

SOUTH BELFAST YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE RULES 2011-2012

1 AGE ELIGIBILITY FOR TEAMS

See Appendix 1. For the purposes of the 2011/12 season, these rules will also apply at the U18 age group.

2 FEES

2.1 League Entry Fee will be as prescribed in Appendix 2

3 PITCH DEPOSIT/USE

- a) Each team must pay a monthly pitch advance fee as prescribed in Appendix 2 otherwise fixtures will be withdrawn.
- b) All pitch fees this Season will be as prescribed in Appendix 2 per team regardless of venue. Pitches allocated and not used will still be charged.

4 TEAM INSURANCE

Team insurance is obligatory and may be provided by NIBFA. The Premium is detailed in Appendix 2 and is not included in the League Entrance Fees. Clubs who arrange their own insurance must present their Certificate of Insurance to the SBYFL prior to the start of the season.

5 REGISTRATION PROCESS

5.1 VALID PROOF OF AGE & IDENTIFICATION

- a) For Under 10's to Under 13's age groups an original Birth Certificate or Computerised Medical Card are acceptable as proof of age & identification.
- b) Players entering Under 14 age groups and upwards are required to produce proof of age in the form of a Passport, Citizen's Card, or a photographic I.D. card issued by their school or college provided this is accompanied by proof of age. These are also acceptable for the younger age groups if preferred.
- c) Under no circumstances will the League accept photocopies of any of the above documents.
- d) Players previously registered by passport will not be required to provide proof of age.

5.2 PROCEDURE

- a) Before the start of the League programme each Club/Team must submit a fully completed Registration Form together with the Entrance Fee. A copy will be returned to the club or team concerned.
- b) Up to 22 players may be registered.
- c) The SBYFL will only register players in accordance with the OPOC (One Player One Club) FIFA directive extract listed in Appendix 3. Any breach of this will result in termination of that player's SBYFL registration and a loss of points for those games played in default.
- d) The Registration Form must give each player's Forename, Surname, Address, DOB and be accompanied by the player's proof of identification. These must be presented to the Registration Secretary. Each player must submit two passport-size (2" x 1 1/2") photographs taken in the current season. One of these will be attached to the Registration form and the other will be authenticated, laminated and returned to the Player / Manager for presentation before matches.

- e) The right is reserved to accept or refuse any player's registration.
- f) It shall be the right of any team manager on payment of the Fee detailed in Appendix 2 to inspect the list of players registered by any other club/team in the age group in which they are competing.
- g) The copy Registration Form held by the Club must be used for any additional registrations. The Club/ Team must add the joining player details in full to this form and present it with valid proof of identification and two passport-size photographs of the player. One of these will be attached to the Registration form and the other will be authenticated, laminated and returned to the Player / Manager for presentation before matches. The copy Registration Form will be initialed by the Registration Secretary and date of registration noted. A copy of the updated form will be retained by the League.
- h) The tampering with or breaking of the seal will render the Identity Card invalid and automatically rules the player 'ineligible'.
- i) Any player registered for one or more age groups of his/her club must provide two sets of photographs. A player can only play for the team for which he starts a game on that day.
- j) The Management Committee reserves the right to ask for replacement photos if, in their opinion, the player's likeness to the photos does not reflect a true likeness.
- k) The duplicate photo held by the League will automatically become the property of the League and may be used for any legitimate League purpose as and when decided upon by the Management Committee.
- l) Players registered or transferring during the season may not play for the new Club/Team until 3 days have elapsed.
- m) To be eligible for any round of cup matches, all players must have either been registered with their team for 4 weeks **or** have played 4 league matches for that team. In exceptional circumstances, the SBYFL may allow NIBFA cup and representative matches to count.
- n) The word "season" mentioned on the Registration Form shall be defined as running from September in one year to the second Friday in August of the next year.
- o) Each team must name all the Managers/Coaches involved with their club and obtain an ID card for each Manager.
- p) The latest date for acceptance of additional registrations will be 8.00 p.m. on the last Friday in January. There will be no extension of this date other than for an emergency "goalkeeper only" registration.
- q) Girls are allowed to play in the year below their own age group up until Under 14 age group. If they are not covered by NIBFA insurance then each team must provide adequate insurance and provide proof of this to the League.

6 TRANSFER OF A PLAYER

- a) The Transfer Rule exists purely and simply as a means for any boy/girl of his/her own volition to choose or select a team from whom the player may play and no boy/girl should be restrained in any way in this respect.
- b) A Team is only permitted to transfer a maximum of **two** players into that Team.
- c) The poaching of a player by any club in the League is totally unacceptable to the SBYFL Management Committee. No manager or club official should make a direct approach to any player to change their allegiance nor should a parent/guardian of a player be approached.

- d) In the event of a player voluntarily wishing to change clubs the player must inform the SBYFL and their present club's manager in writing of their willingness to transfer. A Transfer Form must then be completed by their new club. The original with two copies must be presented to the Registration Secretary with the Fee detailed in Appendix 2. The Registration Secretary will endorse both copies, sending one to the club originating the form and the second copy to the player's present club.
- e) The copy Registration Form held by the Club must also be completed for any Transfers. The Club must add the joining player details in full to this form and present it with valid proof of identification and two passport-size photographs of the player. One of these will be attached to the Registration form and the other will be authenticated, laminated and returned to the Player / Manager for presentation before matches. The copy Registration Form will be initialed by the Registration Secretary and date of registration noted. A copy of the updated form will be retained by the League.
- f) Players registered with a team/club at the end of the current season will be deemed as registered for that team/club until the second Friday in August of that year. After this date, the Player is free to go to any Club of their choice.

7 DUAL REGISTRATION

- a) Provided the requirements of 5.2c are fulfilled, where a club has teams competing in more than one age group in the SBYFL, any player who is eligible on age basis, may play in more than one age-group provided the player is registered in the age-groups concerned.
- b) On a given day a player can only play for one team for which he starts a match.

8 MATCH DAY ADMINISTRATION

8.1 POINTS SYSTEM

Three points are awarded for a win and one point for a draw.

8.2 FAILURE TO REPORT

- a) A team failing to report for any **two** matches without good reason or informing the league will be automatically expelled from membership of the League and will lose their pitch deposit.
- b) A team who fails to report the non-appearance of their opponents will not automatically be awarded the points for the match unless the Match Card is completed in accordance with Rule 8.5 and countersigned, if possible, by an independent witness. Teams may be able to claim reasonable expenses, as determined by the Management Committee, from the defaulting club or team. This may also affect the application of the defaulting team for next season.
- c) Should fixtures be inadvertently duplicated by the SBYFL, teams must notify the league as soon as possible.

8.3 AMENDMENT OF A FIXTURE

- a) Teams requesting a free week must do so in writing to the Fixtures Secretary at least **FOUR** clear Saturdays before the date of the fixture. Failure to do so will result in loss of points should your team be unable to fulfill a fixture.
- b) Only **two free cancellations** per season will be permitted. Additional cancellations can be obtained on payment of a Scale B fee but must be played midweek within two weeks of the original date.
- c) Teams requesting a change of venue or time will be charged a Scale B administrative fee.
- d) Special consideration will be given where an Under 11 team has a large number of players taking part in the new School Transfer Procedure.

- e) Routine use of specific venues is not guaranteed, however special circumstances (e.g. multiple club teams travelling to venues on one coach) will be considered prior to the start of the season if detailed in writing to the SBYFL secretary.

8.4 LATE START

- a) Failure to commence a game 15 minutes after the appointed time may result in the forfeiture of the points by the offending team. The defaulting team must pay the Pitch and Referee's fees. Kick-off times will be as stated in fixtures list or otherwise indicated. Match card must be completed as per Rule 8.5.
- b) Teams should arrive at least 15 minutes prior to official kick-off time.
- c) Mid-Week Matches will be played 30 minutes each way for **ALL** age groups including Cup Matches.

8.5 MATCH CARD

- a) It is the responsibility of the home team (first named) to provide the match card and only official Match Cards will be accepted. The official Match Card provided **MUST** be completed, up to a maximum of 16 players, and signed by the Managers prior to the commencement of the fixture. The Manager must print the names of the players but each player must sign his/her own name. Registration numbers must be in numerical order and shown in Column 1 whilst Column 2 must show the jersey number. A player must only sign one Match Card on the day.
- b) The first-named team must give the Referee the completed match card before kick-off.
- c) The Match Card must be returned by the winning team or by **the home team if a draw**, by the following Friday after the match to the League Office. Failure to return a Match Card will result in a Scale B fine and may result in a loss of 3 points. For midweek matches cards to be returned within seven days from the date of the match. In the event of the referee holding the match card for reports it is still the responsibility of the winning team to send in the result on a blank match card with an explanation and countersigned by the Referee. No Match Cards other than the official card will be accepted.
- d) All cautions and dismissals **MUST** be recorded on the Match Card. The Referee must also submit a full report of serious misconduct to the League Secretary within 72 hours of the match. (excluding Weekends). Failure by the Referee to record or report cautions and dismissals invalidates such cautions and dismissals.
- e) If both teams fail to complete and sign the match card correctly, the match will be declared null and void i.e. no points will be awarded to either team. Cup matches will also be void.
- f) Proof of postage must be obtained for all cards submitted by Post. A receipt is normally available free of charge from the Post Office.
- g) A receipt must be obtained for Cards handed into the SBYFL office.

8.6 RESULT OF MATCHES FOR MEDIA

- a) It is the responsibility of the winning team to telephone the result into the League Office at Belfast 02890 662180 between 11 am and 1.15 pm and record it on the answering machine. Mid-week results must be communicated by 9.00 pm on the evening of the game. Results may also be sent in by **Text only** on 07762 722988.

- b) In the event of a draw, both teams must advise the result. Failure to do so will automatically result in a fine detailed in Appendix 2 being imposed on the club omitting to do so.

8.7 VALIDATION OF PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- a) The person in charge of each team must bring his team photographs to each match and exchange them with his opposite manager. Failure to do so will automatically result in the loss of points and a Scale A fine if proven.
- b) ID cards for each Manager must be worn at all matches and may be examined at the request of Referees or any League Official. Non display of manager I.D.s will attract a Scale A fine.
- c) In no circumstances may a club manager/official refuse to return his opponent's team ID Cards upon completion of the fixture. Refusal of a manager or official of a team to return the opponent's ID Cards will result in a Scale C fine and may also include suspension or expulsion from the league of the offending team. The facts surrounding any such refusal must be notified in writing to the League Secretary within 72 hours of the match (excluding Weekends).
- d) In the event of Loss or Theft of ID Cards, the SBYFL and appropriate authorities must be notified immediately.

9 MATCH DAY GENERAL RULES

9.0 TEAM MANAGEMENT

Each team must have a minimum of two managers supervising on match day.

9.1 TEAM COLOURS

All Jerseys must be clearly and uniquely numbered within a team. In the event of a colour clash, the first-named team (home) on the Fixture List must provide a change of kit.

9.2 DURATION OF PLAY

- a) Matches will be played under the Football Association Rules of the game except that they will be of the following duration:

- Under 10 year old section 60 minutes
- Under 11 year old section 60 minutes
- Under 12 year old section 60 minutes
- Under 13 year old section 60 minutes
- Under 14 year old section 70 Minutes
- Under 15 year old section 70 minutes
- Under 16 year old section 80 minutes
- Under 17 year old section 80 minutes

(Mid-Week Matches will be played 30 minutes each way for **ALL** age groups including Cup Matches)

- b) Knock-out Cup competitions are also of the durations specified above with the exception of mid-week fixtures, which are 60 minutes irrespective of age group.
- c) In the event of a draw at the completion of normal time in Knock-out Cup Competitions, extra time of 10 minutes each way will be played. If the score remains level after extra time, penalty kicks will be taken in accordance with the Laws of the game to decide the outcome.
- d) In the event of match abandonment the result will stand after the following playing times have elapsed;

Under 10 year old section 40 minutes
Under 11 year old section 40 minutes
Under 12 year old section 40 minutes
Under 13 year old section 40 minutes
Under 14 year old section 50 minutes
Under 15 year old section 50 minutes
Under 16 year old section 60 minutes
Under 17 year old section 60 minutes
Mid Week 60 minute games – 40 minutes

- e) Irrespective of the elapsed time, if a team causes the abandonment of a match through bad behaviour, indiscipline etc. they will not be permitted to benefit from this event in any way.

9.3 BALL

- a) Two Size 5 balls will be provided by EACH TEAM for both League and Cup games but the match ball will be that of the home team unless otherwise decided by the referee whose decision will be final.
- b) A size 4 ball must be used for the U10, U11 and U12 sections, primary school age children.

9.4 UNDER 10 CONCESSIONARY RULES

All Under 10 games will be played in accordance with normal football rules with the following exceptions - the back pass is permitted and the time relax rule applicable to the goalkeeper is permitted, in accordance with IFA guidelines.

9.5 SUBSTITUTES

- a) Five substitutes will be allowed to each team in the course of the game under any of the League's competitions. Rolling substitutes are not permitted.
- b) In the event of a cup competition penalty shoot out, the goalkeeper must be the individual who was in nets at the conclusion of extra time.

9.6 REFEREES

- a) To officiate over SBYFL matches, referees must complete an official league registration form at the start of each season outlining their referee's association membership and any personal or financial interests held in football clubs or other leagues over the previous three seasons. These interests will be taken into consideration by the Referees Co-ordinator when scheduling match officials.
- b) To maintain a visibly neutral match environment, it is essential that Official Referees do not preside over teams / clubs where they hold or have held any coaching, managerial or office bearing role. These interests must be declared before the start of the season to the Referees Co-ordinator.
- c) Where a referee is not appointed by the League for the first **or** return fixture, the two teams will toss a coin to decide the Match Official. This person will assume the same authority as an Official Referee and must take charge of the whole game.
- d) Where a referee is not appointed by the League for the first **and** the return fixture, the club losing the toss in the first fixture will referee the return fixture.
- e) The Referee must report all cautions and sending's-off on the back of the Match Card. Failure by the Referee to record or report cautions and dismissals invalidates such cautions and dismissals.

- f) Non-official referees with clubs (not appointed by League) are not to be paid any referee's fee. Referees' are not in a position to issue receipts for payment of match fees but if required application can be made to the League Management Committee for an official receipt
- g) Where the League appoints an Official Referee or Referees' Assistants, the teams shall pay the fee detailed in Appendix 2 before the commencement of play. Each team must pay half of the fee. The fixture will not start until the referee is paid and the completed match card for both teams **MUST** be handed to him. Non-payment of referees fees will attract a Scale A fine. Referees are not permitted to claim travelling expenses unless special circumstances have been agreed with the Referees Co-ordinator in advance.
- h) In the event of a match being postponed due to the Weather or team not fielding, an attending League Appointed Referee may claim half of the fee detailed in Appendix 2.
- i) League referees must be in attendance 30 minutes prior to the kick off and must wear their SBYFL referees kit. Other approved kits e.g. I.F.A, FIFA etc. are acceptable but in no circumstances must casual sportswear, football, rugby or Gaelic kit be worn.
- j) Official referees who come to the attention of the league in terms of competence or behaviour will be subject to suspension pending a report from their affiliated association.

9.7 CONDUCT

The League will aim to eliminate violent conduct of any sort on or off the pitch. This will include verbal or physical abuse to league or other officials. The league will operate a zero tolerance approach in this respect.

- a) Each club/team is responsible for the behavior of it's own line including supporters.
- b) Alcohol of any description will not be permitted at any match, including Cup Finals.
- c) Where feasible, teams must physically rope off their line to provide a clear space for players.
- d) Intimidation from the line of any kind, but particularly towards players of either team and officials, will be penalised with a Scale C fine.
- e) Where the league determines that managers and supporters have clearly failed to act as responsible adults in the presence of children e.g. disregarding the SBYFL codes of conduct or behaving in ways that transgress the boundaries of children's football, the committee will apply a Scale C fine to the offending team.

9.8 PITCH BEHAVIOUR

- a) All managers, officials, supporters and anyone having connection with teams playing a game under the auspices of the SBYFL must confine themselves to one side of the pitch with the other side being restricted to those connected with the opposition.
- b) A player dismissed (i.e. receiving a Red Card or 2 Yellow Cards) in one match shall automatically be suspended from the next League or Cup match played by their team regardless of age group. If the player is registered for two age groups then they must serve the suspension for all age groups.
- c) A player who accumulates **3** cautions (Yellow Cards) shall automatically be suspended from the next match played. If the player is registered for two age groups then they must serve the suspension for all age groups whether this be for the next League or Cup match.

- d) Violent conduct as deemed by the Referee e.g. head butting or fighting, will result in a minimum of a 3 match suspension.
- e) Postponed or abandoned matches do not contribute towards suspended weeks. However cards accumulated in a match which is subsequently abandoned will be processed as usual.
- f) Red or yellow cards accumulated during the last three games of any season or rounds of cup competitions cannot be appealed in terms of the suspension period. However the associated fines can be appealed.

10 COMPETITION AWARD RULES

10.1 TIE FOR LEAGUE AND SUPPLEMENTARY COMPETITIONS

- a) Should there be a tie on points at the end of the season, head-to-heads may be taken into consideration or there will be a play-off to decide the League Championship. If more than two teams are involved then a decision will be taken by the Management Committee. In an event of a play-off involving three or more teams, goal difference will count in the case of play-offs ONLY.
- b) Teams are not permitted to give walkovers at the end of the season. Only the Management Committee can consider this, and make a decision as to whether there should be a play-off or the points awarded to the other team. A walkover constitutes a Failure to Field and may exclude the team from League selection for the following season.

10.2 LEAGUE TROPHY, KNOCKOUT CUP/SHIELD & MEMORIAL CUPS

League and Cup winners will receive a Trophy and a set of up to 20 medals or plaques. League Runners up (decided if necessary by a play-off) and defeated finalists will receive a set of 16 medals or plaques.

10.3 RETENTION OF TROPHIES

The trophies will be competed for annually and the winning teams will retain them until the first Friday in February of the year following that which they were competed for. They will then be returned engraved to the League Secretary. The fine detailed in Appendix 2 will apply for each week that the trophy/trophies remain unreturned. Any damage to a trophy must be made good by the club concerned and the League reimbursed for damage or loss. An agreement to this effect must be signed by the team/club secretary upon receipt of the trophy.

11 SBYFL LEAGUE ADMINISTRATION

11.1 LEAGUE MEETINGS

- a) These will be held on a date as business demands, usually every 4 weeks. A Representative from each CLUB must attend. Failure to send a representative will result in the imposition of a Scale A fine which must be paid within 2 weeks.
- b) Any club/team failing to attend more than **3 League Meetings** during the current season will have a Scale A fine imposed at the discretion of the Management Committee. This may also affect the application of the defaulting club/team for next season.
- c) Where possible, fixture Lists will be given to the Club's Representative at the meeting, should it be necessary to post out Fixtures an Administration Fee detailed in Appendix 2 will apply.

11.2 LEAGUE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The activities of the League will be run by a Management Committee, the structure of which is set out in the League Constitution.

11.3 CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

- a) The League upholds the Child Protection Guidelines as laid down by our Governing Body the Irish Football Association and the NIBFA and all clubs/teams must adhere to these guidelines.
- b) A copy of the team's Child Protection Policy must be lodged with the League.
- c) The use of video and/or photographic equipment (including camera phones) is prohibited unless prior permission has been obtained from the managers of all teams concerned.

12 DISCIPLINARY MATTERS

12.1 PROTESTS/COMPLAINTS

- a) Protests & complaints must be submitted in writing (this includes e-mail) and must be received by the League Secretary from a Club Official within 72 hours of the match. (excluding Weekends).
- b) The League office will send a copy of the protest to the other team involved.
- c) The protest or complaint must be accompanied by the fee detailed in Appendix 2 which is not returnable if the protest fails. A separate cheque must be provided. **Note**, a fee is not required if the protest is regarding a Referees report.
- d) If the Protest Fee is not sent or the submission is received outside the timescale then no action will be taken.
- e) Where a protest is not lodged by any team, the management committee will, given evidence in the form of a referees report, match card or statement from one of its committee members, instigate disciplinary action.

12.2 DISCIPLINARY ACTION

- a) All disciplinary matters will rest with the League Management Committee.
- b) Any Committee member whose club or team is the subject of a hearing or investigation must not sit on the Disciplinary Committee. They must also not sit if they have a specific interest within a particular age group. However if requested they may supply information or help in any other way to assist the Committee to resolve the matter before it.
- c) In the event that any member of the SBYFL management committee is implicated on either side of a disciplinary contest or appeal, the disciplinary and/or appeal committee will be assembled from independent club members plus one disassociated management committee member. Any reasonable expenses claimed by such a panel will be apportioned to any fines arising.
- d) The Chairperson or Acting Chairperson has a casting vote and may not abstain from this.
- e) The Disciplinary Committee structure will be as set out in the League Constitution.
- f) Clubs may only send two named people to a hearing who must have direct knowledge or experience of the item for discussion. In exceptional circumstances, more may be permitted only with the advance permission or request of the league.

12.3 APPEALS

- a) The right of appeal against a Disciplinary Committee decision exists. The grounds for appeal MUST, however, be made in writing (see RULE 12.1) and lodged with the League Secretary within ten days of the original decision the League office will send a copy to the other team concerned, where applicable and an Appeal Deposit as detailed in Appendix 2 lodged which will be refunded if the appeal is upheld.
- b) Both teams involved in the appeal have the right to be present. .
- c) The Appeal Committee will be assembled in accordance with the League Constitution. Persons who are associated or have been associated with a club/team over the past three seasons may not sit on the Appeals Committee and all such objections for persons sitting on the Committee will be adhered to. An Appeal must be based on NEW evidence and not a repetition of previous verbal or written evidence given. In the absence of new evidence, the appeal will be rejected without the need for a disciplinary panel to be convened.
- d) In the event that the Team who appeals disagrees with the Appeal Committee's decision i.e. if they lose the Appeal, the matter may be referred to an independent panel comprised of NIBFA Officials. If the Appeal is lost the team concerned will be liable for **all** expenses incurred by and in connection with the NIBFA panel.
- e) A player's club or team appealing the decision in accordance with this rule may continue with their programme until the appeal has been heard, within the stipulated period but may not be able to play if a counter-appeal is lodged with our governing body. Any team who seeks legal redress will have their league programme suspended until such legal proceedings have been heard.

12.4 PENALTIES

- a) Any team/club guilty of playing an unregistered or otherwise ineligible player(s) will
 - Lose the points for the match (if applicable) and be docked three points for the offence.
 - Be fined on Scale C + an ineligible player fine for each incident as per Appendix 2.
 - If the offence is repeated the team/club will be automatically expelled from further participation in the S.B.Y.L.
- b) Any player discovered playing while under suspension will cause his/her club/team to:
 - Lose the points for the game(s) and will be docked three points for the offence.
 - Be fined on Scale C
 - Must complete their period of suspension and will be subject to further disciplinary action.
- c) Any player knowingly discovered playing while under suspension from ANY League will be treated in accordance with 12.4 (a) above.
- d) In all matters concerning misconduct or behaviour liable to bring the game or League into disrepute, either on the part of a player or club official, the Management Committee shall exercise its discretionary powers to impose whatever penalty, fine or suspension as it may agree upon.
- e) All suspensions or cautions not served before the end of the current season will be carried forward to the following season.

12.5 DISCIPLINARY POINTS

Disciplinary points are in operation against carded teams as follows:

5 Points (Red Card)	Sending off offence
2 Points (Yellow Card)	Cautionable offence

- a) When a team reaches the following disciplinary point totals they will be the subject of a Disciplinary Committee hearing and in addition to the normal fines for a red and yellow cards will be penalised as follows;

40 points – 1 League point deduction
50 points – Scale A fine plus 3 League point deduction
60 points – Scale B fine plus 6 League point deduction

- b) Individual players and teams/clubs' disciplinary records will also be monitored.

13 GENERAL

- a) Any matter not specifically covered by the Rules of the League shall be determined by the League Management Committee whose decision is final.
- b) In the case of any ambiguity in these Rules, the Management Committee's interpretation will be final.
- c) The management committee reserves the right to introduce temporary amendments to the rules to cater for events which potentially impact on all teams e.g. prolonged bad weather. Such temporary amendments will be communicated in advance to all SBYFL clubs.

Appendix 1 – Player Age Categories

UNDER 10 Players born on or after 1 January 2002.

UNDER 11	Players born on or after 1 January 2001.
UNDER 12	Players born on or after 1 January 2000.
UNDER 13	Players born on or after 1 January 1999.
UNDER 14	Players born on or after 1 January 1998.
UNDER 15	Players born on or after 1 January 1997.
UNDER 16	Players born on or after 1 January 1996.
UNDER 17	Players born on or after 1 January 1995.
UNDER 18	Players born on or after 1 January 1994.

Appendix 2 – Fees & Expenses 2010 - 2011

1. Entry Fee to League will be £110 per returning team and £140 for new entrants, exclusive of Insurance Fee, NIBFA/IFA Registration Fee and NIBFA Cup Entry Fees which are all payable direct to NIBFA.
2. Pitch advance payment fee – Actual cost of pitches for month in advance
3. NIBFA Insurance Premium - As published annually by the NIBFA
4. Pitch fees this season - £12 (Synthetic and Floodlight Pitch use will attract additional charges)
5. Match Protest Fee - £40
6. Protest Appeal Fee - £80
7. Inspect list of registered players - £3
8. Failure to phone in a result - £5
9. Fee for posting out fixtures - £5
10. Fielding an ineligible player - £5 per incident plus a scale C fine
11. Red Card Fine - £5
12. Yellow Card Fine £2
13. Non-return of Trophies - £10 per week overdue
14. Player transfer fee - £15
15. Referee's Fee - £30 i.e. £15 per team. U18 teams must also jointly pay the referees travelling expenses
16. Scale A Fine - £10
17. Scale B Fine - £15
18. Scale C Fine - £100

Appendix 3 – One Player, One Club (OPOC) Regulations Key Extracts

Background

The IFA (and therefore the NIBFA) adopted the FIFA directive (Article 5.2 – Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players) that a player can only be registered with any one club at any point of time. This is now an Article of the IFA (Article 30) and therefore any player within the jurisdiction of the IFA (and therefore the NIBFA), from the commencement of Season 2009/10, can only be registered for one club at any point of time. The procedure outlined below has been developed to outline how Clubs can comply with the OPOC policy and Article 30.

Requirement

A player can only be registered with one club at any point of time.

IFA Article 30.10 (f) – Players and Clubs

It shall be the responsibility of clubs playing in any match played under the jurisdiction of the Association to ensure that its players are eligible to play in such a match.

FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players

Article 5.1

A player must be registered at an association to play for a club as either a professional or an amateur in accordance with the provisions of article 2. Only registered players are eligible to participate in organised football. By the act of registering, a player agrees to abide by the statutes and regulations of FIFA, the confederations and the associations.

Article 5.2

A player may only be registered with one club at a time.

Article 5.3

Players may be registered with a maximum of three clubs during one season. During this period, the player is only eligible to play official matches for two clubs. As an exception to this rule, a player moving between two clubs belonging to associations with overlapping seasons (i.e. start of season in summer/autumn as opposed to winter/spring) may be eligible to play in official matches for a third club during the relevant season, provided he has fully complied with his contractual obligations towards his previous clubs. Equally, the provisions relating to the registration periods (article 6) as well as the minimum length of contract (article 18 paragraph 2) must be respected.

Note:

There is no restriction on the number of times a player transfers between two clubs (Club A and B) but the player is not permitted to move to a third club (Club C).

Proposals

1. When a club is signing a player from outside of their own League they should obtain details from the player if he is currently registered with another club or clubs from another League or Leagues.

To register the player the Club must get an “own league” transfer form signed and approved by the other club for which the player is registered and then lodge as normal with their own League Registration Secretary. A request for a transfer shall not be unreasonably withheld and the former club must consent to the transfer within 7 days from the date of request unless they have sufficient reasons to hold onto the player’s registration.

Where a club has not consented to a transfer within 7 days the club/player may request the NIBFA to resolve the matter. All registration disputes will be dealt with on a case by case basis.

If the player is signed for other Clubs in other Leagues then the registering Club will write to those Clubs and ask them to cancel the registration within their league. This letter should be lodged with the new clubs League Registration Secretary.

If a league has an internal transfer administration fee it can only be applied for transfers within the league.

2. No temporary transfers (loans) will be permitted in Junior Football:
 - a. Players cannot be loaned from Senior or Intermediate clubs to Junior clubs
 - b. Players cannot be loaned from Junior clubs to Senior or Intermediate Clubs

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION – NOT A PART OF THE RULES, BUT EXPECTED CONDUCT

CODE OF CONDUCT

PLAYERS

- 1.1 Always accept the referee's decision.
- 1.2 Play for yourself and your team – your team's performance will benefit and so will your own.
- 1.3 Be a good sport, applaud all good play, whether by your team or the opponent.
- 1.4 Co-operate with the coach, team mates and opponents.
- 1.5 At the final whistle applaud and thank your opponents and the referee for the match.
- 1.6 Win with humility – lose with dignity.
- 1.7 Refrain from the use of bad language or racial/sectarian references.
- 1.8 Refrain from bullying or persistent use of rough and dangerous play.
- 1.9 Show respect to other managers and their team managers.
- 1.10 Play fairly and respect opponents.
- 1.11 Respect match officials and accept decisions.
- 1.12 Refrain from wearing colours or emblems other than your own club ones.

COACHES

- 1.1 Remember that you players need a coach whom they can respect. Lead by example.
- 1.2 Be generous with your praise when it is deserved.
- 1.3 Never ridicule or shout at players for making mistakes or losing a match.
- 1.4 **WINNING IS NOT THE ONLY OBJECTIVE.**
- 1.5 Insist on fair play and disciplined play. Do not tolerate foul play, fighting or foul language. Be prepared to take off an offending player.
- 1.6 Encourage young players to develop basic skills and sportsmanship. Avoid over specialisation in positional play during their formative years.
- 1.7 Create a safe and enjoyable environment in which to train and play.
- 1.8 Never criticise the referee or assistant referee during or after a match in front of players or spectators.
- 1.9 Refrain from the use of bad language or racial/sectarian references.
- 1.10 Refrain from the consumption of alcohol at matches.
- 1.11 Do not tolerate or be involved in discrimination of any kind.

PARENT CODE OF ETHICS

- 1.1 Encourage but not force an unwilling child to participate in sport or in the club.
- 1.2 Recognise that children's enjoyment in sport and as a member of his Club is paramount.
- 1.3 Emphasise enjoyment and fun, praising and reinforcing effort and improvement.
- 1.4 Never ridicule or shout at any child for making a mistake or losing a competition.
- 1.5 Acknowledge and applaud good play by all players, including opposing players. Parents/guardians should set an example by being friendly towards the opposing team, its supporters and parents.
- 1.6 Publicly accept an official's judgement and never question their honesty.
- 1.7 Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from children's sporting activities.
- 1.8 Express any concerns about their child and or the club to the nominated officer.

20/04/11