.
- (b) The protest must be in writing clearly stating the grounds upon which it is made and must be signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Club.
- (c) Two copies of the protest must be sent to the Chief Executive together with a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the protest is not upheld.
- (d) The defaulting Club may be called upon to pay the whole or part of the expenses of the meeting and the expenses of the other Club. SEE ALSO MEMBERSHIP RULES 5 AND 6 RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION.

20. TROPHY: SAFE KEEPING AND RETURN

Trophy Agreement

When the winners of an Association Cup shall have been ascertained, the Chief Executive shall hand over the Cup to such winners on their subscribing to the following effect:

We the undersigned on behalf of (name of Club or League) having been declared winner and taken possession of the Somerset Football Association Ltd (Competition) Trophy, which we understand remains the property of the Somerset Football Association Ltd, do hereby jointly and severally, undertake to keep the said Trophy in safe custody.

Furthermore, we agree to return the Trophy (and box) no later than 1 March in the ensuing year in good order. We also undertake to pay for any damage to the Trophy whilst in our care.

Signed Club/League Secretary

Signed Position

Any Club or League failing to comply with the above requirements will be fined, as set out in the Fees and Fines Section, in addition to the cost of any repair.

21 MEDALS

Sixteen medals or other mementos shall be awarded to the winners and runners-up of all Association Cup Competitions. (Unless the number of players on a starting team is less than 11, when the number shall be adjusted to the number of players in a starting team plus five substitutes). Competing clubs may request extra medals, this should be made in writing to the association; the cost of any such request for extra medals or mementos shall be met by the requesting club

22. SHIRT COLOURS

- (a) No player or goalkeeper shall be permitted to wear black or very dark coloured shirts.
- (b) The home club shall inform the opposition of their kit colours to avoid a possible colour clash on the day, along with directions to the ground if required, no later than 3 days prior to the date of the match. Both teams shall provide their players with individually numbered shirts which must correspond to the numbers listed on the team sheet. In the event of a similarity of colours between two teams in a match the visiting team must change. Shorts and socks must be of different colours between teams. In the final tie the team drawn first shall be deemed the home club and shall have choice of colours in the event of a similarity of colours. Defaulting clubs shall be fined, as set out in Fees and Fines Section.
- (c) 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 his shirt because of a blood injury.

23. DATES

All reserved County Cup dates are to be strictly adhered to. Failure to do so will mean disqualification from the Competition.

24. RULES

These Rules shall not be altered or rescinded save at the Annual General Meeting or special meeting of the Association of which fourteen days' notice shall be given.

FINES REFERRED TO IN THE RULES

Women's Junior Cup

Rule 4	£10.00
Rule 5(f)	£10.00
Rule 7	£25.00
Rule 10(a)	£25.00
Rule 10(d)	£10.00
Rule 10(e)	£10.00
Rule 12(a)	£15.00
Rule 12(b)	£10.00
Rule 12(c)	£10.00
Rule 14(d)	£10.00

Rule 14(h)	£10.00
Rule 15(b)	£10.00 - for first 15 minutes or part thereof and £5.00 - for each succeeding 5 minutes or part thereof
Rule 18(a)	£25.00 (Minimum)
(b)	£25.00 (Minimum)
	£40.00 (Minimum) Re: Semi Final & Final
Rule 20(c)	£25.00
Rule 21	£50.00
Rule 22(b)	£16.00

Referees Fees **£47 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Assistant Referees **£36 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Travel Expenses - Referees and Assistant Referees

N.B. The county mileage rate shall be decided by the Board of Directors at their discretion, from time to time. When this change may occur after the printing of this handbook the new rate shall apply in place of the one listed here. The new rate shall be communicated by the county office to all members as and when it occurs

MEN'S INTERMEDIATE CUP COMPETITION (1910)
RULES

1. TITLE

The Cup shall be called 'The Somerset Football Association Ltd Men's Intermediate Cup' and shall be a perpetual trophy competed for annually by Clubs in membership of the Association and approved by the Council.

2. CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT

- (a) The County Cups Committee of the Association shall have the entire control and management of the Competition and shall have the power to disqualify, impose fines or other such penalties and may order the payment of costs and expenses against any competing Club, or the Players of any competing Club, in breach of any of the Rules of the Competition.
- (b) The Cups Committee shall decide upon the interpretation of the Rules of the Competition, adjudicate upon any dispute, claim and protest and their decision shall be final and binding.
- (c) All Somerset FA Cup Competitions are to be played in accordance with the FA Respect Programme, to which all competing clubs must adhere.

3. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- (a) The Competition shall be open only to Junior Clubs playing in Saturday Junior football, except those playing in the highest Division of any Saturday Junior League defined as Junior by the Council. All competing clubs MUST supply two mobile phone numbers for use with reporting results; these shall be supplied on the entry form. No entry will be accepted without numbers supplied.
- (b) Teams competing in the Saturday County Bryan Wells Junior Cup Competition, the Bristol and Avon League or Division one, two or three of the Bristol and District League or Division one, two or three of the Bristol Suburban League are not eligible to play in this Competition.
- (c) No Club shall enter the Competition after **21st July** in each year.
- (d) All clubs shall send the county association a colour photograph of their kit (and change strip if appropriate) before their entrance to the competition is accepted. In the event that their kit is changed during the duration of the competition they shall seek permission to do so from the association and submit a picture at that point. The picture may be in hard or soft copy
- (d) A club may enter more than one team in the competition pursuant with other entry criteria. All subsequent teams shall pay an additional entrance fee commensurate with the entrance fee. Where a club enters more than one team a player shall not play for more than one team within that club in the competition in any one season, see rule 5(c)

4. ENTRANCE FEE

Clubs or teams entering the Competition shall pay a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section in addition to the annual affiliation fee payable in respect of membership of the Association.
The holders from the previous season (if entered in the competition) shall receive free entry into the competition. This is not transferrable if the team enters a different competition in the subsequent season.

5. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

- (a) ***In all rounds of the Competition a Player must have been a registered member of their Club on the FA Player Registration system by the Friday before the date of the match. No player shall be eligible if registered after the dates reserved for the playing of semi-final ties***
- (b) A registered member is one who is registered with a League in which the Club competes.
- (c) A Player shall not in the same Season play for more than one competing Club or team in the same club where his club enters more the one team in the competition.
- (d) In the case of a postponed or abandoned match, only those Players who were qualified to play on the original date fixed for the round shall be eligible to play in the re-arranged match.
- (e) Substitute(s): A Club may at its discretion and in accordance with the Laws of the Game use 5 substitute players in any match in this Competition who may be selected from 5 players who must be nominated on the team sheet prior to kick off. A player who has been substituted himself 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." Any substitute(s) who has/have not been used is/are entitled to play for another Club in the same Season if qualified under Clause (a) above.
- (f) Clubs must hand copies of a list of names of players taking part in the game (including names of nominated substitutes) to the Referee and a representative of their opponents, in the presence of the Referee, 30 minutes before commencement of the match. The home Club must supply two match balls. Any Club failing to carry out these provisions will be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) To play in this Competition a Player must be non-contracted and he must not have played more than five senior match or junior league, junior league cup or county cup competition matches for the higher ranked junior side

during the Season. An appearance of any duration in a Senior match counts as a full match.

- (h) No application for re-instatement of any Player will be considered.
- (i) In the case of Schools, any active member of a School shall be qualified to play for that School.

6. VALIDITY OF PLAYERS QUALIFICATIONS

If County Cups and Ground Committee have any doubt as to the qualification of any Player taking part in the Competition they shall have power to call upon such Players of the Club to which he belongs, or for which he played, to prove that he is qualified according to the Rules and failing satisfactory proof the County Cups and Ground Committee may disqualify such Players and may remove the Club from the Competition and impose such other penalty as they may think fit.

7. DISQUALIFICATION

The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to disqualify any competing Club, or Player, or Players for any competing Club who may be proved guilty of any breach of the Rules of the Association and impose a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section, and also reserve the right to exclude the club for the following season (and to other Cups).

8. CONDUCT OF CLUBS

All clubs shall be held responsible for the conduct of their Players, members and spectators and shall give every assistance to the rulings of the Referee whose decisions as to the state of the ground, laws of the game and interference of spectators shall be unquestioned save by the County Cups and Ground Committee of the Association. Subsequent to any action completed by the Disciplinary Committee, the Cups Committee shall decide on the eligibility of the club to enter county cup competitions in the following season

Temporary Dismissals (Sin Bins) will be in used in this competition where FA regulations determine that sanction for specified offences.

9. THE DRAW

- (a) The ties shall be drawn, the dates fixed and the matches played as the County Cups and Ground Committee may determine.
Requests for an exemption from playing on the reserved date (a "free day") will not be entertained.
- (b) In each tie the game shall be played on the ground of the Club first drawn, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon and the consent of the County Cups and Ground Committee obtained.
- (c) No Club shall receive a bye in two consecutive rounds.
- (d) No Club shall, unless unavoidable, receive more than one bye in the course of the Competition each Season but the County Cups and Ground Committee shall have power to give sufficient number of byes to ensure four clubs competing in the Semi-final ties.
- (e) In the event of Clubs sharing the same pitch the first drawn will have priority unless mutually agreed; the second Club to play the following week.
- (f) Where the number of teams in the preliminary or first round will result in a bye or byes being necessary, the holders from the previous season (if entered in the competition) shall receive a bye in that round. Any team receiving a bye in this scenario shall NOT be subject to clause (c) in the subsequent round and/or (d) as above. This is not transferrable if the team enters a different competition in the subsequent season.

10. GROUNDS

For the purpose of this rule where Ground is referenced this shall refer to the entire facility on which the playing pitch is situated and all of the pitches thereof, with the exception of Artificial Grass pitch facilities where it shall refer to the specific artificial grass surface. County Cup competition matches shall only take place on grounds where there are changing rooms for both sides, such changing rooms must have showers

- (a) If the ground of the Club having choice of ground is considered unsuitable, the opposing Club may Appeal to the County Cups and Ground Committee within three days of the receipt of the draw. Such Appeal must be accompanied by a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the Appeal is not upheld. The payment of expenses incidental to the Appeal shall be at the discretion of the County Cups and Ground Committee.
- (b) Each Club must take every precaution to keep its ground in a playing condition and if necessary the home or visiting Club may apply to the Association Secretary to instruct the Referee or some other suitable person to examine the ground as to its fitness for play, in sufficient time to save expenses being incurred for unnecessary journeys.
- (c) The grounds on which the Final tie is to be played shall be chosen by the County Cups and Ground Committee. In the Final tie the Referee shall, if requested by the Association Secretary, visit the ground three hours before the time of kick-off.
- (d) The appointed referee shall be the sole judge as to the fitness of the ground in all matches but when adverse

weather conditions prevail on the day before or on the morning of the match, the Home Club is empowered to call in a Local Referee, Level 7 or higher (who must be over 18 years of age) who shall be independent of the home club, who shall have the power to postpone the match and must submit a written report to the Association Secretary. The Home Club to notify the Referee's Officer, Opponents and Match Officials of the postponement. Clubs MUST phone the match official(s) and leave a message informing them of the cancellation. Failure to do so shall result in a fine of £10 along with other sanctions as proscribed later in this rule. Clubs failing to notify will be fined as set out in the Fees and Fines section. If after the arrival of the visiting team the Referee declares the ground unfit for play, the County Cups Committee may order the home Club to pay such part of the expenses of the visiting club as they may consider fair, and half the match fee must be paid by the home Club, to the Referee. If the match is cancelled, for any reason, (other than unfitness of ground) but the club fails to inform their opponents and/or match official(s) causing them to travel to the game, then the home team SHALL pay the match official(s) their FULL match fee the visiting team travelling expenses as deemed appropriate by the Cups Committee along with any other expenses the Cups Committee deem appropriate. In the event that this tie is a semi-final then the team shall NOT be eligible to claim the match official's expenses from the County FA as outlined in Rule 14. Where a club plays on a ground owned by a third party and that party makes a decision to cancel the match the home club must provide written confirmation from their landlord of the decision to cancel said match to the county office within 5 working days of the match. Failure to do so may see the club excluded from the competition.

- (e) If a match has to be postponed for either of the reasons as above, it shall be played the weekend following unless advised otherwise by the County Cups Committee. The match shall have the same referee as appointed to the original date unless otherwise advised by the Referees Appointment Officer.
Where a match has been postponed for two weeks the side drawn at home shall consider finding an alternate ground or reversing the fixture for the third week if there is a possibility that their ground may not be fit to host the game for the third week if (they have not already done so in the initial two weeks).
In the event a match is abandoned for any reason, save for incidents when the abandonment was due to disciplinary issues, the match shall be played the following week unless otherwise specified by the Cups Committee.
- (f) The home Club must notify their opponents of ground location. Failure to comply will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section
- (g) Separate changing accommodation is preferred for Match Officials
- (h) The use of third generation (3g) artificial grass pitches will be allowed for use in the competition. To be eligible the pitch must be on the FA register of approved 3g surfaces register. The home must club must provide a list of acceptable footwear for use on the pitch to their opposition and appointed referee no less than 5 days prior to the date of the tie (unless a shorter period is mutually acceptable to both parties). The home team shall be liable for ALL costs (excluding opposition expenses) arising from the hire for use of such a pitch. The use of any other artificial pitch other than a 3g (artificial grass) will NOT be entertained.

11. DURATION OF MATCHES

The duration of matches shall be 90 minutes, (45 minutes each way - with an interval not exceeding 15 minutes). If at the end of 90 minutes the scores are level, a penalty kick competition will take place as described in the Penalty Kick section, for all rounds up to and including the final.

12. REPORTING RESULTS

- (a) Both competing clubs MUST present a team sheet to the match referee and their opponents prior to the commencement of the match; this MUST include the names and initials of Players representing their Club; the number of the shirt that the player is to wear in the match MUST be written on the team sheet submitted next to the players name.
After the match The Secretary of each Club shall send a copy of that team sheet to the association to include the match result and a mark of the match official's performance in the game (SEE APPENDIX A), so that it is received within four days of the match (Sundays not included). This shall be via post or via electronic copy, if the latter it shall be emailed to Countycupadmin@somersetfa.com Where clubs use electronic copy it should be a scanned version of the team sheet used. Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be subject to a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section and in default of payment shall also be ruled out of the Competition. The club in case will not be allowed to compete in a subsequent round of the competition until the team sheet from the previous round is received by the County Association 7 days prior to the match being played
- (b) A Referees marking out of 100, (a marking guide is provided in Appendix A at the rear of the book) should be inserted on the result sheet. Failure to do so will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section. Any mark of 60 or below MUST be accompanied by a letter explaining the mark. Failure to do so to lead to a fine of £15.
- (c) The home club shall input the result via FA match day app on the same day of the match, (in the event that the App is not working then the result must be emailed to countycupadmin@somersetfa.com on the same day of the

match); failure to meet the provisions of this rule will see the club fined as listed in the Fees and Fines section (Appendix B)

13. TIME OF KICK-OFF

All matches shall kick off at 14.00

14. REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES

- (a) Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association. Where the appointed referee and (where appointed) assistant referees are under the age of 18, this will be communicated to the respective home club in advance of the match by the Referee Appointment Officer. When the under 18 match official(s) arrive at the ground the home club shall get the match official(s) to sign in on the appropriate space on the team sheet and sign out on the appropriate space on the team sheet after the match when they leave. Failure to carry out this action will result in a fine of £10 against the offending club.
Where a club is informed that the match official(s) are under 18 separate changing/showering facilities from adult officials MUST be provided or if this cannot be arranged, separate changing and showering times from adults MUST be arranged
- (b) In all rounds prior to the Semi-final tie the competing Clubs MUST each provide a Club Assistant Referee.
- (c) In the Semi-final and Final ties, Assistant Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association.
- (d) It is the responsibility of the Home club to notify the Match Officials and their opponents of the location of their ground and the time of kick off 4 days prior to the match being played. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out under the fees and fines section
- (e) If a match is postponed on arrival of the Referee, half the match fee must be paid by the home Club.
- (f) Both clubs shall provide a flag for use by their respective club assistant referees for all rounds where a neutral assistant is not appointed by the association.
- (g) The Match Referee shall retain the team sheet provided by both sides until the end of season for inspection by the Cups Committee if requested.
- (h) The **AWAY** club shall pay the Referee's fee, as stated in appendix B (Note this will not apply if the provisions of Rule 10 (d) and 14 (d) apply when the cost will be met by the home club). This may be either electronic payment or cash, as agreed with the match official. If the latter this shall take place in the dressing room 15 minutes prior to the kick off, or within 15 minutes of the completion of the game, whichever is the wish of the referee having ascertained the referees preference before the match. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out in the fees and fines section.

In the Semi Final ties the cost of the match official's fees shall be paid for by the home club who shall then be reimbursed this amount by the County Association, less any gate receipts taken by the home club. (please see provision of rule 16). This shall be claimed by the home club submitting an expenses sheet as supplied by the Association.

15. LATE STARTS

- (a) All late starts must be reported by the Referee
- (b) Clubs responsible for late starts shall be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

16. SHARING OF GATES

From the gate money taken at all matches prior to the Semi-Final tie, the home team shall pay all match expenses, excluding the travelling expenses of the visitors and bear any loss or retain any net proceeds. The visiting team shall pay their own expenses.

- (a) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to revise match expense charges which in their opinion are excessive.
- (b) In any match ordered to be replayed in consequence of a breach of Rule, the Club in default shall not receive any share of the proceeds of such replayed match without the consent of the County Cups Committee and such consent shall only be given under special circumstances. If consent is not given, the share shall be taken by the Association.

In semi-finals the gate receipts shall be used to pay the referee and assistant referee's fee, with the County Association paying the balance of any amount not so covered by the gate takings. The home club shall submit a receipt of their match takings.

17. ADMISSION CHARGE

Admission is to be charged at the discretion of the Home Club.

18. WITHDRAWAL OF CLUBS & FAILURE TO PLAY

- (a) Any Club withdrawing from the Competition after the draw has been made shall be fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary.
- (b) Any club failing to fulfil a fixture in any round prior to the Semi-Final ties, save for unfitness of ground, shall be ruled out of the competition and fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary. In the event that that a club fails to fulfil a tie in the semi-final or final tie the minimum fine shall be no less than (see below)

Any club with drawing under clause a or failing to fulfil a fixture under clause b, MUST inform the County Office, County Referees Appointment Officer, their opponents and appointed match official(s) of such. In the event that some or all of these parties are not informed and either match officials or opposing teams travel, then the Cups Committee shall reserve the right to award costs arising against the defaulting club as they see fit.

The Cups committee shall reserve the right to award any other costs arising from a cancelled match due to a club defaulting under clauses a and/or b

The MINIMUM fines that shall apply are as follows:

Withdraw £25 Failure to play £25 Failure to play semi-final and final £40

19. PROTESTS

All questions arising out of these Rules shall be dealt with by the County Cups and Ground Committee.

- (a) Any Club wishing to make a protest against the result of a match must do so within seven days of the match being played.
- (b) The protest must be in writing clearly stating the grounds upon which it is made and must be signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Club.
- (c) Two copies of the protest must be sent to the Chief Executive together with a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the protest is not upheld.
- (d) The defaulting Club may be called upon to pay the whole or part of the expenses of the meeting and the expenses of the other Club

SEE ALSO MEMBERSHIP RULES 5 AND 6 RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION.

20. TROPHY: SAFE KEEPING AND RETURN

Trophy Agreement

When the winners of an Association Cup shall have been ascertained, the Chief Executive shall hand over the Cup to such winners on their subscribing to the following effect:

We the undersigned on behalf of (name of Club or League) having been declared winner and taken possession of the Somerset Football Association Ltd (Competition) Trophy, which we understand remains the property of the Somerset Football Association Ltd, do hereby jointly and severally, undertake to keep the said Trophy in safe custody.

Furthermore, we agree to return the Trophy (and box) no later than 1 March in the ensuing year in good order. We also undertake to pay for any damage to the Trophy whilst in our care.

Signed Club/League Secretary

Signed Position

Any Club or League failing to comply with the above requirements will be fined, as set out in the Fees and Fines Section, in addition to the cost of any repair.

21. MEDALS

Sixteen medals or other mementos shall be awarded to the winners and runners-up of all Association Cup Competitions. (Unless the number of players on a starting team is less than 11, when the number shall be adjusted to the number of players in a starting team plus five substitutes). Competing clubs may request extra medals, this should be made in writing to the association; the cost of any such request for extra medals or mementos shall be met by the requesting club

22. SHIRT COLOURS

- (a) No player or goalkeeper shall be permitted to wear black or very dark coloured shirts.
- (b) *The home club shall inform the opposition of their kit colours to avoid a possible colour clash on the day, along with directions to the ground if required, no later than 3 days prior to the date of the match. Both teams shall provide their players with individually numbered shirts which must correspond to the numbers listed on the team sheet. In the event of a similarity of colours between two teams in a match the visiting team must change. Shorts and socks must be of different colours between teams. In the final tie the team drawn first shall be deemed the home club and shall have choice of colours in the event of a similarity of colours. Defaulting clubs shall be fined, as set out in Fees and Fines Section.*

- (c) 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 his shirt because of a blood injury.

23. DATES

All reserved County Cup dates are to be strictly adhered to. Failure to do so will mean disqualification from the Competition.

24. RULES

These Rules shall not be altered or rescinded save at the Annual General Meeting or special meeting of the Association of which fourteen days notice shall be given.

FINES REFERRED TO IN THE RULES

Intermediate Cup

Rule 4	£10.00
Rule 5(f)	£10.00
Rule 7	£25.00
Rule 10(a)	£25.00
Rule 10(d)	£10.00
Rule 10(e)	£10.00
Rule 12(a)	£15.00
Rule 12(b)	£10.00
Rule 12(c)	£10.00
Rule 14(d)	£10.00
Rule 14(h)	£10.00
Rule 15(b)	£10.00 - for first 15 minutes or part thereof and £5.00 - for each succeeding 5 minutes or part thereof
Rule 18(a)	£25.00 (Minimum)
(b)	£25.00 (Minimum)
	£40.00 (Minimum) Re: Semi Final & Final
Rule 20(c)	£25.00
Rule 21	£50.00
Rule 22(b)	£16.00

Rule 8

Referees Fees **£47 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Assistant Referees **£36 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Travel Expenses - Referees and Assistant Referees

N.B. The county mileage rate shall be decided by the Board of Directors at their discretion, from time to time. When this change may occur after the printing of this handbook the new rate shall apply in place of the one listed here. The new rate shall be communicated by the county office to all members as and when it occurs

MEN'S SUNDAY CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITION (1969)
RULES

1. TITLE

The Cup shall be called 'The Somerset Football Association Ltd Men's Sunday Challenge cup' and shall be a perpetual trophy competed for annually by Clubs in membership of the Association and approved by the Council.

2. CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT

- (a) The County Cups Committee of the Association shall have the entire control and management of the Competition and shall have the power to disqualify, impose fines or other such penalties and may order the payment of costs and expenses against any competing Club, or the Players of any competing Club, in breach of any of the Rules of the Competition.
- (b) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall decide upon the interpretation of the Rules of the Competition, adjudicate upon any dispute, claim or protest and their decision shall be final and binding.
- (c) All Somerset FA Cup Competitions are to be played in accordance with the FA Respect Programme, to which all competing clubs must adhere.

3. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- (a) All Clubs and teams must be members of an affiliated Sunday Football League and shall continue in membership of said league to continue participation in the competition. Any team withdrawing from membership of their league shall be expelled from the competition. All competing clubs MUST supply two mobile phone numbers for use with reporting results; these shall be supplied on the entry form. No entry will be accepted without numbers supplied.
- (b) No Club shall enter the Competition later than **21st July** in each year.
- (c) *All clubs shall send the county association a colour photograph of their kit (and change strip if appropriate) before their entrance to the competition is accepted. In the event that their kit is changed during the duration of the competition they shall seek permission to do so from the association and submit a picture at that point. The picture may be in hard or soft copy*
- (d) A club may enter more than one team in the competition pursuant with other entry criteria. All subsequent teams shall pay an additional entrance fee commensurate with the entrance fee. Where a club enters more than one team a player shall not play for more than one team within that club in the competition in any one season, see rule 5(c)

4. ENTRANCE FEE

Clubs or teams entering the Competition shall pay a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section in addition to the annual affiliation fee payable in respect of membership of the Association.
The holders from the previous season (if entered in the competition) shall receive free entry into the competition. This is not transferrable if the team enters a different competition in the subsequent season.

5. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

- (a) ***In all rounds of the Competition a Player must have been a registered member of their Club on the FA Player Registration system by the Friday before the date of the match. No player shall be eligible if registered after the dates reserved for the playing of semi-final ties.***
- (b) A registered member is one who is registered with a League in which the Club competes.
- (c) A Player shall not in the same Season play for more than one competing Club or team in the same club where his club enters more the one team in the competition.
- (d) In the case of a postponed or abandoned match, only those Players who were qualified to play on the original date fixed for the round shall be eligible to play in the re-arranged match.
- (e) Substitute(s): A Club may at its discretion and in accordance with the Laws of the Game use 5 substitute players in any match in this Competition who may be selected from 5 players who must be nominated on the team sheet prior to kick off. A player who has been substituted himself 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." Any substitute(s) who has/have not been used is/are entitled to play for another Club in the same Season if qualified under Clause (a) above.
- (f) Clubs must hand copies of a list of names of players taking part in the game (including names of nominated substitutes) to the Referee and a representative of their opponents, in the presence of the Referee, 30 minutes before commencement of the match. The home Club must supply two match balls. Any Club failing to carry out these provisions will be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

6. VALIDITY OF PLAYERS QUALIFICATIONS

If County Cups and Ground Committee have any doubt as to the qualification of any Player taking part in the Competition they shall have power to call upon such Players of the Club to which he belongs, or for which he played, to prove that he is qualified according to the Rules and failing satisfactory proof the County Cups and Ground Committee

may disqualify such Players and may remove the Club from the Competition and impose such other penalty as they may think fit.

7. DISQUALIFICATION

The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to disqualify any competing Club, or Player, or Players for any competing Club who may be proved guilty of any breach of the Rules of the Association and impose a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

8. CONDUCT OF CLUBS

All clubs shall be held responsible for the conduct of their Players, members and spectators and shall give every assistance to the rulings of the Referee whose decisions as to the state of the ground, laws of the game and interference of spectators shall be unquestioned save by the County Cups and Ground Committee of the Association. Subsequent to any action completed by the Disciplinary Committee, the Cups Committee shall decide on the eligibility of the club to enter county cup competitions in the following season

Temporary Dismissals (Sin Bins) will be in used in this competition where FA regulations determine that sanction for specified offences.

9. THE DRAW

- (a) The ties shall be drawn, the dates fixed and the matches played as the County Cups and Ground Committee may determine.
Requests for an exemption from playing on the reserved date (a "free day") will not be entertained.
- (b) In each tie the game shall be played on the ground of the Club first drawn, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon and the consent of the County Cups and Ground Committee obtained.
- (c) No Club shall receive a bye in two consecutive rounds.
- (d) No Club shall, unless unavoidable, receive more than one bye in the course of the Competition each Season but the County Cups and Ground Committee shall have power to give sufficient number of byes to ensure four clubs competing in the Semi-final ties.
- (e) In the event of Clubs sharing the same pitch the first drawn will have priority unless mutually agreed; the second Club to play the following week.
- (f) Where the number of teams in the preliminary or first round will result in a bye or byes being necessary, the holders from the previous season (if entered in the competition) shall receive a bye in that round. Any team receiving a bye in this scenario shall NOT be subject to clause (c) in the subsequent round and/or (d) as above. This is not transferrable if the team enters a different competition in the subsequent season.

10. GROUNDS

For the purpose of this rule where Ground is referenced this shall refer to the entire facility on which the playing pitch is situated and all of the pitches thereof, with the exception of Artificial Grass pitch facilities where it shall refer to the specific artificial grass surface. County Cup competition matches shall only take place on grounds where there are changing rooms for both sides, such changing rooms must have showers

- (a) If the ground of the Club having choice of ground is considered unsuitable, the opposing Club may Appeal to the County Cups and Ground Committee within three days of the receipt of the draw. Such Appeal must be accompanied by a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the Appeal is not upheld. The payment of expenses incidental to the Appeal shall be at the discretion of the County Cups and Ground Committee.
- (b) Each Club must take every precaution to keep its ground in a playing condition and if necessary the home or visiting Club may apply to the Association Secretary to instruct the Referee or some other suitable person to examine the ground as to its fitness for play, in sufficient time to save expenses being incurred for unnecessary journeys.
- (c) The grounds on which the Final tie is to be played shall be chosen by the County Cups and Ground Committee. In the Final tie the Referee shall, if requested by the Association Secretary, visit the ground three hours before the time of kick-off.
- (d) The appointed referee shall be the sole judge as to the fitness of the ground in all matches but when adverse weather conditions prevail on the day before or on the morning of the match, the Home Club is empowered to call in a Local Referee, Level 7 or higher (who must be over 18 years of age) who shall be independent of the home club, who shall have the power to postpone the match and must submit a written report to the Association Secretary. The Home Club to notify the Referee's Officer, Opponents and Match Officials of the postponement. Clubs MUST phone the match official(s) and leave a message informing them of the cancellation. Failure to do so shall result in a fine of £10 along with other sanctions as proscribed later in this rule. Clubs failing to notify will be fined as set out in the Fees and Fines section. If after the arrival of the visiting team the Referee declares the ground unfit for play, the County Cups Committee may order the home Club to pay such part of the expenses of the visiting club as they may consider fair, and half the match fee must be paid by the home Club, to the Referee.

If the match is cancelled, for any reason, (other than unfitness of ground) but the club fails to inform their opponents and/or match official(s) causing them to travel to the game, then the home team SHALL pay the match official(s) their FULL match fee the visiting team travelling expenses as deemed appropriate by the Cups Committee along with any other expenses the Cups Committee deem appropriate. In the event that this tie is a semi-final then the team shall NOT be eligible to claim the match official's expenses from the County FA as outlined in Rule 14. Where a club plays on a ground owned by a third party and that party makes a decision to cancel the match the home club must provide written confirmation from their landlord of the decision to cancel said match to the county office within 5 working days of the match. Failure to do so may see the club excluded from the competition.

- (e) If a match has to be postponed for either of the reasons in paragraph (e) above, it shall be played the weekend following unless advised otherwise by the County Cups Committee. The match shall have the same referee as appointed to the original date unless otherwise advised by the Referees Appointment Officer. Where a match has been postponed for two weeks the side drawn at home shall consider finding an alternate ground or reversing the fixture for the third week if there is a possibility that their ground may not be fit to host the game for the third week if (they have not already done so in the initial two weeks). In the event a match is abandoned for any reason, save for incidents when the abandonment was due to disciplinary issues, the match shall be played the following week unless otherwise specified by the Cups Committee.
- (f) The home Club must notify their opponents of ground location. Failure to comply will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) Separate accommodation is preferred for Match Officials.
- (i) The use of third generation (3g) artificial grass pitches will be allowed for use in the competition. To be eligible the pitch must be on the FA register of approved 3g surfaces register. The home must club must provide a list of acceptable footwear for use on the pitch to their opposition and appointed referee no less than 5 days prior to the date of the tie (unless a shorter period is mutually acceptable to both parties). The home team shall be liable for ALL costs (excluding opposition expenses) arising from the hire for use of such a pitch. The use of any other artificial pitch other than a 3g (artificial grass) will NOT be entertained.

11. DURATION OF MATCHES

The duration of matches shall be 90 minutes, (45 minutes each way - with an interval not exceeding 15 minutes). If at the end of 90 minutes the scores are level, a penalty kick competition will take place as described in the Penalty Kick section, for all rounds up to and including the final.

12. REPORTING RESULTS

- (a) Both competing clubs MUST present a team sheet to the match referee and their opponents prior to the commencement of the match; this MUST include the names and initials of Players representing their Club; the number of the shirt that the player is to wear in the match MUST be written on the team sheet submitted next to the players name. After the match The Secretary of each Club shall send a copy of that team sheet to the association to include the match result and a mark of the match official's performance in the game (SEE APPENDIX A), so that it is received within four days of the match (Sundays not included). This shall be via post or via electronic copy, if the latter it shall be emailed to Countycupadmin@somersetfa.com Where clubs use electronic copy it should be a scanned version of the team sheet used. Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be subject to a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section and in default of payment shall also be ruled out of the Competition. The club in case will not be allowed to compete in a subsequent round of the competition until the team sheet from the previous round is received by the County Association 7 days prior to the match being played
- (b) A Referees marking out of 100, (a marking guide is provided in Appendix A at the rear of the book) should be inserted on the result sheet. Failure to do so will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section. Any mark of 60 or below MUST be accompanied by a letter explaining the mark. Failure to do so to lead to a fine of £15.
- (c) The home club shall input the result via FA match day app on the same day of the match, (in the event that the App is not working then the result must be emailed to countycupadmin@somersetfa.com on the same day of the match); failure to meet the provisions of this rule will see the club fined as listed in the Fees and Fines section (Appendix B)

13. TIME OF KICK-OFF

All matches shall kick-off at 10.45 am.

14. REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES

- (a) Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association. Where the appointed referee and (where appointed) assistant referees are under the age of 18, this will be communicated to the respective home

club in advance of the match by the Referee Appointment Officer. When the under 18 match official(s) arrive at the ground the home club shall get the match official(s) to sign in on the appropriate space on the team sheet and sign out on the appropriate space on the team sheet after the match when they leave. Failure to carry out this action will result in a fine of £10 against the offending club.

Where a club is informed that the match official(s) are under 18 separate changing/showering facilities from adult officials MUST be provided or if this cannot be arranged, separate changing and showering times from adults MUST be arranged

- (b) In all rounds prior to the Semi-final tie the competing Clubs MUST each provide a Club Assistant Referee.
- (c) In the Semi-final and Final ties, Assistant Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association.
- (d) It is the responsibility of the Home club to notify the Match Officials and their opponents of the location of their ground and the time of kick off 4 days prior to the match being played. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out under the fees and fines section.
- (e) If a match is postponed on arrival of the Referee, half the match fee must be paid by the home Club.
- (f) Both clubs shall provide a flag for use by their respective club assistant referees for all rounds where a neutral assistant is not appointed by the association.
- (g) The Match Referee shall retain the team sheet provided by both sides until the end of season for inspection by the Cups Committee if requested.
- (h) The AWAY club shall pay the Referee's fee, as stated in appendix B (Note this will not apply if the provisions of Rule 10 (d) and 14 (d) apply when the cost will be met by the home club). This may be either electronic payment or cash, as agreed with the match official. If the latter this shall take place in the dressing room 15 minutes prior to the kick off, or within 15 minutes of the completion of the game, whichever is the wish of the referee having ascertained the referees preference before the match. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out in the fees and fines section.

In the Semi Final ties the cost of the match official's fees shall be paid for by the home club who shall then be reimbursed this amount by the County Association, less any gate receipts taken by the home club. (please see provision of rule 16). This shall be claimed by the home club submitting an expenses sheet as supplied by the Association.

15. LATE STARTS

- (a) All late starts must be reported by the Referee
- (b) Clubs responsible for late starts shall be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

16. SHARING OF GATES

From the gate money taken at all matches prior to the Semi-Final tie, the home team shall pay all match expenses, excluding the travelling expenses of the visitors and bear any loss or retain any net proceeds. The visiting team shall pay their own expenses.

- (a) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to revise match expense charges which in their opinion are excessive.
- (b) In any match ordered to be replayed in consequence of a breach of Rule, the Club in default shall not receive any share of the proceeds of such replayed match without the consent of the County Cups Committee and such consent shall only be given under special circumstances. If consent is not given, the share shall be taken by the Association.

In semi-finals the gate receipts shall be used to pay the referee and assistant referee's fee, with the County Association paying the balance of any amount not so covered by the gate takings. The home club shall submit a receipt of their match takings.

17. ADMISSION CHARGE

Admission is to be charged at the discretion of the Home Club.

18. WITHDRAWAL OF CLUBS & FAILURE TO PLAY

- (a) Any Club withdrawing from the Competition after the draw has been made shall be fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary.
- (b) Any club failing to fulfil a fixture in any round prior to the Semi-Final ties, save for unfitness of ground, shall be ruled out of the competition and fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary. In the event that that a club fails to fulfil a tie in the semi-final or final tie the minimum fine shall be no less than (see below)

Any club with drawing under clause a or failing to fulfil a fixture under clause b, MUST inform the County Office, County Referees Appointment Officer, their opponents and appointed match official(s) of such. In the event that some or all of these parties are not informed and either match officials or opposing teams travel, then the Cups Committee shall reserve the right to award costs arising against the defaulting club as they see fit.

The Cups committee shall reserve the right to award any other costs arising from a cancelled match due to a club defaulting under clauses a and/or b

The **MINIMUM** fines that shall apply are as follows:

Withdraw £25

Failure to play £25

Failure to play semi-final and final £40

19. PROTESTS

All questions arising out of these Rules shall be dealt with by the County Cups and Ground Committee.

- (a) Any Club wishing to make a protest against the result of a match must do so within seven days of the match being played.
- (b) The protest must be in writing clearly stating the grounds upon which it is made and must be signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Club.
- (c) Two copies of the protest must be sent to the Chief Executive together with a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the protest is not upheld.
- (d) The defaulting Club may be called upon to pay the whole or part of the expenses of the meeting and the expenses of the other Club SEE ALSO MEMBERSHIP RULES 5 AND 6 RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION.

20. TROPHY: SAFE KEEPING AND RETURN

Trophy Agreement

When the winners of an Association Cup shall have been ascertained, the Chief Executive shall hand over the Cup to such winners on their subscribing to the following effect:

We the undersigned on behalf of (name of Club or League) having been declared winner and taken possession of the Somerset Football Association Ltd (Competition) Trophy, which we understand remains the property of the Somerset Football Association Ltd, do hereby jointly and severally, undertake to keep the said Trophy in safe custody.

Furthermore we agree to return the Trophy (and box) no later than 1 March in the ensuing year in good order. We also undertake to pay for any damage to the Trophy whilst in our care.

Signed Club/League Secretary

Signed Position

Any Club or League failing to comply with the above requirements will be fined, as set out in the Fees and Fines Section, in addition to the cost of any repair.

21. MEDALS

Sixteen medals or other mementos shall be awarded to the winners and runners-up of all Association Cup Competitions. (Unless the number of players on a starting team is less than 11, when the number shall be adjusted to the number of players in a starting team plus five substitutes). Competing clubs may request extra medals, this should be made in writing to the association; the cost of any such request for extra medals or mementos shall be met by the requesting club

22. SHIRT COLOURS

- (a) No player or goalkeeper shall be permitted to wear black or very dark coloured shirts.
- (b) *The home club shall inform the opposition of their kit colours to avoid a possible colour clash on the day, along with directions to the ground if required, no later than 3 days prior to the date of the match. Both teams shall provide their players with individually numbered shirts which must correspond to the numbers listed on the team sheet. In the event of a similarity of colours between two teams in a match the visiting team must change. Shorts and socks must be of different colours between teams. In the final tie the team drawn first shall be deemed the home club and shall have choice of colours in the event of a similarity of colours. Defaulting clubs shall be fined, as set out in Fees and Fines Section.*
- (c) 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 his shirt because of a blood injury.

23. DATES

All reserved County Cup dates are to be strictly adhered to. Failure to do so will mean disqualification from the Competition.

24. RULES

These Rules shall not be altered or rescinded save at the Annual General Meeting or special meeting of the Association of which fourteen days' notice shall be given.

FINES REFERRED TO IN THE RULES

Sunday Challenge Cup

Rule 4	£20.00
Rule 5(f)	£10.00
Rule 7	£25.00
Rule 10(a)	£25.00
Rule 10(d)	£10.00
Rule 10(e)	£10.00
Rule 12(a)	£15.00
Rule 12(b)	£10.00
Rule 12(c)	£10.00
Rule 14(d)	£10.00
Rule 14(h)	£10.00
Rule 15(b)	£10.00 - for first 15 minutes or part thereof and £5.00 - for each succeeding 5 minutes or part thereof
Rule 18(a)	£25.00 (Minimum)
(b)	£25.00 (Minimum)
	£40.00 (Minimum) Re: Semi Final & Final
Rule 20(c)	£25.00
Rule 21	£50.00
Rule 22(b)	£16.00

Referees Fees **£47 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Assistant Referees **£36 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Travel Expenses - Referees and Assistant Referees

N.B. The county mileage rate shall be decided by the Board of Directors at their discretion, from time to time. When this change may occur after the printing of this handbook the new rate shall apply in place of the one listed here. The new rate shall be communicated by the county office to all members as and when it occurs

MEN'S LEGENDS CUP COMPETITION (2008)
RULES

1. TITLE

The Cup shall be called 'The Somerset Football Association Ltd Men's Legends Cup' and shall be a perpetual trophy competed for annually by Clubs in membership of the Association and approved by the Council.

2. CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT

- (a) The County Cups Committee of the Association shall have the entire control and management of the Competition and shall have the power to disqualify, impose fines or other such penalties and may order the payment of costs and expenses against any competing Club, or the Players of any competing Club, in breach of any of the Rules of the Competition.
- (b) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall decide upon the interpretation of the Rules of the Competition, adjudicate upon any dispute, claim or protest and their decision shall be final and binding.
- (c) All Somerset FA Cup Competitions are to be played in accordance with the FA Respect Programme, to which all competing clubs must adhere.

3. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- (a) All teams must be members of an affiliated Legends (For the purposes of this competition the term "Legends" shall refer to Veterans or Over 35 teams) League and shall continue in membership of said league to continue participation in the competition. Any team withdrawing from membership of their league shall be expelled from the competition. All competing clubs MUST supply two mobile phone numbers for use with reporting results; these shall be supplied on the entry form. No entry will be accepted without numbers supplied.
- (b) No Club shall enter the Competition later than **21st July** in each year.
- (c) All clubs shall send the county association a colour photograph of their kit (and change strip if appropriate) before their entrance to the competition is accepted. In the event that their kit is changed during the duration of the competition they shall seek permission to do so from the association and submit a picture at that point. The picture may be in hard or soft copy
- (d) A club may enter more than one team in the competition pursuant with other entry criteria. All subsequent teams shall pay an additional entrance fee commensurate with the entrance fee. Where a club enters more than one team a player shall not play for more than one team within that club in the competition in any one season, see rule 5(c)

4. ENTRANCE FEE

Clubs or teams entering the Competition shall pay a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section in addition to the annual affiliation fee payable in respect of membership of the Association.

The holders from the previous season (if entered in the competition) shall receive free entry into the competition. This is not transferrable if the team enters a different competition in the subsequent season.

5. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

- (a) ***In all rounds of the Competition a Player must have been a registered member of their Club on the FA Player Registration system by the Friday before the date of the match. No player shall be eligible if registered after the dates reserved for the playing of semi-final ties.***
- (b) A registered member is one who is registered with a League in which the Club competes.
- (c) A Player shall not in the same Season play for more than one competing Club or team in the same club where his club enters more the one team in the competition.
- (d) In the case of a postponed or abandoned match, only those Players who were qualified to play on the original date fixed for the round shall be eligible to play in the re-arranged match.
- (e) Substitute(s): A Club may at its discretion and in accordance with the Laws of the Game use 5 substitute players in any match in this Competition who may be selected from 5 players who must be nominated on the team sheet prior to kick off. A player who has been substituted himself 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." Any substitute(s) who has/have not been used is/are entitled to play for another Club in the same Season if qualified under Clause (a) above.
- (f) Clubs must hand copies of a list of names of players taking part in the game (including names of nominated substitutes) to the Referee and a representative of their opponents, in the presence of the Referee, 30 minutes before commencement of the match. The home Club must supply two match balls. Any Club failing to carry out these provisions will be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

6. VALIDITY OF PLAYERS QUALIFICATIONS

If County Cups and Ground Committee have any doubt as to the qualification of any Player taking part in the Competition they shall have power to call upon such Players of the Club to which he belongs, or for which he played, to

prove that he is qualified according to the Rules and failing satisfactory proof the County Cups and Ground Committee may disqualify such Players and may remove the Club from the Competition and impose such other penalty as they may think fit.

7. **DISQUALIFICATION**

The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to disqualify any competing Club, or Player, or Players for any competing Club who may be proved guilty of any breach of the Rules of the Association and impose a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

8. **CONDUCT OF CLUBS**

All clubs shall be held responsible for the conduct of their Players, members and spectators and shall give every assistance to the rulings of the Referee whose decisions as to the state of the ground, laws of the game and interference of spectators shall be unquestioned save by the County Cups and Ground Committee of the Association. Subsequent to any action completed by the Disciplinary Committee, the Cups Committee shall decide on the eligibility of the club to enter county cup competitions in the following season

Temporary Dismissals (Sin Bins) will be in used in this competition where FA regulations determine that sanction for specified offences.

9. **THE DRAW**

- (a) The ties shall be drawn, the dates fixed and the matches played as the County Cups and Ground Committee may determine.
Requests for an exemption from playing on the reserved date (a "free day") will not be entertained.
- (b) In each tie the game shall be played on the ground of the Club first drawn, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon and the consent of the County Cups and Ground Committee obtained.
- (c) No Club shall receive a bye in two consecutive rounds.
- (d) No Club shall, unless unavoidable, receive more than one bye in the course of the Competition each Season but the County Cups and Ground Committee shall have power to give sufficient number of byes to ensure four clubs competing in the Semi-final ties.
- (e) In the event of Clubs sharing the same pitch the first drawn will have priority unless mutually agreed; the second Club to play the following week.
- (f) Where the number of teams in the preliminary or first round will result in a bye or byes being necessary, the holders from the previous season (if entered in the competition) shall receive a bye in that round. Any team receiving a bye in this scenario shall NOT be subject to clause (c) in the subsequent round and/or (d) as above. This is not transferrable if the team enters a different competition in the subsequent season.

10. **GROUNDS**

For the purpose of this rule where Ground is referenced this shall refer to the entire facility on which the playing pitch is situated and all of the pitches thereof, with the exception of Artificial Grass pitch facilities where it shall refer to the specific artificial grass surface. County Cup competition matches shall only take place on grounds where there are changing rooms for both sides, such changing rooms must have showers

- (a) If the ground of the Club having choice of ground is considered unsuitable, the opposing Club may Appeal to the County Cups and Ground Committee within three days of the receipt of the draw. Such Appeal must be accompanied by a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the Appeal is not upheld. The payment of expenses incidental to the Appeal shall be at the discretion of the County Cups and Ground Committee.
- (b) Each Club must take every precaution to keep its ground in a playing condition and if necessary the home or visiting Club may apply to the Association Secretary to instruct the Referee or some other suitable person to examine the ground as to its fitness for play, in sufficient time to save expenses being incurred for unnecessary journeys.
- (c) The grounds on which the Final tie is to be played shall be chosen by the County Cups and Ground Committee. In the Final tie the Referee shall, if requested by the Association Secretary, visit the ground three hours before the time of kick-off.
- (d) The appointed referee shall be the sole judge as to the fitness of the ground in all matches but when adverse weather conditions prevail on the day before or on the morning of the match, the Home Club is empowered to call in a Local Referee, Level 7 or higher (who must be over 18 years of age) who shall be independent of the home club, who shall have the power to postpone the match and must submit a written report to the Association Secretary. The Home Club to notify the Referee's Officer, Opponents and Match Officials of the postponement. Clubs MUST phone the match official(s) and leave a message informing them of the cancellation. Failure to do so shall result in a fine of £10 along with other sanctions as proscribed later in this rule. Clubs failing to notify will be fined as set out in the Fees and Fines section. If after the arrival of the visiting team the Referee declares the ground unfit for play, the County Cups Committee may order the home Club to pay such part of the expenses of

the visiting club as they may consider fair, and half the match fee must be paid by the home Club, to the Referee. If the match is cancelled, for any reason, (other than unfitness of ground) but the club fails to inform their opponents and/or match official(s) causing them to travel to the game, then the home team SHALL pay the match official(s) their FULL match fee the visiting team travelling expenses as deemed appropriate by the Cups Committee along with any other expenses the Cups Committee deem appropriate. In the event that this tie is a semi-final then the team shall NOT be eligible to claim the match official's expenses from the County FA as outlined in Rule 14. Where a club plays on a ground owned by a third party and that party makes a decision to cancel the match the home club must provide written confirmation from their landlord of the decision to cancel said match to the county office within 5 working days of the match. Failure to do so may see the club excluded from the competition.

- (e) If a match has to be postponed for either of the reasons in paragraph (e) above, it shall be played the weekend following unless advised otherwise by the County Cups Committee. The match shall have the same referee as appointed to the original date unless otherwise advised by the Referees Appointment Officer. Where a match has been postponed for two weeks the side drawn at home shall consider finding an alternate ground or reversing the fixture for the third week if there is a possibility that their ground may not be fit to host the game for the third week if (they have not already done so in the initial two weeks). In the event a match is abandoned for any reason, save for incidents when the abandonment was due to disciplinary issues, the match shall be played the following week unless otherwise specified by the Cups Committee.
- (f) The home Club must notify their opponents of ground location. Failure to comply will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) Separate accommodation is preferred for Match Officials.
- (h) The use of third generation (3g) artificial grass pitches will be allowed for use in the competition. To be eligible the pitch must be on the FA register of approved 3g surfaces register. The home must club must provide a list of acceptable footwear for use on the pitch to their opposition and appointed referee no less than 5 days prior to the date of the tie (unless a shorter period is mutually acceptable to both parties). The home team shall be liable for ALL costs (excluding opposition expenses) arising from the hire for use of such a pitch. The use of any other artificial pitch other than a 3g (artificial grass) will NOT be entertained.

11. DURATION OF MATCHES

The duration of matches shall be 80 minutes, (40 minutes each way - with an interval not exceeding 15 minutes). If at the end of 80 minutes the scores are level, a penalty kick competition will take place as described in the Penalty Kick section, for all rounds up to and including the final.

12. REPORTING RESULTS

- (a) Both competing clubs MUST present a team sheet to the match referee and their opponents prior to the commencement of the match; this MUST include the names and initials of Players representing their Club; the number of the shirt that the player is to wear in the match MUST be written on the team sheet submitted next to the players name. After the match The Secretary of each Club shall send a copy of that team sheet to the association to include the match result and a mark of the match official's performance in the game (SEE APPENDIX A), so that it is received within four days of the match (Sundays not included). This shall be via post or via electronic copy, if the latter it shall be emailed to Countycupadmin@somersetfa.com Where clubs use electronic copy it should be a scanned version of the team sheet used. Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be subject to a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section and in default of payment shall also be ruled out of the Competition. The club in case will not be allowed to compete in a subsequent round of the competition until the team sheet from the previous round is received by the County Association 7 days prior to the match being played
- (b) A Referees marking out of 100, (a marking guide is provided in Appendix A at the rear of the book) should be inserted on the result sheet. Failure to do so will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section. Any mark of 60 or below MUST be accompanied by a letter explaining the mark. Failure to do so to lead to a fine of £15.
- (c) The home club shall input the result via FA match day app on the same day of the match, (in the event that the App is not working then the result must be emailed to countycupadmin@somersetfa.com on the same day of the match); failure to meet the provisions of this rule will see the club fined as listed in the Fees and Fines section (Appendix B)

13. TIME OF KICK-OFF

All matches shall kick-off at **11.00 am**.

14. REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES

- (a) Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association. Where the appointed referee and

(where appointed) assistant referees are under the age of 18, this will be communicated to the respective home club in advance of the match by the Referee Appointment Officer. When the under 18 match official(s) arrive at the ground the home club shall get the match official(s) to sign in on the appropriate space on the team sheet and sign out on the appropriate space on the team sheet after the match when they leave. Failure to carry out this action will result in a fine of £10 against the offending club.

Where a club is informed that the match official(s) are under 18 separate changing/showering facilities from adult officials MUST be provided or if this cannot be arranged, separate changing and showering times from adults MUST be arranged

- (b) In all rounds prior to the Semi-final tie the competing Clubs MUST each provide a Club Assistant Referee.
- (c) In the Semi-final and Final ties, Assistant Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association.
- (d) It is the responsibility of the Home club to notify the Match Officials and their opponents of the location of their ground and the time of kick off 4 days prior to the match being played. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out under the fees and fines section.
- (e) If a match is postponed on arrival of the Referee, half the match fee must be paid by the home Club.
- (f) Both clubs shall provide a flag for use by their respective club assistant referees for all rounds where a neutral assistant is not appointed by the association.
- (g) The Match Referee shall retain the team sheet provided by both sides until the end of season for inspection by the Cups Committee if requested.
- (h) The **AWAY** club shall pay the Referee's fee, as stated in appendix B (Note this will not apply if the provisions of Rule 10 (d) and 14 (d) apply when the cost will be met by the home club). This may be either electronic payment or cash, as agreed with the match official. If the latter this shall take place in the dressing room 15 minutes prior the kick off, or within 15 minutes of the completion of the game, whichever is the wish of the referee having ascertained the referees preference before the match. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out in the fees and fines section.

In the Semi Final ties the cost of the match official's fees shall be paid for by the home club who shall then be reimbursed this amount by the County Association, less any gate receipts taken by the home club. (please see provision of rule 16). This shall be claimed by the home club submitting an expenses sheet as supplied by the Association.

15. **LATE STARTS**

- (a) All late starts must be reported by the Referee
- (b) Clubs responsible for late starts shall be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

16. **SHARING OF GATES**

From the gate money taken at all matches prior to the Semi-Final tie, the home team shall pay all match expenses, excluding the travelling expenses of the visitors and bear any loss or retain any net proceeds. The visiting team shall pay their own expenses.

- (a) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to revise match expense charges which in their opinion are excessive.
- (b) In any match ordered to be replayed in consequence of a breach of Rule, the Club in default shall not receive any share of the proceeds of such replayed match without the consent of the County Cups Committee and such consent shall only be given under special circumstances. If consent is not given, the share shall be taken by the Association.

In semi-finals the gate receipts shall be used to pay the referee and assistant referee's fee, with the County Association paying the balance of any amount not so covered by the gate takings. The home club shall submit a receipt of their match takings.

17. **ADMISSION CHARGE**

Admission is to be charged at the discretion of the Home Club.

18. **WITHDRAWAL OF CLUBS & FAILURE TO PLAY**

- (a) Any Club withdrawing from the Competition after the draw has been made shall be fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary.
- (b) Any club failing to fulfil a fixture in any round prior to the Semi-Final ties, save for unfitness of ground, shall be ruled out of the competition and fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary. In the

event that that a club fails to fulfil a tie in the semi-final or final tie the minimum fine shall be no less than (see below)

Any club with drawing under clause a or failing to fulfil a fixture under clause b, MUST inform the County Office, County Referees Appointment Officer, their opponents and appointed match official(s) of such. In the event that some or all of these parties are not informed and either match officials or opposing teams travel, then the Cups Committee shall reserve the right to award costs arising against the defaulting club as they see fit.

The Cups committee shall reserve the right to award any other costs arising from a cancelled match due to a club defaulting under clauses a and/or b

The **MINIMUM** fines that shall apply are as follows:

Withdraw £25 Failure to play £25 Failure to play semi-final and final £40

19. PROTESTS

All questions arising out of these Rules shall be dealt with by the County Cups and Ground Committee.

- (a) Any Club wishing to make a protest against the result of a match must do so within seven days of the match being played.
- (b) The protest must be in writing clearly stating the grounds upon which it is made and must be signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Club.
- (c) Two copies of the protest must be sent to the Chief Executive together with a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the protest is not upheld.
- (d) The defaulting Club may be called upon to pay the whole or part of the expenses of the meeting and the expenses of the other Club SEE ALSO MEMBERSHIP RULES 5 AND 6 RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION.

20. TROPHY: SAFE KEEPING AND RETURN

Trophy Agreement

When the winners of an Association Cup shall have been ascertained, the Chief Executive shall hand over the Cup to such winners on their subscribing to the following effect:

We the undersigned on behalf of (name of Club or League) having been declared winner and taken possession of the Somerset Football Association Ltd (Competition) Trophy, which we understand remains the property of the Somerset Football Association Ltd, do hereby jointly and severally, undertake to keep the said Trophy in safe custody.

Furthermore we agree to return the Trophy (and box) no later than 1 March in the ensuing year in good order. We also undertake to pay for any damage to the Trophy whilst in our care.

Signed Club/League Secretary

Signed Position

Any Club or League failing to comply with the above requirements will be fined, as set out in the Fees and Fines Section, in addition to the cost of any repair.

21. MEDALS

Sixteen medals or other mementos shall be awarded to the winners and runners-up of all Association Cup Competitions. (Unless the number of players on a starting team is less than 11, when the number shall be adjusted to the number of players in a starting team plus five substitutes). Competing clubs may request extra medals, this should be made in writing to the association; the cost of any such request for extra medals or mementos shall be met by the requesting club

22. SHIRT COLOURS

- (a) No player or goalkeeper shall be permitted to wear black or very dark coloured shirts.
- (b) *The home club shall inform the opposition of their kit colours to avoid a possible colour clash on the day, along with directions to the ground if required, no later than 3 days prior to the date of the match. Both teams shall provide their players with individually numbered shirts which must correspond to the numbers listed on the team sheet. In the event of a similarity of colours between two teams in a match the visiting team must change. Shorts and socks must be of different colours between teams. In the final tie the team drawn first shall be deemed the home club and shall have choice of colours in the event of a similarity of colours. Defaulting clubs shall be fined, as set out in Fees and Fines Section.*
- (c) 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 his shirt because of a blood injury.

23. DATES

All reserved County Cup dates are to be strictly adhered to. Failure to do so will mean disqualification from the Competition.

24. RULES

These Rules shall not be altered or rescinded save at the Annual General Meeting or special meeting of the Association

of which fourteen days' notice shall be given.

FINES REFERRED TO IN THE RULES

Legends Cup

Rule 4	£20.00
Rule 5(f)	£10.00
Rule 7	£25.00
Rule 10(a)	£25.00
Rule 10(d)	£10.00
Rule 10(e)	£10.00
Rule 12(a)	£15.00
Rule 12(b)	£10.00
Rule 12(c)	£10.00
Rule 14(d)	£10.00
Rule 14(h)	£10.00
Rule 15(b)	£10.00 - for first 15 minutes or part thereof and £5.00 - for each succeeding 5 minutes or part thereof
Rule 18(a)	£25.00 (Minimum)
(b)	£25.00 (Minimum)
	£40.00 (Minimum) Re: Semi Final & Final
Rule 20(c)	£25.00
Rule 21	£50.00
Rule 22(b)	£16.00

Referees Fees **£44 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Assistant Referees **£33 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Travel Expenses - Referees and Assistant Referees

N.B. The county mileage rate shall be decided by the Board of Directors at their discretion, from time to time. When this change may occur after the printing of this handbook the new rate shall apply in place of the one listed here. The new rate shall be communicated by the county office to all members as and when it occurs

BOYS UNDER 18 CUP COMPETITION (2023)
RULES

1. TITLE

The Trophy shall be called 'The Somerset Football Association Boys' Under 18 Cup Competition' and shall be a perpetual trophy competed for annually by Youth Clubs and teams who are affiliated to the Association.

2. CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT

- (a) The County Cups and Ground Committee of the Association shall have the entire control and management of the Competition and shall have the power to disqualify, impose fines or other such penalties and may order the payment of costs and expenses against any competing Club, or the players of any competing Club, in breach of any of the Rules of the Competition.
- (b) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall decide upon the interpretation of the Rules of the Competition, adjudicate upon any dispute, claim or protest and their decision shall be final and binding.
- (c) All matches shall be played on Sundays, unless mutually agreed in line with the provisions of Rule 13.
- (d) All Somerset FA Cup Competitions are to be played in accordance with the FA Respect Programme, to which all competing clubs must adhere.

3. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

No Club shall enter the Competition after **21st July** in each playing season. All competing clubs MUST supply two mobile phone numbers for use with reporting results; these shall be supplied on the entry form. No entry will be accepted without numbers supplied.

- (a) All clubs shall send the county association a colour photograph of their kit (and change strip if appropriate) before their entrance to the competition is accepted. In the event that their kit is changed during the duration of the competition they shall seek permission to do so from the association and submit a picture at that point. The picture may be in hard or soft copy
- (b) A club may enter more than one team in the competition if they have multiple teams at this age group. All subsequent teams shall pay an additional entrance fee commensurate with the entrance fee. Where a club enters more than one team a player shall not play for more than one team within that club in the competition in any one season, see rule 5(c)

4. ENTRANCE FEE

Clubs or teams entering the Competition shall pay a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section in addition to the annual affiliation fee payable in respect of membership of the Association.

5. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

- (a) ***In all rounds of the Competition a Player must have been a registered member of their Club on the FA Player Registration system by the Friday before the date of the match. No player shall be eligible if registered after the dates reserved for the playing of semi-final ties.***
- (b) A registered member is one who is registered with a League in which the Club competes.
- (c) A Player shall not in the same Season play for more than one competing Club or team in the same club where his or her club enters more the one team in the competition.
- (d) In the case of a postponed or abandoned match, only those Players who were qualified to play on the original date fixed for the round shall be eligible to play in the re-arranged match.
- (e) Substitute(s): A player who has been substituted during a match himself becomes a substitute and may in turn, replace another player at any time subject to the substitution being carried out in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of Association Football. Up to a maximum of SEVEN may be nominated all of whom may be used repeatedly within the substitute process.
- (f) Clubs must hand copies of a list of names of players taking part in the game (including names of nominated substitutes) to the Referee and a representative of their opponents, in the presence of the Referee, 30 minutes before commencement of the match. The home Club must supply two match balls. Any Club failing to carry out these provisions will be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) The only Players who are eligible to take part are those that have not reached the age of 18 years and aged at least 15 as at midnight on 31st August of the current season.
- (h) A Player's date of birth must be inserted on his Registration Form and his Birth Certificate must be verified by his Club's Secretary and be produced whenever requested by the Cups Committee.

6. VALIDITY OF PLAYERS QUALIFICATIONS

If County Cups and Ground Committee have any doubt as to the qualification of any Player taking part in the Competition they shall have power to call upon such Players of the Club to which he belongs, or for which he played, to prove that he is qualified according to the Rules and failing satisfactory proof the County Cups and Ground Committee may disqualify such Players and may remove the Club from the Competition and impose such other penalty as they

may think fit.

7. DISQUALIFICATION

The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to disqualify any competing Club, or Player, or Players for any competing Club who may be proved guilty of any breach of the Rules of the Association and impose a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

8. CONDUCT OF CLUBS

All clubs shall be held responsible for the conduct of their Players, members and spectators and shall give every assistance to the rulings of the Referee whose decisions as to the state of the ground, laws of the game and interference of spectators shall be unquestioned save by the County Cups and Ground Committee of the Association. Subsequent to any action completed by the Disciplinary Committee, the Cups Committee shall decide on the eligibility of the club to enter county cup competitions in the following season

Temporary Dismissals (Sin Bins) will be in used in this competition where FA regulations determine that sanction for specified offences.

9. THE DRAW

- (a) The ties shall be drawn, the dates fixed and the matches played as the County Cups and Ground Committee may determine.
Requests for an exemption from playing on the reserved date (a "free day") will not be entertained, save in youth competitions under the provisions of rule 18(c).
- (b) In each tie the game shall be played on the ground of the Club first drawn, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon and the consent of the County Cups and Ground Committee obtained.
- (c) No Club shall receive a bye in two consecutive rounds.
- (d) No Club shall, unless unavoidable, receive more than one bye in the course of the Competition each Season but the County Cups and Ground Committee shall have power to give sufficient number of byes to ensure four clubs competing in the Semi-final ties.
- (e) In the event of Clubs sharing the same pitch the first drawn will have priority unless mutually agreed; the second Club to play the following week.

10. GROUNDS

For the purpose of this rule where Ground is referenced this shall refer to the entire facility on which the playing pitch is situated and all of the pitches thereof, with the exception of Artificial Grass pitch facilities where it shall refer to the specific artificial grass surface. County Cup competition matches shall only take place on grounds where there are changing rooms for both sides, such changing rooms must have showers

- (a) If the ground of the Club having choice of ground is considered unsuitable, the opposing Club may Appeal to the County Cups and Ground Committee within three days of the receipt of the draw. Such Appeal must be accompanied by a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the Appeal is not upheld. The payment of expenses incidental to the Appeal shall be at the discretion of the County Cups and Ground Committee.
- (b) Each Club must take every precaution to keep its ground in a playing condition and if necessary, the home or visiting Club may apply to the Association Secretary to instruct the Referee or some other suitable person to examine the ground as to its fitness for play, in sufficient time to save expenses being incurred for unnecessary journeys. Pitches must have Respect barriers or lines; these must be on the opposite side to the technical area. Where it is not possible to site the respect barrier opposite the technical area agreement to move to Respect line to the same as the technical area must be obtained from the County FA in writing (email will suffice)
- (c) The grounds on which the Final tie is to be played shall be chosen by the County Cups and Ground Committee. In the Final tie the Referee shall, if requested by the Association Secretary, visit the ground three hours before the time of kick-off.
- (d) The appointed referee shall be the sole judge as to the fitness of the ground in all matches but when adverse weather conditions prevail on the day before or on the morning of the match, the Home Club is empowered to call in a Local Referee, Level 7 or higher (who must be over 18 years of age) who shall be independent of the home club, who shall have the power to postpone the match and must submit a written report to the Association Secretary. The Home Club to notify the Referee's Officer, Opponents and Match Officials of the postponement. Clubs MUST phone the match official(s) and leave a message informing them of the cancellation. Failure to do so shall result in a fine of £10 along with other sanctions as proscribed later in this rule. Clubs failing to notify will be fined as set out in the Fees and Fines section. If after the arrival of the visiting team the Referee declares the ground unfit for play, the County Cups Committee may order the home Club to pay such part of the expenses of the visiting club as they may consider fair, and half the match fee must be paid by the home Club, to the Referee. If the match is cancelled, for any reason, (other than unfitness of ground) but the club fails to inform their opponents and/or match official(s) causing them to travel to the game, then the home team SHALL pay the

match official(s) their FULL match fee the visiting team travelling expenses as deemed appropriate by the Cups Committee along with any other expenses the Cups Committee deem appropriate. In the event that this tie is a semi-final then the team shall NOT be eligible to claim the match official's expenses from the County FA as outlined in Rule 14. Where a club plays on a ground owned by a third party and that party makes a decision to cancel the match the home club must provide written confirmation from their landlord of the decision to cancel said match to the county office within 5 working days of the match. Failure to do so may see the club excluded from the competition.

- (e) If a match has to be postponed for either of the reasons in paragraph (d) above, or is abandoned for any reason, save for incidents when the abandonment was due to disciplinary issues, it shall be played the weekend following unless advised otherwise by the County Cups Committee. The match shall have the same referee as appointed to the original date unless otherwise advised by the Referees Appointment Officer. Should the rearranged date for either a postponed or abandoned match as defined above fall within the school holiday period for one or both competing teams, if either of the clubs have players on holiday during the school holiday period then they must inform the county association immediately and they will be allowed to postpone the game. Clubs doing so MUST inform their opponents, the County Referees Appointment Officer and, where appointed, their match referees (and assistants if applicable). A Club requesting such a postponement shall not be available to play any other fixture of lower precedence on that date. In this scenario the match will be played in the first weekend of the next school term. Where school term periods are not concurrent between different education authorities and clubs are from separate authorities, a club will be allowed to postpone if they have players on holiday in a school holiday period even if their opponents have finished their holiday period. Where school term times are not concurrent the default date shall be the first weekend when both clubs are in term time. Where a match has been postponed for two weeks the side drawn at home shall consider finding an alternate ground or reversing the fixture for the third week if there is a possibility that their ground may not be fit to host the game for the third week if (they have not already done so in the initial two weeks).
- (f) The home Club must notify their opponents of ground location. Failure to comply will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) Separate accommodation MUST be provided for Match Officials.
- (h) The use of third generation (3g) artificial grass pitches will be allowed for use in the competition. To be eligible the pitch must be on the FA register of approved 3g surfaces register. The home must club must provide a list of acceptable footwear for use on the pitch to their opposition and appointed referee no less than 5 days prior to the date of the tie (unless a shorter period is mutually acceptable to both parties). The home team shall be liable for ALL costs (excluding opposition expenses) arising from the hire for use of such a pitch. The use of any other artificial pitch other than a 3g (artificial grass) will NOT be entertained.

11. DURATION OF MATCHES

The duration of each match shall be 90 minutes. If at the end of the match the scores are level, then Kicks from the Penalty Mark will take place as described in the Penalty Kicks Section.

If, at any time during the match, the difference in goals scored between the two sides reaches 10 goals, the match will end and be deemed properly completed with the match result as of that time; the team leading by 10 goals shall be the winners and advance into the next round.

(N.B. If there is sufficient time remaining at the end of the match in the above circumstances, the two teams may, at their discretion, play a friendly match lasting the duration of the remaining minutes. In such cases this shall have NO bearing on the result of the match)

12. REPORTING RESULTS

- (a) Both competing clubs MUST present a team sheet to the match referee and their opponents prior to the commencement of the match; this MUST include the names and initials of Players representing their Club; the number of the shirt that the player is to wear in the match MUST be written on the team sheet submitted next to the players name. After the match The Secretary of each Club shall send a copy of that team sheet to the association to include the match result and a mark of the match official's performance in the game (SEE APPENDIX A), so that it is received within four days of the match (Sundays not included). This shall be via post or via electronic copy, if the latter it shall be emailed to Countycupadmin@somersetfa.com Where clubs use electronic copy it should be a scanned version of the team sheet used. Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be subject to a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section and in default of payment shall also be ruled out of the Competition. The club in case will not be allowed to compete in a subsequent round of the competition until the team sheet from the previous round is received by the County Association 7 days prior to the match being played.
- (b) A Referees marking out of 100, (a marking guide is provided in Appendix A at the rear of the book) should be inserted on the result sheet. Failure to do so will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines

Section. Any mark of 60 or below MUST be accompanied by a letter explaining the mark. Failure to do so to lead to a fine of £15.

- (c) The home club shall input the result via FA match day app on the same day of the match, (in the event that the App is not working then the result must be emailed to countycupadmin@somersetfa.com on the same day of the match); failure to meet the provisions of this rule will see the club fined as listed in the Fees and Fines section (Appendix B)

13. TIME OF KICK-OFF

All matches shall kick off at 14.00 on a Sunday or 19.30 if played midweek. (In the event no agreement to play midweek between the two teams is reached, then the Sunday date/kick off shall be the default position) However, the kick-off time may be altered if both teams, the County FA, and the Referee's Appointment Officer agree and are notified within 7 days of the draw being made or prior to the match. If an agreement cannot be reached, the default time will remain

14. REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES

- (a) Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association. Where the appointed referee and (where appointed) assistant referees are under the age of 18, this will be communicated to the respective home club in advance of the match by the Referee Appointment Officer. When the under 18 match official(s) arrive at the ground the home club shall get the match official(s) to sign in on the appropriate space on the team sheet and sign out on the appropriate space on the team sheet after the match when they leave. Failure to carry out this action will result in a fine of £10 against the offending club.
Where a club is informed that the match official(s) are under 18 separate changing/showering facilities from adult officials MUST be provided or if this cannot be arranged, separate changing and showering times from adults MUST be arranged
- (b) In all rounds prior to the Semi-final tie the competing Clubs MUST each provide a Club Assistant Referee.
- (c) In the Semi-final and Final ties, Assistant Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association.
- (d) It is the responsibility of the Home club to notify the Match Officials and their opponents of the location of their ground and the time of kick off 4 days prior to the match being played. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out under the fees and fines section.
- (e) If a match is postponed on arrival of the Referee, half the match fee must be paid by the home Club.
- (f) Both clubs shall provide a flag for use by their respective club assistant referees for all rounds where a neutral assistant is not appointed by the association.
- (g) The Match Referee shall retain the team sheet provided by both sides until the end of season for inspection by the Cups Committee if requested.
- (h) The AWAY club shall pay the Referee's fee, as stated in appendix B (Note this will not apply if the provisions of Rule 10 (d) and 14 (d) apply when the cost will be met by the home club). This may be either electronic payment or cash, as agreed with the match official. If the latter this shall take place in the dressing room 15 minutes prior the kick off, or within 15 minutes of the completion of the game, whichever is the wish of the referee having ascertained the referees preference before the match. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out in the fees and fines section.

In the Semi Final ties the cost of the match official's fees shall be paid for by the home club who shall then be reimbursed this amount by the County Association, less any gate receipts taken by the home club. (please see provision of rule 16). This shall be claimed by the home club submitting an expenses sheet as supplied by the Association.

15. LATE STARTS

- (a) All late starts must be reported by the Referee
- (b) Clubs responsible for late starts shall be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

16. SHARING OF GATES

From the gate money taken at all matches prior to the Semi-Final tie, the home team shall pay all match expenses, excluding the travelling expenses of the visitors and bear any loss or retain any net proceeds. The visiting team shall pay their own expenses.

- (a) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to revise match expense charges which in their opinion are excessive.
- (b) In any match ordered to be replayed in consequence of a breach of Rule, the Club in default shall not receive any share of the proceeds of such replayed match without the consent of the County Cups Committee and such consent shall only be given under special circumstances. If consent is not given, the share shall be taken by the Association.

In semi-finals the gate receipts shall be used to pay the referee and assistant referee's fee, with the County Association

paying the balance of any amount not so covered by the gate takings. The home club shall submit a receipt of their match takings.

17. ADMISSION CHARGE

Admission is to be charged at the discretion of the Home Club.

18. WITHDRAWAL OF CLUBS & FAILURE TO PLAY

- (a) Any Club withdrawing from the Competition after the draw has been made shall be fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary.
- (b) Any club failing to fulfil a fixture in any round prior to the Semi-Final ties, save for unfitness of ground, shall be ruled out of the competition and fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary. In the event that that a club fails to fulfil a tie in the semi-final or final tie the minimum fine shall be no less than (see below)

Any club with drawing under clause a or failing to fulfil a fixture under clause b, MUST inform the County Office, County Referees Appointment Officer, their opponents and appointed match official(s) of such. In the event that some or all of these parties are not informed and either match officials or opposing teams travel, then the Cups Committee shall reserve the right to award costs arising against the defaulting club as they see fit.

The Cups committee shall reserve the right to award any other costs arising from a cancelled match due to a club defaulting under clauses a and/or b

The MINIMUM fines that shall apply are as follows:

Withdraw £20 Failure to play £20 Failure to play semi-final and final £30

- (c) Clubs may request a postponement of a match in writing, only where three or more players are engaged in an educational activity. Said request to be accompanied by a letter on headed paper from the school where the activity is taking place outlining both the activity and listing the names of those involved; this to be duly signed by a member of the schools staff. A request for such a postponement must be submitted to the County Office at least SEVEN days prior to the reserved date of the tie or the request will not be entertained.

19. PROTESTS

All questions arising out of these Rules shall be dealt with by the County Cups and Ground Committee.

- (a) Any Club wishing to make a protest against the result of a match must do so within seven days of the match being played.
- (b) The protest must be in writing clearly stating the grounds upon which it is made and must be signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Club.
- (c) Two copies of the protest must be sent to the Chief Executive together with a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the protest is not upheld.
- (d) The defaulting Club may be called upon to pay the whole or part of the expenses of the meeting and the expenses of the other Club SEE ALSO MEMBERSHIP RULES 5 AND 6 RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION.

20. TROPHY: SAFE KEEPING AND RETURN

Trophy Agreement

When the winners of an Association Cup shall have been ascertained, the Chief Executive shall hand over the Cup to such winners on their subscribing to the following effect:

We the undersigned on behalf of (name of Club or League) having been declared winner and taken possession of the Somerset Football Association Ltd (Competition) Trophy, which we understand remains the property of the Somerset Football Association Ltd, do hereby jointly and severally, undertake to keep the said Trophy in safe custody.

Furthermore, we agree to return the Trophy no later than 1 March in the ensuing year in good order. We also undertake to pay for any damage to the Trophy whilst in our care.

Signed Club/League Secretary

Signed Position

Any Club or League failing to comply with the above requirements will be fined, as set out in the Fees and Fines Section, in addition to the cost of any repair.

21. MEDALS

Eighteen medals or other mementos shall be awarded to the winners and runners-up of all Association Cup Competitions. (Unless the number of players on a starting team is less than 11, when the number shall be adjusted to the number of players in a starting team plus five substitutes). Competing clubs may request extra medals, this should be made in writing to the association; the cost of any such request for extra medals or mementos shall be met by the



requesting club

22. SHIRT COLOURS

- (a) No player or goalkeeper shall be permitted to wear black or very dark coloured shirts.
- (b) The home club shall inform the opposition of their kit colours to avoid a possible colour clash on the day, along with directions to the ground if required, no later than 3 days prior to the date of the match. Both teams shall provide their players with individually numbered shirts which must correspond to the numbers listed on the team sheet. In the event of a similarity of colours between two teams in a match the visiting team must change. Shorts and socks must be of different colours between teams. In the final tie the team drawn first shall be deemed the home club and shall have choice of colours in the event of a similarity of colours. Defaulting clubs shall be fined, as set out in Fees and Fines Section.
- (c) 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 his shirt because of a blood injury.

23. DATES

All reserved County Cup dates are to be strictly adhered to. Failure to do so will mean disqualification from the Competition.

24. RULES

These Rules shall not be altered or rescinded save at the Annual General Meeting or special meeting of the Association of which fourteen days' notice shall be given

25. MATCH BALL

A size 5 ball must be used in all matches played in this Competition.

FINES REFERRED TO IN THE RULES

Youth Shield Competition

Rule 4	£10.00
Rule 5(f)	£10.00
Rule 7	£15.00
Rule 10(a)	£25.00
Rule 10(d)	£10.00
Rule 10(e)	£10.00
Rule 12(a)	£15.00
Rule 12(b)	£10.00
Rule 12(c)	£10.00
Rule 14(d)	£10.00
Rule 14(h)	£10.00
Rule 15(b)	£10.00 - for first 15 minutes or part thereof and £5.00 - for each succeeding 5 minutes or part thereof
Rule 18(a)	£20.00 (Minimum)
(b)	£20.00 (Minimum)
	£30.00 (Minimum) Re: Semi Final & Final
Rule 20(c)	£25.00
Rule 21	£50.00
Rule 22(b)	£16.00

Referees Fees **£47 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Assistant Referees **£36 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Travel Expenses - Referees and Assistant Referees

N.B. The county mileage rate shall be decided by the Board of Directors at their discretion, from time to time. When this change may occur after the printing of this handbook the new rate shall apply in place of the one listed here. The new rate shall be communicated by the county office to all members as and when it occurs

BOYS YOUTH SHIELD COMPETITION (1930)
RULES

1. TITLE

The Trophy shall be called 'The Somerset Football Association Boys Youth Shield' and shall be a perpetual trophy competed for annually by Youth Clubs and teams who are affiliated to the Association.

2. CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT

- (a) The County Cups and Ground Committee of the Association shall have the entire control and management of the Competition and shall have the power to disqualify, impose fines or other such penalties and may order the payment of costs and expenses against any competing Club, or the players of any competing Club, in breach of any of the Rules of the Competition.
- (b) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall decide upon the interpretation of the Rules of the Competition, adjudicate upon any dispute, claim or protest and their decision shall be final and binding.
- (c) All matches shall be played on Sundays.
- (d) All Somerset FA Cup Competitions are to be played in accordance with the FA Respect Programme, to which all competing clubs must adhere.

3. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

No Club shall enter the Competition after **21st July** in each playing season. All competing clubs MUST supply two mobile phone numbers for use with reporting results; these shall be supplied on the entry form. No entry will be accepted without numbers supplied.

- (a) All clubs shall send the county association a colour photograph of their kit (and change strip if appropriate) before their entrance to the competition is accepted. In the event that their kit is changed during the duration of the competition they shall seek permission to do so from the association and submit a picture at that point. The picture may be in hard or soft copy
- (b) A club may enter more than one team in the competition if they have multiple teams at this age group. All subsequent teams shall pay an additional entrance fee commensurate with the entrance fee. Where a club enters more than one team a player shall not play for more than one team within that club in the competition in any one season, see rule 5(c)
- (c) Any under 16 TEAM entering this competition shall not be permitted to enter the Under 18 Cup in the same playing season.

4. ENTRANCE FEE

Clubs or teams entering the Competition shall pay a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section in addition to the annual affiliation fee payable in respect of membership of the Association.

5. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

- (a) ***In all rounds of the Competition a Player must have been a registered member of their Club on the FA Player Registration system by the Friday before the date of the match. No player shall be eligible if registered after the dates reserved for the playing of semi-final ties.***
- (b) A registered member is one who is registered with a League in which the Club competes.
- (c) A Player shall not in the same Season play for more than one competing Club or team in the same club where his or her club enters more the one team in the competition.
- (d) In the case of a postponed or abandoned match, only those Players who were qualified to play on the original date fixed for the round shall be eligible to play in the re-arranged match.
- (e) Substitute(s): A player who has been substituted during a match himself becomes a substitute and may in turn, replace another player at any time subject to the substitution being carried out in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of Association Football. Up to a maximum of SEVEN may be nominated all of whom may be used repeatedly within the substitute process.
- (f) Clubs must hand copies of a list of names of players taking part in the game (including names of nominated substitutes) to the Referee and a representative of their opponents, in the presence of the Referee, 30 minutes before commencement of the match. The home Club must supply two match balls. Any Club failing to carry out these provisions will be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) The only Players who are eligible to take part are those that have not reached the age of 16 years as at midnight on 31st August of the current season.
- (h) A Player's date of birth must be inserted on his Registration Form and his Birth Certificate must be verified by his Club's Secretary and be produced whenever requested by the Cups Committee.

6. VALIDITY OF PLAYERS QUALIFICATIONS

If County Cups and Ground Committee have any doubt as to the qualification of any Player taking part in the Competition they shall have power to call upon such Players of the Club to which he belongs, or for which he played, to

prove that he is qualified according to the Rules and failing satisfactory proof the County Cups and Ground Committee may disqualify such Players and may remove the Club from the Competition and impose such other penalty as they may think fit.

7. **DISQUALIFICATION**

The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to disqualify any competing Club, or Player, or Players for any competing Club who may be proved guilty of any breach of the Rules of the Association and impose a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

9. **CONDUCT OF CLUBS**

All clubs shall be held responsible for the conduct of their Players, members and spectators and shall give every assistance to the rulings of the Referee whose decisions as to the state of the ground, laws of the game and interference of spectators shall be unquestioned save by the County Cups and Ground Committee of the Association. Subsequent to any action completed by the Disciplinary Committee, the Cups Committee shall decide on the eligibility of the club to enter county cup competitions in the following season

Temporary Dismissals (Sin Bins) will be in used in this competition where FA regulations determine that sanction for specified offences.

9. **THE DRAW**

- (a) The ties shall be drawn, the dates fixed and the matches played as the County Cups and Ground Committee may determine.
Requests for an exemption from playing on the reserved date (a "free day") will not be entertained, save in youth competitions under the provisions of rule 18(c).
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- (c) No Club shall receive a bye in two consecutive rounds.
- (d) No Club shall, unless unavoidable, receive more than one bye in the course of the Competition each Season but the County Cups and Ground Committee shall have power to give sufficient number of byes to ensure four clubs competing in the Semi-final ties.
- (e) In the event of Clubs sharing the same pitch the first drawn will have priority unless mutually agreed; the second Club to play the following week.

10. **GROUNDS**

For the purpose of this rule where Ground is referenced this shall refer to the entire facility on which the playing pitch is situated and all of the pitches thereof, with the exception of Artificial Grass pitch facilities where it shall refer to the specific artificial grass surface. County Cup competition matches shall only take place on grounds where there are changing rooms for both sides, such changing rooms must have showers

- (a) If the ground of the Club having choice of ground is considered unsuitable, the opposing Club may Appeal to the County Cups and Ground Committee within three days of the receipt of the draw. Such Appeal must be accompanied by a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the Appeal is not upheld. The payment of expenses incidental to the Appeal shall be at the discretion of the County Cups and Ground Committee.
- (b) Each Club must take every precaution to keep its ground in a playing condition and if necessary, the home or visiting Club may apply to the Association Secretary to instruct the Referee or some other suitable person to examine the ground as to its fitness for play, in sufficient time to save expenses being incurred for unnecessary journeys. Pitches must have Respect barriers or lines; these must be on the opposite side to the technical area. Where it is not possible to site the respect barrier opposite the technical area agreement to move to Respect line to the same as the technical area must be obtained from the County FA in writing (email will suffice)
- (c) The grounds on which the Final tie is to be played shall be chosen by the County Cups and Ground Committee. In the Final tie the Referee shall, if requested by the Association Secretary, visit the ground three hours before the time of kick-off.
- (d) The appointed referee shall be the sole judge as to the fitness of the ground in all matches but when adverse weather conditions prevail on the day before or on the morning of the match, the Home Club is empowered to call in a Local Referee, Level 7 or higher (who must be over 18 years of age) who shall be independent of the home club, who shall have the power to postpone the match and must submit a written report to the Association Secretary. The Home Club to notify the Referee's Officer, Opponents and Match Officials of the postponement. Clubs MUST phone the match official(s) and leave a message informing them of the cancellation. Failure to do so shall result in a fine of £10 along with other sanctions as proscribed later in this rule. Clubs failing to notify will be fined as set out in the Fees and Fines section. If after the arrival of the visiting team the Referee declares the ground unfit for play, the County Cups Committee may order the home Club to pay such part of the expenses of the visiting club as they may consider fair, and half the match fee must be paid by the home Club, to the Referee.

If the match is cancelled, for any reason, (other than unfitness of ground) but the club fails to inform their opponents and/or match official(s) causing them to travel to the game, then the home team SHALL pay the match official(s) their FULL match fee the visiting team travelling expenses as deemed appropriate by the Cups Committee along with any other expenses the Cups Committee deem appropriate. In the event that this tie is a semi-final then the team shall NOT be eligible to claim the match official's expenses from the County FA as outlined in Rule 14. Where a club plays on a ground owned by a third party and that party makes a decision to cancel the match the home club must provide written confirmation from their landlord of the decision to cancel said match to the county office within 5 working days of the match. Failure to do so may see the club excluded from the competition.

- (e) If a match has to be postponed for either of the reasons in paragraph (d) above, or is abandoned for any reason, save for incidents when the abandonment was due to disciplinary issues, it shall be played the weekend following unless advised otherwise by the County Cups Committee. The match shall have the same referee as appointed to the original date unless otherwise advised by the Referees Appointment Officer.

Should the rearranged date for either a postponed or abandoned match as defined above fall within the school holiday period for one or both competing teams, if either of the clubs have players on holiday during the school holiday period then they must inform the county association immediately and they will be allowed to postpone the game. Clubs doing so MUST inform their opponents, the County Referees Appointment Officer and, where appointed, their match referees (and assistants if applicable). A Club requesting such a postponement shall not be available to play any other fixture of lower precedence on that date.

In this scenario the match will be played in the first weekend of the next school term. Where school term periods are not concurrent between different education authorities and clubs are from separate authorities, a club will be allowed to postpone if they have players on holiday in a school holiday period even if their opponents have finished their holiday period. Where school term times are not concurrent the default date shall be the first weekend when both clubs are in term time.

Where a match has been postponed for two weeks the side drawn at home shall consider finding an alternate ground or reversing the fixture for the third week if there is a possibility that their ground may not be fit to host the game for the third week if (they have not already done so in the initial two weeks).

- (f) The home Club must notify their opponents of ground location. Failure to comply will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) Separate accommodation MUST be provided for Match Officials.
- (h) The use of third generation (3g) artificial grass pitches will be allowed for use in the competition. To be eligible the pitch must be on the FA register of approved 3g surfaces register. The home must club must provide a list of acceptable footwear for use on the pitch to their opposition and appointed referee no less than 5 days prior to the date of the tie (unless a shorter period is mutually acceptable to both parties). The home team shall be liable for ALL costs (excluding opposition expenses) arising from the hire for use of such a pitch. The use of any other artificial pitch other than a 3g (artificial grass) will NOT be entertained.

11. DURATION OF MATCHES

The duration of each match shall be 80 minutes. If at the end of the match the scores are level, then Kicks from the Penalty Mark will take place as described in the Penalty Kicks Section.

If, at any time during the match, the difference in goals scored between the two sides reaches 10 goals, the match will end and be deemed properly completed with the match result as of that time; the team leading by 10 goals shall be the winners and advance into the next round.

(N.B. If there is sufficient time remaining at the end of the match in the above circumstances, the two teams may, at their discretion, play a friendly match lasting the duration of the remaining minutes. In such cases this shall have NO bearing on the result of the match)

12. REPORTING RESULTS

- (a) Both competing clubs MUST present a team sheet to the match referee and their opponents prior to the commencement of the match; this MUST include the names and initials of Players representing their Club; the number of the shirt that the player is to wear in the match MUST be written on the team sheet submitted next to the players name.

After the match The Secretary of each Club shall send a copy of that team sheet to the association to include the match result and a mark of the match official's performance in the game (SEE APPENDIX A), so that it is received within four days of the match (Sundays not included). This shall be via post or via electronic copy, if the latter it shall be emailed to Countycupadmin@somersetfa.com Where clubs use electronic copy it should be a scanned version of the team sheet used. Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be subject to a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section and in default of payment shall also be ruled out of the Competition. The club in case will not be allowed to compete in a subsequent round of the competition until the team sheet from the previous round is received by the County Association 7 days prior to the match being played.

- (b) A Referees marking out of 100, (a marking guide is provided in Appendix A at the rear of the book) should be inserted on the result sheet. Failure to do so will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section. Any mark of 60 or below MUST be accompanied by a letter explaining the mark. Failure to do so to lead to a fine of £15.
- (c) The home club shall input the result via FA match day app on the same day of the match, (in the event that the App is not working then the result must be emailed to countycupadmin@somersetfa.com on the same day of the match); failure to meet the provisions of this rule will see the club fined as listed in the Fees and Fines section (Appendix B)

13. TIME OF KICK-OFF

All matches shall kick off at 14.00

However, the kick-off time may be altered if both teams, the County FA, and the Referee's Appointment Officer agree and are notified within 7 days of the draw being made or prior to the match. If an agreement cannot be reached, the default time will remain.

14. REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES

- (b) Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association. Where the appointed referee and (where appointed) assistant referees are under the age of 18, this will be communicated to the respective home club in advance of the match by the Referee Appointment Officer. When the under 18 match official(s) arrive at the ground the home club shall get the match official(s) to sign in on the appropriate space on the team sheet and sign out on the appropriate space on the team sheet after the match when they leave. Failure to carry out this action will result in a fine of £10 against the offending club.
Where a club is informed that the match official(s) are under 18 separate changing/showering facilities from adult officials MUST be provided or if this cannot be arranged, separate changing and showering times from adults MUST be arranged
- (b) In all rounds prior to the Semi-final tie the competing Clubs MUST each provide a Club Assistant Referee.
- (c) In the Semi-final and Final ties, Assistant Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association.
- (d) It is the responsibility of the Home club to notify the Match Officials and their opponents of the location of their ground and the time of kick off 4 days prior to the match being played. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out under the fees and fines section.
- (e) If a match is postponed on arrival of the Referee, half the match fee must be paid by the home Club.
- (f) Both clubs shall provide a flag for use by their respective club assistant referees for all rounds where a neutral assistant is not appointed by the association.
- (g) The Match Referee shall retain the team sheet provided by both sides until the end of season for inspection by the Cups Committee if requested.
- (h) The AWAY club shall pay the Referee's fee, as stated in appendix B (Note this will not apply if the provisions of Rule 10 (d) and 14 (d) apply when the cost will be met by the home club). This may be either electronic payment or cash, as agreed with the match official. If the latter this shall take place in the dressing room 15 minutes prior the kick off, or within 15 minutes of the completion of the game, whichever is the wish of the referee having ascertained the referees preference before the match. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out in the fees and fines section.

In the Semi Final ties the cost of the match official's fees shall be paid for by the home club who shall then be reimbursed this amount by the County Association, less any gate receipts taken by the home club. (please see provision of rule 16). This shall be claimed by the home club submitting an expenses sheet as supplied by the Association.

15. LATE STARTS

- (a) All late starts must be reported by the Referee
- (b) Clubs responsible for late starts shall be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

16. SHARING OF GATES

From the gate money taken at all matches prior to the Semi-Final tie, the home team shall pay all match expenses, excluding the travelling expenses of the visitors and bear any loss or retain any net proceeds. The visiting team shall pay their own expenses.

- (a) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to revise match expense charges which in their opinion are excessive.
- (b) In any match ordered to be replayed in consequence of a breach of Rule, the Club in default shall not receive any share of the proceeds of such replayed match without the consent of the County Cups Committee and such consent shall only be given under special circumstances. If consent is not given, the share shall be taken by the Association.

In semi-finals the gate receipts shall be used to pay the referee and assistant referee's fee, with the County Association paying the balance of any amount not so covered by the gate takings. The home club shall submit a receipt of their match takings.

17. ADMISSION CHARGE

Admission is to be charged at the discretion of the Home Club.

18. WITHDRAWAL OF CLUBS & FAILURE TO PLAY

- (a) Any Club withdrawing from the Competition after the draw has been made shall be fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary.
- (b) Any club failing to fulfil a fixture in any round prior to the Semi-Final ties, save for unfitness of ground, shall be ruled out of the competition and fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary. In the event that that a club fails to fulfil a tie in the semi-final or final tie the minimum fine shall be no less than (see below)

Any club with drawing under clause a or failing to fulfil a fixture under clause b, MUST inform the County Office, County Referees Appointment Officer, their opponents and appointed match official(s) of such. In the event that some or all of these parties are not informed and either match officials or opposing teams travel, then the Cups Committee shall reserve the right to award costs arising against the defaulting club as they see fit.

The Cups committee shall reserve the right to award any other costs arising from a cancelled match due to a club defaulting under clauses a and/or b

The MINIMUM fines that shall apply are as follows:

Withdraw £20 Failure to play £20 Failure to play semi-final and final £30

- (c) Clubs may request a postponement of a match in writing, only where three or more players are engaged in an educational activity. Said request to be accompanied by a letter on headed paper from the school where the activity is taking place outlining both the activity and listing the names of those involved; this to be duly signed by a member of the schools staff. A request for such a postponement must be submitted to the County Office at least SEVEN days prior to the reserved date of the tie or the request will not be entertained.

19. PROTESTS

All questions arising out of these Rules shall be dealt with by the County Cups and Ground Committee.

- (a) Any Club wishing to make a protest against the result of a match must do so within seven days of the match being played.
- (b) The protest must be in writing clearly stating the grounds upon which it is made and must be signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Club.
- (c) Two copies of the protest must be sent to the Chief Executive together with a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the protest is not upheld.
- (d) The defaulting Club may be called upon to pay the whole or part of the expenses of the meeting and the expenses of the other Club SEE ALSO MEMBERSHIP RULES 5 AND 6 RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION.

20. TROPHY: SAFE KEEPING AND RETURN

Trophy Agreement

When the winners of an Association Cup shall have been ascertained, the Chief Executive shall hand over the Cup to such winners on their subscribing to the following effect:

We the undersigned on behalf of (name of Club or League) having been declared winner and taken possession of the Somerset Football Association Ltd (Competition) Trophy, which we understand remains the property of the Somerset Football Association Ltd, do hereby jointly and severally, undertake to keep the said Trophy in safe custody.

Furthermore, we agree to return the Trophy no later than 1 March in the ensuing year in good order. We also undertake to pay for any damage to the Trophy whilst in our care.

Signed Club/League Secretary

Signed Position

Any Club or League failing to comply with the above requirements will be fined, as set out in the Fees and Fines Section, in addition to the cost of any repair.

21. MEDALS

Eighteen medals or other mementos shall be awarded to the winners and runners-up of all Association Cup Competitions. (Unless the number of players on a starting team is less than 11, when the number shall be adjusted to the number of players in a starting team plus five substitutes). Competing clubs may request extra medals, this should



be made in writing to the association; the cost of any such request for extra medals or mementos shall be met by the requesting club

22. SHIRT COLOURS

- (a) No player or goalkeeper shall be permitted to wear black or very dark coloured shirts.
- (b) The home club shall inform the opposition of their kit colours to avoid a possible colour clash on the day, along with directions to the ground if required, no later than 3 days prior to the date of the match. Both teams shall provide their players with individually numbered shirts which must correspond to the numbers listed on the team sheet. In the event of a similarity of colours between two teams in a match the visiting team must change. Shorts and socks must be of different colours between teams. In the final tie the team drawn first shall be deemed the home club and shall have choice of colours in the event of a similarity of colours. Defaulting clubs shall be fined, as set out in Fees and Fines Section.
- (c) 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 his shirt because of a blood injury.

23. DATES

All reserved County Cup dates are to be strictly adhered to. Failure to do so will mean disqualification from the Competition.

24. RULES

These Rules shall not be altered or rescinded save at the Annual General Meeting or special meeting of the Association of which fourteen days' notice shall be given

25. MATCH BALL

A size 5 ball must be used in all matches played in this Competition.

FINES REFERRED TO IN THE RULES

Youth Shield Competition

Rule 4	£10.00
Rule 5(f)	£10.00
Rule 7	£15.00
Rule 10(a)	£25.00
Rule 10(d)	£10.00
Rule 10(e)	£10.00
Rule 12(a)	£15.00
Rule 12(b)	£10.00
Rule 12(c)	£10.00
Rule 14(d)	£10.00
Rule 14(h)	£10.00
Rule 15(b)	£10.00 - for first 15 minutes or part thereof and £5.00 - for each succeeding 5 minutes or part thereof
Rule 18(a)	£20.00 (Minimum)
(b)	£20.00 (Minimum)
	£30.00 (Minimum) Re: Semi Final & Final
Rule 20(c)	£25.00
Rule 21	£50.00
Rule 22(b)	£16.00

Referees Fees **£40 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Assistant Referees **£30 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Travel Expenses - Referees and Assistant Referees

N.B. The county mileage rate shall be decided by the Board of Directors at their discretion, from time to time. When this change may occur after the printing of this handbook the new rate shall apply in place of the one listed here. The new rate shall be communicated by the county office to all members as and when it occurs

PLAYERDATA GIRLS UNDER 16 CUP COMPETITION (2006)
RULES

1. TITLE

The Trophy shall be called 'The Somerset Football Association Playerdata Girls Under 16 Cup' and shall be a perpetual trophy competed for annually by Girl Youth Clubs and teams who are affiliated to the Association.

2. CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT

- (a) The County Cups and Ground Committee of the Association shall have the entire control and management of the Competition and shall have the power to disqualify, impose fines or other such penalties and may order the payment of costs and expenses against any competing Club, or the players of any competing Club, in breach of any of the Rules of the Competition.
- (b) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall decide upon the interpretation of the Rules of the Competition, adjudicate upon any dispute, claim or protest and their decision shall be final and binding.
- (c) All matches shall be played on Saturdays.
- (d) All Somerset FA Cup Competitions are to be played in accordance with the FA Respect Programme, to which all competing clubs must adhere.

3. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

No Club shall enter the Competition after **21st July** in each playing season. All competing clubs MUST supply two mobile phone numbers for use with reporting results; these shall be supplied on the entry form. No entry will be accepted without numbers supplied.

- (a) All clubs shall send the county association a colour photograph of their kit (and change strip if appropriate) before their entrance to the competition is accepted. In the event that their kit is changed during the duration of the competition they shall seek permission to do so from the association and submit a picture at that point. The picture may be in hard or soft copy
- (b) A club may enter more than one team in the competition if they have multiple teams at this age group. All subsequent teams shall pay an additional entrance fee commensurate with the entrance fee. Where a club enters more than one team a player shall not play for more than one team within that club in the competition in any one season, see rule 5(c)

4. ENTRANCE FEE

Clubs or teams entering the Competition shall pay a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section in addition to the annual affiliation fee payable in respect of membership of the Association.

5. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

- (a) ***In all rounds of the Competition a Player must have been a registered member of their Club on the FA Player Registration system by the Friday before the date of the match. No player shall be eligible if registered after the dates reserved for the playing of semi-final ties.***
- (b) A registered member is one who is registered with a League in which the Club competes.
- (c) A Player shall not in the same Season play for more than one competing Club or team in the same club where his or her club enters more the one team in the competition.
- (d) In the case of a postponed or abandoned match, only those Players who were qualified to play on the original date fixed for the round shall be eligible to play in the re-arranged match.
- (e) Substitute(s): A player who has been substituted during a match herself becomes a substitute and may in turn, replace another player at any time subject to the substitution being carried out in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of Association Football. Up to a maximum of SEVEN may be nominated all of whom may be used repeatedly within the substitute process.
- (f) Clubs must hand copies of a list of names of players taking part in the game (including names of nominated substitutes) to the Referee and a representative of their opponents, in the presence of the Referee, 30 minutes before commencement of the match. The home Club must supply two match balls. Any Club failing to carry out these provisions will be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) The only Players who are eligible to take part are those that have not reached the age of 16 years as at midnight on 31st August of the current season.
- (h) A Player's date of birth must be inserted on her Registration Form and her Birth Certificate must be verified by her Club's Secretary and be produced whenever requested by the Cups Committee.

6. VALIDITY OF PLAYERS QUALIFICATIONS

If County Cups and Ground Committee have any doubt as to the qualification of any Player taking part in the Competition they shall have power to call upon such Players of the Club to which she belongs, or for which she played, to prove that she is qualified according to the Rules and failing satisfactory proof the County Cups and Ground Committee may disqualify such Players and may remove the Club from the Competition and impose such other penalty

as they may think fit.

7. DISQUALIFICATION

The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to disqualify any competing Club, or Player, or Players for any competing Club who may be proved guilty of any breach of the Rules of the Association and impose a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

8. CONDUCT OF CLUBS

All clubs shall be held responsible for the conduct of their Players, members and spectators and shall give every assistance to the rulings of the Referee whose decisions as to the state of the ground, laws of the game and interference of spectators shall be unquestioned save by the County Cups and Ground Committee of the Association.

Subsequent to any action completed by the Disciplinary Committee, the Cups Committee shall decide on the eligibility of the club to enter county cup competitions in the following season

Temporary Dismissals (Sin Bins) will be in used in this competition where FA regulations determine that sanction for specified offences.

9. THE DRAW

(a) The ties shall be drawn, the dates fixed and the matches played as the County Cups and Ground Committee may determine.

Requests for an exemption from playing on the reserved date (a "free day") will not be entertained, save in youth competitions under the provisions of rule 18(c).

(b) In each tie the game shall be played on the ground of the Club first drawn, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon and the consent of the County Cups and Ground Committee obtained.

(c) No Club shall receive a bye in two consecutive rounds.

(d) No Club shall, unless unavoidable, receive more than one bye in the course of the Competition each Season but the County Cups and Ground Committee shall have power to give sufficient number of byes to ensure four clubs competing in the Semi-final ties.

(e) In the event of Clubs sharing the same pitch the first drawn will have priority unless mutually agreed; the second Club to play the following week.

10. GROUNDS

For the purpose of this rule where Ground is referenced this shall refer to the entire facility on which the playing pitch is situated and all of the pitches thereof, with the exception of Artificial Grass pitch facilities where it shall refer to the specific artificial grass surface. County Cup competition matches shall only take place on grounds where there are changing rooms for both sides, such changing rooms must have showers

(a) If the ground of the Club having choice of ground is considered unsuitable, the opposing Club may Appeal to the County Cups and Ground Committee within three days of the receipt of the draw. Such Appeal must be accompanied by a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the Appeal is not upheld. The payment of expenses incidental to the Appeal shall be at the discretion of the County Cups and Ground Committee.

(b) Each Club must take every precaution to keep its ground in a playing condition and if necessary the home or visiting Club may apply to the Association Secretary to instruct the Referee or some other suitable person to examine the ground as to its fitness for play, in sufficient time to save expenses being incurred for unnecessary journeys. Pitches must have Respect barriers or lines; these must be on the opposite side to the technical area. Where it is not possible to site the respect barrier opposite the technical area agreement to move to Respect line to the same as the technical area must be obtained from the County FA in writing (email will suffice)

(c) The grounds on which the Final tie is to be played shall be chosen by the County Cups and Ground Committee. In the Final tie the Referee shall, if requested by the Association Secretary, visit the ground three hours before the time of kick-off.

(d) The appointed referee shall be the sole judge as to the fitness of the ground in all matches but when adverse weather conditions prevail on the day before or on the morning of the match, the Home Club is empowered to call in a Local Referee, Level 7 or higher (who must be over 18 years of age) who shall be independent of the home club, who shall have the power to postpone the match and must submit a written report to the Association Secretary. The Home Club to notify the Referee's Officer, Opponents and Match Officials of the postponement. Clubs MUST phone the match official(s) and leave a message informing them of the cancellation. Failure to do so shall result in a fine of £10 along with other sanctions as proscribed later in this rule. Clubs failing to notify will be fined as set out in the Fees and Fines section. If after the arrival of the visiting team the Referee declares the ground unfit for play, the County Cups Committee may order the home Club to pay such part of the expenses of the visiting club as they may consider fair, and half the match fee must be paid by the home Club, to the Referee. If the match is cancelled, for any reason, (other than unfitness of ground) but the club fails to inform their opponents and/or match official(s) causing them to travel to the game, then the home team SHALL pay the match official(s) their FULL match fee the visiting team travelling expenses as deemed appropriate by the Cups Committee along with any other expenses the Cups Committee deem appropriate. In the event that this tie is a semi-final then the team shall NOT be eligible to claim the match official's expenses from the County FA as outlined in Rule 14. Where a club

plays on a ground owned by a third party and that party makes a decision to cancel the match the home club must provide written confirmation from their landlord of the decision to cancel said match to the county office within 5 working days of the match. Failure to do so may see the club excluded from the competition.

- (e) If a match has to be postponed for either of the reasons in paragraph (d) above, or is abandoned for any reason, save for incidents when the abandonment was due to disciplinary issues, it shall be played the weekend following unless advised otherwise by the County Cups Committee. The match shall have the same referee as appointed to the original date unless otherwise advised by the Referees Appointment Officer.

Should the rearranged date for either a postponed or abandoned match as defined above fall within the school holiday period for one or both competing teams, if either of the clubs have players on holiday during the school holiday period then they must inform the county association immediately and they will be allowed to postpone the game. Clubs doing so MUST inform their opponents, the County Referees Appointment Officer and, where appointed, their match referees (and assistants if applicable). A Club requesting such a postponement shall not be available to play any other fixture of lower precedence on that date.

In this scenario the match will be played in the first weekend of the next school term. Where school term periods are not concurrent between different education authorities and clubs are from separate authorities, a club will be allowed to postpone if they have players on holiday in a school holiday period even if their opponents have finished their holiday period. Where school term times are not concurrent the default date shall be the first weekend when both clubs are in term time.

Where a match has been postponed for two weeks the side drawn at home shall consider finding an alternate ground or reversing the fixture for the third week if there is a possibility that their ground may not be fit to host the game for the third week if (they have not already done so in the initial two weeks).

- (f) The home Club must notify their opponents of ground location. Failure to comply will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) Separate accommodation MUST be provided for Match Officials.
- (h) The use of third generation (3g) artificial grass pitches will be allowed for use in the competition. To be eligible the pitch must be on the FA register of approved 3g surfaces register. The home must club must provide a list of acceptable footwear for use on the pitch to their opposition and appointed referee no less than 5 days prior to the date of the tie (unless a shorter period is mutually acceptable to both parties). The home team shall be liable for ALL costs (excluding opposition expenses) arising from the hire for use of such a pitch. The use of any other artificial pitch other than a 3g (artificial grass) will NOT be entertained.

11. DURATION OF MATCHES

The duration of each match shall be 80 minutes. If at the end of the match the scores are level, then Kicks from the Penalty Mark will take place as described in the Penalty Kicks Section.

If, at any time during the match, the difference in goals scored between the two sides reaches 10 goals, the match will end and be deemed properly completed with the match result as of that time; the team leading by 10 goals shall be the winners and advance into the next round.

(N.B. If there is sufficient time remaining at the end of the match in the above circumstances, the two teams may, at their discretion, play a friendly match lasting the duration of the remaining minutes. In such cases this shall have NO bearing on the result of the match)

12. REPORTING RESULTS

- (a) Both competing clubs MUST present a team sheet to the match referee and their opponents prior to the commencement of the match; this MUST include the names and initials of Players representing their Club; the number of the shirt that the player is to wear in the match MUST be written on the team sheet submitted next to the players name.

After the match The Secretary of each Club shall send a copy of that team sheet to the association to include the match result and a mark of the match official's performance in the game (SEE APPENDIX A), so that it is received within four days of the match (Sundays not included). This shall be via post or via electronic copy, if the latter it shall be emailed to Countycupadmin@somersetfa.com Where clubs use electronic copy it should be a scanned version of the team sheet used. Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be subject to a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section and in default of payment shall also be ruled out of the Competition. The club in case will not be allowed to compete in a subsequent round of the competition until the team sheet from the previous round is received by the County Association 7 days prior to the match being played.

- (b) A Referees marking out of 100, (a marking guide is provided in Appendix A at the rear of the book) should be inserted on the result sheet. Failure to do so will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section. Any mark of 60 or below MUST be accompanied by a letter explaining the mark. Failure to do so to lead to a fine of £15.
- (c) The home club shall input the result via FA match day app on the same day of the match, (in the event that the App is not working then the result must be emailed to countycupadmin@somersetfa.com on the same day of the match); failure to meet the provisions of this rule will see the club fined as listed in the Fees and Fines section (Appendix B)

13. TIME OF KICK-OFF

All matches shall commence as follows: **10.30 am**

However, the kick-off time may be altered if both teams, the County FA, and the Referee's Appointment Officer agree and are notified within 7 days of the draw being made or prior to the match. If an agreement cannot be reached, the default time will remain.

14. REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES

(a) Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association. Where the appointed referee and (where appointed) assistant referees are under the age of 18, this will be communicated to the respective home club in advance of the match by the Referee Appointment Officer. When the under 18 match official(s) arrive at the ground the home club shall get the match official(s) to sign in on the appropriate space on the team sheet and sign out on the appropriate space on the team sheet after the match when they leave. Failure to carry out this action will result in a fine of £10 against the offending club.

Where a club is informed that the match official(s) are under 18 separate changing/showering facilities from adult officials MUST be provided or if this cannot be arranged, separate changing and showering times from adults MUST be arranged

(b) In all rounds prior to the Semi-final tie the competing Clubs MUST each provide a Club Assistant Referee.

(c) In the Semi-final and Final ties, Assistant Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association.

(d) It is the responsibility of the Home club to notify the Match Officials and their opponents of the location of their ground and the time of kick off 4 days prior to the match being played. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out under the fees and fines section.

(e) If a match is postponed on arrival of the Referee, half the match fee must be paid by the home Club.

(f) Both clubs shall provide a flag for use by their respective club assistant referees for all rounds where a neutral assistant is not appointed by the association.

(g) The Match Referee shall retain the team sheet provided by both sides until the end of season for inspection by the Cups Committee if requested.

(h) The **AWAY** club shall pay the Referee's fee, as stated in appendix B (Note this will not apply if the provisions of Rule 10 (d) and 14 (d) apply when the cost will be met by the home club). This may be either electronic payment or cash, as agreed with the match official. If the latter this shall take place in the dressing room 15 minutes prior the kick off, or within 15 minutes of the completion of the game, whichever is the wish of the referee having ascertained the referees preference before the match. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out in the fees and fines section.

In the Semi Final ties the cost of the match official's fees shall be paid for by the home club who shall then be reimbursed this amount by the County Association, less any gate receipts taken by the home club. (please see provision of rule 16). This shall be claimed by the home club submitting an expenses sheet as supplied by the Association.

15. LATE STARTS

(a) All late starts must be reported by the Referee

(b) Clubs responsible for late starts shall be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

16. SHARING OF GATES

From the gate money taken at all matches prior to the Semi-Final tie, the home team shall pay all match expenses, excluding the travelling expenses of the visitors and bear any loss or retain any net proceeds. The visiting team shall pay their own expenses.

(a) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to revise match expense charges which in their opinion are excessive.

(b) In any match ordered to be replayed in consequence of a breach of Rule, the Club in default shall not receive any share of the proceeds of such replayed match without the consent of the County Cups Committee and such consent shall only be given under special circumstances. If consent is not given, the share shall be taken by the Association.

In semi-finals the gate receipts shall be used to pay the referee and assistant referee's fee, with the County Association paying the balance of any amount not so covered by the gate takings. The home club shall submit a receipt of their match takings.

17. ADMISSION CHARGE

Admission is to be charged at the discretion of the Home Club.

18. WITHDRAWAL OF CLUBS & FAILURE TO PLAY

(a) Any Club withdrawing from the Competition after the draw has been made shall be fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary.

- (b) Any club failing to fulfil a fixture in any round prior to the Semi-Final ties, save for unfitness of ground, shall be ruled out of the competition and fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary. In the event that that a club fails to fulfil a tie in the semi-final or final tie the minimum fine shall be no less than (see below)

Any club with drawing under clause a, or failing to fulfil a fixture under clause b, MUST inform the County Office, County Referees Appointment Officer, their opponents and appointed match official(s) of such. In the event that some or all of these parties are not informed and either match officials or opposing teams travel, then the Cups Committee shall reserve the right to award costs arising against the defaulting club as they see fit.

The Cups committee shall reserve the right to award any other costs arising from a cancelled match due to a club defaulting under clauses a and/or b

The MINIMUM fines that shall apply are as follows:

Withdraw £20 Failure to play £20 Failure to play semi-final and final £30

- (c) Clubs may request a postponement of a match in writing, only where three or more players are engaged in an educational activity. Said request to be accompanied by a letter on headed paper from the school where the activity is taking place outlining both the activity and listing the names of those involved; this to be duly signed by a member of the schools staff. A request for such a postponement must be submitted to the County Office at least SEVEN days prior to the reserved date of the tie or the request will not be entertained.

19. PROTESTS

All questions arising out of these Rules shall be dealt with by the County Cups and Ground Committee.

- (a) Any Club wishing to make a protest against the result of a match must do so within seven days of the match being played.
- (b) The protest must be in writing clearly stating the grounds upon which it is made and must be signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Club.
- (c) Two copies of the protest must be sent to the Chief Executive together with a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the protest is not upheld.
- (d) The defaulting Club may be called upon to pay the whole or part of the expenses of the meeting and the expenses of the other Club SEE ALSO MEMBERSHIP RULES 5 AND 6 RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION.

20. TROPHY: SAFE KEEPING AND RETURN

Trophy Agreement

When the winners of an Association Cup shall have been ascertained, the Chief Executive shall hand over the Cup to such winners on their subscribing to the following effect:

We the undersigned on behalf of (name of Club or League) having been declared winner and taken possession of the Somerset Football Association Ltd (Competition) Trophy, which we understand remains the property of the Somerset Football Association Ltd, do hereby jointly and severally, undertake to keep the said Trophy in safe custody.

Furthermore we agree to return the Trophy no later than 1 March in the ensuing year in good order. We also undertake to pay for any damage to the Trophy whilst in our care.

Signed Club/League Secretary

Signed Position

Any Club or League failing to comply with the above requirements will be fined, as set out in the Fees and Fines Section, in addition to the cost of any repair.

21. MEDALS

Eighteen medals or other mementos shall be awarded to the winners and runners-up of all Association Cup Competitions. (Unless the number of players on a starting team is less than 11, when the number shall be adjusted to the number of players in a starting team plus five substitutes). Competing clubs may request extra medals, this should be made in writing to the association; the cost of any such request for extra medals or mementos shall be met by the requesting club

22. SHIRT COLOURS

- (a) No player or goalkeeper shall be permitted to wear black or very dark coloured shirts.
- (b) The home club shall inform the opposition of their kit colours to avoid a possible colour clash on the day, along with directions to the ground if required, no later than 3 days prior to the date of the match. Both teams shall provide their players with individually numbered shirts which must correspond to the numbers listed on the team sheet. In the event of a similarity of colours between two teams in a match the visiting team must change. Shorts and socks must be of different colours between teams. In the final tie the team drawn first shall be deemed the home club and shall have choice of colours in the event of a similarity of colours. Defaulting clubs shall be fined, as set out in Fees and Fines Section.
- (c) 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 her shirt because of a blood injury.

23. DATES

All reserved County Cup dates are to be strictly adhered to. Failure to do so will mean disqualification from the Competition.

24. RULES

These Rules shall not be altered or rescinded save at the Annual General Meeting or special meeting of the Association of which fourteen days notice shall be given

25. MATCH BALL

A size 5 ball must be used in all matches played in this Competition.

FINES REFERRED TO IN THE RULES

Girls Under 16 Cup Competition

Rule 4	£10.00
Rule 5(f)	£10.00
Rule 7	£15.00
Rule 10(a)	£25.00
Rule 10(d)	£10.00
Rule 10(e)	£10.00
Rule 12(a)	£15.00
Rule 12(b)	£10.00
Rule 12(c)	£10.00
Rule 14(d)	£10.00
Rule 14(h)	£10.00
Rule 15(b)	£10.00 - for first 15 minutes or part thereof £5.00 - for each succeeding 5 minutes or part thereof
Rule 18(a)	£20.00 (Minimum)
(b)	£20.00 (Minimum)
	£30.00 (Minimum) Re: Semi Final & Final
Rule 20(c)	£25.00
Rule 21	£50.00
Rule 22(b)	£16.00

Rule 8

Referees Fees **£40 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Assistant Referees **£30 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Travel Expenses - Referees and Assistant Referees

N.B. The county mileage rate shall be decided by the Board of Directors at their discretion, from time to time. When this change may occur after the printing of this handbook the new rate shall apply in place of the one listed here. The new rate shall be communicated by the county office to all members as and when it occurs.

BOYS UNDER 15 CUP COMPETITION (2017)
RULES

1. TITLE

The Trophy shall be called 'The Somerset Football Association Boys Under 15 Cup' and shall be a perpetual trophy competed for annually by Youth Clubs and teams who are affiliated to the Association.

2. CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT

- (a) The County Cups and Ground Committee of the Association shall have the entire control and management of the Competition and shall have the power to disqualify, impose fines or other such penalties and may order the payment of costs and expenses against any competing Club, or the players of any competing Club, in breach of any of the Rules of the Competition.
- (b) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall decide upon the interpretation of the Rules of the Competition, adjudicate upon any dispute, claim or protest and their decision shall be final and binding.
- (c) All matches shall be played on Sundays.
- (d) All Somerset FA Cup Competitions are to be played in accordance with the FA Respect Programme, to which all competing clubs must adhere.

3. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

No Club shall enter the Competition after **21st July** in each playing season. All competing clubs MUST supply two mobile phone numbers for use with reporting results; these shall be supplied on the entry form. No entry will be accepted without numbers supplied.

- (a) All clubs shall send the county association a colour photograph of their kit (and change strip if appropriate) before their entrance to the competition is accepted. In the event that their kit is changed during the duration of the competition they shall seek permission to do so from the association and submit a picture at that point. The picture may be in hard or soft copy
- (b) A club may enter more than one team in the competition if they have multiple teams at this age group. All subsequent teams shall pay an additional entrance fee commensurate with the entrance fee. Where a club enters more than one team a player shall not play for more than one team within that club in the competition in any one season, see rule 5(c)
- (c) Any under 15 **TEAM** entering this competition shall not be permitted to enter the Youth Shield in the same playing season.

4. ENTRANCE FEE

Clubs or teams entering the Competition shall pay a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section in addition to the annual affiliation fee payable in respect of membership of the Association.

5. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

- (a) ***In all rounds of the Competition a Player must have been a registered member of their Club on the FA Player Registration system by the Friday before the date of the match. No player shall be eligible if registered after the dates reserved for the playing of semi-final ties.***
- (b) A registered member is one who is registered with a League in which the Club competes.
- (c) A Player shall not in the same Season play for more than one competing Club or team in the same club where his or her club enters more the one team in the competition.
- (d) In the case of a postponed or abandoned match, only those Players who were qualified to play on the original date fixed for the round shall be eligible to play in the re-arranged match.
- (e) Substitute(s): A player who has been substituted during a match himself becomes a substitute and may in turn, replace another player at any time subject to the substitution being carried out in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of Association Football. Up to a maximum of SEVEN may be nominated all of whom may be used repeatedly within the substitute process.
- (f) Clubs must hand copies of a list of names of players taking part in the game (including names of nominated substitutes) to the Referee and a representative of their opponents, in the presence of the Referee, 30 minutes before commencement of the match. The home Club must supply two match balls. Any Club failing to carry out these provisions will be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) The only Players who are eligible to take part are those that have not reached the age of 15 years as at midnight on 31st August of the current season.
- (h) A Player's date of birth must be inserted on his Registration Form and his Birth Certificate must be verified by his Club's Secretary and be produced whenever requested by the Cups Committee.

6. VALIDITY OF PLAYERS QUALIFICATIONS

If County Cups and Ground Committee have any doubt as to the qualification of any Player taking part in the Competition they shall have power to call upon such Players of the Club to which he belongs, or for which he played, to

prove that he is qualified according to the Rules and failing satisfactory proof the County Cups and Ground Committee may disqualify such Players and may remove the Club from the Competition and impose such other penalty as they may think fit.

7. DISQUALIFICATION

The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to disqualify any competing Club, or Player, or Players for any competing Club who may be proved guilty of any breach of the Rules of the Association and impose a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

8. CONDUCT OF CLUBS

All clubs shall be held responsible for the conduct of their Players, members and spectators and shall give every assistance to the rulings of the Referee whose decisions as to the state of the ground, laws of the game and interference of spectators shall be unquestioned save by the County Cups and Ground Committee of the Association. Subsequent to any action completed by the Disciplinary Committee, the Cups Committee shall decide on the eligibility of the club to enter county cup competitions in the following season

Temporary Dismissals (Sin Bins) will be in used in this competition where FA regulations determine that sanction for specified offences.

9. THE DRAW

- (a) The ties shall be drawn, the dates fixed and the matches played as the County Cups and Ground Committee may determine.
Requests for an exemption from playing on the reserved date (a "free day") will not be entertained, save in youth competitions under the provisions of rule 18(c).
- (b) In each tie the game shall be played on the ground of the Club first drawn, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon and the consent of the County Cups and Ground Committee obtained.
- (c) No Club shall receive a bye in two consecutive rounds.
- (d) No Club shall, unless unavoidable, receive more than one bye in the course of the Competition each Season but the County Cups and Ground Committee shall have power to give sufficient number of byes to ensure four clubs competing in the Semi-final ties.
- (e) In the event of Clubs sharing the same pitch the first drawn will have priority unless mutually agreed; the second Club to play the following week.

10. GROUNDS

For the purpose of this rule where Ground is referenced this shall refer to the entire facility on which the playing pitch is situated and all of the pitches thereof, with the exception of Artificial Grass pitch facilities where it shall refer to the specific artificial grass surface. County Cup competition matches shall only take place on grounds where there are changing rooms for both sides, such changing rooms must have showers

- (a) If the ground of the Club having choice of ground is considered unsuitable, the opposing Club may Appeal to the County Cups and Ground Committee within three days of the receipt of the draw. Such Appeal must be accompanied by a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the Appeal is not upheld. The payment of expenses incidental to the Appeal shall be at the discretion of the County Cups and Ground Committee.
- (b) Each Club must take every precaution to keep its ground in a playing condition and if necessary the home or visiting Club may apply to the Association Secretary to instruct the Referee or some other suitable person to examine the ground as to its fitness for play, in sufficient time to save expenses being incurred for unnecessary journeys. Pitches must have Respect barriers or lines; these must be on the opposite side to the technical area. Where it is not possible to site the respect barrier opposite the technical area agreement to move to Respect line to the same as the technical area must be obtained from the County FA in writing (email will suffice)
- (c) The grounds on which the Final tie is to be played shall be chosen by the County Cups and Ground Committee. In the Final tie the Referee shall, if requested by the Association Secretary, visit the ground three hours before the time of kick-off.
- (d) The appointed referee shall be the sole judge as to the fitness of the ground in all matches but when adverse weather conditions prevail on the day before or on the morning of the match, the Home Club is empowered to call in a Local Referee, Level 7 or higher (who must be over 18 years of age) who shall be independent of the home club, who shall have the power to postpone the match and must submit a written report to the Association Secretary. The Home Club to notify the Referee's Officer, Opponents and Match Officials of the postponement. Clubs MUST phone the match official(s) and leave a message informing them of the cancellation. Failure to do so shall result in a fine of £10 along with other sanctions as proscribed later in this rule. Clubs failing to notify will be fined as set out in the Fees and Fines section. If after the arrival of the visiting team the Referee declares the ground unfit for play, the County Cups Committee may order the home Club to pay such part of the expenses of the visiting club as they may consider fair, and half the match fee must be paid by the home Club, to the Referee.

If the match is cancelled, for any reason, (other than unfitness of ground) but the club fails to inform their opponents and/or match official(s) causing them to travel to the game, then the home team SHALL pay the match official(s) their FULL match fee the visiting team travelling expenses as deemed appropriate by the Cups Committee along with any other expenses the Cups Committee deem appropriate. In the event that this tie is a semi-final then the team shall NOT be eligible to claim the match official's expenses from the County FA as outlined in Rule 14. Where a club plays on a ground owned by a third party and that party makes a decision to cancel the match the home club must provide written confirmation from their landlord of the decision to cancel said match to the county office within 5 working days of the match. Failure to do so may see the club excluded from the competition.

- (e) If a match has to be postponed for either of the reasons in paragraph (d) above, or is abandoned for any reason, save for incidents when the abandonment was due to disciplinary issues, it shall be played the weekend following unless advised otherwise by the County Cups Committee. The match shall have the same referee as appointed to the original date unless otherwise advised by the Referees Appointment Officer.
- Should the rearranged date for either a postponed or abandoned match as defined above fall within the school holiday period for one or both competing teams, if either of the clubs have players on holiday during the school holiday period then they must inform the county association immediately and they will be allowed to postpone the game. Clubs doing so MUST inform their opponents, the County Referees Appointment Officer and, where appointed, their match referees (and assistants if applicable). A Club requesting such a postponement shall not be available to play any other fixture of lower precedence on that date.
- In this scenario the match will be played in the first weekend of the next school term. Where school term periods are not concurrent between different education authorities and clubs are from separate authorities, a club will be allowed to postpone if they have players on holiday in a school holiday period even if their opponents have finished their holiday period. Where school term times are not concurrent the default date shall be the first weekend when both clubs are in term time.
- Where a match has been postponed for two weeks the side drawn at home shall consider finding an alternate ground or reversing the fixture for the third week if there is a possibility that their ground may not be fit to host the game for the third week if (they have not already done so in the initial two weeks).
- (f) The home Club must notify their opponents of ground location. Failure to comply will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) Separate accommodation MUST be provided for Match Officials.
- (h) The use of third generation (3g) artificial grass pitches will be allowed for use in the competition. To be eligible the pitch must be on the FA register of approved 3g surfaces register. The home must club must provide a list of acceptable footwear for use on the pitch to their opposition and appointed referee no less than 5 days prior to the date of the tie (unless a shorter period is mutually acceptable to both parties). The home team shall be liable for ALL costs (excluding opposition expenses) arising from the hire for use of such a pitch. The use of any other artificial pitch other than a 3g (artificial grass) will NOT be entertained.

11. DURATION OF MATCHES

The duration of each match shall be 80 minutes. If at the end of the match the scores are level, then Kicks from the Penalty Mark will take place as described in the Penalty Kicks Section.

If, at any time during the match, the difference in goals scored between the two sides reaches 10 goals, the match will end and be deemed properly completed with the match result as of that time; the team leading by 10 goals shall be the winners and advance into the next round.

(N.B. If there is sufficient time remaining at the end of the match in the above circumstances, the two teams may, at their discretion, play a friendly match lasting the duration of the remaining minutes. In such cases this shall have NO bearing on the result of the match)

12. REPORTING RESULTS

- (a) Both competing clubs MUST present a team sheet to the match referee and their opponents prior to the commencement of the match; this MUST include the names and initials of Players representing their Club; the number of the shirt that the player is to wear in the match MUST be written on the team sheet submitted next to the players name.
- After the match The Secretary of each Club shall send a copy of that team sheet to the association to include the match result and a mark of the match official's performance in the game (SEE APPENDIX A), so that it is received within four days of the match (Sundays not included). This shall be via post or via electronic copy, if the latter it shall be emailed to Countycupadmin@somersetfa.com Where clubs use electronic copy it should be a scanned version of the team sheet used. Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be subject to a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section and in default of payment shall also be ruled out of the Competition. The club in case will not be allowed to compete in a subsequent round of the competition until the team sheet from the previous round is received by the County Association 7 days prior to the match being played.

- (b) A Referees marking out of 100, (a marking guide is provided in Appendix A at the rear of the book) should be inserted on the result sheet. Failure to do so will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section. Any mark of 60 or below MUST be accompanied by a letter explaining the mark. Failure to do so to lead to a fine of £15.
- (c) The home club shall input the result via FA match day app on the same day of the match, (in the event that the App is not working then the result must be emailed to countycupadmin@somersetfa.com on the same day of the match); failure to meet the provisions of this rule will see the club fined as listed in the Fees and Fines section (Appendix B)

13. TIME OF KICK-OFF

All matches shall kick off at 14.00

However, the kick-off time may be altered if both teams, the County FA, and the Referee's Appointment Officer agree and are notified within 7 days of the draw being made or prior to the match. If an agreement cannot be reached, the default time will remain.

14. REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES

- (a) Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association. Where the appointed referee and (where appointed) assistant referees are under the age of 18, this will be communicated to the respective home club in advance of the match by the Referee Appointment Officer. When the under 18 match official(s) arrive at the ground the home club shall get the match official(s) to sign in on the appropriate space on the team sheet and sign out on the appropriate space on the team sheet after the match when they leave. Failure to carry out this action will result in a fine of £10 against the offending club.
Where a club is informed that the match official(s) are under 18 separate changing/showering facilities from adult officials MUST be provided or if this cannot be arranged, separate changing and showering times from adults MUST be arranged
- (b) In all rounds prior to the Semi-final tie the competing Clubs MUST each provide a Club Assistant Referee.
- (c) In the Semi-final and Final ties, Assistant Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association.
- (d) It is the responsibility of the Home club to notify the Match Officials and their opponents of the location of their ground and the time of kick off 4 days prior to the match being played. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out under the fees and fines section.
- (e) If a match is postponed on arrival of the Referee, half the match fee must be paid by the home Club.
- (f) Both clubs shall provide a flag for use by their respective club assistant referees for all rounds where a neutral assistant is not appointed by the association.
- (g) The Match Referee shall retain the team sheet provided by both sides until the end of season for inspection by the Cups Committee if requested.
- (h) The **AWAY** club shall pay the Referee's fee, as stated in appendix B (Note this will not apply if the provisions of Rule 10 (d) and 14 (d) apply when the cost will be met by the home club). This may be either electronic payment or cash, as agreed with the match official. If the latter this shall take place in the dressing room 15 minutes prior the kick off, or within 15 minutes of the completion of the game, whichever is the wish of the referee having ascertained the referees preference before the match. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out in the fees and fines section.

In the Semi Final ties the cost of the match official's fees shall be paid for by the home club who shall then be reimbursed this amount by the County Association, less any gate receipts taken by the home club. (please see provision of rule 16). This shall be claimed by the home club submitting an expenses sheet as supplied by the Association.

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- (a) All late starts must be reported by the Referee
- (b) Clubs responsible for late starts shall be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

16. SHARING OF GATES

From the gate money taken at all matches prior to the Semi-Final tie, the home team shall pay all match expenses, excluding the travelling expenses of the visitors and bear any loss or retain any net proceeds. The visiting team shall pay their own expenses.

- (a) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to revise match expense charges which in their opinion are excessive.
- (b) In any match ordered to be replayed in consequence of a breach of Rule, the Club in default shall not receive any share of the proceeds of such replayed match without the consent of the County Cups Committee and such consent shall only be given under special circumstances. If consent is not given, the share shall be taken by the Association.

In semi-finals the gate receipts shall be used to pay the referee and assistant referee's fee, with the County Association paying the balance of any amount not so covered by the gate takings. The home club shall submit a receipt of their match takings.

17. ADMISSION CHARGE

Admission is to be charged at the discretion of the Home Club.

18. WITHDRAWAL OF CLUBS & FAILURE TO PLAY

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- (b) Any club failing to fulfil a fixture in any round prior to the Semi-Final ties, save for unfitness of ground, shall be ruled out of the competition and fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary. In the event that that a club fails to fulfil a tie in the semi-final or final tie the minimum fine shall be no less than (see below)

Any club with drawing under clause a or failing to fulfil a fixture under clause b, MUST inform the County Office, County Referees Appointment Officer, their opponents and appointed match official(s) of such. In the event that some or all of these parties are not informed and either match officials or opposing teams travel, then the Cups Committee shall reserve the right to award costs arising against the defaulting club as they see fit.

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The MINIMUM fines that shall apply are as follows:

Withdraw £20 Failure to play £20 Failure to play semi-final and final £30

- (c) Clubs may request a postponement of a match in writing, only where three or more players are engaged in an educational activity. Said request to be accompanied by a letter on headed paper from the school where the activity is taking place outlining both the activity and listing the names of those involved; this to be duly signed by a member of the schools staff. A request for such a postponement must be submitted to the County Office at least SEVEN days prior to the reserved date of the tie or the request will not be entertained.

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All questions arising out of these Rules shall be dealt with by the County Cups and Ground Committee.

- (a) Any Club wishing to make a protest against the result of a match must do so within seven days of the match being played.
- (b) The protest must be in writing clearly stating the grounds upon which it is made and must be signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Club.
- (c) Two copies of the protest must be sent to the Chief Executive together with a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the protest is not upheld.
- (d) The defaulting Club may be called upon to pay the whole or part of the expenses of the meeting and the expenses of the other Club SEE ALSO MEMBERSHIP RULES 5 AND 6 RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION.

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Trophy Agreement

When the winners of an Association Cup shall have been ascertained, the Chief Executive shall hand over the Cup to such winners on their subscribing to the following effect:

We the undersigned on behalf of (name of Club or League) having been declared winner and taken possession of the Somerset Football Association Ltd (Competition) Trophy, which we understand remains the property of the Somerset Football Association Ltd, do hereby jointly and severally, undertake to keep the said Trophy in safe custody.

Furthermore we agree to return the Trophy no later than 1 March in the ensuing year in good order. We also undertake to pay for any damage to the Trophy whilst in our care.

Signed Club/League Secretary

Signed Position

Any Club or League failing to comply with the above requirements will be fined, as set out in the Fees and Fines Section, in addition to the cost of any repair.

21. MEDALS

Eighteen medals or other mementos shall be awarded to the winners and runners-up of all Association Cup Competitions. (Unless the number of players on a starting team is less than 11, when the number shall be adjusted to the number of players in a starting team plus five substitutes). Competing clubs may request extra medals, this should



be made in writing to the association; the cost of any such request for extra medals or mementos shall be met by the requesting club

22. SHIRT COLOURS

- (a) No player or goalkeeper shall be permitted to wear black or very dark coloured shirts.
- (b) The home club shall inform the opposition of their kit colours to avoid a possible colour clash on the day, along with directions to the ground if required, no later than 3 days prior to the date of the match. Both teams shall provide their players with individually numbered shirts which must correspond to the numbers listed on the team sheet. In the event of a similarity of colours between two teams in a match the visiting team must change. Shorts and socks must be of different colours between teams. In the final tie the team drawn first shall be deemed the home club and shall have choice of colours in the event of a similarity of colours. Defaulting clubs shall be fined, as set out in Fees and Fines Section.
- (c) 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 his shirt because of a blood injury.

23. DATES

All reserved County Cup dates are to be strictly adhered to. Failure to do so will mean disqualification from the Competition.

24. RULES

These Rules shall not be altered or rescinded save at the Annual General Meeting or special meeting of the Association of which fourteen days notice shall be given

25. MATCH BALL

A size 5 ball must be used in all matches played in this Competition.

FINES REFERRED TO IN THE RULES

Youth Shield Competition

Rule 4	£10.00
Rule 5(f)	£10.00
Rule 7	£15.00
Rule 10(a)	£25.00
Rule 10(d)	£10.00
Rule 10(e)	£10.00
Rule 12(a)	£15.00
Rule 12(b)	£10.00
Rule 12(c)	£10.00
Rule 14(d)	£10.00
Rule 14(h)	£10.00
Rule 15(b)	£10.00 - for first 15 minutes or part thereof and £5.00 - for each succeeding 5 minutes or part thereof
Rule 18(a)	£20.00 (Minimum)
(b)	£20.00 (Minimum)
	£30.00 (Minimum) Re: Semi Final & Final
Rule 20(c)	£25.00
Rule 21	£50.00
Rule 22(b)	£16.00

Referees Fees **£40 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Assistant Referees **£30 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Travel Expenses - Referees and Assistant Referees

N.B. The county mileage rate shall be decided by the Board of Directors at their discretion, from time to time. When this change may occur after the printing of this handbook the new rate shall apply in place of the one listed here. The new rate shall be communicated by the county office to all members as and when it occurs

GIRLS UNDER 15 CUP COMPETITION (2025)
RULES

1. TITLE

The Trophy shall be called 'The Somerset Football Association Girls Under 15 Cup' and shall be a perpetual trophy competed for annually by Girl Youth Clubs and teams who are affiliated to the Association.

2. CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT

- (a) The County Cups and Ground Committee of the Association shall have the entire control and management of the Competition and shall have the power to disqualify, impose fines or other such penalties and may order the payment of costs and expenses against any competing Club, or the players of any competing Club, in breach of any of the Rules of the Competition.
- (b) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall decide upon the interpretation of the Rules of the Competition, adjudicate upon any dispute, claim or protest and their decision shall be final and binding.
- (c) All matches shall be played on Saturdays.
- (d) All Somerset FA Cup Competitions are to be played in accordance with the FA Respect Programme, to which all competing clubs must adhere.

3. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

No Club shall enter the Competition after **21st July** in each playing season. All competing clubs MUST supply two mobile phone numbers for use with reporting results; these shall be supplied on the entry form. No entry will be accepted without numbers supplied.

- (a) All clubs shall send the county association a colour photograph of their kit (and change strip if appropriate) before their entrance to the competition is accepted. In the event that their kit is changed during the duration of the competition they shall seek permission to do so from the association and submit a picture at that point. The picture may be in hard or soft copy
- (b) A club may enter more than one team in the competition if they have multiple teams at this age group. All subsequent teams shall pay an additional entrance fee commensurate with the entrance fee. Where a club enters more than one team a player shall not play for more than one team within that club in the competition in any one season, see rule 5(c)
- (c) Any under 15 **TEAM** entering this competition shall not be permitted to enter the Girls U16 Cup in the same playing season.

4. ENTRANCE FEE

Clubs or teams entering the Competition shall pay a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section in addition to the annual affiliation fee payable in respect of membership of the Association.

5. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

- (a) ***In all rounds of the Competition a Player must have been a registered member of their Club on the FA Player Registration system by the Friday before the date of the match. No player shall be eligible if registered after the dates reserved for the playing of semi-final ties.***
- (b) A registered member is one who is registered with a League in which the Club competes.
- (c) A Player shall not in the same Season play for more than one competing Club or team in the same club where his or her club enters more the one team in the competition.
- (d) In the case of a postponed or abandoned match, only those Players who were qualified to play on the original date fixed for the round shall be eligible to play in the re-arranged match.
- (e) Substitute(s): A player who has been substituted during a match herself becomes a substitute and may in turn, replace another player at any time subject to the substitution being carried out in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of Association Football. Up to a maximum of SEVEN may be nominated all of whom may be used repeatedly within the substitute process.
- (f) Clubs must hand copies of a list of names of players taking part in the game (including names of nominated substitutes) to the Referee and a representative of their opponents, in the presence of the Referee, 30 minutes before commencement of the match. The home Club must supply two match balls. Any Club failing to carry out these provisions will be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) The only Players who are eligible to take part are those that have not reached the age of 15 years as at midnight on 31st August of the current season.
- (h) A Player's date of birth must be inserted on her Registration Form and her Birth Certificate must be verified by her Club's Secretary and be produced whenever requested by the Cups Committee.

6. VALIDITY OF PLAYERS QUALIFICATIONS

If County Cups and Ground Committee have any doubt as to the qualification of any Player taking part in the Competition they shall have power to call upon such Players of the Club to which she belongs, or for which she played,

to prove that she is qualified according to the Rules and failing satisfactory proof the County Cups and Ground Committee may disqualify such Players and may remove the Club from the Competition and impose such other penalty as they may think fit.

7. DISQUALIFICATION

The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to disqualify any competing Club, or Player, or Players for any competing Club who may be proved guilty of any breach of the Rules of the Association and impose a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

8. CONDUCT OF CLUBS

All clubs shall be held responsible for the conduct of their Players, members and spectators and shall give every assistance to the rulings of the Referee whose decisions as to the state of the ground, laws of the game and interference of spectators shall be unquestioned save by the County Cups and Ground Committee of the Association.

Subsequent to any action completed by the Disciplinary Committee, the Cups Committee shall decide on the eligibility of the club to enter county cup competitions in the following season

Temporary Dismissals (Sin Bins) will be in used in this competition where FA regulations determine that sanction for specified offences.

9. THE DRAW

(a) The ties shall be drawn, the dates fixed and the matches played as the County Cups and Ground Committee may determine.

Requests for an exemption from playing on the reserved date (a "free day") will not be entertained, save in youth competitions under the provisions of rule 18(c).

(b) In each tie the game shall be played on the ground of the Club first drawn, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon and the consent of the County Cups and Ground Committee obtained.

(c) No Club shall receive a bye in two consecutive rounds.

(d) No Club shall, unless unavoidable, receive more than one bye in the course of the Competition each Season but the County Cups and Ground Committee shall have power to give sufficient number of byes to ensure four clubs competing in the Semi-final ties.

(e) In the event of Clubs sharing the same pitch the first drawn will have priority unless mutually agreed; the second Club to play the following week.

10. GROUNDS

For the purpose of this rule where Ground is referenced this shall refer to the entire facility on which the playing pitch is situated and all of the pitches thereof, with the exception of Artificial Grass pitch facilities where it shall refer to the specific artificial grass surface. County Cup competition matches shall only take place on grounds where there are changing rooms for both sides, such changing rooms must have showers

(a) If the ground of the Club having choice of ground is considered unsuitable, the opposing Club may Appeal to the County Cups and Ground Committee within three days of the receipt of the draw. Such Appeal must be accompanied by a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the Appeal is not upheld. The payment of expenses incidental to the Appeal shall be at the discretion of the County Cups and Ground Committee.

(b) Each Club must take every precaution to keep its ground in a playing condition and if necessary the home or visiting Club may apply to the Association Secretary to instruct the Referee or some other suitable person to examine the ground as to its fitness for play, in sufficient time to save expenses being incurred for unnecessary journeys. Pitches must have Respect barriers or lines; these must be on the opposite side to the technical area. Where it is not possible to site the respect barrier opposite the technical area agreement to move to Respect line to the same as the technical area must be obtained from the County FA in writing (email will suffice)

(c) The grounds on which the Final tie is to be played shall be chosen by the County Cups and Ground Committee. In the Final tie the Referee shall, if requested by the Association Secretary, visit the ground three hours before the time of kick-off.

(d) The appointed referee shall be the sole judge as to the fitness of the ground in all matches but when adverse weather conditions prevail on the day before or on the morning of the match, the Home Club is empowered to call in a Local Referee, Level 7 or higher (who must be over 18 years of age) who shall be independent of the home club, who shall have the power to postpone the match and must submit a written report to the Association Secretary. The Home Club to notify the Referee's Officer, Opponents and Match Officials of the postponement. Clubs MUST phone the match official(s) and leave a message informing them of the cancellation. Failure to do so shall result in a fine of £10 along with other sanctions as proscribed later in this rule. Clubs failing to notify will be fined as set out in the Fees and Fines section. If after the arrival of the visiting team the Referee declares the ground unfit for play, the County Cups Committee may order the home Club to pay such part of the expenses of the visiting club as they may consider fair, and half the match fee must be paid by the home Club, to the Referee. If the match is cancelled, for any reason, (other than unfitness of ground) but the club fails to inform their opponents and/or match official(s) causing them to travel to the game, then the home team SHALL pay the match official(s) their FULL match fee the visiting team travelling expenses as deemed appropriate by the Cups Committee along with any

other expenses the Cups Committee deem appropriate. In the event that this tie is a semi-final then the team shall NOT be eligible to claim the match official's expenses from the County FA as outlined in Rule 14. Where a club plays on a ground owned by a third party and that party makes a decision to cancel the match the home club must provide written confirmation from their landlord of the decision to cancel said match to the county office within 5 working days of the match. Failure to do so may see the club excluded from the competition.

- (e) If a match has to be postponed for either of the reasons in paragraph (d) above, or is abandoned for any reason, save for incidents when the abandonment was due to disciplinary issues, it shall be played the weekend following unless advised otherwise by the County Cups Committee. The match shall have the same referee as appointed to the original date unless otherwise advised by the Referees Appointment Officer.

Should the rearranged date for either a postponed or abandoned match as defined above fall within the school holiday period for one or both competing teams, if either of the clubs have players on holiday during the school holiday period then they must inform the county association immediately and they will be allowed to postpone the game. Clubs doing so MUST inform their opponents, the County Referees Appointment Officer and, where appointed, their match referees (and assistants if applicable). A Club requesting such a postponement shall not be available to play any other fixture of lower precedence on that date.

In this scenario the match will be played in the first weekend of the next school term. Where school term periods are not concurrent between different education authorities and clubs are from separate authorities, a club will be allowed to postpone if they have players on holiday in a school holiday period even if their opponents have finished their holiday period. Where school term times are not concurrent the default date shall be the first weekend when both clubs are in term time.

Where a match has been postponed for two weeks the side drawn at home shall consider finding an alternate ground or reversing the fixture for the third week if there is a possibility that their ground may not be fit to host the game for the third week if (they have not already done so in the initial two weeks).

- (f) The home Club must notify their opponents of ground location. Failure to comply will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) Separate accommodation MUST be provided for Match Officials.
- (h) The use of third generation (3g) artificial grass pitches will be allowed for use in the competition. To be eligible the pitch must be on the FA register of approved 3g surfaces register. The home must club must provide a list of acceptable footwear for use on the pitch to their opposition and appointed referee no less than 5 days prior to the date of the tie (unless a shorter period is mutually acceptable to both parties). The home team shall be liable for ALL costs (excluding opposition expenses) arising from the hire for use of such a pitch. The use of any other artificial pitch other than a 3g (artificial grass) will NOT be entertained.

11. DURATION OF MATCHES

The duration of each match shall be 80 minutes. If at the end of the match the scores are level, then Kicks from the Penalty Mark will take place as described in the Penalty Kicks Section.

If, at any time during the match, the difference in goals scored between the two sides reaches 10 goals, the match will end and be deemed properly completed with the match result as of that time; the team leading by 10 goals shall be the winners and advance into the next round.

(N.B. If there is sufficient time remaining at the end of the match in the above circumstances, the two teams may, at their discretion, play a friendly match lasting the duration of the remaining minutes. In such cases this shall have NO bearing on the result of the match)

12. REPORTING RESULTS

- (a) Both competing clubs MUST present a team sheet to the match referee and their opponents prior to the commencement of the match; this MUST include the names and initials of Players representing their Club; the number of the shirt that the player is to wear in the match MUST be written on the team sheet submitted next to the players name.

After the match The Secretary of each Club shall send a copy of that team sheet to the association to include the match result and a mark of the match official's performance in the game (SEE APPENDIX A), so that it is received within four days of the match (Sundays not included). This shall be via post or via electronic copy, if the latter it shall be emailed to Countycupadmin@somersetfa.com Where clubs use electronic copy it should be a scanned version of the team sheet used. Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be subject to a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section and in default of payment shall also be ruled out of the Competition. The club in case will not be allowed to compete in a subsequent round of the competition until the team sheet from the previous round is received by the County Association 7 days prior to the match being played.

- (b) A Referees marking out of 100, (a marking guide is provided in Appendix A at the rear of the book) should be inserted on the result sheet. Failure to do so will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section. Any mark of 60 or below MUST be accompanied by a letter explaining the mark. Failure to do so to lead to a fine of £15.
- (c) The home club shall input the result via FA match day app on the same day of the match, (in the event that the App is not working then the result must be emailed to countycupadmin@somersetfa.com on the same day of the match);

failure to meet the provisions of this rule will see the club fined as listed in the Fees and Fines section (Appendix B)

13. TIME OF KICK-OFF

All matches shall commence as follows: **10.30 am**

However, the kick-off time may be altered if both teams, the County FA, and the Referee's Appointment Officer agree and are notified within 7 days of the draw being made or prior to the match. If an agreement cannot be reached, the default time will remain.

14. REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES

(a) Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association. Where the appointed referee and (where appointed) assistant referees are under the age of 18, this will be communicated to the respective home club in advance of the match by the Referee Appointment Officer. When the under 18 match official(s) arrive at the ground the home club shall get the match official(s) to sign in on the appropriate space on the team sheet and sign out on the appropriate space on the team sheet after the match when they leave. Failure to carry out this action will result in a fine of £10 against the offending club.

Where a club is informed that the match official(s) are under 18 separate changing/showering facilities from adult officials MUST be provided or if this cannot be arranged, separate changing and showering times from adults MUST be arranged

- (b) In all rounds prior to the Semi-final tie the competing Clubs MUST each provide a Club Assistant Referee.
- (c) In the Semi-final and Final ties, Assistant Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association.
- (d) It is the responsibility of the Home club to notify the Match Officials and their opponents of the location of their ground and the time of kick off 4 days prior to the match being played. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out under the fees and fines section.
- (e) If a match is postponed on arrival of the Referee, half the match fee must be paid by the home Club.
- (f) Both clubs shall provide a flag for use by their respective club assistant referees for all rounds where a neutral assistant is not appointed by the association.
- (g) The Match Referee shall retain the team sheet provided by both sides until the end of season for inspection by the Cups Committee if requested.
- (h) The AWAY club shall pay the Referee's fee, as stated in appendix B (Note this will not apply if the provisions of Rule 10 (d) and 14 (d) apply when the cost will be met by the home club). This may be either electronic payment or cash, as agreed with the match official. If the latter this shall take place in the dressing room 15 minutes prior the kick off, or within 15 minutes of the completion of the game, whichever is the wish of the referee having ascertained the referees preference before the match. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out in the fees and fines section.

In the Semi Final ties the cost of the match official's fees shall be paid for by the home club who shall then be reimbursed this amount by the County Association, less any gate receipts taken by the home club. (please see provision of rule 16). This shall be claimed by the home club submitting an expenses sheet as supplied by the Association.

15. LATE STARTS

- (a) All late starts must be reported by the Referee
- (b) Clubs responsible for late starts shall be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

16. SHARING OF GATES

From the gate money taken at all matches prior to the Semi-Final tie, the home team shall pay all match expenses, excluding the travelling expenses of the visitors and bear any loss or retain any net proceeds. The visiting team shall pay their own expenses.

- (a) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to revise match expense charges which in their opinion are excessive.
- (b) In any match ordered to be replayed in consequence of a breach of Rule, the Club in default shall not receive any share of the proceeds of such replayed match without the consent of the County Cups Committee and such consent shall only be given under special circumstances. If consent is not given, the share shall be taken by the Association.

In semi-finals the gate receipts shall be used to pay the referee and assistant referee's fee, with the County Association paying the balance of any amount not so covered by the gate takings. The home club shall submit a receipt of their match takings.

17. ADMISSION CHARGE

Admission is to be charged at the discretion of the Home Club.

18. WITHDRAWAL OF CLUBS & FAILURE TO PLAY

- (a) Any Club withdrawing from the Competition after the draw has been made shall be fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary.

- (b) Any club failing to fulfil a fixture in any round prior to the Semi-Final ties, save for unfitness of ground, shall be ruled out of the competition and fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary. In the event that that a club fails to fulfil a tie in the semi-final or final tie the minimum fine shall be no less than (see below)

Any club with drawing under clause a or failing to fulfil a fixture under clause b, MUST inform the County Office, County Referees Appointment Officer, their opponents and appointed match official(s) of such. In the event that some or all of these parties are not informed and either match officials or opposing teams travel, then the Cups Committee shall reserve the right to award costs arising against the defaulting club as they see fit.

The Cups committee shall reserve the right to award any other costs arising from a cancelled match due to a club defaulting under clauses a and/or b

The MINIMUM fines that shall apply are as follows:

Withdraw £20 Failure to play £20 Failure to play semi-final and final £30

- (c) Clubs may request a postponement of a match in writing, only where three or more players are engaged in an educational activity. Said request to be accompanied by a letter on headed paper from the school where the activity is taking place outlining both the activity and listing the names of those involved; this to be duly signed by a member of the schools staff. A request for such a postponement must be submitted to the County Office at least SEVEN days prior to the reserved date of the tie or the request will not be entertained.

19. PROTESTS

All questions arising out of these Rules shall be dealt with by the County Cups and Ground Committee.

- (a) Any Club wishing to make a protest against the result of a match must do so within seven days of the match being played.
- (b) The protest must be in writing clearly stating the grounds upon which it is made and must be signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Club.
- (c) Two copies of the protest must be sent to the Chief Executive together with a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the protest is not upheld.
- (d) The defaulting Club may be called upon to pay the whole or part of the expenses of the meeting and the expenses of the other Club SEE ALSO MEMBERSHIP RULES 5 AND 6 RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION.

20. TROPHY: SAFE KEEPING AND RETURN

Trophy Agreement

When the winners of an Association Cup shall have been ascertained, the Chief Executive shall hand over the Cup to such winners on their subscribing to the following effect:

We the undersigned on behalf of (name of Club or League) having been declared winner and taken possession of the Somerset Football Association Ltd (Competition) Trophy, which we understand remains the property of the Somerset Football Association Ltd, do hereby jointly and severally, undertake to keep the said Trophy in safe custody.

Furthermore we agree to return the Trophy no later than 1 March in the ensuing year in good order. We also undertake to pay for any damage to the Trophy whilst in our care.

Signed Club/League Secretary

Signed Position

Any Club or League failing to comply with the above requirements will be fined, as set out in the Fees and Fines Section, in addition to the cost of any repair.

21. MEDALS

Eighteen medals or other mementos shall be awarded to the winners and runners-up of all Association Cup Competitions. (Unless the number of players on a starting team is less than 11, when the number shall be adjusted to the number of players in a starting team plus five substitutes). Competing clubs may request extra medals, this should be made in writing to the association; the cost of any such request for extra medals or mementos shall be met by the requesting club

22. SHIRT COLOURS

- (a) No player or goalkeeper shall be permitted to wear black or very dark coloured shirts.
- (b) The home club shall inform the opposition of their kit colours to avoid a possible colour clash on the day, along with directions to the ground if required, no later than 3 days prior to the date of the match. Both teams shall provide their players with individually numbered shirts which must correspond to the numbers listed on the team sheet. In the event of a similarity of colours between two teams in a match the visiting team must change. Shorts and socks must be of different colours between teams. In the final tie the team drawn first shall be deemed the home club and shall have choice of colours in the event of a similarity of colours. Defaulting clubs shall be fined, as set out in Fees and Fines Section.
- (c) 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 her shirt because of a blood injury.

23. DATES

All reserved County Cup dates are to be strictly adhered to. Failure to do so will mean disqualification from the Competition.

24. RULES

These Rules shall not be altered or rescinded save at the Annual General Meeting or special meeting of the Association of which fourteen days notice shall be given

25. MATCH BALL

A size 5 ball must be used in all matches played in this Competition.

FINES REFERRED TO IN THE RULES

Girls Under 15 Cup Competition

Rule 4	£10.00
Rule 5(f)	£10.00
Rule 7	£15.00
Rule 10(a)	£25.00
Rule 10(d)	£10.00
Rule 10(e)	£10.00
Rule 12(a)	£15.00
Rule 12(b)	£10.00
Rule 12(c)	£10.00
Rule 14(d)	£10.00
Rule 14(h)	£10.00
Rule 15(b)	£10.00 - for first 15 minutes or part thereof £5.00 - for each succeeding 5 minutes or part thereof
Rule 18(a)	£20.00 (Minimum)
(b)	£20.00 (Minimum)
	£30.00 (Minimum) Re: Semi Final & Final
Rule 20(c)	£25.00
Rule 21	£50.00
Rule 22(b)	£16.00

Referees Fees **£40 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Assistant Referees **£30 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Travel Expenses - Referees and Assistant Referees

N.B. The county mileage rate shall be decided by the Board of Directors at their discretion, from time to time. When this change may occur after the printing of this handbook the new rate shall apply in place of the one listed here. The new rate shall be communicated by the county office to all members as and when it occurs.

BOYS LEWIN CUP COMPETITION RULES

1. TITLE

The Competition shall be called 'The Somerset Football Association Boy's Lewin Youth Cup Competition' and the Cup shall be a perpetual trophy competed for annually by teams who are affiliated to the Association.

2. CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT

- (a) The County Cups and Ground Committee of the Association shall have the entire control and management of the Competition and shall have the power to disqualify, impose fines or other such penalties and may order the payment of any costs and expenses against any competing League, or the Players of any competing League, in breach of any of the Rules of the Competition.
- (b) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall decide upon the interpretation of the Rules of the Competition, adjudicate upon any dispute, claim or protest and their decision shall be final and binding.
- (c) All Somerset FA Cup Competitions are to be played in accordance with the FA Respect Programme, to which all competing clubs must adhere.

3. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

No Club shall enter the Competition after **21st July** in each playing season. All competing clubs MUST supply two mobile phone numbers for use with reporting results; these shall be supplied on the entry form. No entry will be accepted without numbers supplied.

- (a) All clubs shall send the county association a colour photograph of their kit (and change strip if appropriate) before their entrance to the competition is accepted. In the event that their kit is changed during the duration of the competition they shall seek permission to do so from the association and submit a picture at that point. The picture may be in hard or soft copy
- (b) A club may enter more than one team in the competition if they have multiple teams at this age group. All subsequent teams shall pay an additional entrance fee commensurate with the entrance fee. Where a club enters more than one team a player shall not play for more than one team within that club in the competition in any one season, see rule 5(c)
- (c) Any under 14 **TEAM** entering this competition shall not be permitted to enter the Under 15 Cup in the same playing season.

4. ENTRANCE FEE

Clubs or teams entering the Competition shall pay a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section in addition to the annual affiliation fee payable in respect of membership of the Association.

5. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

- (a) ***In all rounds of the Competition a Player must have been a registered member of their Club on the FA Player Registration system by the Friday before the date of the match. No player shall be eligible if registered after the dates reserved for the playing of semi-final ties.***
- (b) A registered member is one who is registered with a League in which the Club competes.
- (c) A Player shall not in the same Season play for more than one competing Club or team in the same club where his or her club enters more the one team in the competition.
- (d) In the case of a postponed or abandoned match, only those Players who were qualified to play on the original date fixed for the round shall be eligible to play in the re-arranged match.
- (e) Substitute(s): A player who has been substituted during a match himself becomes a substitute and may, in turn, replace another player at any time subject to the substitution being carried out in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of Association Football. Up to a maximum of SEVEN may be nominated, all of whom may be used repeatedly within the substitute process. Any substitute(s) who has/have not been used is /are entitled to play for another club in the same Season if qualified under Clause (a) above.
- (f) Clubs must hand copies of a list of names of players taking part in the game (including names of nominated substitutes) to the Referee and a representative of their opponents, in the presence of the Referee, 30 minutes before commencement of the match. The home Club must supply two match balls. Any Club failing to carry out these provisions will be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) The only Players who are eligible to take part are those who have not reached the age of 14 years as at midnight on 31st August of the current season.
- (h) A Player who is over ten years and under fourteen years at Midnight on 31st August in any playing Season must not play in a match involving Players who were more than two years older than himself. For the purpose of this Competition Players must be over twelve years and under fourteen years on the qualifying date.
- (i) A Player's date of birth must be inserted on his Registration Form and his Birth Certificate must be verified by his Club's Secretary and be produced whenever requested by the Cups Committee.

6. VALIDITY OF PLAYERS QUALIFICATIONS

If County Cups and Ground Committee have any doubt as to the qualification of any Player taking part in the

Competition they shall have power to call upon such Players of the Club to which he belongs, or for which he played, to prove that he is qualified according to the Rules and failing satisfactory proof the County Cups and Ground Committee may disqualify such Players and may remove the Club from the Competition and impose such other penalty as they may think fit.

7. DISQUALIFICATION

The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to disqualify any competing Club, or Player, or Players for any competing Club who may be proved guilty of any breach of the Rules of the Association and impose a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

8. CONDUCT OF CLUBS

All clubs shall be held responsible for the conduct of their Players, members and spectators and shall give every assistance to the rulings of the Referee whose decisions as to the state of the ground, laws of the game and interference of spectators shall be unquestioned save by the County Cups and Ground Committee of the Association. Subsequent to any action completed by the Disciplinary Committee, the Cups Committee shall decide on the eligibility of the club to enter county cup competitions in the following season

Temporary Dismissals (Sin Bins) will be in used in this competition where FA regulations determine that sanction for specified offences.

9. THE DRAW

(a) The ties shall be drawn, the dates fixed and the matches played as the County Cups and Ground Committee may determine.

Requests for an exemption from playing on the reserved date (a "free day") will not be entertained, save in youth competitions under the provisions of rule 18(c).

(b) In each tie the game shall be played on the ground of the Club first drawn, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon and the consent of the County Cups and Ground Committee obtained.

(c) No Club shall receive a bye in two consecutive rounds.

(d) No Club shall, unless unavoidable, receive more than one bye in the course of the Competition each Season but the County Cups and Ground Committee shall have power to give sufficient number of byes to ensure four clubs competing in the Semi-final ties.

(e) In the event of Clubs sharing the same pitch the first drawn will have priority unless mutually agreed; the second Club to play the following week.

10. GROUNDS

For the purpose of this rule where Ground is referenced this shall refer to the entire facility on which the playing pitch is situated and all of the pitches thereof, with the exception of Artificial Grass pitch facilities where it shall refer to the specific artificial grass surface. County Cup competition matches shall only take place on grounds where there are changing rooms for both sides, such changing rooms must have showers

(a) If the ground of the Club having choice of ground is considered unsuitable, the opposing Club may Appeal to the County Cups and Ground Committee within three days of the receipt of the draw. Such Appeal must be accompanied by a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the Appeal is not upheld. The payment of expenses incidental to the Appeal shall be at the discretion of the County Cups and Ground Committee.

(b) Each Club must take every precaution to keep its ground in a playing condition and if necessary, the home or visiting Club may apply to the Association Secretary to instruct the Referee or some other suitable person to examine the ground as to its fitness for play, in sufficient time to save expenses being incurred for unnecessary journeys. Pitches must have Respect barriers or lines; these must be on the opposite side to the technical area. Where it is not possible to site the respect barrier opposite the technical area agreement to move to Respect line to the same as the technical area must be obtained from the County FA in writing (email will suffice)

(c) The grounds on which the Final tie is to be played shall be chosen by the County Cups and Ground Committee. In the Final tie the Referee shall, if requested by the Association Secretary, visit the ground three hours before the time of kick-off.

(d) The appointed referee shall be the sole judge as to the fitness of the ground in all matches but when adverse weather conditions prevail on the day before or on the morning of the match, the Home Club is empowered to call in a Local Referee, Level 7 or higher (who must be over 18 years of age) who shall be independent of the home club, who shall have the power to postpone the match and must submit a written report to the Association Secretary. The Home Club to notify the Referee's Officer, Opponents and Match Officials of the postponement. Clubs MUST phone the match official(s) and leave a message informing them of the cancellation. Failure to do so shall result in a fine of £10 along with other sanctions as proscribed later in this rule. Clubs failing to notify will be fined as set out in the Fees and Fines section. If after the arrival of the visiting team the Referee declares the ground unfit for play, the County Cups Committee may order the home Club to pay such part of the expenses of the visiting club as they may consider fair, and half the match fee must be paid by the home Club, to the Referee. If the match is cancelled, for any reason, (other than unfitness of ground) but the club fails

to inform their opponents and/or match official(s) causing them to travel to the game, then the home team SHALL pay the match official(s) their FULL match fee the visiting team travelling expenses as deemed appropriate by the Cups Committee along with any other expenses the Cups Committee deem appropriate. In the event that this tie is a semi-final then the team shall NOT be eligible to claim the match official's expenses from the County FA as outlined in Rule 14. Where a club plays on a ground owned by a third party and that party makes a decision to cancel the match the home club must provide written confirmation from their landlord of the decision to cancel said match to the county office within 5 working days of the match. Failure to do so may see the club excluded from the competition.

- (e) If a match has to be postponed for either of the reasons in paragraph (d) above, or is abandoned for any reason, save for incidents when the abandonment was due to disciplinary issues, it shall be played the weekend following unless advised otherwise by the County Cups Committee. The match shall have the same referee as appointed to the original date unless otherwise advised by the Referees Appointment Officer.

Should the rearranged date for either a postponed or abandoned match as defined above fall within the school holiday period for one or both competing teams, if either of the clubs have players on holiday during the school holiday period then they must inform the county association immediately and they will be allowed to postpone the game. Clubs doing so MUST inform their opponents, the County Referees Appointment Officer and, where appointed, their match referees (and assistants if applicable). A Club requesting such a postponement shall not be available to play any other fixture of lower precedence on that date.

In this scenario the match will be played in the first weekend of the next school term. Where school term periods are not concurrent between different education authorities and clubs are from separate authorities, a club will be allowed to postpone if they have players on holiday in a school holiday period even if their opponents have finished their holiday period. Where school term times are not concurrent the default date shall be the first weekend when both clubs are in term time.

Where a match has been postponed for two weeks the side drawn at home shall consider finding an alternate ground or reversing the fixture for the third week if there is a possibility that their ground may not be fit to host the game for the third week if (they have not already done so in the initial two weeks).

- (f) The home Club must notify their opponents of ground location. Failure to comply will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) Separate accommodation MUST be provided for Match Officials.
- (h) The use of third generation (3g) artificial grass pitches will be allowed for use in the competition. To be eligible the pitch must be on the FA register of approved 3g surfaces register. The home must club must provide a list of acceptable footwear for use on the pitch to their opposition and appointed referee no less than 5 days prior to the date of the tie (unless a shorter period is mutually acceptable to both parties). The home team shall be liable for ALL costs (excluding opposition expenses) arising from the hire for use of such a pitch. The use of any other artificial pitch other than a 3g (artificial grass) will NOT be entertained.

11. DURATION OF MATCHES

The duration of ALL matches shall be 70 minutes (35 minutes each way). If at the end of the match the scores are level, then Kicks from the Penalty Mark will take place as described in the Penalty Kicks Section.

If, at any time during the match, the difference in goals scored between the two sides reaches 10 goals, the match will end and be deemed properly completed with the match result as of that time; the team leading by 10 goals shall be the winners and advance into the next round.

(N.B. If there is sufficient time remaining at the end of the match in the above circumstances, the two teams may, at their discretion, play a friendly match lasting the duration of the remaining minutes. In such cases this shall have NO bearing on the result of the match)

12. REPORTING RESULTS

- (a) Both competing clubs MUST present a team sheet to the match referee and their opponents prior to the commencement of the match; this MUST include the names and initials of Players representing their Club; the number of the shirt that the player is to wear in the match MUST be written on the team sheet submitted next to the players name.

After the match The Secretary of each Club shall send a copy of that team sheet to the association to include the match result and a mark of the match official's performance in the game (SEE APPENDIX A), so that it is received within four days of the match (Sundays not included). This shall be via post or via electronic copy, if the latter it shall be emailed to Countycupadmin@somersetfa.com Where clubs use electronic copy it should be a scanned version of the team sheet used. Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be subject to a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section and in default of payment shall also be ruled out of the Competition. The club in case will not be allowed to compete in a subsequent round of the competition until the team sheet from the previous round is received by the County Association 7 days prior to the match being played.

- (b) A Referees marking out of 100, (a marking guide is provided in Appendix A at the rear of the book) should be inserted on the result sheet. Failure to do so will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section. Any mark of 60 or below MUST be accompanied by a letter explaining the mark.

Failure to do so to lead to a fine of £15.

- (c) The home club shall input the result via FA match day app on the same day of the match, (in the event that the App is not working then the result must be emailed to countycupadmin@somersetfa.com on the same day of the match); failure to meet the provisions of this rule will see the club fined as listed in the Fees and Fines section (Appendix B)

13. TIME OF KICK-OFF

All matches shall kick off at 10.30

However, the kick-off time may be altered if both teams, the County FA, and the Referee's Appointment Officer agree and are notified within 7 days of the draw being made or prior to the match. If an agreement cannot be reached, the default time will remain.

14. REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES

- (a) Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association. Where the appointed referee and (where appointed) assistant referees are under the age of 18, this will be communicated to the respective home club in advance of the match by the Referee Appointment Officer. When the under 18 match official(s) arrive at the ground the home club shall get the match official(s) to sign in on the appropriate space on the team sheet and sign out on the appropriate space on the team sheet after the match when they leave. Failure to carry out this action will result in a fine of £10 against the offending club.
Where a club is informed that the match official(s) are under 18 separate changing/showering facilities from adult officials MUST be provided or if this cannot be arranged, separate changing and showering times from adults MUST be arranged
- (b) In all rounds prior to the Semi-final tie the competing Clubs MUST each provide a Club Assistant Referee.
- (c) In the Semi-final and Final ties, Assistant Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association.
- (d) It is the responsibility of the Home club to notify the Match Officials and their opponents of the location of their ground and the time of kick off 4 days prior to the match being played. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out under the fees and fines section.
- (e) If a match is postponed on arrival of the Referee, half the match fee must be paid by the home Club.
- (f) Both clubs shall provide a flag for use by their respective club assistant referees for all rounds where a neutral assistant is not appointed by the association.
- (g) The Match Referee shall retain the team sheet provided by both sides until the end of season for inspection by the Cups Committee if requested.
- (h) The AWAY club shall pay the Referee's fee, as stated in appendix B (Note this will not apply if the provisions of Rule 10 (d) and 14 (d) apply when the cost will be met by the home club). This may be either electronic payment or cash, as agreed with the match official. If the latter this shall take place in the dressing room 15 minutes prior to the kick off, or within 15 minutes of the completion of the game, whichever is the wish of the referee having ascertained the referees preference before the match. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out in the fees and fines section.

In the Semi Final ties the cost of the match official's fees shall be paid for by the home club who shall then be reimbursed this amount by the County Association, less any gate receipts taken by the home club. (please see provision of rule 16). This shall be claimed by the home club submitting an expenses sheet as supplied by the Association.

15. LATE STARTS

- (a) All late starts must be reported by the Referee
- (b) Clubs responsible for late starts shall be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

16. SHARING OF GATES

From the gate money taken at all matches prior to the Semi-Final tie, the home team shall pay all match expenses, excluding the travelling expenses of the visitors and bear any loss or retain any net proceeds. The visiting team shall pay their own expenses.

- (a) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to revise match expense charges which in their opinion are excessive.
- (b) In any match ordered to be replayed in consequence of a breach of Rule, the Club in default shall not receive any share of the proceeds of such replayed match without the consent of the County Cups Committee and such consent shall only be given under special circumstances. If consent is not given, the share shall be taken by the Association.

In semi-finals the gate receipts shall be used to pay the referee and assistant referee's fee, with the County Association paying the balance of any amount not so covered by the gate takings. The home club shall submit a receipt of their match takings.

17. ADMISSION CHARGE

Admission is to be charged at the discretion of the Home Club.

18. WITHDRAWAL OF CLUBS & FAILURE TO PLAY

- a) Any Club withdrawing from the Competition after the draw has been made shall be fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary.
- b) Any club failing to fulfil a fixture in any round prior to the Semi-Final ties, save for unfitness of ground, shall be ruled out of the competition and fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary. In the event that a club fails to fulfil a tie in the semi-final or final tie the minimum fine shall be no less than (see below)

Any club with drawing under clause a or failing to fulfil a fixture under clause b, MUST inform the County Office, County Referees Appointment Officer, their opponents and appointed match official(s) of such. In the event that some or all of these parties are not informed and either match officials or opposing teams travel, then the Cups Committee shall reserve the right to award costs arising against the defaulting club as they see fit.

The Cups committee shall reserve the right to award any other costs arising from a cancelled match due to a club defaulting under clauses a and/or b

The MINIMUM fines that shall apply are as follows:

Withdraw £20 Failure to play £20 Failure to play semi-final and final £30

- (c) Clubs may request a postponement of a match in writing, only where three or more players are engaged in an educational activity. Said request to be accompanied by a letter on headed paper from the school where the activity is taking place outlining both the activity and listing the names of those involved; this to be duly signed by a member of the schools staff. A request for such a postponement must be submitted to the County Office at least SEVEN days prior to the reserved date of the tie or the request will not be entertained.

19. PROTESTS

All questions arising out of these Rules shall be dealt with by the County Cups and Ground Committee.

- (a) Any Club wishing to make a protest against the result of a match must do so within seven days of the match being played.
- (b) The protest must be in writing clearly stating the grounds upon which it is made and must be signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Club.
- (c) Two copies of the protest must be sent to the Chief Executive together with a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the protest is not upheld.
- (d) The defaulting Club may be called upon to pay the whole or part of the expenses of the meeting and the expenses of the other Club SEE ALSO MEMBERSHIP RULES 5 AND 6 RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION.

20. TROPHY: SAFE KEEPING AND RETURN

Trophy Agreement

When the winners of an Association Cup shall have been ascertained, the Chief Executive shall hand over the Cup to such winners on their subscribing to the following effect:

We the undersigned on behalf of (name of Club or League) having been declared winner and taken possession of the Somerset Football Association Ltd (Competition) Trophy, which we understand remains the property of the Somerset Football Association Ltd, do hereby jointly and severally, undertake to keep the said Trophy in safe custody.

Furthermore we agree to return the Trophy (and box) no later than 1 March in the ensuing year in good order. We also undertake to pay for any damage to the Trophy whilst in our care.

Signed Club/League Secretary

Signed Position

Any Club or League failing to comply with the above requirements will be fined, as set out in the Fees and Fines Section, in addition to the cost of any repair.

21. MEDALS

Eighteen medals or other mementos shall be awarded to the winners and runners-up of all Association Cup Competitions. (Unless the number of players on a starting team is less than 11, when the number shall be adjusted to the number of players in a starting team plus five substitutes). Competing clubs may request extra medals, this should be made in writing to the association; the cost of any such request for extra medals or mementos shall be met by the requesting club

22. SHIRT COLOURS

- (a) No player or goalkeeper shall be permitted to wear black or very dark coloured shirts.
- (b) The home club shall inform the opposition of their kit colours to avoid a possible colour clash on the day, along with directions to the ground if required, no later than 3 days prior to the date of the match. Both

teams shall provide their players with individually numbered shirts which must correspond to the numbers listed on the team sheet. In the event of a similarity of colours between two teams in a match the visiting team must change. Shorts and socks must be of different colours between teams. In the final tie the team drawn first shall be deemed the home club and shall have choice of colours in the event of a similarity of colours. Defaulting clubs shall be fined, as set out in Fees and Fines Section.

- (c) 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 his shirt because of a blood injury.

23. DATES

All reserved County Cup dates are to be strictly adhered to. Failure to do so will mean disqualification from the Competition.

24. RULES

These Rules shall not be altered or rescinded save at the Annual General Meeting or special meeting of the Association of which fourteen days notice shall be given.

25. MATCH BALL

A size 4 ball must be used in all matches played in this Competition.

FINES REFERRED TO IN THE RULES

Lewin Youth Cup Competition

Rule 4	£10.00
Rule 5(f)	£10.00
Rule 7	£15.00
Rule 10(a)	£25.00
Rule 10(d)	£10.00
Rule 10(e)	£10.00
Rule 12(a)	£15.00
Rule 12(b)	£10.00
Rule 12(c)	£10.00
Rule 14(d)	£10.00
Rule 14(h)	£10.00
Rule 15(b)	£10.00 - for first 15 minutes or part thereof £5.00 - for each succeeding 5 minutes or part thereof
Rule 18(a)	£20.00 (Minimum)
(b)	£20.00 (Minimum)
	£30.00 (Minimum) Re: Semi Final & Final
Rule 20(c)	£25.00
Rule 21	£50.00
Rule 22(b)	£16.00

Referees Fees **£35 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Assistant Referees **£27 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Travel Expenses - Referees and Assistant Referees (FINAL ONLY)

N.B. The county mileage rate shall be decided by the Board of Directors at their discretion, from time to time. When this change may occur after the printing of this handbook the new rate shall apply in place of the one listed here. The new rate shall be communicated by the county office to all members as and when it occurs

VEO GIRLS UNDER 14 CUP COMPETITION (2006)
RULES

1. TITLE

The Trophy shall be called 'The Somerset Football Association Veo Girls Under 14 Cup' and shall be a perpetual trophy competed for annually by Girl Youth Clubs and teams who are affiliated to the Association.

2. CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT

- (a) The County Cups and Ground Committee of the Association shall have the entire control and management of the Competition and shall have the power to disqualify, impose fines or other such penalties and may order the payment of costs and expenses against any competing Club, or the players of any competing Club, in breach of any of the Rules of the Competition.
- (b) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall decide upon the interpretation of the Rules of the Competition, adjudicate upon any dispute, claim or protest and their decision shall be final and binding.
- (c) All Somerset FA Cup Competitions are to be played in accordance with the FA Respect Programme, to which all competing clubs must adhere.
- (d) The competition is an ELEVEN-A-SIDE competition
- (e) All matches shall be played on Saturdays.

3. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

No Club shall enter the Competition after **21st July** in each playing season. All competing clubs MUST supply two mobile phone numbers for use with reporting results; these shall be supplied on the entry form. No entry will be accepted without numbers supplied.

- (a) All clubs shall send the county association a colour photograph of their kit (and change strip if appropriate) before their entrance to the competition is accepted. In the event that their kit is changed during the duration of the competition they shall seek permission to do so from the association and submit a picture at that point. The picture may be in hard or soft copy
- (b) A club may enter more than one team in the competition if they have multiple teams at this age group. All subsequent teams shall pay an additional entrance fee commensurate with the entrance fee. Where a club enters more than one team a player shall not play for more than one team within that club in the competition in any one season, see rule 5(c)
- (c) Any under 14 **TEAM** entering this competition shall not be permitted to enter the Girls U15 Cup in the same playing season.

4. ENTRANCE FEE

Clubs or teams entering the Competition shall pay a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section in addition to the annual affiliation fee payable in respect of membership of the Association.

5. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

- (a) ***In all rounds of the Competition a Player must have been a registered member of their Club on the FA Player Registration system by the Friday before the date of the match. No player shall be eligible if registered after the dates reserved for the playing of semi-final ties.***
- (b) A registered member is one who is registered with a League in which the Club competes.
- (c) A Player shall not in the same Season play for more than one competing Club or team in the same club where his or her club enters more the one team in the competition.
- (d) In the case of a postponed or abandoned match, only those Players who were qualified to play on the original date fixed for the round shall be eligible to play in the re-arranged match.
- (e) Substitute(s): A player who has been substituted during a match herself becomes a substitute and may in turn, replace another player at any time subject to the substitution being carried out in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of Association Football. Up to a maximum of SEVEN may be nominated all of whom may be used repeatedly within the substitute process.
- (f) Clubs must hand copies of a list of names of players taking part in the game (including names of nominated substitutes) to the Referee and a representative of their opponents, in the presence of the Referee, 30 minutes before commencement of the match. The home Club must supply two match balls. Any Club failing to carry out these provisions will be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) The only Players who are eligible to take part are those that have not reached the age of 14 years as at midnight on 31st August of the current season.
- (h) A Player who is over ten years and under fourteen years at Midnight on 31st August in any playing Season must not play in a match involving Players who were more than two years older than herself.
- (i) A Player's date of birth must be inserted on her Registration Form and her Birth Certificate must be verified by her Club's Secretary and be produced whenever requested by the Cups Committee.

6. VALIDITY OF PLAYERS QUALIFICATIONS

If County Cups and Ground Committee have any doubt as to the qualification of any Player taking

part in the Competition they shall have power to call upon such Players of the Club to which she belongs, or for which she played, to prove that she is qualified according to the Rules and failing satisfactory proof the County Cups and Ground Committee may disqualify such Players and may remove the Club from the Competition and impose such other penalty as they may think fit.

7. DISQUALIFICATION

The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to disqualify any competing Club, or Player, or Players for any competing Club who may be proved guilty of any breach of the Rules of the Association and impose a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

8. CONDUCT OF CLUBS

All clubs shall be held responsible for the conduct of their Players, members and spectators and shall give every assistance to the rulings of the Referee whose decisions as to the state of the ground, laws of the game and interference of spectators shall be unquestioned save by the County Cups and Ground Committee of the Association.

Subsequent to any action completed by the Disciplinary Committee, the Cups Committee shall decide on the eligibility of the club to enter county cup competitions in the following season

Temporary Dismissals (Sin Bins) will be in used in this competition where FA regulations determine that sanction for specified offences.

9. THE DRAW

(a) The ties shall be drawn, the dates fixed, and the matches played as the County Cups and Ground Committee may determine.

Requests for an exemption from playing on the reserved date (a "free day") will not be entertained, save in youth competitions under the provisions of rule 18(c).

(b) In each tie the game shall be played on the ground of the Club first drawn, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon and the consent of the County Cups and Ground Committee obtained.

(c) No Club shall receive a bye in two consecutive rounds.

(d) No Club shall, unless unavoidable, receive more than one bye in the course of the Competition each Season but the County Cups and Ground Committee shall have power to give sufficient number of byes to ensure four clubs competing in the Semi-final ties.

(e) In the event of Clubs sharing the same pitch the first drawn will have priority unless mutually agreed; the second Club to play the following week.

10. GROUNDS

For the purpose of this rule where Ground is referenced this shall refer to the entire facility on which the playing pitch is situated and all of the pitches thereof, with the exception of Artificial Grass pitch facilities where it shall refer to the specific artificial grass surface. County Cup competition matches shall only take place on grounds where there are changing rooms for both sides, such changing rooms must have showers

(a) If the ground of the Club having choice of ground is considered unsuitable, the opposing Club may Appeal to the County Cups and Ground Committee within three days of the receipt of the draw. Such Appeal must be accompanied by a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the Appeal is not upheld. The payment of expenses incidental to the Appeal shall be at the discretion of the County Cups and Ground Committee.

(b) Each Club must take every precaution to keep its ground in a playing condition and if necessary the home or visiting Club may apply to the Association Secretary to instruct the Referee or some other suitable person to examine the ground as to its fitness for play, in sufficient time to save expenses being incurred for unnecessary journeys. Pitches must have Respect barriers or lines; these must be on the opposite side to the technical area. Where it is not possible to site the respect barrier opposite the technical area agreement to move to Respect line to the same as the technical area must be obtained from the County FA in writing (email will suffice)

(c) The grounds on which the Final tie is to be played shall be chosen by the County Cups and Ground Committee. In the Final tie the Referee shall, if requested by the Association Secretary, visit the ground three hours before the time of kick-off.

(d) The appointed referee shall be the sole judge as to the fitness of the ground in all matches but when adverse weather conditions prevail on the day before or on the morning of the match, the Home Club is empowered to call in a Local Referee, Level 7 or higher (who must be over 18 years of age) who shall be independent of the home club, who shall have the power to postpone the match and must submit a written report to the Association Secretary. The Home Club to notify the Referee's Officer, Opponents and Match Officials of the postponement. Clubs MUST phone the match official(s) and leave a message informing them of the cancellation. Failure to do so shall result in a fine of £10 along with other sanctions as proscribed later in this rule. Clubs failing to notify will be fined as set out in the Fees and Fines section. If after the arrival of the visiting team the Referee declares the ground unfit for play, the County Cups Committee may order the home Club to pay such part of the expenses of the visiting club as they may consider fair, and half the match fee must be paid by the home Club, to the Referee. If the match is cancelled, for any reason, (other than unfitness of ground) but the club fails to inform their opponents and/or match official(s) causing them to travel to the game, then the home team SHALL pay the match official(s)

their FULL match fee the visiting team travelling expenses as deemed appropriate by the Cups Committee along with any other expenses the Cups Committee deem appropriate. In the event that this tie is a semi-final then the team shall NOT be eligible to claim the match official's expenses from the County FA as outlined in Rule 14. Where a club plays on a ground owned by a third party and that party makes a decision to cancel the match the home club must provide written confirmation from their landlord of the decision to cancel said match to the county office within 5 working days of the match. Failure to do so may see the club excluded from the competition.

- (e) If a match has to be postponed for either of the reasons in paragraph (d) above, or is abandoned for any reason, save for incidents when the abandonment was due to disciplinary issues, it shall be played the weekend following unless advised otherwise by the County Cups Committee. The match shall have the same referee as appointed to the original date unless otherwise advised by the Referees Appointment Officer.

Should the rearranged date for either a postponed or abandoned match as defined above fall within the school holiday period for one or both competing teams, if either of the clubs have players on holiday during the school holiday period then they must inform the county association immediately and they will be allowed to postpone the game. Clubs doing so MUST inform their opponents, the County Referees Appointment Officer and, where appointed, their match referees (and assistants if applicable). A Club requesting such a postponement shall not be available to play any other fixture of lower precedence on that date.

In this scenario the match will be played in the first weekend of the next school term. Where school term periods are not concurrent between different education authorities and clubs are from separate authorities, a club will be allowed to postpone if they have players on holiday in a school holiday period even if their opponents have finished their holiday period. Where school term times are not concurrent the default date shall be the first weekend when both clubs are in term time.

Where a match has been postponed for two weeks the side drawn at home shall consider finding an alternate ground or reversing the fixture for the third week if there is a possibility that their ground may not be fit to host the game for the third week if (they have not already done so in the initial two weeks).

- (f) The home Club must notify their opponents of ground location. Failure to comply will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) Separate accommodation MUST be provided for Match Officials.
- (h) The use of third generation (3g) artificial grass pitches will be allowed for use in the competition. To be eligible the pitch must be on the FA register of approved 3g surfaces register. The home must club must provide a list of acceptable footwear for use on the pitch to their opposition and appointed referee no less than 5 days prior to the date of the tie (unless a shorter period is mutually acceptable to both parties). The home team shall be liable for ALL costs (excluding opposition expenses) arising from the hire for use of such a pitch. The use of any other artificial pitch other than a 3g (artificial grass) will NOT be entertained.

11. DURATION OF MATCHES

The duration of each match shall be 70 minutes. If at the end of the match the scores are level, then Kicks from the Penalty Mark will take place as described in the Penalty Kicks Section.

If, at any time during the match, the difference in goals scored between the two sides reaches 10 goals, the match will end and be deemed properly completed with the match result as of that time; the team leading by 10 goals shall be the winners and advance into the next round.

(N.B. If there is sufficient time remaining at the end of the match in the above circumstances, the two teams may, at their discretion, play a friendly match lasting the duration of the remaining minutes. In such cases this shall have NO bearing on the result of the match)

12. REPORTING RESULTS

- (a) Both competing clubs MUST present a team sheet to the match referee and their opponents prior to the commencement of the match; this MUST include the names and initials of Players representing their Club; the number of the shirt that the player is to wear in the match MUST be written on the team sheet submitted next to the players name.

After the match The Secretary of each Club shall send a copy of that team sheet to the association to include the match result and a mark of the match official's performance in the game (SEE APPENDIX A), so that it is received within four days of the match (Sundays not included). This shall be via post or via electronic copy, if the latter it shall be emailed to Countycupadmin@somersetfa.com Where clubs use electronic copy it should be a scanned version of the team sheet used. Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be subject to a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section and in default of payment shall also be ruled out of the Competition. The club in case will not be allowed to compete in a subsequent round of the competition until the team sheet from the previous round is received by the County Association 7 days prior to the match being played.

- (b) A Referees marking out of 100, (a marking guide is provided in Appendix A at the rear of the book) should be inserted on the result sheet. Failure to do so will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section. Any mark of 60 or below MUST be accompanied by a letter explaining the mark. Failure to do so to lead to a fine of £15.
- (c) The home club shall input the result via FA match day app on the same day of the match, (in the event that the App is

not working then the result must be emailed to countycupadmin@somersetfa.com on the same day of the match); failure to meet the provisions of this rule will see the club fined as listed in the Fees and Fines section (Appendix B)

13. TIME OF KICK-OFF

All matches shall commence as follows: **10.30 am**

However, the kick-off time may be altered if both teams, the County FA, and the Referee's Appointment Officer agree and are notified within 7 days of the draw being made or prior to the match. If an agreement cannot be reached, the default time will remain.

14. REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES

(a) Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association. Where the appointed referee and (where appointed) assistant referees are under the age of 18, this will be communicated to the respective home club in advance of the match by the Referee Appointment Officer. When the under 18 match official(s) arrive at the ground the home club shall get the match official(s) to sign in on the appropriate space on the team sheet and sign out on the appropriate space on the team sheet after the match when they leave. Failure to carry out this action will result in a fine of £10 against the offending club.

Where a club is informed that the match official(s) are under 18 separate changing/showering facilities from adult officials MUST be provided or if this cannot be arranged, separate changing and showering times from adults MUST be arranged

(b) In all rounds prior to the Semi-final tie the competing Clubs MUST each provide a Club Assistant Referee.

(c) In the Semi-final and Final ties, Assistant Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association.

(d) It is the responsibility of the Home club to notify the Match Officials and their opponents of the location of their ground and the time of kick off 4 days prior to the match being played. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out under the fees and fines section.

(e) If a match is postponed on arrival of the Referee, half the match fee must be paid by the home Club.

(f) Both clubs shall provide a flag for use by their respective club assistant referees for all rounds where a neutral assistant is not appointed by the association.

(g) The Match Referee shall retain the team sheet provided by both sides until the end of season for inspection by the Cups Committee if requested.

(h) The **AWAY** club shall pay the Referee's fee, as stated in appendix B (Note this will not apply if the provisions of Rule 10 (d) and 14 (d) apply when the cost will be met by the home club). This may be either electronic payment or cash, as agreed with the match official. If the latter this shall take place in the dressing room 15 minutes prior the kick off, or within 15 minutes of the completion of the game, whichever is the wish of the referee having ascertained the referees preference before the match. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out in the fees and fines section.

In the Semi Final ties the cost of the match official's fees shall be paid for by the home club who shall then be reimbursed this amount by the County Association, less any gate receipts taken by the home club. (please see provision of rule 16). This shall be claimed by the home club submitting an expenses sheet as supplied by the Association.

15. LATE STARTS

(a) All late starts must be reported by the Referee

(b) Clubs responsible for late starts shall be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

16. SHARING OF GATES

From the gate money taken at all matches prior to the Semi-Final tie, the home team shall pay all match expenses, excluding the travelling expenses of the visitors and bear any loss or retain any net proceeds. The visiting team shall pay their own expenses.

(a) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to revise match expense charges which in their opinion are excessive.

(b) In any match ordered to be replayed in consequence of a breach of Rule, the Club in default shall not receive any share of the proceeds of such replayed match without the consent of the County Cups Committee and such consent shall only be given under special circumstances. If consent is not given, the share shall be taken by the Association.

In semi-finals the gate receipts shall be used to pay the referee and assistant referee's fee, with the County Association paying the balance of any amount not so covered by the gate takings. The home club shall submit a receipt of their match takings.

17. ADMISSION CHARGE

Admission is to be charged at the discretion of the Home Club.

18. WITHDRAWAL OF CLUBS & FAILURE TO PLAY

(a) Any Club withdrawing from the Competition after the draw has been made shall be fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be

precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary.

- (b) Any club failing to fulfil a fixture in any round prior to the Semi-Final ties, save for unfitness of ground, shall be ruled out of the competition and fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary. In the event that that a club fails to fulfil a tie in the semi-final or final tie the minimum fine shall be no less than (see below)

Any club with drawing under clause a or failing to fulfil a fixture under clause b, MUST inform the County Office, County Referees Appointment Officer, their opponents and appointed match official(s) of such. In the event that some or all of these parties are not informed and either match officials or opposing teams travel, then the Cups Committee shall reserve the right to award costs arising against the defaulting club as they see fit.

The Cups committee shall reserve the right to award any other costs arising from a cancelled match due to a club defaulting under clauses a and/or b

The MINIMUM fines that shall apply are as follows:

Withdraw £20 Failure to play £20 Failure to play semi-final and final £30

- (c) Clubs may request a postponement of a match in writing, only where three or more players are engaged in an educational activity. Said request to be accompanied by a letter on headed paper from the school where the activity is taking place outlining both the activity and listing the names of those involved; this to be duly signed by a member of the schools staff. A request for such a postponement must be submitted to the County Office at least SEVEN days prior to the reserved date of the tie or the request will not be entertained.

19. PROTESTS

All questions arising out of these Rules shall be dealt with by the County Cups and Ground Committee.

- (a) Any Club wishing to make a protest against the result of a match must do so within seven days of the match being played.
- (b) The protest must be in writing clearly stating the grounds upon which it is made and must be signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Club.
- (c) Two copies of the protest must be sent to the Chief Executive together with a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the protest is not upheld.
- (d) The defaulting Club may be called upon to pay the whole or part of the expenses of the meeting and the expenses of the other Club SEE ALSO MEMBERSHIP RULES 5 AND 6 RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION.

20. TROPHY: SAFE KEEPING AND RETURN

Trophy Agreement

When the winners of an Association Cup shall have been ascertained, the Chief Executive shall hand over the Cup to such winners on their subscribing to the following effect:

We the undersigned on behalf of (name of Club or League) having been declared winner and taken possession of the Somerset Football Association Ltd (Competition) Trophy, which we understand remains the property of the Somerset Football Association Ltd, do hereby jointly and severally, undertake to keep the said Trophy in safe custody.

Furthermore, we agree to return the Trophy no later than 1 March in the ensuing year in good order. We also undertake to pay for any damage to the Trophy whilst in our care.

Signed Club/League Secretary

Signed Position

Any Club or League failing to comply with the above requirements will be fined, as set out in the Fees and Fines Section, in addition to the cost of any repair.

21. MEDALS

Eighteen medals or other mementos shall be awarded to the winners and runners-up of all Association Cup Competitions. (Unless the number of players on a starting team is less than 11, when the number shall be adjusted to the number of players in a starting team plus five substitutes). Competing clubs may request extra medals, this should be made in writing to the association; the cost of any such request for extra medals or mementos shall be met by the requesting club

22. SHIRT COLOURS

- (a) No player or goalkeeper shall be permitted to wear black or very dark coloured shirts.
- (b) The home club shall inform the opposition of their kit colours to avoid a possible colour clash on the day, along with directions to the ground if required, no later than 3 days prior to the date of the match. Both teams shall provide their players with individually numbered shirts which must correspond to the numbers listed on the team sheet. In the event of a similarity of colours between two teams in a match the visiting team must change. Shorts and socks must be of different colours between teams. In the final tie the team drawn first shall be deemed the home club and shall have choice of colours in the event of a similarity of colours. Defaulting clubs shall be fined, as set out in Fees and Fines Section.
- (c) 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 her shirt because of a blood injury.

23. DATES

All reserved County Cup dates are to be strictly adhered to. Failure to do so will mean disqualification from the Competition.

24. RULES

These Rules shall not be altered or rescinded save at the Annual General Meeting or special meeting of the Association of which fourteen days' notice shall be given

25. MATCH BALL

A size 4 ball must be used in all matches played in this Competition.

FINES REFERRED TO IN THE RULES

Girls Under 14 Cup Competition

Rule 4	£10.00
Rule 5(f)	£10.00
Rule 7	£15.00
Rule 10(a)	£25.00
Rule 10(d)	£10.00
Rule 10(e)	£10.00
Rule 12(a)	£15.00
Rule 12(b)	£10.00
Rule 12(c)	£10.00
Rule 14(d)	£10.00
Rule 14(h)	£10.00
Rule 15(b)	£10.00 - for first 15 minutes or part thereof and £5.00 - for each succeeding 5 minutes or part thereof
Rule 18(a)	£20.00 (Minimum)
(b)	£20.00 (Minimum)
	£30.00 (Minimum) Re: Semi Final & Final
Rule 20(c)	£25.00
Rule 21	£50.00
Rule 22(b)	£16.00

Rule 8

Referees Fees **£35 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Assistant Referees **£27 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Travel Expenses - Referees and Assistant Referees

N.B. The county mileage rate shall be decided by the Board of Directors at their discretion, from time to time. When this change may occur after the printing of this handbook the new rate shall apply in place of the one listed here. The new rate shall be communicated by the county office to all members as and when it occurs

BOYS UNDER 13 CUP COMPETITION (2007)
RULES

1. TITLE

The Competition shall be called the Somerset Football Association Boys Under 13 Cup, and the Cup shall be a perpetual trophy competed for annually by teams who are affiliated to the Association.

2. CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT

- (a) The County Cups and Ground Committee of the Association shall have the entire control and management of the Competition and shall have the power to disqualify, impose fines or other such penalties and may order the payment of any costs and expenses against any competing League, or the Players of any competing League, in breach of any of the Rules of the Competition.
- (b) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall decide upon the interpretation of the Rules of the Competition, adjudicate upon any dispute, claim or protest and their decision shall be final and binding.
- (c) All Somerset FA Cup Competitions are to be played in accordance with the FA Respect Programme, to which all competing clubs must adhere.

3. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- (a) No Club shall enter the Competition after **21st July** in each Season. All competing clubs **MUST** supply two mobile phone numbers for use with reporting results; these shall be supplied on the entry form. No entry will be accepted without numbers supplied.
- (b) A club may enter more than one team in the competition if they have multiple teams at this age group. All subsequent teams shall pay an additional entrance fee commensurate with the entrance fee. Where a club enters more than one team a player shall not play for more than one team within that club in the competition in any one season, see rule 5(c)
- (c) Any under 13 **TEAM** entering this competition shall not be permitted to enter the Lewin Cup in the same playing season.
- (d) All clubs shall send the county association a colour photograph of their kit (and change strip if appropriate) before their entrance to the competition is accepted. In the event that their kit is changed during the duration of the competition they shall seek permission to do so from the association and submit a picture at that point. The picture may be in hard or soft copy

4. ENTRANCE FEE

Clubs or teams entering the Competition shall pay a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section in addition to the annual affiliation fee payable in respect of membership of the Association.

5. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

- (a) ***In all rounds of the Competition a Player must have been a registered member of their Club on the FA Player Registration system by the Friday before the date of the match. No player shall be eligible if registered after the dates reserved for the playing of semi-final ties.***
- (b) A registered member is one who is registered with a League in which the Club competes.
- (c) A Player shall not in the same Season play for more than one competing Club or team in the same club where his or her club enters more the one team in the competition.
- (d) In the case of a postponed or abandoned match, only those Players who were qualified to play on the original date fixed for the round shall be eligible to play in the re-arranged match.
- (e) Substitute(s): A player who has been substituted during a match himself becomes a substitute and may, in turn, replace another player at any time subject to the substitution being carried out in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of Association Football. Up to a maximum of SEVEN may be nominated, all of whom may be used repeatedly within the substitute process. Any substitute(s) who has/have not been used is /are entitled to play for another club in the same Season if qualified under Clause (a) above.
- (f) Clubs must hand copies of a list of names of players taking part in the game (including names of nominated substitutes) to the Referee and a representative of their opponents, in the presence of the Referee, 30 minutes before commencement of the match. The home Club must supply two match balls. Any Club failing to carry out these provisions will be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) The only Players who are eligible to take part are those who have not reached the age of 13 years as at midnight on 31st August of the current season.
- (h) A Player who is over ten years and under thirteen years on 31st August in any playing Season must not play in a match involving Players who were more than two years older than himself.
- (i) A Player's date of birth must be inserted on his Registration Form and his Birth Certificate must be verified by his Club's Secretary and be produced whenever requested by the Cups Committee.

6. VALIDITY OF PLAYERS QUALIFICATIONS

If County Cups and Ground Committee have any doubt as to the qualification of any Player taking

part in the Competition they shall have power to call upon such Players of the Club to which he belongs, or for which he played, to prove that he is qualified according to the Rules and failing satisfactory proof the County Cups and Ground Committee may disqualify such Players and may remove the Club from the Competition and impose such other penalty as they may think fit.

7. **DISQUALIFICATION**

The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to disqualify any competing Club, or Player, or Players for any competing Club who may be proved guilty of any breach of the Rules of the Association and impose a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

8. **CONDUCT OF CLUBS**

All clubs shall be held responsible for the conduct of their Players, members and spectators and shall give every assistance to the rulings of the Referee whose decisions as to the state of the ground, laws of the game and interference of spectators shall be unquestioned save by the County Cups and Ground Committee of the Association. Subsequent to any action completed by the Disciplinary Committee, the Cups Committee shall decide on the eligibility of the club to enter county cup competitions in the following season

Temporary Dismissals (Sin Bins) will be in used in this competition where FA regulations determine that sanction for specified offences.

9. **THE DRAW**

- (a) The ties shall be drawn, the dates fixed, and the matches played as the County Cups and Ground Committee may determine.
Requests for an exemption from playing on the reserved date (a "free day") will not be entertained, save in youth competitions under the provisions of rule 18(c).
- (b) In each tie the game shall be played on the ground of the Club first drawn, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon and the consent of the County Cups and Ground Committee obtained.
- (c) No Club shall receive a bye in two consecutive rounds.
- (d) No Club shall, unless unavoidable, receive more than one bye in the course of the Competition each Season but the County Cups and Ground Committee shall have power to give sufficient number of byes to ensure four clubs competing in the Semi-final ties.
- (e) In the event of Clubs sharing the same pitch the first drawn will have priority unless mutually agreed; the second Club to play the following week.

10. **GROUNDS**

For the purpose of this rule where Ground is referenced this shall refer to the entire facility on which the playing pitch is situated and all of the pitches thereof, with the exception of Artificial Grass pitch facilities where it shall refer to the specific artificial grass surface. County Cup competition matches shall only take place on grounds where there are changing rooms for both sides, such changing rooms must have showers

- (a) If County Cups and Ground Committee within three days of the receipt of the draw. Such Appeal must be accompanied by a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the Appeal is not upheld. The payment of expenses incidental to the Appeal shall be at the discretion of the County Cups and Ground Committee.
- (b) Each Club must take every precaution to keep its ground in a playing condition and if necessary the home or visiting Club may apply to the Association Secretary to instruct the Referee or some other suitable person to examine the ground as to its fitness for play, in sufficient time to save expenses being incurred for unnecessary journeys. Pitches must have Respect barriers or lines; these must be on the opposite side to the technical area. Where it is not possible to site the respect barrier opposite the technical area agreement to move to Respect line to the same as the technical area must be obtained from the County FA in writing (email will suffice)
- (c) The grounds on which the Final tie is to be played shall be chosen by the County Cups and Ground Committee. In the Final tie the Referee shall, if requested by the Association Secretary, visit the ground three hours before the time of kick-off.
- (d) The appointed referee shall be the sole judge as to the fitness of the ground in all matches but when adverse weather conditions prevail on the day before or on the morning of the match, the Home Club is empowered to call in a Local Referee, Level 7 or higher (who must be over 18 years of age) who shall be independent of the home club, who shall have the power to postpone the match and must submit a written report to the Association Secretary. The Home Club to notify the Referee's Officer, Opponents and Match Officials of the postponement. Clubs MUST phone the match official(s) and leave a message informing them of the cancellation. Failure to do so shall result in a fine of £10 along with other sanctions as proscribed later in this rule. Clubs failing to notify will be fined as set out in the Fees and Fines section. If after the arrival of the visiting team the Referee declares the ground unfit for play, the County Cups Committee may order the home Club to pay such part of the expenses of the visiting club as they may consider fair, and half the match fee must be paid by the home Club, to the Referee. If the match is cancelled, for any reason, (other than unfitness of ground) but the club fails to inform their opponents and/or match official(s) causing them to travel to the game, then the home team

SHALL pay the match official(s) their FULL match fee the visiting team travelling expenses as deemed appropriate by the Cups Committee along with any other expenses the Cups Committee deem appropriate. In the event that this tie is a semi-final then the team shall NOT be eligible to claim the match official's expenses from the County FA as outlined in Rule 14. Where a club plays on a ground owned by a third party and that party makes a decision to cancel the match the home club must provide written confirmation from their landlord of the decision to cancel said match to the county office within 5 working days of the match. Failure to do so may see the club excluded from the competition.

- (e) If a match has to be postponed for either of the reasons in paragraph (d) above, or is abandoned for any reason, save for incidents when the abandonment was due to disciplinary issues, it shall be played the weekend following unless advised otherwise by the County Cups Committee. The match shall have the same referee as appointed to the original date unless otherwise advised by the Referees Appointment Officer.

Should the rearranged date for either a postponed or abandoned match as defined above fall within the school holiday period for one or both competing teams, if either of the clubs have players on holiday during the school holiday period then they must inform the county association immediately and they will be allowed to postpone the game. Clubs doing so MUST inform their opponents, the County Referees Appointment Officer and, where appointed, their match referees (and assistants if applicable). A Club requesting such a postponement shall not be available to play any other fixture of lower precedence on that date.

In this scenario the match will be played in the first weekend of the next school term. Where school term periods are not concurrent between different education authorities and clubs are from separate authorities, a club will be allowed to postpone if they have players on holiday in a school holiday period even if their opponents have finished their holiday period. Where school term times are not concurrent the default date shall be the first weekend when both clubs are in term time.

Where a match has been postponed for two weeks the side drawn at home shall consider finding an alternate ground or reversing the fixture for the third week if there is a possibility that their ground may not be fit to host the game for the third week if (they have not already done so in the initial two weeks).

- (f) The home Club must notify their opponents of ground location. Failure to comply will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) Separate accommodation MUST be provided for Match Officials.
- (h) The use of third generation (3g) artificial grass pitches will be allowed for use in the competition. To be eligible the pitch must be on the FA register of approved 3g surfaces register. The home must club must provide a list of acceptable footwear for use on the pitch to their opposition and appointed referee no less than 5 days prior to the date of the tie (unless a shorter period is mutually acceptable to both parties). The home team shall be liable for ALL costs (excluding opposition expenses) arising from the hire for use of such a pitch. The use of any other artificial pitch other than a 3g (artificial grass) will NOT be entertained.

11. DURATION OF MATCHES

The duration of ALL matches shall be 70 minutes (35 minutes each way). If at the end of the match the scores are level, then Kicks from the Penalty Mark will take place as described in the Penalty Kicks Section.

If, at any time during the match, the difference in goals scored between the two sides reaches 10 goals, the match will end and be deemed properly completed with the match result as of that time; the team leading by 10 goals shall be the winners and advance into the next round.

(N.B. If there is sufficient time remaining at the end of the match in the above circumstances, the two teams may, at their discretion, play a friendly match lasting the duration of the remaining minutes. In such cases this shall have NO bearing on the result of the match)

12. REPORTING RESULTS

- (a) Both competing clubs MUST present a team sheet to the match referee and their opponents prior to the commencement of the match; this MUST include the names and initials of Players representing their Club; the number of the shirt that the player is to wear in the match MUST be written on the team sheet submitted next to the players name.

After the match The Secretary of each Club shall send a copy of that team sheet to the association to include the match result and a mark of the match official's performance in the game (SEE APPENDIX A), so that it is received within four days of the match (Sundays not included). This shall be via post or via electronic copy, if the latter it shall be emailed to Countycupadmin@somersetfa.com Where clubs use electronic copy it should be a scanned version of the team sheet used. Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be subject to a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section and in default of payment shall also be ruled out of the Competition. The club in case will not be allowed to compete in a subsequent round of the competition until the team sheet from the previous round is received by the County Association 7 days prior to the match being played.

- (b) A Referees marking out of 100, (a marking guide is provided in Appendix A at the rear of the book) should be inserted on the result sheet. Failure to do so will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section. Any mark of 60 or below MUST be accompanied by a letter explaining the mark. Failure to do so to lead

to a fine of £15.

- (c) The home club shall input the result via FA match day app on the same day of the match, (in the event that the App is not working then the result must be emailed to countycupadmin@somersetfa.com on the same day of the match); failure to meet the provisions of this rule will see the club fined as listed in the Fees and Fines section (Appendix B)

13. TIME OF KICK-OFF

All matches shall kick off at 10.30

However, the kick-off time may be altered if both teams, the County FA, and the Referee's Appointment Officer agree and are notified within 7 days of the draw being made or prior to the match. If an agreement cannot be reached, the default time will remain.

14. REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES

- (a) Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association. Where the appointed referee and (where appointed) assistant referees are under the age of 18, this will be communicated to the respective home club in advance of the match by the Referee Appointment Officer. When the under 18 match official(s) arrive at the ground the home club shall get the match official(s) to sign in on the appropriate space on the team sheet and sign out on the appropriate space on the team sheet after the match when they leave. Failure to carry out this action will result in a fine of £10 against the offending club.
Where a club is informed that the match official(s) are under 18 separate changing/showering facilities from adult officials MUST be provided or if this cannot be arranged, separate changing and showering times from adults MUST be arranged
- (b) In all rounds prior to the Semi-final tie the competing Clubs MUST each provide a Club Assistant Referee.
- (c) In the Semi-final and Final ties, Assistant Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association.
- (d) It is the responsibility of the Home club to notify the Match Officials and their opponents of the location of their ground and the time of kick off 4 days prior to the match being played. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out under the fees and fines section.
- (e) If a match is postponed on arrival of the Referee, half the match fee must be paid by the home Club.
- (f) Both clubs shall provide a flag for use by their respective club assistant referees for all rounds where a neutral assistant is not appointed by the association.
- (g) The Match Referee shall retain the team sheet provided by both sides until the end of season for inspection by the Cups Committee if requested.
- (h) The **AWAY** club shall pay the Referee's fee, as stated in appendix B (Note this will not apply if the provisions of Rule 10 (d) and 14 (d) apply when the cost will be met by the home club). This may be either electronic payment or cash, as agreed with the match official. If the latter this shall take place in the dressing room 15 minutes prior the kick off, or within 15 minutes of the completion of the game, whichever is the wish of the referee having ascertained the referees preference before the match. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out in the fees and fines section.

In the Semi Final ties the cost of the match official's fees shall be paid for by the home club who shall then be reimbursed this amount by the County Association, less any gate receipts taken by the home club. (please see provision of rule 16). This shall be claimed by the home club submitting an expenses sheet as supplied by the Association.

15. LATE STARTS

- (a) All late starts must be reported by the Referee
- (b) Clubs responsible for late starts shall be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

16. SHARING OF GATES

From the gate money taken at all matches prior to the Semi-Final tie, the home team shall pay all match expenses, excluding the travelling expenses of the visitors and bear any loss or retain any net proceeds. The visiting team shall pay their own expenses.

- (a) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to revise match expense charges which in their opinion are excessive.
- (b) In any match ordered to be replayed in consequence of a breach of Rule, the Club in default shall not receive any share of the proceeds of such replayed match without the consent of the County Cups Committee and such consent shall only be given under special circumstances. If consent is not given, the share shall be taken by the Association.

In semi-finals the gate receipts shall be used to pay the referee and assistant referee's fee, with the County Association paying the balance of any amount not so covered by the gate takings. The home club shall submit a receipt of their match takings.

17. ADMISSION CHARGE

Admission is to be charged at the discretion of the Home Club.

18. WITHDRAWAL OF CLUBS & FAILURE TO PLAY

- a) Any Club withdrawing from the Competition after the draw has been made shall be fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary.
- b) Any club failing to fulfil a fixture in any round prior to the Semi-Final ties, save for unfitness of ground, shall be ruled out of the competition and fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary. In the event that that a club fails to fulfil a tie in the semi-final or final tie the minimum fine shall be no less than (see below)

Any club with drawing under clause a or failing to fulfil a fixture under clause b, MUST inform the County Office, County Referees Appointment Officer, their opponents and appointed match official(s) of such. In the event that some or all of these parties are not informed and either match officials or opposing teams travel, then the Cups Committee shall reserve the right to award costs arising against the defaulting club as they see fit.

The Cups committee shall reserve the right to award any other costs arising from a cancelled match due to a club defaulting under clauses a and/or b

The MINIMUM fines that shall apply are as follows:

Withdraw £20 Failure to play £20 Failure to play semi-final and final £30

- (c) Clubs may request a postponement of a match in writing, only where three or more players are engaged in an educational activity. Said request to be accompanied by a letter on headed paper from the school where the activity is taking place outlining both the activity and listing the names of those involved; this to be duly signed by a member of the schools staff. A request for such a postponement must be submitted to the County Office at least SEVEN days prior to the reserved date of the tie or the request will not be entertained.

19. PROTESTS

All questions arising out of these Rules shall be dealt with by the County Cups and Ground Committee.

- (a) Any Club wishing to make a protest against the result of a match must do so within seven days of the match being played.
- (b) The protest must be in writing clearly stating the grounds upon which it is made and must be signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Club.
- (c) Two copies of the protest must be sent to the Chief Executive together with a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the protest is not upheld.
- (d) The defaulting Club may be called upon to pay the whole or part of the expenses of the meeting and the expenses of the other Club SEE ALSO MEMBERSHIP RULES 5 AND 6 RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION.

20. TROPHY: SAFE KEEPING AND RETURN

Trophy Agreement

When the winners of an Association Cup shall have been ascertained, the Chief Executive shall hand over the Cup to such winners on their subscribing to the following effect:

We the undersigned on behalf of (name of Club or League) having been declared winner and taken possession of the Somerset Football Association Ltd (Competition) Trophy, which we understand remains the property of the Somerset Football Association Ltd, do hereby jointly and severally, undertake to keep the said Trophy in safe custody.

Furthermore we agree to return the Trophy (and box) no later than 1 March in the ensuing year in good order. We also undertake to pay for any damage to the Trophy whilst in our care.

Signed Club/League Secretary

Signed Position

Any Club or League failing to comply with the above requirements will be fined, as set out in the Fees and Fines Section, in addition to the cost of any repair.

21. MEDALS

Eighteen medals or other mementos shall be awarded to the winners and runners-up of all Association Cup Competitions. (Unless the number of players on a starting team is less than 11, when the number shall be adjusted to the number of players in a starting team plus five substitutes). Competing clubs may request extra medals, this should be made in writing to the association; the cost of any such request for extra medals or mementos shall be met by the requesting club

22. SHIRT COLOURS

- (a) No player or goalkeeper shall be permitted to wear black or very dark coloured shirts.

- (b) *The home club shall inform the opposition of their kit colours to avoid a possible colour clash on the day, along with directions to the ground if required, no later than 3 days prior to the date of the match. Both teams shall provide their players with individually numbered shirts which must correspond to the numbers listed on the team sheet. In the event of a similarity of colours between two teams in a match the visiting team must change. Shorts and socks must be of different colours between teams. In the final tie the team drawn first shall be deemed the home club and shall have choice of colours in the event of a similarity of colours. Defaulting clubs shall be fined, as set out in Fees and Fines Section.*
- a. 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 his shirt because of a blood injury.

23. DATES

All reserved County Cup dates are to be strictly adhered to. Failure to do so will mean disqualification from the Competition.

24. RULES

These Rules shall not be altered or rescinded save at the Annual General Meeting or special meeting of the Association of which fourteen days notice shall be given.

25. MATCH BALL

A size 4 ball must be used in all matches played in this Competition.

FINES REFERRED TO IN THE RULES

Under 13 Cup Competition

Rule 4	£10.00
Rule 5(f)	£10.00
Rule 7	£15.00
Rule 10(a)	£25.00
Rule 10(d)	£10.00
Rule 10(e)	£10.00
Rule 12(a)	£15.00
Rule 12(b)	£10.00
Rule 12(c)	£10.00
Rule 14(d)	£10.00
Rule 14(h)	£10.00
Rule 15(b)	£10.00 - for first 15 minutes or part thereof and £5.00 - for each succeeding 5 minutes or part thereof
Rule 18(a)	£20.00 (Minimum)
(b)	£20.00 (Minimum)
	£30.00 (Minimum) Re: Semi Final & Final
Rule 20(c)	£25.00
Rule 21	£50.00
Rule 22(b)	£16.00

Rule 8

Referees Fees **£35 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Assistant Referees **£27 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Travel Expenses - Referees and Assistant Referees

N.B. The county mileage rate shall be decided by the Board of Directors at their discretion, from time to time. When this change may occur after the printing of this handbook the new rate shall apply in place of the one listed here. The new rate shall be communicated by the county office to all members as and when it occurs

GIRLS UNDER 13 CUP COMPETITION (2023)
RULES

1. TITLE

The Trophy shall be called 'The Somerset Football Association Girls Under 13 Cup' and shall be a perpetual trophy competed for annually by Girl Youth Clubs and teams who are affiliated to the Association.

2. CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT

- (a) The County Cups and Ground Committee of the Association shall have the entire control and management of the Competition and shall have the power to disqualify, impose fines or other such penalties and may order the payment of costs and expenses against any competing Club, or the players of any competing Club, in breach of any of the Rules of the Competition.
- (b) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall decide upon the interpretation of the Rules of the Competition, adjudicate upon any dispute, claim or protest and their decision shall be final and binding.
- (c) All Somerset FA Cup Competitions are to be played in accordance with the FA Respect Programme, to which all competing clubs must adhere.
- (d) The competition is an ELEVEN-A-SIDE competition
- (e) All matches shall be played on Saturdays.

3. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

No Club shall enter the Competition after **21st July** in each playing season. All competing clubs MUST supply two mobile phone numbers for use with reporting results; these shall be supplied on the entry form. No entry will be accepted without numbers supplied.

- (a) All clubs shall send the county association a colour photograph of their kit (and change strip if appropriate) before their entrance to the competition is accepted. In the event that their kit is changed during the duration of the competition they shall seek permission to do so from the association and submit a picture at that point. The picture may be in hard or soft copy
- (b) A club may enter more than one team in the competition if they have multiple teams at this age group. All subsequent teams shall pay an additional entrance fee commensurate with the entrance fee. Where a club enters more than one team a player shall not play for more than one team within that club in the competition in any one season, see rule 5(c)
- (c) Any under 13 **TEAM** entering this competition shall not be permitted to enter the Girls Under 14 Cup in the same playing season.

4. ENTRANCE FEE

Clubs or teams entering the Competition shall pay a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section in addition to the annual affiliation fee payable in respect of membership of the Association.

5. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

- (a) ***In all rounds of the Competition a Player must have been a registered member of their Club on the FA Player Registration system by the Friday before the date of the match. No player shall be eligible if registered after the dates reserved for the playing of semi-final ties.***
- (b) A registered member is one who is registered with a League in which the Club competes.
- (c) A Player shall not in the same Season play for more than one competing Club or team in the same club where his or her club enters more the one team in the competition.
- (d) In the case of a postponed or abandoned match, only those Players who were qualified to play on the original date fixed for the round shall be eligible to play in the re-arranged match.
- (e) Substitute(s): A player who has been substituted during a match herself becomes a substitute and may in turn, replace another player at any time subject to the substitution being carried out in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of Association Football. Up to a maximum of SEVEN may be nominated all of whom may be used repeatedly within the substitute process.
- (f) Clubs must hand copies of a list of names of players taking part in the game (including names of nominated substitutes) to the Referee and a representative of their opponents, in the presence of the Referee, 30 minutes before commencement of the match. The home Club must supply two match balls. Any Club failing to carry out these provisions will be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) The only Players who are eligible to take part are those that have not reached the age of 14 years as at midnight on 31st August of the current season.
- (h) A Player who is over ten years and under thirteen years at Midnight on 31st August in any playing Season must not play in a match involving Players who were more than two years older than herself.
- (i) A Player's date of birth must be inserted on her Registration Form and her Birth Certificate must be verified by her Club's Secretary and be produced whenever requested by the Cups Committee.

6. VALIDITY OF PLAYERS QUALIFICATIONS

If County Cups and Ground Committee have any doubt as to the qualification of any Player taking

part in the Competition they shall have power to call upon such Players of the Club to which she belongs, or for which she played, to prove that she is qualified according to the Rules and failing satisfactory proof the County Cups and Ground Committee may disqualify such Players and may remove the Club from the Competition and impose such other penalty as they may think fit.

7. DISQUALIFICATION

The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to disqualify any competing Club, or Player, or Players for any competing Club who may be proved guilty of any breach of the Rules of the Association and impose a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

8. CONDUCT OF CLUBS

All clubs shall be held responsible for the conduct of their Players, members and spectators and shall give every assistance to the rulings of the Referee whose decisions as to the state of the ground, laws of the game and interference of spectators shall be unquestioned save by the County Cups and Ground Committee of the Association.

Subsequent to any action completed by the Disciplinary Committee, the Cups Committee shall decide on the eligibility of the club to enter county cup competitions in the following season

Temporary Dismissals (Sin Bins) will be in used in this competition where FA regulations determine that sanction for specified offences.

9. THE DRAW

(a) The ties shall be drawn, the dates fixed, and the matches played as the County Cups and Ground Committee may determine.

Requests for an exemption from playing on the reserved date (a "free day") will not be entertained, save in youth competitions under the provisions of rule 18(c).

(b) In each tie the game shall be played on the ground of the Club first drawn, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon and the consent of the County Cups and Ground Committee obtained.

(c) No Club shall receive a bye in two consecutive rounds.

(d) No Club shall, unless unavoidable, receive more than one bye in the course of the Competition each Season but the County Cups and Ground Committee shall have power to give sufficient number of byes to ensure four clubs competing in the Semi-final ties.

(e) In the event of Clubs sharing the same pitch the first drawn will have priority unless mutually agreed; the second Club to play the following week.

10. GROUNDS

For the purpose of this rule where Ground is referenced this shall refer to the entire facility on which the playing pitch is situated and all of the pitches thereof, with the exception of Artificial Grass pitch facilities where it shall refer to the specific artificial grass surface. County Cup competition matches shall only take place on grounds where there are changing rooms for both sides, such changing rooms must have showers

(a) If the ground of the Club having choice of ground is considered unsuitable, the opposing Club may Appeal to the County Cups and Ground Committee within three days of the receipt of the draw. Such Appeal must be accompanied by a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the Appeal is not upheld. The payment of expenses incidental to the Appeal shall be at the discretion of the County Cups and Ground Committee.

(b) Each Club must take every precaution to keep its ground in a playing condition and if necessary the home or visiting Club may apply to the Association Secretary to instruct the Referee or some other suitable person to examine the ground as to its fitness for play, in sufficient time to save expenses being incurred for unnecessary journeys. Pitches must have Respect barriers or lines; these must be on the opposite side to the technical area. Where it is not possible to site the respect barrier opposite the technical area agreement to move to Respect line to the same as the technical area must be obtained from the County FA in writing (email will suffice)

(c) The grounds on which the Final tie is to be played shall be chosen by the County Cups and Ground Committee. In the Final tie the Referee shall, if requested by the Association Secretary, visit the ground three hours before the time of kick-off.

(d) The appointed referee shall be the sole judge as to the fitness of the ground in all matches but when adverse weather conditions prevail on the day before or on the morning of the match, the Home Club is empowered to call in a Local Referee, Level 7 or higher (who must be over 18 years of age) who shall be independent of the home club, who shall have the power to postpone the match and must submit a written report to the Association Secretary. The Home Club to notify the Referee's Officer, Opponents and Match Officials of the postponement. Clubs MUST phone the match official(s) and leave a message informing them of the cancellation. Failure to do so shall result in a fine of £10 along with other sanctions as proscribed later in this rule. Clubs failing to notify will be fined as set out in the Fees and Fines section. If after the arrival of the visiting team the Referee declares the ground unfit for play, the County Cups Committee may order the home Club to pay such part of the expenses of the visiting club as they may consider fair, and half the match fee must be paid by the home Club, to the Referee. If the match is cancelled, for any reason, (other than unfitness of ground) but the club fails to inform their opponents and/or match official(s) causing them to travel to the game, then the home team SHALL pay the match official(s)

their FULL match fee the visiting team travelling expenses as deemed appropriate by the Cups Committee along with any other expenses the Cups Committee deem appropriate. In the event that this tie is a semi-final then the team shall NOT be eligible to claim the match official's expenses from the County FA as outlined in Rule 14. Where a club plays on a ground owned by a third party and that party makes a decision to cancel the match the home club must provide written confirmation from their landlord of the decision to cancel said match to the county office within 5 working days of the match. Failure to do so may see the club excluded from the competition.

- (e) If a match has to be postponed for either of the reasons in paragraph (d) above, or is abandoned for any reason, save for incidents when the abandonment was due to disciplinary issues, it shall be played the weekend following unless advised otherwise by the County Cups Committee. The match shall have the same referee as appointed to the original date unless otherwise advised by the Referees Appointment Officer.

Should the rearranged date for either a postponed or abandoned match as defined above fall within the school holiday period for one or both competing teams, if either of the clubs have players on holiday during the school holiday period then they must inform the county association immediately and they will be allowed to postpone the game. Clubs doing so MUST inform their opponents, the County Referees Appointment Officer and, where appointed, their match referees (and assistants if applicable). A Club requesting such a postponement shall not be available to play any other fixture of lower precedence on that date.

In this scenario the match will be played in the first weekend of the next school term. Where school term periods are not concurrent between different education authorities and clubs are from separate authorities, a club will be allowed to postpone if they have players on holiday in a school holiday period even if their opponents have finished their holiday period. Where school term times are not concurrent the default date shall be the first weekend when both clubs are in term time.

Where a match has been postponed for two weeks the side drawn at home shall consider finding an alternate ground or reversing the fixture for the third week if there is a possibility that their ground may not be fit to host the game for the third week if (they have not already done so in the initial two weeks).

- (f) The home Club must notify their opponents of ground location. Failure to comply will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) Separate accommodation MUST be provided for Match Officials.
- (h) The use of third generation (3g) artificial grass pitches will be allowed for use in the competition. To be eligible the pitch must be on the FA register of approved 3g surfaces register. The home must club must provide a list of acceptable footwear for use on the pitch to their opposition and appointed referee no less than 5 days prior to the date of the tie (unless a shorter period is mutually acceptable to both parties). The home team shall be liable for ALL costs (excluding opposition expenses) arising from the hire for use of such a pitch. The use of any other artificial pitch other than a 3g (artificial grass) will NOT be entertained.

11. DURATION OF MATCHES

The duration of each match shall be 70 minutes. If at the end of the match the scores are level, then Kicks from the Penalty Mark will take place as described in the Penalty Kicks Section.

If, at any time during the match, the difference in goals scored between the two sides reaches 10 goals, the match will end and be deemed properly completed with the match result as of that time; the team leading by 10 goals shall be the winners and advance into the next round.

(N.B. If there is sufficient time remaining at the end of the match in the above circumstances, the two teams may, at their discretion, play a friendly match lasting the duration of the remaining minutes. In such cases this shall have NO bearing on the result of the match)

12. REPORTING RESULTS

- (a) Both competing clubs MUST present a team sheet to the match referee and their opponents prior to the commencement of the match; this MUST include the names and initials of Players representing their Club; the number of the shirt that the player is to wear in the match MUST be written on the team sheet submitted next to the players name.

After the match The Secretary of each Club shall send a copy of that team sheet to the association to include the match result and a mark of the match official's performance in the game (SEE APPENDIX A), so that it is received within four days of the match (Sundays not included). This shall be via post or via electronic copy, if the latter it shall be emailed to Countycupadmin@somersetfa.com Where clubs use electronic copy it should be a scanned version of the team sheet used. Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be subject to a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section and in default of payment shall also be ruled out of the Competition. The club in case will not be allowed to compete in a subsequent round of the competition until the team sheet from the previous round is received by the County Association 7 days prior to the match being played.

- (b) A Referees marking out of 100, (a marking guide is provided in Appendix A at the rear of the book) should be inserted on the result sheet. Failure to do so will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section. Any mark of 60 or below MUST be accompanied by a letter explaining the mark. Failure to do so to lead to a fine of £15.
- (c) The home club shall input the result via FA match day app on the same day of the match, (in the event that the App is

not working then the result must be emailed to countycupadmin@somersetfa.com on the same day of the match); failure to meet the provisions of this rule will see the club fined as listed in the Fees and Fines section (Appendix B)

13. TIME OF KICK-OFF

All matches shall commence as follows: **10.30 am**

However, the kick-off time may be altered if both teams, the County FA, and the Referee's Appointment Officer agree and are notified within 7 days of the draw being made or prior to the match. If an agreement cannot be reached, the default time will remain.

14. REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES

(a) Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association. Where the appointed referee and (where appointed) assistant referees are under the age of 18, this will be communicated to the respective home club in advance of the match by the Referee Appointment Officer. When the under 18 match official(s) arrive at the ground the home club shall get the match official(s) to sign in on the appropriate space on the team sheet and sign out on the appropriate space on the team sheet after the match when they leave. Failure to carry out this action will result in a fine of £10 against the offending club.

Where a club is informed that the match official(s) are under 18 separate changing/showering facilities from adult officials MUST be provided or if this cannot be arranged, separate changing and showering times from adults MUST be arranged

- (b) In all rounds prior to the Semi-final tie the competing Clubs MUST each provide a Club Assistant Referee.
- (c) In the Semi-final and Final ties, Assistant Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association.
- (d) It is the responsibility of the Home club to notify the Match Officials and their opponents of the location of their ground and the time of kick off 4 days prior to the match being played. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out under the fees and fines section.
- (e) If a match is postponed on arrival of the Referee, half the match fee must be paid by the home Club.
- (f) Both clubs shall provide a flag for use by their respective club assistant referees for all rounds where a neutral assistant is not appointed by the association.
- (g) The Match Referee shall retain the team sheet provided by both sides until the end of season for inspection by the Cups Committee if requested.
- (h) The AWAY club shall pay the Referee's fee, as stated in appendix B (Note this will not apply if the provisions of Rule 10 (d) and 14 (d) apply when the cost will be met by the home club). This may be either electronic payment or cash, as agreed with the match official. If the latter this shall take place in the dressing room 15 minutes prior the kick off, or within 15 minutes of the completion of the game, whichever is the wish of the referee having ascertained the referees preference before the match. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out in the fees and fines section.

In the Semi Final ties the cost of the match official's fees shall be paid for by the home club who shall then be reimbursed this amount by the County Association, less any gate receipts taken by the home club. (please see provision of rule 16). This shall be claimed by the home club submitting an expenses sheet as supplied by the Association.

15. LATE STARTS

- (a) All late starts must be reported by the Referee
- (b) Clubs responsible for late starts shall be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

16. SHARING OF GATES

From the gate money taken at all matches prior to the Semi-Final tie, the home team shall pay all match expenses, excluding the travelling expenses of the visitors and bear any loss or retain any net proceeds. The visiting team shall pay their own expenses.

- (a) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to revise match expense charges which in their opinion are excessive.
- (b) In any match ordered to be replayed in consequence of a breach of Rule, the Club in default shall not receive any share of the proceeds of such replayed match without the consent of the County Cups Committee and such consent shall only be given under special circumstances. If consent is not given, the share shall be taken by the Association.

In semi-finals the gate receipts shall be used to pay the referee and assistant referee's fee, with the County Association paying the balance of any amount not so covered by the gate takings. The home club shall submit a receipt of their match takings.

17. ADMISSION CHARGE

Admission is to be charged at the discretion of the Home Club.

18. WITHDRAWAL OF CLUBS & FAILURE TO PLAY

- (a) Any Club withdrawing from the Competition after the draw has been made shall be fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be

precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary.

- (b) Any club failing to fulfil a fixture in any round prior to the Semi-Final ties, save for unfitness of ground, shall be ruled out of the competition and fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary. In the event that that a club fails to fulfil a tie in the semi-final or final tie the minimum fine shall be no less than (see below)

Any club with drawing under clause a or failing to fulfil a fixture under clause b, MUST inform the County Office, County Referees Appointment Officer, their opponents and appointed match official(s) of such. In the event that some or all of these parties are not informed and either match officials or opposing teams travel, then the Cups Committee shall reserve the right to award costs arising against the defaulting club as they see fit.

The Cups committee shall reserve the right to award any other costs arising from a cancelled match due to a club defaulting under clauses a and/or b

The MINIMUM fines that shall apply are as follows:

Withdraw £20 Failure to play £20 Failure to play semi-final and final £30

- (c) Clubs may request a postponement of a match in writing, only where three or more players are engaged in an educational activity. Said request to be accompanied by a letter on headed paper from the school where the activity is taking place outlining both the activity and listing the names of those involved; this to be duly signed by a member of the schools staff. A request for such a postponement must be submitted to the County Office at least SEVEN days prior to the reserved date of the tie or the request will not be entertained.

19. PROTESTS

All questions arising out of these Rules shall be dealt with by the County Cups and Ground Committee.

- (a) Any Club wishing to make a protest against the result of a match must do so within seven days of the match being played.
- (b) The protest must be in writing clearly stating the grounds upon which it is made and must be signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Club.
- (c) Two copies of the protest must be sent to the Chief Executive together with a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the protest is not upheld.
- (d) The defaulting Club may be called upon to pay the whole or part of the expenses of the meeting and the expenses of the other Club SEE ALSO MEMBERSHIP RULES 5 AND 6 RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION.

20. TROPHY: SAFE KEEPING AND RETURN

Trophy Agreement

When the winners of an Association Cup shall have been ascertained, the Chief Executive shall hand over the Cup to such winners on their subscribing to the following effect:

We the undersigned on behalf of (name of Club or League) having been declared winner and taken possession of the Somerset Football Association Ltd (Competition) Trophy, which we understand remains the property of the Somerset Football Association Ltd, do hereby jointly and severally, undertake to keep the said Trophy in safe custody. Furthermore, we agree to return the Trophy no later than 1 March in the ensuing year in good order. We also undertake to pay for any damage to the Trophy whilst in our care.

Signed Club/League Secretary

Signed Position

Any Club or League failing to comply with the above requirements will be fined, as set out in the Fees and Fines Section, in addition to the cost of any repair.

21. MEDALS

Eighteen medals or other mementos shall be awarded to the winners and runners-up of all Association Cup Competitions. (Unless the number of players on a starting team is less than 11, when the number shall be adjusted to the number of players in a starting team plus five substitutes). Competing clubs may request extra medals, this should be made in writing to the association; the cost of any such request for extra medals or mementos shall be met by the requesting club

22. SHIRT COLOURS

- (a) No player or goalkeeper shall be permitted to wear black or very dark coloured shirts.
- (b) The home club shall inform the opposition of their kit colours to avoid a possible colour clash on the day, along with directions to the ground if required, no later than 3 days prior to the date of the match. Both teams shall provide their players with individually numbered shirts which must correspond to the numbers listed on the team sheet. In the event of a similarity of colours between two teams in a match the visiting team must change. Shorts and socks must be of different colours between teams. In the final tie the team drawn first shall be deemed the home club and shall have choice of colours in the event of a similarity of colours. Defaulting clubs shall be fined, as set out in Fees and Fines Section.
- (c) 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 her shirt because of a blood injury.

23. DATES

All reserved County Cup dates are to be strictly adhered to. Failure to do so will mean disqualification from the Competition.

24. RULES

These Rules shall not be altered or rescinded save at the Annual General Meeting or special meeting of the Association of which fourteen days' notice shall be given

25. MATCH BALL

A size 4 ball must be used in all matches played in this Competition.

FINES REFERRED TO IN THE RULES

Girls Under 13 Cup Competition

Rule 4	£10.00
Rule 5(f)	£10.00
Rule 7	£15.00
Rule 10(a)	£25.00
Rule 10(d)	£10.00
Rule 10(e)	£10.00
Rule 12(a)	£15.00
Rule 12(b)	£10.00
Rule 12(c)	£10.00
Rule 14(d)	£10.00
Rule 14(h)	£10.00
Rule 15(b)	£10.00 - for first 15 minutes or part thereof and £5.00 - for each succeeding 5 minutes or part thereof
Rule 18(a)	£20.00 (Minimum)
(b)	£20.00 (Minimum)
	£30.00 (Minimum) Re: Semi Final & Final
Rule 20(c)	£25.00
Rule 21	£50.00
Rule 22(b)	£16.00

Rule 8

Referees Fees **£35 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Assistant Referees **£27 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Travel Expenses - Referees and Assistant Referees

N.B. The county mileage rate shall be decided by the Board of Directors at their discretion, from time to time. When this change may occur after the printing of this handbook the new rate shall apply in place of the one listed here. The new rate shall be communicated by the county office to all members as and when it occurs

BOYS UNDER 12 CUP COMPETITION (2025) RULES

1. TITLE

The Trophy shall be called 'The Somerset Football Association Boys Under 12 Cup' and shall be a perpetual trophy competed for annually by Girl Youth Clubs and teams who are affiliated to the Association.

2. CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT

- (a) The County Cups and Ground Committee of the Association shall have the entire control and management of the Competition and shall have the power to disqualify, impose fines or other such penalties and may order the payment of costs and expenses against any competing Club, or the players of any competing Club, in breach of any of the Rules of the Competition.
- (b) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall decide upon the interpretation of the Rules of the Competition, adjudicate upon any dispute, claim or protest and their decision shall be final and binding.
- (e) All Somerset FA Cup Competitions are to be played in accordance with the FA Respect Programme, to which all competing clubs must adhere.
- (f) The competition is a NINE-A-SIDE competition
- (e) All matches shall be played on Saturdays.

3. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

No Club shall enter the Competition after **21st July** in each playing season. All competing clubs MUST supply two mobile phone numbers for use with reporting results; these shall be supplied on the entry form. No entry will be accepted without numbers supplied.

- (d) All clubs shall send the county association a colour photograph of their kit (and change strip if appropriate) before their entrance to the competition is accepted. In the event that their kit is changed during the duration of the competition they shall seek permission to do so from the association and submit a picture at that point. The picture may be in hard or soft copy
- (e) A club may enter more than one team in the competition if they have multiple teams at this age group. All subsequent teams shall pay an additional entrance fee commensurate with the entrance fee. Where a club enters more than one team a player shall not play for more than one team within that club in the competition in any one season, see rule 5(c)
- (f) Any under 12 **TEAM** entering this competition shall not be permitted to enter the Boys Under 13 Cup in the same playing season.

4. ENTRANCE FEE

Clubs or teams entering the Competition shall pay a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section in addition to the annual affiliation fee payable in respect of membership of the Association.

5. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

- (a) ***In all rounds of the Competition a Player must have been a registered member of their Club on the FA Player Registration system by the Friday before the date of the match. No player shall be eligible if registered after the dates reserved for the playing of semi-final ties.***
- (b) A registered member is one who is registered with a League in which the Club competes.
- (c) A Player shall not in the same Season play for more than one competing Club or team in the same club where his or her club enters more the one team in the competition.
- (d) In the case of a postponed or abandoned match, only those Players who were qualified to play on the original date fixed for the round shall be eligible to play in the re-arranged match.
- (e) Substitute(s): A player who has been substituted during a match herself becomes a substitute and may in turn, replace another player at any time subject to the substitution being carried out in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of Association Football. Up to a maximum of SEVEN may be nominated all of whom may be used repeatedly within the substitute process.
- (f) Clubs must hand copies of a list of names of players taking part in the game (including names of nominated substitutes) to the Referee and a representative of their opponents, in the presence of the Referee, 30 minutes before commencement of the match. The home Club must supply two match balls. Any Club failing to carry out these provisions will be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) The only Players who are eligible to take part are those that have not reached the age of 13 years as at midnight on 31st August of the current season.
- (h) A Player who is over ten years and under thirteen years at Midnight on 31st August in any playing Season must not play in a match involving Players who were more than two years older than herself.
- (i) A Player's date of birth must be inserted on her Registration Form and her Birth Certificate must be verified by her Club's Secretary and be produced whenever requested by the Cups Committee.

6. VALIDITY OF PLAYERS QUALIFICATIONS

If County Cups and Ground Committee have any doubt as to the qualification of any Player taking part in the Competition they shall have power to call upon such Players of the Club to which she belongs, or for which she played, to prove that she is qualified according to the Rules and failing satisfactory proof the County Cups and Ground Committee may disqualify such Players and may remove the Club from the Competition and impose such other penalty as they may think fit.

7. DISQUALIFICATION

The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to disqualify any competing Club, or Player, or Players for any competing Club who may be proved guilty of any breach of the Rules of the Association and impose a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

8. CONDUCT OF CLUBS

All clubs shall be held responsible for the conduct of their Players, members and spectators and shall give every assistance to the rulings of the Referee whose decisions as to the state of the ground, laws of the game and interference of spectators shall be unquestioned save by the County Cups and Ground Committee of the Association.

Subsequent to any action completed by the Disciplinary Committee, the Cups Committee shall decide on the eligibility of the club to enter county cup competitions in the following season

Temporary Dismissals (Sin Bins) will be in used in this competition where FA regulations determine that sanction for specified offences.

9. THE DRAW

- (a) The ties shall be drawn, the dates fixed, and the matches played as the County Cups and Ground Committee may determine.
Requests for an exemption from playing on the reserved date (a "free day") will not be entertained, save in youth competitions under the provisions of rule 18(c).
- (b) In each tie the game shall be played on the ground of the Club first drawn, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon and the consent of the County Cups and Ground Committee obtained.
- (c) No Club shall receive a bye in two consecutive rounds.
- (d) No Club shall, unless unavoidable, receive more than one bye in the course of the Competition each Season but the County Cups and Ground Committee shall have power to give sufficient number of byes to ensure four clubs competing in the Semi-final ties.
- (e) In the event of Clubs sharing the same pitch the first drawn will have priority unless mutually agreed; the second Club to play the following week.

10. GROUNDS

For the purpose of this rule where Ground is referenced this shall refer to the entire facility on which the playing pitch is situated and all of the pitches thereof, with the exception of Artificial Grass pitch facilities where it shall refer to the specific artificial grass surface. County Cup competition matches shall only take place on grounds where there are changing rooms for both sides, such changing rooms must have showers

- (a) If the ground of the Club having choice of ground is considered unsuitable, the opposing Club may Appeal to the County Cups and Ground Committee within three days of the receipt of the draw. Such Appeal must be accompanied by a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the Appeal is not upheld. The payment of expenses incidental to the Appeal shall be at the discretion of the County Cups and Ground Committee.
- (b) Each Club must take every precaution to keep its ground in a playing condition and if necessary the home or visiting Club may apply to the Association Secretary to instruct the Referee or some other suitable person to examine the ground as to its fitness for play, in sufficient time to save expenses being incurred for unnecessary journeys. Pitches must have Respect barriers or lines; these must be on the opposite side to the technical area. Where it is not possible to site the respect barrier opposite the technical area agreement to move to Respect line to the same as the technical area must be obtained from the County FA in writing (email will suffice)
- (c) The grounds on which the Final tie is to be played shall be chosen by the County Cups and Ground Committee. In the Final tie the Referee shall, if requested by the Association Secretary, visit the ground three hours before the time of kick-off.
- (d) The appointed referee shall be the sole judge as to the fitness of the ground in all matches but when adverse weather conditions prevail on the day before or on the morning of the match, the Home Club is empowered to call in a Local Referee, Level 7 or higher (who must be over 18 years of age) who shall be independent of the home club, who shall have the power to postpone the match and must submit a written report to the Association Secretary. The Home Club to notify the Referee's Officer, Opponents and Match Officials of the postponement. Clubs MUST phone the match official(s) and leave a message informing them of the cancellation. Failure to do so shall result in a fine of £10 along with other sanctions as proscribed later in this rule. Clubs failing to notify will be fined as set out in the Fees and Fines section. If after the arrival of the visiting team the Referee declares the ground unfit for play, the County Cups Committee may order the home Club to pay such part of the expenses of the visiting club as they may consider fair, and half the match fee must be paid by the home Club, to the Referee. If the

match is cancelled, for any reason, (other than unfitness of ground) but the club fails to inform their opponents and/or match official(s) causing them to travel to the game, then the home team SHALL pay the match official(s) their FULL match fee the visiting team travelling expenses as deemed appropriate by the Cups Committee along with any other expenses the Cups Committee deem appropriate. In the event that this tie is a semi-final then the team shall NOT be eligible to claim the match official's expenses from the County FA as outlined in Rule 14. Where a club plays on a ground owned by a third party and that party makes a decision to cancel the match the home club must provide written confirmation from their landlord of the decision to cancel said match to the county office within 5 working days of the match. Failure to do so may see the club excluded from the competition.

- (e) If a match has to be postponed for either of the reasons in paragraph (d) above, or is abandoned for any reason, save for incidents when the abandonment was due to disciplinary issues, it shall be played the weekend following unless advised otherwise by the County Cups Committee. The match shall have the same referee as appointed to the original date unless otherwise advised by the Referees Appointment Officer.

Should the rearranged date for either a postponed or abandoned match as defined above fall within the school holiday period for one or both competing teams, if either of the clubs have players on holiday during the school holiday period then they must inform the county association immediately and they will be allowed to postpone the game. Clubs doing so MUST inform their opponents, the County Referees Appointment Officer and, where appointed, their match referees (and assistants if applicable). A Club requesting such a postponement shall not be available to play any other fixture of lower precedence on that date.

In this scenario the match will be played in the first weekend of the next school term. Where school term periods are not concurrent between different education authorities and clubs are from separate authorities, a club will be allowed to postpone if they have players on holiday in a school holiday period even if their opponents have finished their holiday period. Where school term times are not concurrent the default date shall be the first weekend when both clubs are in term time.

Where a match has been postponed for two weeks the side drawn at home shall consider finding an alternate ground or reversing the fixture for the third week if there is a possibility that their ground may not be fit to host the game for the third week if (they have not already done so in the initial two weeks).

- (f) The home Club must notify their opponents of ground location. Failure to comply will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) Separate accommodation MUST be provided for Match Officials.
- (i) The use of third generation (3g) artificial grass pitches will be allowed for use in the competition. To be eligible the pitch must be on the FA register of approved 3g surfaces register. The home must club must provide a list of acceptable footwear for use on the pitch to their opposition and appointed referee no less than 5 days prior to the date of the tie (unless a shorter period is mutually acceptable to both parties). The home team shall be liable for ALL costs (excluding opposition expenses) arising from the hire for use of such a pitch. The use of any other artificial pitch other than a 3g (artificial grass) will NOT be entertained.

11. DURATION OF MATCHES

The duration of each match shall be 60 minutes. If at the end of the match the scores are level, then Kicks from the Penalty Mark will take place as described in the Penalty Kicks Section.

If, at any time during the match, the difference in goals scored between the two sides reaches 10 goals, the match will end and be deemed properly completed with the match result as of that time; the team leading by 10 goals shall be the winners and advance into the next round.

(N.B. If there is sufficient time remaining at the end of the match in the above circumstances, the two teams may, at their discretion, play a friendly match lasting the duration of the remaining minutes. In such cases this shall have NO bearing on the result of the match)

12. REPORTING RESULTS

- (a) Both competing clubs MUST present a team sheet to the match referee and their opponents prior to the commencement of the match; this MUST include the names and initials of Players representing their Club; the number of the shirt that the player is to wear in the match MUST be written on the team sheet submitted next to the players name.

After the match The Secretary of each Club shall send a copy of that team sheet to the association to include the match result and a mark of the match official's performance in the game (SEE APPENDIX A), so that it is received within four days of the match (Sundays not included). This shall be via post or via electronic copy, if the latter it shall be emailed to Countycupadmin@somersetfa.com Where clubs use electronic copy it should be a scanned version of the team sheet used. Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be subject to a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section and in default of payment shall also be ruled out of the Competition. The club in case will not be allowed to compete in a subsequent round of the competition until the team sheet from the previous round is received by the County Association 7 days prior to the match being played.

- (b) A Referees marking out of 100, (a marking guide is provided in Appendix A at the rear of the book) should be inserted on the result sheet. Failure to do so will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section. Any

mark of 60 or below MUST be accompanied by a letter explaining the mark. Failure to do so to lead to a fine of £15.

- (c) The home club shall input the result via FA match day app on the same day of the match, (in the event that the App is not working then the result must be emailed to countycupadmin@somersetfa.com on the same day of the match); failure to meet the provisions of this rule will see the club fined as listed in the Fees and Fines section (Appendix B)

13. TIME OF KICK-OFF

All matches shall commence as follows: **10.30 am**

However, the kick-off time may be altered if both teams, the County FA, and the Referee's Appointment Officer agree and are notified within 7 days of the draw being made or prior to the match. If an agreement cannot be reached, the default time will remain.

14. REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES

- (a) Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association. Where the appointed referee and (where appointed) assistant referees are under the age of 18, this will be communicated to the respective home club in advance of the match by the Referee Appointment Officer. When the under 18 match official(s) arrive at the ground the home club shall get the match official(s) to sign in on the appropriate space on the team sheet and sign out on the appropriate space on the team sheet after the match when they leave. Failure to carry out this action will result in a fine of £10 against the offending club.

Where a club is informed that the match official(s) are under 18 separate changing/showering facilities from adult officials MUST be provided or if this cannot be arranged, separate changing and showering times from adults MUST be arranged

- (b) In all rounds prior to the Semi-final tie the competing Clubs MUST each provide a Club Assistant Referee.
- (c) In the Semi-final and Final ties, Assistant Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association.
- (d) It is the responsibility of the Home club to notify the Match Officials and their opponents of the location of their ground and the time of kick off 4 days prior to the match being played. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out under the fees and fines section.
- (e) If a match is postponed on arrival of the Referee, half the match must be paid by the home Club.
- (f) Both clubs shall provide a flag for use by their respective club assistant referees for all rounds where a neutral assistant is not appointed by the association.
- (g) The Match Referee shall retain the team sheet provided by both sides until the end of season for inspection by the Cups Committee if requested.
- (a) The **AWAY** club shall pay the Referee's fee, as stated in appendix B (Note this will not apply if the provisions of Rule 10 (d) and 14 (d) apply when the cost will be met by the home club). This may be either electronic payment or cash, as agreed with the match official. If the latter this shall take place in the dressing room 15 minutes prior the kick off, or within 15 minutes of the completion of the game, whichever is the wish of the referee having ascertained the referees preference before the match. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out in the fees and fines section.

In the Semi Final ties the cost of the match official's fees shall be paid for by the home club who shall then be reimbursed this amount by the County Association, less any gate receipts taken by the home club. (please see provision of rule 16). This shall be claimed by the home club submitting an expenses sheet as supplied by the Association.

15. LATE STARTS

- (a) All late starts must be reported by the Referee
- (b) Clubs responsible for late starts shall be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

16. SHARING OF GATES

From the gate money taken at all matches prior to the Semi-Final tie, the home team shall pay all match expenses, excluding the travelling expenses of the visitors and bear any loss or retain any net proceeds. The visiting team shall pay their own expenses.

- (a) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to revise match expense charges which in their opinion are excessive.
- (b) In any match ordered to be replayed in consequence of a breach of Rule, the Club in default shall not receive any share of the proceeds of such replayed match without the consent of the County Cups Committee and such consent shall only be given under special circumstances. If consent is not given, the share shall be taken by the Association.

In semi-finals the gate receipts shall be used to pay the referee and assistant referee's fee, with the County Association paying the balance of any amount not so covered by the gate takings. The home club shall submit a receipt of their match takings.

17. ADMISSION CHARGE

Admission is to be charged at the discretion of the Home Club.

18. WITHDRAWAL OF CLUBS & FAILURE TO PLAY

- (a) Any Club withdrawing from the Competition after the draw has been made shall be fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary.
- (b) Any club failing to fulfil a fixture in any round prior to the Semi-Final ties, save for unfitness of ground, shall be ruled out of the competition and fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary. In the event that that a club fails to fulfil a tie in the semi-final or final tie the minimum fine shall be no less than (see below)

Any club with drawing under clause a or failing to fulfil a fixture under clause b, MUST inform the County Office, County Referees Appointment Officer, their opponents and appointed match official(s) of such. In the event that some or all of these parties are not informed and either match officials or opposing teams travel, then the Cups Committee shall reserve the right to award costs arising against the defaulting club as they see fit.

The Cups committee shall reserve the right to award any other costs arising from a cancelled match due to a club defaulting under clauses a and/or b

The MINIMUM fines that shall apply are as follows:

Withdraw £20 Failure to play £20 Failure to play semi-final and final £30

- (c) Clubs may request a postponement of a match in writing, only where three or more players are engaged in an educational activity. Said request to be accompanied by a letter on headed paper from the school where the activity is taking place outlining both the activity and listing the names of those involved; this to be duly signed by a member of the schools staff. A request for such a postponement must be submitted to the County Office at least SEVEN days prior to the reserved date of the tie or the request will not be entertained.

19. PROTESTS

All questions arising out of these Rules shall be dealt with by the County Cups and Ground Committee.

- (a) Any Club wishing to make a protest against the result of a match must do so within seven days of the match being played.
- (b) The protest must be in writing clearly stating the grounds upon which it is made and must be signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Club.
- (c) Two copies of the protest must be sent to the Chief Executive together with a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the protest is not upheld.
- (d) The defaulting Club may be called upon to pay the whole or part of the expenses of the meeting and the expenses of the other Club SEE ALSO MEMBERSHIP RULES 5 AND 6 RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION.

20. TROPHY: SAFE KEEPING AND RETURN

Trophy Agreement

When the winners of an Association Cup shall have been ascertained, the Chief Executive shall hand over the Cup to such winners on their subscribing to the following effect:

We the undersigned on behalf of (name of Club or League) having been declared winner and taken possession of the Somerset Football Association Ltd (Competition) Trophy, which we understand remains the property of the Somerset Football Association Ltd, do hereby jointly and severally, undertake to keep the said Trophy in safe custody.

Furthermore, we agree to return the Trophy no later than 1 March in the ensuing year in good order. We also undertake to pay for any damage to the Trophy whilst in our care.

Signed Club/League Secretary

Signed Position

Any Club or League failing to comply with the above requirements will be fined, as set out in the Fees and Fines Section, in addition to the cost of any repair.

21. MEDALS

Eighteen medals or other mementos shall be awarded to the winners and runners-up of all Association Cup Competitions. (Unless the number of players on a starting team is less than 11, when the number shall be adjusted to the number of players in a starting team plus five substitutes). Competing clubs may request extra medals, this should be made in writing to the association; the cost of any such request for extra medals or mementos shall be met by the requesting club

22. SHIRT COLOURS

- (a) No player or goalkeeper shall be permitted to wear black or very dark coloured shirts.
- (b) The home club shall inform the opposition of their kit colours to avoid a possible colour clash on the day, along with directions to the ground if required, no later than 3 days prior to the date of the match. Both teams shall provide their players with individually numbered shirts which must correspond to the numbers listed on the team sheet. In the event of a similarity of colours between two teams in a match the visiting team must change. Shorts and socks must be of different colours between teams. In the final tie the team drawn first shall be deemed the home club and shall have choice of colours in the event of a similarity of colours. Defaulting clubs shall be fined, as set out

in Fees and Fines Section.

- (c) 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 her shirt because of a blood injury.

23. DATES

All reserved County Cup dates are to be strictly adhered to. Failure to do so will mean disqualification from the Competition.

24. RULES

These Rules shall not be altered or rescinded save at the Annual General Meeting or special meeting of the Association of which fourteen days' notice shall be given

25. MATCH BALL

A size 4 ball must be used in all matches played in this Competition.

FINES REFERRED TO IN THE RULES

Boys Under 12 Cup Competition

Rule 4	£10.00
Rule 5(f)	£10.00
Rule 7	£15.00
Rule 10(a)	£25.00
Rule 10(d)	£10.00
Rule 10(e)	£10.00
Rule 12(a)	£15.00
Rule 12(b)	£10.00
Rule 12(c)	£10.00
Rule 14(d)	£10.00
Rule 14(h)	£10.00
Rule 15(b)	£10.00 - for first 15 minutes or part thereof and £5.00 - for each succeeding 5 minutes or part thereof
Rule 18(a)	£20.00 (Minimum)
(b)	£20.00 (Minimum)
	£30.00 (Minimum) Re: Semi Final & Final
Rule 20(c)	£25.00
Rule 21	£50.00
Rule 22(b)	£16.00

Rule 8

Referees Fees £30 (Inclusive of travel expenses)

Assistant Referees £23 (Inclusive of travel expenses)

Travel Expenses - Referees and Assistant Referees

N.B. The county mileage rate shall be decided by the Board of Directors at their discretion, from time to time. When this change may occur after the printing of this handbook the new rate shall apply in place of the one listed here. The new rate shall be communicated by the county office to all members as and when it occurs

GIRLS UNDER 12 CUP COMPETITION (2023)
RULES

1. TITLE

The Trophy shall be called 'The Somerset Football Association Girls Under 12 Cup' and shall be a perpetual trophy competed for annually by Girl Youth Clubs and teams who are affiliated to the Association.

2. CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT

- (a) The County Cups and Ground Committee of the Association shall have the entire control and management of the Competition and shall have the power to disqualify, impose fines or other such penalties and may order the payment of costs and expenses against any competing Club, or the players of any competing Club, in breach of any of the Rules of the Competition.
- (b) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall decide upon the interpretation of the Rules of the Competition, adjudicate upon any dispute, claim or protest and their decision shall be final and binding.
- (g) All Somerset FA Cup Competitions are to be played in accordance with the FA Respect Programme, to which all competing clubs must adhere.
- (h) The competition is a NINE-A-SIDE competition
- (e) All matches shall be played on Saturdays.

3. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

No Club shall enter the Competition after **21st July** in each playing season. All competing clubs MUST supply two mobile phone numbers for use with reporting results; these shall be supplied on the entry form. No entry will be accepted without numbers supplied.

- (g) All clubs shall send the county association a colour photograph of their kit (and change strip if appropriate) before their entrance to the competition is accepted. In the event that their kit is changed during the duration of the competition they shall seek permission to do so from the association and submit a picture at that point. The picture may be in hard or soft copy
- (h) A club may enter more than one team in the competition if they have multiple teams at this age group. All subsequent teams shall pay an additional entrance fee commensurate with the entrance fee. Where a club enters more than one team a player shall not play for more than one team within that club in the competition in any one season, see rule 5(c)
- (i) Any under 12 **TEAM** entering this competition shall not be permitted to enter the Girls Under 13 Cup in the same playing season.

4. ENTRANCE FEE

Clubs or teams entering the Competition shall pay a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section in addition to the annual affiliation fee payable in respect of membership of the Association.

5. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

- (a) ***In all rounds of the Competition a Player must have been a registered member of their Club on the FA Player Registration system by the Friday before the date of the match. No player shall be eligible if registered after the dates reserved for the playing of semi-final ties.***
- (b) A registered member is one who is registered with a League in which the Club competes.
- (c) A Player shall not in the same Season play for more than one competing Club or team in the same club where his or her club enters more the one team in the competition.
- (d) In the case of a postponed or abandoned match, only those Players who were qualified to play on the original date fixed for the round shall be eligible to play in the re-arranged match.
- (e) Substitute(s): A player who has been substituted during a match herself becomes a substitute and may in turn, replace another player at any time subject to the substitution being carried out in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of Association Football. Up to a maximum of **SEVEN** may be nominated all of whom may be used repeatedly within the substitute process.
- (f) Clubs must hand copies of a list of names of players taking part in the game (including names of nominated substitutes) to the Referee and a representative of their opponents, in the presence of the Referee, 30 minutes before commencement of the match. The home Club must supply two match balls. Any Club failing to carry out these provisions will be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) The only Players who are eligible to take part are those that have not reached the age of 13 years as at midnight on 31st August of the current season.
- (h) A Player who is over ten years and under thirteen years at Midnight on 31st August in any playing Season must not play in a match involving Players who were more than two years older than herself.
- (i) A Player's date of birth must be inserted on her Registration Form and her Birth Certificate must be verified by her Club's Secretary and be produced whenever requested by the Cups Committee.

6. VALIDITY OF PLAYERS QUALIFICATIONS

If County Cups and Ground Committee have any doubt as to the qualification of any Player taking

part in the Competition they shall have power to call upon such Players of the Club to which she belongs, or for which she played, to prove that she is qualified according to the Rules and failing satisfactory proof the County Cups and Ground Committee may disqualify such Players and may remove the Club from the Competition and impose such other penalty as they may think fit.

7. DISQUALIFICATION

The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to disqualify any competing Club, or Player, or Players for any competing Club who may be proved guilty of any breach of the Rules of the Association and impose a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

8. CONDUCT OF CLUBS

All clubs shall be held responsible for the conduct of their Players, members and spectators and shall give every assistance to the rulings of the Referee whose decisions as to the state of the ground, laws of the game and interference of spectators shall be unquestioned save by the County Cups and Ground Committee of the Association.

Subsequent to any action completed by the Disciplinary Committee, the Cups Committee shall decide on the eligibility of the club to enter county cup competitions in the following season

Temporary Dismissals (Sin Bins) will be in used in this competition where FA regulations determine that sanction for specified offences.

9. THE DRAW

(a) The ties shall be drawn, the dates fixed, and the matches played as the County Cups and Ground Committee may determine.

Requests for an exemption from playing on the reserved date (a "free day") will not be entertained, save in youth competitions under the provisions of rule 18(c).

(b) In each tie the game shall be played on the ground of the Club first drawn, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon and the consent of the County Cups and Ground Committee obtained.

(c) No Club shall receive a bye in two consecutive rounds.

(d) No Club shall, unless unavoidable, receive more than one bye in the course of the Competition each Season but the County Cups and Ground Committee shall have power to give sufficient number of byes to ensure four clubs competing in the Semi-final ties.

(e) In the event of Clubs sharing the same pitch the first drawn will have priority unless mutually agreed; the second Club to play the following week.

10. GROUNDS

For this rule where Ground is referenced this shall refer to the entire facility on which the playing pitch is situated and all of the pitches thereof, with the exception of Artificial Grass pitch facilities where it shall refer to the specific artificial grass surface. County Cup competition matches shall only take place on grounds where there are changing rooms for both sides, such changing rooms must have showers

(a) If the ground of the Club having choice of ground is considered unsuitable, the opposing Club may Appeal to the County Cups and Ground Committee within three days of the receipt of the draw. Such Appeal must be accompanied by a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the Appeal is not upheld. The payment of expenses incidental to the Appeal shall be at the discretion of the County Cups and Ground Committee.

(b) Each Club must take every precaution to keep its ground in a playing condition and if necessary the home or visiting Club may apply to the Association Secretary to instruct the Referee or some other suitable person to examine the ground as to its fitness for play, in sufficient time to save expenses being incurred for unnecessary journeys. Pitches must have Respect barriers or lines; these must be on the opposite side to the technical area. Where it is not possible to site the respect barrier opposite the technical area agreement to move to Respect line to the same as the technical area must be obtained from the County FA in writing (email will suffice)

(c) The grounds on which the Final tie is to be played shall be chosen by the County Cups and Ground Committee. In the Final tie the Referee shall, if requested by the Association Secretary, visit the ground three hours before the time of kick-off.

(d) The appointed referee shall be the sole judge as to the fitness of the ground in all matches but when adverse weather conditions prevail on the day before or on the morning of the match, the Home Club is empowered to call in a Local Referee, Level 7 or higher (who must be over 18 years of age) who shall be independent of the home club, who shall have the power to postpone the match and must submit a written report to the Association Secretary. The Home Club to notify the Referee's Officer, Opponents and Match Officials of the postponement. Clubs MUST phone the match official(s) and leave a message informing them of the cancellation. Failure to do so shall result in a fine of £10 along with other sanctions as proscribed later in this rule. Clubs failing to notify will be fined as set out in the Fees and Fines section. If after the arrival of the visiting team the Referee declares the ground unfit for play, the County Cups Committee may order the home Club to pay such part of the expenses of the visiting club as they may consider fair, and half the match fee must be paid by the home Club, to the Referee. If the match is cancelled, for any reason, (other than unfitness of ground) but the club fails to inform their opponents and/or match official(s) causing them to travel to the game, then the home team SHALL pay the match official(s)

their FULL match fee the visiting team travelling expenses as deemed appropriate by the Cups Committee along with any other expenses the Cups Committee deem appropriate. In the event that this tie is a semi-final then the team shall NOT be eligible to claim the match official's expenses from the County FA as outlined in Rule 14. Where a club plays on a ground owned by a third party and that party makes a decision to cancel the match the home club must provide written confirmation from their landlord of the decision to cancel said match to the county office within 5 working days of the match. Failure to do so may see the club excluded from the competition.

- (e) If a match has to be postponed for either of the reasons in paragraph (d) above, or is abandoned for any reason, save for incidents when the abandonment was due to disciplinary issues, it shall be played the weekend following unless advised otherwise by the County Cups Committee. The match shall have the same referee as appointed to the original date unless otherwise advised by the Referees Appointment Officer.

Should the rearranged date for either a postponed or abandoned match as defined above fall within the school holiday period for one or both competing teams, if either of the clubs have players on holiday during the school holiday period then they must inform the county association immediately and they will be allowed to postpone the game. Clubs doing so MUST inform their opponents, the County Referees Appointment Officer and, where appointed, their match referees (and assistants if applicable). A Club requesting such a postponement shall not be available to play any other fixture of lower precedence on that date.

In this scenario the match will be played in the first weekend of the next school term. Where school term periods are not concurrent between different education authorities and clubs are from separate authorities, a club will be allowed to postpone if they have players on holiday in a school holiday period even if their opponents have finished their holiday period. Where school term times are not concurrent the default date shall be the first weekend when both clubs are in term time.

Where a match has been postponed for two weeks the side drawn at home shall consider finding an alternate ground or reversing the fixture for the third week if there is a possibility that their ground may not be fit to host the game for the third week if (they have not already done so in the initial two weeks).

- (f) The home Club must notify their opponents of ground location. Failure to comply will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section.
- (g) Separate accommodation MUST be provided for Match Officials.
- (j) The use of third generation (3g) artificial grass pitches will be allowed for use in the competition. To be eligible the pitch must be on the FA register of approved 3g surfaces register. The home must club must provide a list of acceptable footwear for use on the pitch to their opposition and appointed referee no less than 5 days prior to the date of the tie (unless a shorter period is mutually acceptable to both parties). The home team shall be liable for ALL costs (excluding opposition expenses) arising from the hire for use of such a pitch. The use of any other artificial pitch other than a 3g (artificial grass) will NOT be entertained.

11. DURATION OF MATCHES

The duration of each match shall be 60 minutes. If at the end of the match the scores are level, then Kicks from the Penalty Mark will take place as described in the Penalty Kicks Section.

If, at any time during the match, the difference in goals scored between the two sides reaches 10 goals, the match will end and be deemed properly completed with the match result as of that time; the team leading by 10 goals shall be the winners and advance into the next round.

(N.B. If there is sufficient time remaining at the end of the match in the above circumstances, the two teams may, at their discretion, play a friendly match lasting the duration of the remaining minutes. In such cases this shall have NO bearing on the result of the match)

12. REPORTING RESULTS

- (a) Both competing clubs MUST present a team sheet to the match referee and their opponents prior to the commencement of the match; this MUST include the names and initials of Players representing their Club; the number of the shirt that the player is to wear in the match MUST be written on the team sheet submitted next to the players name.

After the match The Secretary of each Club shall send a copy of that team sheet to the association to include the match result and a mark of the match official's performance in the game (SEE APPENDIX A), so that it is received within four days of the match (Sundays not included). This shall be via post or via electronic copy, if the latter it shall be emailed to Countycupadmin@somersetfa.com Where clubs use electronic copy it should be a scanned version of the team sheet used. Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be subject to a fine as set out under the Fees and Fines Section and in default of payment shall also be ruled out of the Competition. The club in case will not be allowed to compete in a subsequent round of the competition until the team sheet from the previous round is received by the County Association 7 days prior to the match being played.

- (b) A Referees marking out of 100, (a marking guide is provided in Appendix A at the rear of the book) should be inserted on the result sheet. Failure to do so will result in a fine being imposed, as shown in the Fees and Fines Section. Any mark of 60 or below MUST be accompanied by a letter explaining the mark. Failure to do so to lead to a fine of £15.
- (c) The home club shall input the result via FA match day app on the same day of the match, (in the event that the App is

not working then the result must be emailed to countycupadmin@somersetfa.com on the same day of the match); failure to meet the provisions of this rule will see the club fined as listed in the Fees and Fines section (Appendix B)

13. TIME OF KICK-OFF

All matches shall commence as follows: **10.30 am**

However, the kick-off time may be altered if both teams, the County FA, and the Referee's Appointment Officer agree and are notified within 7 days of the draw being made or prior to the match. If an agreement cannot be reached, the default time will remain.

14. REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES

(a) Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association. Where the appointed referee and (where appointed) assistant referees are under the age of 18, this will be communicated to the respective home club in advance of the match by the Referee Appointment Officer. When the under 18 match official(s) arrive at the ground the home club shall get the match official(s) to sign in on the appropriate space on the team sheet and sign out on the appropriate space on the team sheet after the match when they leave. Failure to carry out this action will result in a fine of £10 against the offending club.

Where a club is informed that the match official(s) are under 18 separate changing/showering facilities from adult officials MUST be provided or if this cannot be arranged, separate changing and showering times from adults MUST be arranged

- (b) In all rounds prior to the Semi-final tie the competing Clubs MUST each provide a Club Assistant Referee.
- (c) In the Semi-final and Final ties, Assistant Referees shall be appointed by the Referees Committee of the Association.
- (d) It is the responsibility of the Home club to notify the Match Officials and their opponents of the location of their ground and the time of kick off 4 days prior to the match being played. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out under the fees and fines section.
- (e) If a match is postponed on arrival of the Referee, half the match fee must be paid by the home Club.
- (f) Both clubs shall provide a flag for use by their respective club assistant referees for all rounds where a neutral assistant is not appointed by the association.
- (g) The Match Referee shall retain the team sheet provided by both sides until the end of season for inspection by the Cups Committee if requested.
- (h) The **AWAY** club shall pay the Referee's fee, as stated in appendix B (Note this will not apply if the provisions of Rule 10 (d) and 14 (d) apply when the cost will be met by the home club). This may be either electronic payment or cash, as agreed with the match official. If the latter this shall take place in the dressing room 15 minutes prior the kick off, or within 15 minutes of the completion of the game, whichever is the wish of the referee having ascertained the referees preference before the match. Failure to do so will incur a fine as set out in the fees and fines section.

In the Semi Final ties the cost of the match official's fees shall be paid for by the home club who shall then be reimbursed this amount by the County Association, less any gate receipts taken by the home club. (please see provision of rule 16). This shall be claimed by the home club submitting an expenses sheet as supplied by the Association.

15. LATE STARTS

- (a) All late starts must be reported by the Referee
- (b) Clubs responsible for late starts shall be fined as set out under the Fees and Fines Section.

16. SHARING OF GATES

From the gate money taken at all matches prior to the Semi-Final tie, the home team shall pay all match expenses, excluding the travelling expenses of the visitors and bear any loss or retain any net proceeds. The visiting team shall pay their own expenses.

- (a) The County Cups and Ground Committee shall have the power to revise match expense charges which in their opinion are excessive.
- (b) In any match ordered to be replayed in consequence of a breach of Rule, the Club in default shall not receive any share of the proceeds of such replayed match without the consent of the County Cups Committee and such consent shall only be given under special circumstances. If consent is not given, the share shall be taken by the Association.

In semi-finals the gate receipts shall be used to pay the referee and assistant referee's fee, with the County Association paying the balance of any amount not so covered by the gate takings. The home club shall submit a receipt of their match takings.

17. ADMISSION CHARGE

Admission is to be charged at the discretion of the Home Club.

18. WITHDRAWAL OF CLUBS & FAILURE TO PLAY

- (a) Any Club withdrawing from the Competition after the draw has been made shall be fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be

precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary.

- (b) Any club failing to fulfil a fixture in any round prior to the Semi-Final ties, save for unfitness of ground, shall be ruled out of the competition and fined at the discretion of the committee, although not less than (see below), and additionally, at the discretion of the Cups Committee, will be precluded from entering any Cup Competition for the following season, along with any other action the committee may deem necessary. In the event that that a club fails to fulfil a tie in the semi-final or final tie the minimum fine shall be no less than (see below)

Any club with drawing under clause a or failing to fulfil a fixture under clause b, MUST inform the County Office, County Referees Appointment Officer, their opponents and appointed match official(s) of such. In the event that some or all of these parties are not informed and either match officials or opposing teams travel, then the Cups Committee shall reserve the right to award costs arising against the defaulting club as they see fit.

The Cups committee shall reserve the right to award any other costs arising from a cancelled match due to a club defaulting under clauses a and/or b

The MINIMUM fines that shall apply are as follows:

Withdraw £20 Failure to play £20 Failure to play semi-final and final £30

- (c) Clubs may request a postponement of a match in writing, only where three or more players are engaged in an educational activity. Said request to be accompanied by a letter on headed paper from the school where the activity is taking place outlining both the activity and listing the names of those involved; this to be duly signed by a member of the schools staff. A request for such a postponement must be submitted to the County Office at least SEVEN days prior to the reserved date of the tie or the request will not be entertained.

19. PROTESTS

All questions arising out of these Rules shall be dealt with by the County Cups and Ground Committee.

- (a) Any Club wishing to make a protest against the result of a match must do so within seven days of the match being played.
- (b) The protest must be in writing clearly stating the grounds upon which it is made and must be signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Club.
- (c) Two copies of the protest must be sent to the Chief Executive together with a fee as set out under the Fees and Fines Section which may be forfeited if the protest is not upheld.
- (d) The defaulting Club may be called upon to pay the whole or part of the expenses of the meeting and the expenses of the other Club SEE ALSO MEMBERSHIP RULES 5 AND 6 RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION.

20. TROPHY: SAFE KEEPING AND RETURN

Trophy Agreement

When the winners of an Association Cup shall have been ascertained, the Chief Executive shall hand over the Cup to such winners on their subscribing to the following effect:

We the undersigned on behalf of (name of Club or League) having been declared winner and taken possession of the Somerset Football Association Ltd (Competition) Trophy, which we understand remains the property of the Somerset Football Association Ltd, do hereby jointly and severally, undertake to keep the said Trophy in safe custody.

Furthermore, we agree to return the Trophy no later than 1 March in the ensuing year in good order. We also undertake to pay for any damage to the Trophy whilst in our care.

Signed Club/League Secretary

Signed Position

Any Club or League failing to comply with the above requirements will be fined, as set out in the Fees and Fines Section, in addition to the cost of any repair.

21. MEDALS

Eighteen medals or other mementos shall be awarded to the winners and runners-up of all Association Cup Competitions. (Unless the number of players on a starting team is less than 11, when the number shall be adjusted to the number of players in a starting team plus five substitutes). Competing clubs may request extra medals, this should be made in writing to the association; the cost of any such request for extra medals or mementos shall be met by the requesting club

22. SHIRT COLOURS

- (a) No player or goalkeeper shall be permitted to wear black or very dark coloured shirts.
- (b) The home club shall inform the opposition of their kit colours to avoid a possible colour clash on the day, along with directions to the ground if required, no later than 3 days prior to the date of the match. Both teams shall provide their players with individually numbered shirts which must correspond to the numbers listed on the team sheet. In the event of a similarity of colours between two teams in a match the visiting team must change. Shorts and socks must be of different colours between teams. In the final tie the team drawn first shall be deemed the home club and shall have choice of colours in the event of a similarity of colours. Defaulting clubs shall be fined, as set out in Fees and Fines Section.
- (c) 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 her shirt because of a blood injury.

23. DATES

All reserved County Cup dates are to be strictly adhered to. Failure to do so will mean disqualification from the Competition.

24. RULES

These Rules shall not be altered or rescinded save at the Annual General Meeting or special meeting of the Association of which fourteen days' notice shall be given

25. MATCH BALL

A size 4 ball must be used in all matches played in this Competition.

FINES REFERRED TO IN THE RULES

Girls Under 12 Cup Competition

Rule 4	£10.00
Rule 5(f)	£10.00
Rule 7	£15.00
Rule 10(a)	£25.00
Rule 10(d)	£10.00
Rule 10(e)	£10.00
Rule 12(a)	£15.00
Rule 12(b)	£10.00
Rule 12(c)	£10.00
Rule 14(d)	£10.00
Rule 14(h)	£10.00
Rule 15(b)	£10.00 - for first 15 minutes or part thereof and £5.00 - for each succeeding 5 minutes or part thereof
Rule 18(a)	£20.00 (Minimum)
(b)	£20.00 (Minimum)
	£30.00 (Minimum) Re: Semi Final & Final
Rule 20(c)	£25.00
Rule 21	£50.00
Rule 22(b)	£16.00

Rule 8

Referees Fees **£30 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Assistant Referees **£23 (Inclusive of travel expenses)**

Travel Expenses - Referees and Assistant Referees

N.B. The county mileage rate shall be decided by the Board of Directors at their discretion, from time to time. When this change may occur after the printing of this handbook the new rate shall apply in place of the one listed here. The new rate shall be communicated by the county office to all members as and when it occurs

APPENDIX A GUIDE TO MARKING REFEREES

Overall Decision Making

Did the Referee;

- Recognise patterns of play and not invade player/game space
- Correctly recognise and award throw-ins, goal-kicks and corners
- Demonstrate consistent and credible recognition, detection and interpretation of 'normal' Law 12 offences i.e. but not limited to; foul tackles, holding, aerial challenges, handball etc.
- Recognise Law 11 + 12 offences and advantage application opportunities, not merely possession, applied in credible areas and/or applied without detriment to match control
- Demonstrate awareness of when appropriate to use the range of management techniques available, before resorting to formal disciplinary action i.e. the STEP process
- Recognise where player(s), teams(s) are using time consuming tactics and takes positive appropriate action i.e. preventative actions
- Demonstrate high levels of fitness and work rate throughout the entire game to meet the demands of the game

Judgement of Major Decisions

(Cautions/Non-Cautions, Send Offs/Non-Send Offs, Penalties / Non-Penalties, Goal Awarded/Disallowed or any other significant game changing decisions)

Did the Referee;

- Demonstrate identification of 'significant game impact' incidents and offences with appropriate action(s) applied
- Demonstrate the ability to recognise the importance of potential key match decisions and effectively move towards/gain an optimum viewing angle to (a) judge, (b) enhance credibility and (c) adds value to the decision
- In the highly unlikely event of there being no major decisions, a standard mark of 15 should be awarded to the Referee.

Overall Control and Player Management

Did the Referee;

- Act in a positive manner in their Pre-match Communication and Off-Field Behaviour
- Lead their team, ensuring all officials worked in harmony without contradictory decisions (where ARs are appointed)
- Display empathy for the game, managing game situations in an empathetic manner recognising the ever changing ebbs/flows, nature and temperature of the game and adapts refereeing style to suit
- Recognise when/how to raise his/her profile to aide their match control and remain in self-control of emotions, demonstrating composure
- Recognise when appropriate to enter face-to-face dialogue with the Assistant Referee(s) (where applicable), to aide visual co-operation and major decision making
- Effectively manage, when appropriate, two-way interaction with players, technical staff etc.
- Demonstrate a natural authority/confidence – not influenced by players, spectators or team officials

Name of Referee		
Overall decision making - Max 40		TOTAL
Judgement of major decisions - Max 30		0
Overall Control - Max 30		
You MUST submit Referee mark, please note if you mark a referee 60 or below, you will need to send a report as per rules to Somerset FA.		

APPENDIX B
Fees for Match Officials in Somerset County Football Association
Cup Competitions

	Referees	Assistant Referees
COMPETITION	Including Travel	Including Travel
Men's Senior Cup	£52	£39
Helen Marchmont Women's Senior Cup	£52	£39
Bryan Wells Men's Junior Cup	£47	£36
Women's Junior Cup	£47	£36
Men's Intermediate Cup	£47	£36
Sunday Challenge Cup	£47	£36
Legends Cup	£44	£33
Boy's U18 Cup	£47	£36
Boy's U16 Youth Shield	£40	£30
Girl's U16 Cup	£40	£30
Boy's U15 Cup	£40	£30
Girl's U15 Cup	£40	£30
Boy's U14 Lewin Cup	£35	£27
Girl's U14 Cup	£35	£27
Boy's U13 Cup	£35	£27
Girl's U13 Cup	£35	£27
Boy's U12 Cup*	£30	£23
Girl's U12 Cup*	£30	£23
	Referees	Assistant Referees
COMPETITION	Excluding travel	Excluding travel
Francis Hillier Men's Premier Cup	£65	£50

In the Finals of all County Cup Competitions, Referees, Assistant Referees and Fourth Officials shall be awarded a memento, in lieu of a match fee, however The County FA will pay match officials expenses for Cup finals. In every other Competition the match fees shall be in accordance with the Rules of the Competition.

Travel Expenses - Referees and Assistant Referees

Referees and Assistant Referees if they have to use their own transport to travel to appointments or attend misconduct Personal Hearings, they shall be entitled to charge 35p per mile out and home. (See note below). Where they use Public Transport, that fare may be reclaimed

N.B. The county mileage rate shall be decided by the Board of Directors at their discretion, from time to time. When this change may occur after the printing of this handbook the new rate shall apply in place of the one listed here. The new rate shall be communicated by the county office to all members as and when it occurs

APPENDIX C

KNOCK OUT COMPETITIONS – OBTAINING A RESULT THROUGH PENALTIES

When a team finishes the match with a greater number of players than their opponents, they shall reduce their numbers to equate with that of their opponents and inform the referee of the name and the number of each player excluded. The team captain has this responsibility.

Before the start of kicks from the penalty mark the referee shall ensure that an equal number of players from each team remain in the centre circle and they shall take the kicks.

The Referee shall choose the goal at which all the kicks shall be taken.

The Referee shall toss a coin and the team whose captain wins the toss shall decide whether to take the first or second kick.

The Referee keeps a record of the kicks being taken.

Subject to the conditions explained below, both teams shall take five kicks.

The Kicks are taken alternatively by the teams.

If, before both teams have taken five kicks, one has scored more goals than the other could, even if it were to complete its five kicks, no more kicks are taken.

If, after both teams have taken five kicks, both have scored the same number of goals, or have not scored any goals, kicks continue to be taken, in the same order, until one team has scored a goal more than the other from the same number of kicks.

A goalkeeper, who is injured during the taking of the kicks from the penalty mark and is unable to continue as a goalkeeper, may be replaced by a named substitute, providing his team has not use the maximum number of substitutes permitted under the competition rules.

With the exception of the forgoing case, only the players who are on the field of play at the end of the match, which includes extra time where appropriate, are allowed to take kicks from the penalty mark.

Each kick is taken by a different player, and all eligible players must take a kick before any player can take a second kick.

Any eligible player may change places with the goalkeeper at any time when kicks from the penalty mark are being taken.

All players, except the player taking the kick, and the two goalkeepers, must remain with the centre circle.

The goalkeeper who is the teammate of the kicker must remain on the field of play, outside the penalty area at which the kicks are being taken, on the goal line where it meets the penalty area boundary line.

The other goalkeeper must remain on the goal line between the goalposts, facing the kicker until the ball is kicked.

Only the player and match officials are permitted to remain on the field of play when kicks from the penalty mark are being taken.

Unless otherwise stated, the relevant Laws of the Game and International FA Board Decisions apply when kicks from the penalty mark are being taken.

APPENDIX D
COUNTY CUP COMPETITIONS - RESERVED DATES

Competition	1st Round	2nd Round	3rd Round
Francis Hillier Men's Premier Cup	End of October	End of November	N/A
Men's Senior Cup	4th October 2025	1st November 2025	6th December 2025
Helen Marchment Women's Senior Cup	N/A	N/A	N/A
Bryan Wells Men's Junior Cup	11th October 2025	8th November 2025	13th December 2025
Women's Junior Cup	16th November 2025	18th January 2026	N/A
Men's Intermediate Cup	18th October 2025	15th November 2025	17th January 2026
Sunday Challenge Cup	23rd November 2025	25th January 2026	N/A
Legends Cup	28th September 2025	16th November 2025	N/A
Boy's U18 Cup	19th October 2025	23rd November 2025	11th January 2026
Boy's U16 Youth Shield	14th September 2025	12th October 2025	16th November 2025
Girl's U16 Cup	15th November 2025	N/A	N/A
Boy's U15 Cup	5th October 2025	9th November 2025	7th December 2025
Girl's U15 Cup	8th November 2025	24th January 2026	N/A
Boy's U14 Lewin Cup	19th October 2025	23rd November 2025	18th January 2026
Girl's U14 Cup	18th October 2025	22nd November 2025	N/A
Boy's U13 Cup	14th September 2025	12th October 2025	16th November 2025
Girl's U13 Cup	4th October 2025	29th November 2025	N/A
Boy's U12 Cup*	5th October 2025	9th November 2025	7th December 2025
Girl's U12 Cup*	6th December 2025	N/A	N/A

Competition	4th Round	Quarter Final	Semi Final
Francis Hillier Men's Premier Cup	N/A	End of January	End of February
Men's Senior Cup	N/A	7th February 2026	7th March 2026
Helen Marchment Women's Senior Cup	N/A	15th February 2026	15th March 2026
Bryan Wells Men's Junior Cup	N/A	14th February 2026	14th March 2026
Women's Junior Cup	N/A	15th February 2026	15th March 2026
Men's Intermediate Cup	21st February 2026	21st March 2026	18th April 2026
Sunday Challenge Cup	N/A	22nd February 2026	22nd March 2026
Legends Cup	N/A	15th February 2026	15th March 2026
Boy's U18 Cup	N/A	8th February 2026	22nd March 2026
Boy's U16 Youth Shield	N/A	1st February 2026	8th March 2026
Girl's U16 Cup	N/A	17th January 2026	28th February 2026
Boy's U15 Cup	N/A	25th January 2026	1st March 2026
Girl's U15 Cup	N/A	28th February 2026	21st March 2026
Boy's U14 Lewin Cup	N/A	1st March 2026	22nd March 2026
Girl's U14 Cup	N/A	17th January 2026	14th March 2026
Boy's U13 Cup	14th December 2025	18th January 2026	1st March 2026
Girl's U13 Cup	N/A	7th February 2026	21st March 2026
Boy's U12 Cup*	11th January 2026	8th February 2026	8th March 2026
Girl's U12 Cup*	N/A	31st January 2026	7th March 2026

KEY
Month by Colour

September	October	November
December	January	February
March	April	May

SOMERSET FA COUNTY CUP FINALS – RESERVED DATES

Competition	Final	Venue	
Francis Hillier Men's Premier Cup	15th April 2026	Bath City FC	
Men's Senior Cup	29th April 2026	Paulton Rovers FC	
Helen Marchment Women's Senior Cup	23rd April 2026	Paulton Rovers FC	
Bryan Wells Men's Junior Cup	22nd April 2026	Middlezoy Rovers FC or Brislington FC	
Women's Junior Cup	30th April 2026	Middlezoy Rovers FC or Brislington FC	
Men's Intermediate Cup	15th May 2026	Middlezoy Rovers FC or Brislington FC	
Sunday Challenge Cup	10th May 2026	Middlezoy Rovers FC	
Legends Cup	24th May 2026	Cheddar FC	
Boy's U18 Cup	24th May 2026	Cheddar FC	
Boy's U16 Youth Shield	26th April 2026	Middlezoy Rovers FC	
Girl's U16 Cup	26th April 2026	Middlezoy Rovers FC	
Boy's U15 Cup	17th May 2026	Brislington FC	
Girl's U15 Cup	23rd May 2026	Cheddar FC	
Boy's U14 Lewin Cup	17th May 2026	Brislington FC	
Girl's U14 Cup	23rd May 2026	Cheddar FC	
Boy's U13 Cup	17th May 2026	Brislington FC	
Girl's U13 Cup	9th May 2026	Middlezoy Rovers FC	
Boy's U12 Cup	10th May 2026	Middlezoy Rovers FC	
Girl's U12 Cup	9th May 2026	Middlezoy Rovers FC	
KEY <i>Month by Colour</i>	September	October	November
	December	January	February
	March	April	May

N.B. Where a preliminary Round is required this shall be considered the first round for the purposes of these reserved dates.

The County FA reserves the right to add additional dates if team entries require it. Similarly, not all of the listed dates may be needed, depending on the final number of entries received. If any of the above rounds are NOT required, the Cups Committee shall decide which reserved date will not be used and communicate to clubs and leagues.

Where alternate venues are shown for a final, the venue will be confirmed by the Cups committee when the finalists are confirmed

FA Cup Final 2025-2026 Season Saturday 16th May 2026

APPENDIX E

LIT OF PREVIOUS COUNTY CUP COMPETITIONS WINNERS

FRANCIS HILLIER MEN'S PREMIER CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITION WINNERS

1948-49 Glastonbury	1949-50 Yeovil Town	1950-51 Yeovil Town
1951-52 Bath City	1952-53 Bath City	1953-54 Yeovil Town
1954-55 Yeovil Town	1955-56 Yeovil Town	1956-57 Yeovil Town & Bristol City (joint)
1957-58 Bath City	1958-59 Bridgwater Town	1959-60 Bath City
1960-61 Minehead	1961-62 Yeovil Town	1962-63 Yeovil Town
1963-64 Bristol City	1964-65 Yeovil Town	1965-66 Bath City
1966-67 Frome Town	1967-68 Bath City	1968-69 Yeovil Town & Frome Town (joint)
1969-70 Bath City	1970-71 Bristol City	1971-72 Bristol City
1972-73 Yeovil Town	1973-74 Minehead	1974-75 Bristol City
1975-76 Yeovil Town	1976-77 Minehead	1977-78 Bath City
1978-79 Yeovil Town	1979-80 Keynsham Town	1980-81 Bath City
1981-82 Bath City	1982-83 Frome Town	1983-84 Bath City
1984-85 Bath City	1985-86 Bath City	1986-87 Clevedon Town W/O
1987-88 Mangotsfield United	1988-89 Bath City	1989-90 Bath City
1990-91 Bristol City	1991-92 Bristol Rovers	1992-93 Bristol Rovers
1993-94 Bath City	1994-95 Bath City	1995-96 Brislington
1996-97 Yeovil Town	1997-98 Yeovil Town	1998-99 Clevedon Town
1999-00 Bristol City	2000-01 Clevedon Town	2001-02 Clevedon Town
2002-03 Taunton Town	2003-04 Bristol City	2004-05 Yeovil Town
2005-06 Taunton Town	2006-07 Team Bath	2007-08 Bath City
2008-09 Frome Town	2009-10 Welton Rovers	2010-11 Weston-super-Mare
2011-12 Weston-super-Mare	2012-13 Paulton Rovers	2013-14 Taunton Town
2014-15 Taunton Town	2015-16 Wells City	2016-17 Taunton Town
2017-18 Weston-super-Mare	2018-19 Weston-super-Mare	2019-20 No Competition
2020-21 No Competition	2021-22 Yeovil Town	2022-23 Bath City
2023-24 Taunton Town	2024-25 Weston-super-Mare	

MEN'S SENIOR CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITION WINNERS

1895-96 Radstock Town	1896-97 Wells City	1897-98 Street
1898-99 Bridgwater	1899-00 Street	1900-01 Paulton Rovers
1901-02 Clevedon	1902-03 Paulton Rovers	1903-04 Paulton Rovers
1904-05 Clevedon	1905-06 Radstock Town	1906-07 Welton Rovers
1907-08 Paulton Rovers	1908-09 Paulton Rovers	1909-10 Paulton Rovers
1910-11 Street	1911-12 Welton Rovers	1912-13 Welton Rovers
1913-14 Welton Rovers	1914-19 No Competition	1919-20 Welton Rovers
1920-21 Peasedown	1921-22 Welton Amateurs	1922-23 Welton Amateurs
1923-24 Weston-super-Mare	1924-25 Welton Rovers	1925-26 Welton Rovers
1926-27 Weston-super-Mare	1927-28 Radstock Town	1928-29 Clevedon
1929-30 Radstock Town	1930-31 Wells City	1931-32 Wells City & Radstock
1932-33 Frome Town	1933-34 Frome Town	1934-35 Paulton Rovers
1935-36 Glastonbury	1936-37 Radstock Town	1937-38 Wells City
1938-39 Radstock Town	1939-45 No Competition	1945-46 Clandown
1946-47 Peasedown M W	1947-48 Peasedown M W	1948-49 Peasedown M W
1949-50 Shepton Mallet Town	1950-51 Frome Town	1951-52 Keynsham Town
1952-53 Chard Town	1953-54 Peasedown M W	1954-55 Peasedown M W
1955-56 Watchet Town	1956-57 Peasedown M W	1957-58 Keynsham Town
1958-59 Watchet Town	1959-60 Radstock Town	1960-61 Welton Rovers
1961-62 Welton Rovers	1962-63 Welton Rovers	1963-64 Radstock Town
1964-65 Shepton Mallet Town	1965-66 Radstock Town	1966-67 Chard Town
1967-68 Paulton Rovers	1968-69 Paulton Rovers	1969-70 Taunton Town
1970-71 Peasedown Athletic	1971-72 Paulton Rovers	1972-73 Paulton Rovers
1973-74 Radstock Town	1974-75 Paulton Rovers	1975-76 Larkhall Athletic
1976-77 Clevedon	1977-78 Clandown	1978-79 Clandown
1979-80 Hengrove Athletic	1980-81 East Worle	1981-82 Backwell United
1982-83 Radstock Town	1983-84 Hengrove Athletic	1984-85 Radstock Town
1985-86 Robinson DRG	1986-87 Clevedon Town Res	1987-88 Peasedown Athletic
1988-89 Brislington	1989-90 Backwell United	1990-91 Brislington
1991-92 Odd Down	1992-93 Brislington	1993-94 Bridgwater Town
1994-95 Brislington	1995-96 Bridgwater Town	1996-97 Portishead
1997-98 Shepton Mallet	1998-99 Fry Club	1999-00 Portishead
2000-01 Nailsea United	2001-02 Watchet Town	2002-03 Keynsham Town
2003-04 Larkhall Athletic	2004-05 Westland Sports	2005-06 Broad Plain House

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2006-07 Wells City	2007-08 Portishead	2008-09 Bridgwater Town Res
2009-10 Westland Sports	2010-11 Watchet Town	2011-12 Westland Sports
2012-13 Wincanton Town	2012-13 Minehead	2014-15 Fry Club
2015-16 Nailsea & Tickenham	2016-17 Odd Down (Bath) Res	2017-18 Nailsea & Tickenham
2018-19 Chilcompton Sports	2019-20 No Competition	2020-21 No Competition
2021-22 Wells City Res	2022-23 Middlezoy Rovers	2023-24 Wells City Res
2024-25 Nailsea United		

HELEN MARCHMENT WOMEN'S SENIOR CUP WINNERS

1997-98 Bath City	1998-99 No Competition	1999-00 Clevedon Ladies
2000-01 No Competition	2001-02 No Competition	2002-03 No Competition
2003-04 Bath City	2004-05 Yeovil Town	2005-06 Keynsham Town
2006-07 Keynsham Town	2007-08 Keynsham Town	2008-09 Keynsham Town
2009-10 Keynsham Town	2010-11 Yeovil Town	2011-12 Yeovil Town
2012-13 Yeovil Town	2013-14 Keynsham Town	2014-15 Larkhall Athletic
2015-16 Larkhall Athletic	2016-17 Keynsham Town	2017-18 Keynsham Town
2018-19 Keynsham Town	2019-20 No Competition	2020-21 No Competition
2021-22 Bridgwater United Under 21	2022-23 Bridgwater United	2023-24 Keynsham Town
2024-25 Bridgwater United		

BRYAN WELLS MEN'S JUNIOR CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITION WINNERS

1892-93 St Crispins Street	1893-94 Wincanton	1894-95 Street Res
1895-96 Yeovil Casuals	1896-97 Taunton	1897-98 Clevedon
1898-99 Paulton Rovers	1899-00 YMCA Taunton	1900-01 Peasedown
1901-02 Wells City	1902-03 Brislington	1903-04 Paulton Rovers Res
1904-05 Paulton Rovers Res	1905-06 Christ Church Old Boys	1906-07 Camerton & Welton Rovers (joint)
1907-08 Radstock Town Res	1908-09 Paulton Rovers Res	1909-10 Timsbury Athletic
1910-11 Weston-super-Mare Res	1911-12 Clandown	1912-13 Glastonbury
1913-14 Glastonbury	1914-19 No Competition	1919-20 Bath City Amateurs
1920-21 Street Res	1921-22 Burnham United	1922-23 Chilcompton
1923-24 Frome Red Triangle	1924-25 Welton Rovers Res	1925-26 St Cuthberts Works
1926-27 St Cuthberts Works	1927-28 Burnham United	1928-29 Twerton St Michael
1929-30 Paulton Institute	1930-31 Welton Rovers Res	1931-32 Cheddar
1932-33 Ilminster Town	1933-34 Stoke under Ham	1934-35 Ilminster Town
1935-36 Farrington Gurney	1936-37 Stoke under Ham	1937-38 Stoke under Han
1938-39 Ilminster Town	1939-45 No Competition	1945-46 Westland Sports
1946-47 Coleford Athletic	1947-48 High Littleton	1948-49 Taunton BR
1949-50 Stoke under Ham	1950-51 Westland Sports	1951-52 Quantock Rangers
1952-53 Chilcompton	1953-54 Keynsham Town Res	1954-55 Southdown Labour Club
1955-56 Farrington Gurney	1956-57 Castle Cary	1957-58 Castle Cary
1958-59 South Petherton	1959-60 Timsbury Athletic	1960-61 South Petherton
1961-62 Coleford Athletic	1962-63 Larkhall Athletic	1963-64 Brislington
1964-65 Hengrove	1965-66 Hensstridge United	1966-67 Castle Cary
1967-68 Westside United	1968-69 Stoke under Ham	1969-70 Westhill
1970-71 Twerton Sports	1971-72 Twerton Sports	1972-73 Twerton Sports
1973-74 Filwood Old Boys	1974-75 Haselbury	1975-76 Haselbury
1976-77 Teyfant Athletic	1977-78 Haselbury	1978-79 Clutton
1979-80 Unity (Street)	1980-81 Bishop Sutton	1981-82 Shepton Beauchamp
1982-83 Shepton Beauchamp	1983-84 Draycott	1984-85 Bath Central
1985-86 Shepton Beauchamp	1986-87 Misterton	1987-88 Priorswood United
1988-89 Mells & Vobster Utd	1989-90 Peasedown MYCOR	1990-91 Priorswood United
1991-92 Henstridge United	1992-93 Corinthian Sports	1993-94 Merriott Sports
1994-95 Westgate (Bath)	1995-96 British Cellophane	1996-97 Tintinhull
1997-98 Henstridge United	1998-99 Henstridge United	1999-00 Westgate (Bath)
2000-01 Henstridge United	2001-02 Westgate (Bath)	2002-03 Westgate (Bath)
2003-04 Ichester	2004-05 Odd Down Junior	2005-06 Mells & Vobster
2006-07 Normalair RSL	2007-08 Purnell Sports	2008-09 Purnell Sports
2009-10 South Petherton	2010-11 Freshford United	2011-12 Odd Down Social club
2012-13 Locomotives	2012-13 Frome Town Sports	2014-15 Crewkerne Town
2015-16 Bridgwater Sports	2016-17 Perry Street & Yonder Hill	2017-18 Frome Collegians
2018-19 Frome Collegians	2019-20 No Competition	2020-21 No Competition
2021-22 Sporting Weston	2022-23 Sporting Weston	2023-24 Wells City A
2024-25 Mells & Vobster		

WOMEN'S JUNIOR CUP WINNERS

2009-10 Ilminster Ladies	2010-11 Cleeve West Town Ladies	2011-12 Bishops Lydeard
2012-13 Brislington Ladies	2013-14 Brislington Ladies	2014-15 Brislington Ladies
2015-16 Yeovil Town Ladies	2016-17 Middlezoy Ladies	2017-18 Pen Mill
2018-19 Weston Mendip Ladies	2019-20 No Competition	2020-21 No Competition
2021-22 Bridgwater United U21	2022-23 Paulton Rovers	2023-24 Weston-super-Mare
2024-25 Bath City		

MEN'S INTERMEDIATE CUP COMPETITION WINNERS

1910-11 Welton Arsenal	1911-12 Single Hill	1912-13 Midsomer Norton St Johns
1913-14 Shepton Mallet Jardines	1914-15 Old Mills Rovers	1915-19 No Competition
1919-20 Brislington	1920-21 Vobster	1921-22 Radstock Albions
1922-23 Montacute	1923-24 Holcombe	1924-25 Norton sub Hamdon
1925-26 Westhill Rangers	1926-27 Holcombe	1927-28 Ashwick and Binegar
1928-29 Ashwick and Binegar	1929-30 Curry Rivel	1930-31 Henstridge
1931-32 Norton sub Hamdon	1932-33 Somerton	1933-34 Charlton United
1934-35 Banwell	1935-36 Stoke under Ham Res	1936-37 Norton sub Hamdon
1937-38 Norton sub Hamdon	1938-39 Barrington	1939-46 No Competition
1946-47 British Cellophane Bridgwater	1947-48 Hambridge	1948-49 Martock
1949-50 Whitchurch Res	1950-51 Tintinhull	1951-52 Broomhill
1952-53 Barrington	1953-54 Haselbury Plucknett	1954-55 Tynning United
1955-56 Seavington United	1956-57 Tintinhull	1957-58 Eagle House Old Boys
1958-59 Ashton Wanderers & Keynsham Victoria (joint)		1959-60 West Coker
1960-61 Filwood Old Boys	1961-62 Brislington	1962-63 Brislington
1963-64 Stockwood Wanderers	1964-65 Stockwood Wanderers	1965-66 Clevedon Sports
1966-67 K4 Old Boys	1967-68 Eagle House Res	1968-69 Chew Magna
1969-70 Old Ashtonians	1970-71 Marksbury	1971-72 Shepton Beauchamp
1972-73 Temple Cloud	1973-74 Montacute	1974-75 Cranmore
1975-76 Bishopsworth United	1976-77 Stoke sub Hamdon Res	1977-78 Welton Rovers Res
1978-79 Stockwood Green	1979-80 Meare Athletic	1980-81 Westside Athletic Res
1981-82 Langport Town	1982-83 Ash Rovers	1983-84 Glastonbury Athletic
1984-85 South Petherton	1985-86 Templecombe Rovers	1986-87 Bristol Spartak
1987-88 Kingston Res	1988-89 Freshford United Res	1989-90 Freshford United Res
1990-91 Langport Town	1991-92 Long Sutton Res	1992-93 Odd Down A
1993-94 Tintinhull	1994-95 Baltonsborough	1995-96 Norton Fitzwarren
1996-97 Littleton Sports	1997-98 Highbridge Town	1998-99 Galmington Saturday
1999-00 Odd Down (Jun) United	2000-01 Norton Fitzwarren	2001-02 Ilminster Town Res
2002-03 Blackbrook Res	2003-04 Westfield	2004-05 Dulverton Town
2005-06 Purnell Sports	2006-07 Dulverton Town	2007-08 Civil Service Taunton
2008-09 Weston St Johns Sportsbar	2009-10 Barwick & Stoford	2010-11 Sampford Blues
2011-12 SRL Allsaints	2012-13 Middlezoy Rovers	2013-14 Blagdon Hill
2014-15 Barrington	2015-16 Baltonsborough	2016-17 Bath Villa
2017-18 Peasedown Albion	2018-19 FC Castlemoat	2019-20 No Competition
2020-21 No Competition	2021-22 Mellis & Vobster	2022-23 Haywood Village
2023-24 Haywood Village	2024-25 Odd Down Development	

MEN'S SUNDAY CHALLENGE CUP WINNERS

1969-70 Venture Sports Sunday	1970-71 Anchor	1971-72 Peasedown Youth
1972-73 Venture Sports Sunday	1973-74 Railway Taverners	1974-75 Park Furnishers
1975-76 Park Furnishers	1976-77 Park Furnishers	1977-78 Railway Taverners
1978-79 George Inn Colts	1979-80 Ollis Transport	1980-81 Spartan United
1981-82 Backwell Sunday	1982-83 Sartan United	1983-84 Nailsea Comrades
1984-85 Nailsea Comrades	1985-86 Ollis Transport Combined	1986-87 Broad Plain Sunday
1987-88 Bayliss	1988-89 Broad Plain Sunday	1989-90 Broad Plain House
1990-91 Broad Plain House	1991-92 Broad Plain House Sunday	1992-93 Anglo Glass Sports
1993-94 New Inn Keynsham	1994-95 Broad Plain House Sunday	1995-96 Clevedon Royal Pier
1996-97 Broad Plain House Sunday	1997-98 The Old Inn Clevedon	1998-99 AMS Sports
1999-00 AMS Sports	2000-01 Azzuri	2001-02 General Panel Sports
2002-03 Taunton YCC	2003-04 New Burnt House	2004-05 Final not played
2005-06 Perfecto Allstars	2006-07 Perfecto Allstars	2007-08 Horseshoe Sports
2008-09 Welton White Hart	2009-10 Kingsmead	2010-11 Kingsmead
2011-12 G T Sports	2012-13 Team Jansen	2013-14 Team Jansen
2014-15 Kingsmead	2015-16 Team Jansen	2016-17 Hamilton
2017-18 Hamilton	2018-19 Bath United	2019-20 No Competition
2020-21 No Competition	2021-22 West Bower	2022-23 Kingsmead
2023-24 Kingsmead	2024-25 Atletico Bridgwater	

LEGENDS LEAGUE WINNERS

2008-09 Westfield Old Boys	2009-10 Purnell Sports	2010-11 Westfield Old Boys
2011-12 Purnell Sports	2012-13 Keynsham Town	2013-14 West Somerset
2014-15 West Somerset	2015-16 Tiger Old Boys	2016-17 Street
2017-18 Street	2018-19 Hutton	2019-20 No Competition
2020-21 Middlezoy Rovers	2021-22 Middlezoy Rovers	2022-23 Middlezoy Rovers
2023-24 Street	2024-25 Street	

BOYS UNDER 18 CUP WINNERS

2023-24 Westland Sports	2024-25 Paulton Rovers
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MAINTENANCE BOYS' YOUTH SHIELD WINNERS

1956-57 Bridgwater Town Colts	1957-58 Westfield Youth Radstock	1958-59 Strode School, Street
1959-60 Thicket Mead Youth	1960-61 Westfield Youth Radstock	1961-62 Bridgwater Town Colts
1962-63 Foxhill Rovers Bath	1963-64 Foxhill Rovers Bath	1964-65 Bridgwater Town Colts
1965-66 Marksbury Youth Club	1966-67 Hartcliffe Boys Club	1967-68 Westhill Youth
1968-69 Hardings Sports	1969-70 Hardings Sports	1970-71 Peasedown Youth
1971-72 Westend Rangers	1972-73 Clevedon Youth	1973-74 Stockwood Juniors
1974-75 Stockwood Juniors	1975-76 Mangotsfield Youth	1976-77 Stockwood Juniors
1977-78 Stockwood Juniors	1978-79 Stockwood Boys	1979-80 Stockwood Boys
1980-81 Stockwood Juniors	1981-82 Knowle Boys	1982-83 Knowle Boys
1983-84 Parkfield Athletic	1984-85 West Town Harriers	1985-86 West Town Harriers
1986-87 AFC Paulton	1987-88 Galmington Youth Club	1988-89 Frome Collegians
1989-90 Whitchurch Sports	1990-91 Nailsea Juniors	1991-92 Whitchurch Sports
1992-93 Westland Sports	1993-94 Whitchurch Sports	1994-95 Galmington Sports Youth
1995-96 Bath Bear Flat	1996-97 Bath Arsenal Junior	1997-98 Bath Arsenal Junior
1998-99 Westland Sports	1999-00 Brislington Junior	2000-01 Brislington Junior
2001-02 Westland Sports Youth	2002-03 Brislington Junior	2003-04 Weston Crusaders Junior
2004-05 Merriott Rovers	2005-06 Brislington Juniors	2006-07 Westland Sports Youth
2007-08 Birchfield	2008-09 Team Bath Arsenal	2009-10 Ashton Boys
2010-11 Imperial Saints Youth	2011-12 Clevedon United Junior Youth	2012-13 St Aldhelms
2013-14 Ashton Boys	2014-15 Merriott Youth	2015-16 Cheddar Valley Youth
2016-17 Hutton Juniors Youth	2017-18 Bath Arsenal	2018-19 Mangotsfield United
2019-20 No Competition	2020-21 No Competition	2021-22 Chew Valley
2022-23 Bridgwater Victoria Park Rangers	2023-24 Wellington	2024-25 Ilchester Trojans

PLAYERDATA GIRLS UNDER 16 CUP WINNERS

2006-07 Ilminster Holway	2007-08 Fry Club Youth	2008-09 Keynsham Town Ladies
2009-10 Keynsham Town Ladies	2010-11 Brislington Junior Youth	2011-12 Brislington Junior Youth
2012-13 Brislington Junior Youth	2013-14 AEK Bocco	2014-15 Yeovil Town Ladies
2015-16 Frampton Rangers (Youth)	2016-17 Yeovil Town Ladies	2017-18 Yeovil Town Ladies
2018-19 Keynsham Town	2019-20 No Competition	2020-21 No Competition
2021-22 Bridgwater United	2022-23 Bridgwater United	2023-24 Bridgwater United
2024-25 Keynsham Town		

WORLD SPORTS BOYS UNDER 15 CUP WINNERS

2017-18 Mendip Broadwalk (Youth)	2018-19 Wells City	2019-20 No Competition
2020-21 No Competition	2021-22 Whitchurch Sports	2022-23 Yatton Athletic
2023-24 Bath City	2024-25 Brislington	

BOYS LEWIN CUP WINNERS

1972-73 Clevedon Youth	1973-74 Stockwood Juniors	1974-75 Stockwood Juniors
1975-76 Stockwood Juniors	1976-77 Stockwood Juniors	1977-78 Stockwood Juniors
1978-79 -	1979-80 West Town Harriers	1980-81 West Town Harriers
1981-82 West Town Harriers	1982-83 West Town Harriers	1983-84 West Town Harriers
1984-85 West Town Harriers	1985-86 West Town Harriers	1986-87 Bridgwater Tigers
1987-88 Whitchurch Sports	1988-89 Whitchurch Sports	1989-90 Whitchurch Sports
1990-91 Whitchurch Sports	1991-92 Wells City	1992-93 Weston St Johns
1993-94 Weston Crusaders Junior	1994-95 Bath Arsenal	1995-96 Bath Arsenal
1996-97 Whitchurch Sports Junior	1997-98 Huish (Yeovil)	1998-99 Radstock Rangers
1999-00 Banwell Juniors	2000-01 Shepton Beauchamp Juniors	2001-02 Welton Rovers Youth
2002-03 Bath Arsenal Juniors	2003-04 Imperial Saints Youth	2004-05 Brislington Juniors
2005-06 Whitchurch Sports Junior	2006-07 Nailsea United Junior	2007-08 Wells City Youth
2008-09 Team Bath Arsenal	2009-10 Heathfield Youth	2010-11 Portishead Juniors

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2011-12 Aller Park Rangers
2014-15 Wells City
2017-18 Wells City
2020-21 No Competition
2023-24 Brislington

2012-13 Timsbury Athletic
2015-16 Nailsea United Junior Youth
2018-19 Portishead Town
2021-22 Whitchurch Sports
2024-25 Frome Town United Hawks

2013-14 Hallen
2016-17 Mendip Broadwalk (Youth)
2019-20 No Competition
2022-23 Bath City

GIRLS UNDER 14 CUP WINNERS

2006-07 Wembdon Junior Youth
2009-10 Brislington Junior Youth
2012-13 Backwell Athletic Junior Youth
2015-16 Wells City
2018-19 Portishead
2021-22 Keynsham Town
2024-25 Hutton

2007-08 Frome Town Ladies Youth
2010-11 Portishead
2013-14 Keynsham Town
2016-17 Yeovil Town Ladies
2019-20 No Competition
2022-23 Keynsham Town

2008-09 Brislington Junior Youth
2011-12 Ashton Girls Youth
2014-15 Whitchurch Sports
2017-18 Keynsham Town
2020-21 No Competition
2023-24 Weston Mendip White Socks

BOYS UNDER 13 CUP WINNERS

2007-08 Chew Valley Youth
2010-11 Burnham United Juniors
2013-14 Wells City
2016-17 Nailsea United Junior Youth
2019-20 No Competition
2022-23 Witham Friary

2008-09 Portishead Juniors
2011-12 Imperial Saints Youth
2014-15 Mangotsfield United
2017-18 Chilcompton Sports
2020-21 No Competition
2023-24 Ilchester Rockets

2009-10 Keynsham Town Juniors
2012-13 Bishops Lydeard
2015-16 Mendip Broadwalk (Youth)
2018-19 Bristol Spartak
2021-22 Bath City
2024-25 AFC Corsham

GIRLS UNDER 13 CUP WINNERS

2023-24 Ashton

2024-25 Portishead Town

THE MAVIS TATE INTER JUNIOR LEAGUE CUP WINNERS

1964-65 Bath & District
1967-68 Yeovil & District
1970-71 Bath & District
1973-74 Bath & District
1976-77 Perry Street & District
1979-80 Mid-Somerset
1982-83 Bridgwater & District Sunday
1985-86 Bath & District Sunday
1988-89 Mid-Somerset
1991-92 Mid-Somerset
1994-95 Mid-Somerset
1997-98 Perry Street & District
2000-01 Bath & District
2003-04 Taunton Sunday
2006-07 Taunton Sunday
2009-10 Bridgwater & District Sunday
2012-13 Perry Street & District
2015-16 Weston super Mare & District

1965-66 Bath & District
1968-69 Bath & District
1971-72 Yeovil & District
1974-75 Perry Street & District
1977-78 Perry Street & District
1980-81 Taunton & District Saturday
1983-84 Bath & District Saturday
1986-87 Frome & District Sunday
1989-90 Yeovil & District
1992-93 Mid-Somerset
1995-96 Bath & District
1998-99 Yeovil & District
2001-02 Perry Street & District
2004-05 No competition
2007-08 Weston super Mare & District
2010-11 Bridgwater & District Sunday
2013-14 Perry Street & District
2016-Present No Competition

1966-67 Bath & District
1969-70 Bath & District
1972-73 Bath & District
1975-76 Taunton Sunday
1978-79 Frome & District Sunday
1981-82 Taunton & District Saturday
1984-85 Bath & District Sunday
1987-88 Bath & District Saturday
1990-91 Weston super Mare & District
1993-94 Frome & District Sunday
1996-97 Yeovil Sunday
1999-00 Perry Street & District
2002-03 Bridgwater & District Sunday
2005-06 Taunton Sunday
2008-09 Taunton Sunday
2011-12 Weston super Mare & District
2014-15 Taunton Saturday

THE DURNFORD INTER LEAGUE YOUTH CUP WINNERS

1960-61 Mid-Somerset
1963-64 Taunton & District
1966-67 Perry Street & District
1969-70 Bath Youth
1972-73 Yeovil & District
1975-76 Mid-Somerset
1978-79 Mid-Somerset
1981-82 Frome & District Sunday
1984-85 Bristol & Avon
1987-88 Mid-Somerset
1990-91 Bridgwater & District Sunday
1993-94 Bridgwater & District Sunday
1996-97 Weston super Mare Sunday
1999-00 Bath & District
2002-03 Taunton & District Saturday
2005-06 Mid Somerset
2008-09 Perry Street & District

1961-62 Weston & District
1964-65 Bath Youth Service
1967-68 Bath & District
1970-71 Weston & District
1973-74 Yeovil & District
1976-77 Taunton & District
1979-80 Bath & District Saturday
1982-83 Weston & District
1985-86 Mid-Somerset
1988-89 Yeovil & District
1991-92 Bridgwater & District Sunday
1994-95 Taunton & District Saturday
1997-98 Bristol U/18 Combination
2000-01 Bath & District
2003-04 Bristol U/18 Combination
2006-07 Yeovil & District
2009-10 Bristol Under 18

1962-63 Yeovil & District
1965-66 Mid-Somerset
1968-69 Bath & District
1971-72 Bath & District
1974-75 Bath & District
1977-78 Bath & District Saturday
1980-81 Frome & District Sunday
1983-84 Bath & District Saturday
1986-87 Taunton & District
1989-90 Bridgwater & District Sunday
1992-93 Bridgwater & District Sunday
1995-96 Bath & District
1998-99 Yeovil & District
2001-02 Weston S Mare & District
2004-05 Yeovil & District
2007-08 Bristol Under 18
2010-Present No Competition

THE CHARITY CUP COMPETITION WINNERS *(Discontinued)*

1910-11 Camerton	1911-12 Minehead	1912-13 Yeovil Casuals
1913-14 Minehead	1914-19 No Competition	1919-20 Timsbury Athletic
1920-21 Peasdown	1921-22 Radstock Town	1922-23 Watchet Town
1923-24 Radstock Town	1924-25 Clutton Wanderers	1925-26 Wells City
1926-27 Wells City	1927-28 Street	1928-29 Taunton Town
1929-30 Petters Yeovil	1930-31 Chard United	1931-32 St Cuthberts Works
1932-33 Glastonbury	1933-34 Weston Super Mare	1934-35 Stoke under Ham
1935-36 Crewkerne Town	1936-37 Crewkerne Town	1937-38 Watchet Town
1938-39 Ilminster Town	1939-46 No Competition	1946-47 Ilminster Town
1947-48 Ilminster Town	1948-49 Shepton Mallet Town	1949-50 Taunton
1950-51 Taunton	1951-52 Watchet Town	1952-53 Ilminster Town
1953-54 R.A.F. Locking	1954-55 R.A.F. Watchet	1955-56 R.A.F. Locking
1956-57 Shepton Mallet Tn	1957-58 Shepton Mallet Town	1958-59 Ilminster Town
1959-60 Radstock Town	1960-61 Shepton Mallet Town	1961-62 Winscombe
1962-63 Shepton Mallet Tn	1963-64 Winscombe	1964-65 Wells City
1965-66 Wells City	1966-67 Shepton Mallet Town	1967-68 Shepton Mallet Town
1968-69 Westland Sports	1969-70 Hartcliffe Boys Club	1970-71 Hartcliffe Boys Club
1971-72 Westland Engineers	1972-73 Wells City	

SOMERSET SUNDAY JUNIOR CUP WINNERS *(Discontinued)*

1973-74 Sportshouse	1974-75 <i>no winner</i>	1975-76 Blake Old Boys
1976-77 Villa FC	1977-78 Elm Tree Sports	1978-79 Golden Guinea
1979-80 Moorfield Rangers	1980-81 Blake Old Boys	1981-82 Railway Taverners
1982-83 Elm Tree Sports	1983-84 Moorfield Rangers	1984-85 Blake Old Boys
1985-86 John Bayliss Glass	1986-87 Moorfield Rangers	1987-88 Weston Ex Servicemen
1988-89 Old Crown Sports	1989-90 Weston Ex Service	1990-91 Royal Oak Rangers
1991-92 Horseshoe Sports	1992-93 Weston Ex Service	1993-94 Crown Sports
1994-95 Rosewarn United	1995-96 Blake Old Boys	1996-97 Sun Inn FC (Yeovil)
1997-98 Kingsmead	1998-99 Royal Oak (Crewkerne)	1999-00 Sun Inn FC (Yeovil)
2000-01 Weaver Sports	2001-02 Tiger Old Boys	

APPENDIX F

2024-25 Season, County Cup Final - Results

FRANCIS HILLIER MEN'S PREMIER CUP

Frome Town 0-1 Weston-super-Mare @ Bath City FC, 2nd April

MEN'S SENIOR CUP

Cutters Friday 1-1 Nailsea United @ Paulton Rovers FC, 30th April
Nailsea United won 5-4 on penalties

HELEN MARCHMENT WOMEN'S SENIOR CUP

Keynsham Town 1-2 Bridgwater United @ Paulton Rovers FC, 24th April

BRYAN WELLS MEN'S JUNIOR CUP

Mells & Vobster 3-1 Coleford Athletic @ Middlezoy Rovers FC, 23rd April

WOMEN'S JUNIOR CUP

Bath City 2-1 Weston-super-Mare @ Brislington FC, 1st May

MEN'S INTERMEDIATE CUP

Odd Down Development 4-1 AFC Nailsea & Backwell @ Middlezoy Rovers FC, 16th May

MEN'S SUNDAY CHALLENGE

Atletico Bridgwater 4-1 Spirit @ Brislington FC, 4th May

Koolpak LEGENDS LEAGUE CUP

Middlezoy Rovers 0-2 Street @ Middlezoy Rovers FC, 13th April

BOYS UNDER 18 CUP

Paulton Rovers 1-1 Bath Arsenal @ Middlezoy Rovers FC, 9th May
Paulton won 5-4 on penalties

BOYS YOUTH SHIELD

Ilchester Trojans 4-0 Bath Arsenal Tigers @ Middlezoy Rovers FC, 27th April

Playerdata GIRLS UNDER 16 CUP

Bath City Gladiators 2-5 Keynsham Town @ Middlezoy Rovers FC, 27th April

BOYS UNDER 15 CUP

Brislington 4-4 Witham Friary @ Brislington FC, 11th May
Brislington won 4-1 on penalties

BOYS LEWIN CUP

Frome Town United Hawks 4-3 Brislington @ Brislington FC, 18th May

GIRLS UNDER 14 CUP

Hutton 2-1 Ashton @ Brislington FC, 18th May

BOYS UNDER 13 CUP

Bath Arsenal Tigers 0-2 AFC Corsham @ Brislington FC, 11th May

GIRLS UNDER 13 CUP

Portishead Town 5-0 Bath City Aces @ Brislington FC, 11th May

Appendix G

Competitions defined as Senior & Junior (for the purpose of eligibility for county cup competitions)

For the purposes of Somerset FA County Cup competitions, the Cups Committee shall, from shall time to time, classify competitions as “Senior” or “Junior”

Please note these are designations by Somerset FA and may not correspond with the designation of that competition by their parent county association where it is not a SFA Competition

Competitions defined as “SENIOR”

Any university Cup	Somerset FA Men’s Senior Cup
Army Cup, Navy Cup, Air Force Cup	Southern League and Cup
Bristol & District League (Senior)	Western League and Cup
Bristol & Suburban League (Premier One, Senior & Division 1)	Wiltshire Senior League
Bristol Premier Combination (Premier & Division 1)	Jersey Football Combination
Devon & Exeter League (Premier Division)	Guernsey FA Leagues
Dorset Premier League	Guernsey Football League
FA Challenge Cup	Isle of Wight Saturday League
FA Challenge Trophy	<u>All Women’s leagues at Step 5 and above of the Women’s Pyramid</u>
FA Challenge Vase	South West Regional Women’s Football League, Premier Division
Football Combination Cup	Somerset FA Helen Marchmont Women’s Senior Cup
Gloucestershire Challenge Trophy	Women’s FA Cup
Gloucestershire County League	Women’s Premier League 1
Gloucestershire Senior Amateur Cup	Women’s Premier League North & South (or equivalent level in any National Association)
National Police Competition	Women’s Super League (or equivalent level in any National Association)
North Devon League	Women’s FA Cup
Somerset County League (ALL divisions)	
<u>All Men’s leagues at “National League Feeder League” level</u>	
Somerset FA Francis Hillier Premier Cup	

Competitions defined as “JUNIOR”

All Junior Leagues affiliated to the Association
Bristol Churches League
Bristol & District League Division 2
Bristol & Suburban league Divisions 2
Commercial Sunday League
Bristol Premier Sunday League (All Divisions)
Bristol Downs League
Bristol Wednesday League
Devon & Exeter (All divisions aside from Premier Division)
Dorset League Division 1
Women’s Premier League Reserve Competition
South West Regional Women’s Football League, Division 1 North & Division 1 South
Somerset Women’s County League (And ALL other Women’s County Leagues)
Trowbridge Saturday League Division 1



County Cups

