

THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

THE WOMEN'S FA CUP

SEASON 2021-22

ENTRY CRITERIA

THE WOMEN'S FA CUP

Participation in the Competition shall be open to the first team only from Clubs competing in the top Division of a Tier 7 League, as set out in the Women's Pyramid of Football Regulations, or above, which has been sanctioned by The Association or an affiliated Association for season 2021-22.

Applications from Clubs affiliated to off-shore Associations will be considered on an annual basis and if accepted special provisions may apply to such Clubs.

The Women's Football Board may reject the application of any Club to participate in the Competition at its entire discretion.

MINIMUM GROUND STANDARDS

THE WOMEN'S FA CUP

1. In the Qualifying Competition the Rules do not require the playing area to be enclosed, but it is advisable to provide some form of protection for the teams and Match Officials by a rope or barrier. In the Competition Proper, all pitches must be enclosed by either a rope or 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 for the Match Officials. Dressing rooms must have heating and hot water. No shared washing facilities are allowed.
3. The Women's Football Board shall have the power to order that any match be played on an alternative ground or date, other than a Sunday, if it is considered appropriate and necessary.
4. Artificial pitches will be permitted in The Women's FA Cup provided the pitch is listed on The Associations register of 3G football turf pitches and with the prior consent of The Association. This should be requested at the time of entry into the Competition in each season and providing they meet the minimum standards set by FIFA.
5. The pitch dimensions must measure between 110-100 metres in length by 75-64 metres in width. The size of the pitch must be re-checked prior to the recommencement of the season.
6. Goal nets and corner posts with flags must be used in all matches and must be in place at least one hour prior to kick-off. Portable goals must be anchored securely to the ground.
7. Separate toilets must be provided for dressing rooms used by players and Match officials, which must not be available for spectator use.
8. From the Second Round Proper, refreshments must be provided for Visiting Club players at half and full time.
9. From the Second Round Proper, hospitality for Visiting Club Officials and Match Officials must be provided.
10. Refreshment facilities for spectators must be provided in the Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth Rounds Proper, Quarter Final and Semi Final.
11. From the Second Round Proper onwards, each Club shall provide separate areas adjacent to the pitch for the sole use of team Officials, medical staff and substitutes. Such designated areas shall be clearly marked "Home" and "Away", have direct access to the pitch, be located as near

as possible equidistant from the halfway line and be under cover. The team benches should also comply with Competition Rule 18.

12. Where a ground has team benches, a technical area is to be provided. The technical area extends one metre on either side of the designated seated area and extends forward up to a distance of one metre from the touch-line. Markings are to be used to define this area.
13. If a first match is postponed on two occasions, The Women's Football Board shall have the power to order the match to be played on the ground of the Club second drawn or on an alternative ground, if it is deemed necessary.