

THE FA SUNDAY CUP

SEASON 2021-22

ENTRY CRITERIA

Participation in the Competition shall only be open to Clubs competing in the **top Division** of a Sunday League for season 2021-22 that is sanctioned by The Association or an affiliated Association.

Following a review of The FA Sunday Cup, due to the impact of COVID-19, the Competition will be limited to 64 participating Clubs for the 2021-22 season. Therefore, acceptance into the Competition will be subject to availability which will be determined by The FA National Game Board.

The National Game Board may reject the application of any Club to participate in the Competition at its entire discretion.

There will be a match grant provided by The FA to Clubs for all matches up to and including the Quarter Final. The purpose of the match grant payment will be a contribution to assist towards any match expenses incurred rather than covering the full amount.

The match grant amounts for distribution are still to be determined for season 2021-22. Payments will only be applicable for matches which have been played and will only be paid to each Club within **fourteen working days of the completion of the round.**

MINIMUM GROUND STANDARDS

1. The playing area must be either roped off or enclosed by a permanent or temporary barrier, the only exception being those areas and spaces excluded from spectator viewing.
2. Dressing and washing accommodation must be separate for each team and Match Officials. Dressing Rooms must have heating and hot water and be secure and independent of any public access. Dressing room areas must be cleaned and maintained to a satisfactory standard.
3. Separate toilets must be provided for dressing rooms used by players and Match Officials, which must not be available for spectator use.
4. From the Quarter Final matches must be played on grounds which fully conform to a category 'H' Grade of The FA National Ground Grading or higher, as contained in Appendix 1.
5. From the Quarter Final hospitality must be provided at half time and full time for the visiting Club and Match Officials.
6. The consumption of alcohol in the ground or premises during the period of a match shall be subject to the terms of the Club licence agreement and the Sporting Events (Control of Alcohol) Act 1985 and/or any successor legislation. Glasses, Glass bottles or cans containing alcohol are not permitted outside of the Clubhouse and must not be brought into grounds
7. The dimensions of the field of play for all matches shall be as follows:
 - Maximum length: 110 metres
 - Minimum length: 100 metres
 - Maximum breadth: 75 metres
 - Minimum breadth: 64 metres
8. Goal nets must be used in all matches.
9. Artificial pitches are permitted providing they meet the minimum standards set by FIFA, in accordance with Competition Rule 13 and only with prior consent of The Association.