



East Berks Youth Football League

(EBYFL)

A Charter Status League

Handbook and Rules

2009-2010

League Website

www.eastberksfa.com

League Administration Website

www.ebyfl.co.uk

Results Website

<http://full-time.thefa.com>

Rules for Sanctioned by Berks & Bucks County FA

Founded 1992

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About East Berks Youth Football League

East Berks Youth Football League (EBYFL) is a Saturday morning football league for age groups U7 to U11 playing 7-a-side Junior football and age groups U12 to U18 playing 11-a-side Intermediate football.

Teams are organised into age groups and divisions and all teams play home and away fixtures with the home team providing the pitch and organising the referee. The home team is responsible for the cost of the pitch and the cost of the referee is shared between both teams.

For age groups U9 and upwards all teams are entered into a League Cup/Plate competition which is conducted on a knockout basis.

At the end of the season the division champion and runner up teams for age groups from U10 upwards receive a Cup/Shield and individual players receive mementoes. Additional awards for Fair play and Representative Teams are also organised.

Wherever possible teams are streamed into divisions of appropriate experience and East Berks Youth Football League (EBYFL) does not operate a set promotion and relegation policy. Year on year teams are allocated to divisions based on the relative strength of teams entered for the new season and not solely based on a teams performance in a previous season.

The league website is located at

<http://www.eastberksfa.com>

The league administration website is located at

<http://www.ebyfl.co.uk>

The league results service is located at

<http://full-time.thefa.com/gen/Index.do?league=7833798>

Management Committee

The East Berks Youth Football League (EBYFL) management committee organises teams into age groups and divisions.

A team manager from each division is appointed as Divisional Secretary to that division.

The Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and other officers of the League including Child Welfare Officer and Referee's Secretary together with the Divisional Secretaries comprise the Management Committee which shall meet once per month to conduct the business of the League.

The business of the league ranges from managing the individual divisions, upholding the rules of the league, organising cup finals, organising representative teams, ordering trophies, organising coaching courses and referee training courses, participating in sub-committees and so on. Fortunately with such a large committee the job of running the league is not too much of a burden for the individuals involved.

It is not the responsibility of the Management Committee to resolve disputes between Clubs and Teams.

The East Berks Youth Football League (EBYFL) is a Membership Association such that the league is run by its members and on behalf of its members. Any decision of the League is by definition a decision of the members.

Any person wishing to contribute to the running of the league should contact the Chairman or Secretary. All offers of help are welcome and no one has been refused yet.

History of the Association

In the summer of 1992 our national football squad had performed abysmally. The FA and the press called for a drastic review of coaching strategies for youngsters if England was to produce stars of the future. Following this debate letters were sent out to all clubs in the Bracknell area inviting them to take part in a 7-a-side league. Eight teams at the under 8 level joined for the 1992/93 season.

Once managers, players and parents had sampled this break from tradition, the virtues of the small-sided game were clear to see, and the development of the East Berks Junior 7-a-side Association was swift.

In 1993 the under 9s were included and 1994 saw the introduction of under 7s. By 1995 there were enough teams for two divisions of under 9s, and by 1996 the under 8s also had two divisions, and the under 10s was formed. 1997 saw the formation of the under 11s.

In 2002 many 11-a-side teams had to travel outside of the county to play league football so the East Berks Intermediate Football Association was formed to offer 11-a-side football in the local area.

In 2006 the 2 leagues combined to become East Berks Youth Football League with an objective to offer a natural progression for Saturday morning football in 7-a-side and 11-a-side formats with age groups from U7 to U18.

From very small beginnings with just 8 teams to an Association with 58 Clubs and 426 teams in 35 divisions in 2007. Over 210 matches played every Saturday morning in the local area and the involvement of approximately 5,300 players together with their parents and grandparents and brothers and sisters.

In 2007/8 the League is started it's first Girls Division at U10s, with 7 teams participating. The result is football being provided for an even larger part of our community.

1. Nomenclature and Constitution

(A) This Competition shall be designated the East Berks Youth Football League and shall consist of not more than one hundred (100) Clubs, who shall be Full Member Clubs.

All such Member Clubs shall be affiliated to an affiliated County Football Association and their names and particulars shall be returned annually by the appointed date on the Form "D" to the Berks & Bucks County Football Association. The area covered by the Competition Membership shall be within twenty (20) miles of Bracknell Town Square. Clubs outside this radius may apply for entry but shall be subject to acceptance at the Annual General Meeting.

This Competition shall apply annually for sanction to the Berks & Bucks Football Association and the constituent Teams of Member Clubs may be grouped in Divisions, each not exceeding sixteen (16) Teams in number.

The FA Charter Standard Scheme is best practice guide that sets standards of coaching, administration and child protection for clubs working with young people. As a benchmark for quality, it shall improve the playing experience for all. All Clubs in the East Berks Youth Football League shall be FA Charter Standard or with the approval of the Management Committee, obtain FA Charter Standard within 12 months of election. Failure to obtain or loss of the FA Charter Standard shall be reviewed by the Management Committee and could result in loss of league membership or authorisation to continue membership as long as they obtain FA Charter Standard within the next 12 months.

(B) The Competition shall provide:

- Junior Football (7-a-side) for players who have attained the age of 6 but not the age of 11 as at midnight on 31st August in a playing season. Under 7 to Under 11.
- Junior Girls Football (7-a-side) for girls players who have attained the age of 6 but not the age of 12 as at midnight on 31st August in a playing season. Under 7g to Under 12g.
- Intermediate Football (11-a-side) for players who have attained the age of 10 but not the age of 18 as at midnight on 31st August. Under 12b to Under 18b
- Intermediate Girls Football (11-a-side) for players who have attained the age of 11 but not the age of 18 as at midnight on 31st August. Under 13g to Under 18g

(C) Players who have attained the age of 11 as at midnight 31st August in a playing season shall play in single sex Teams, in single sex competitions as per FA Rules.

(D) Except for FA and County FA Competitions any Club entering teams in the Competition shall not enter the same team in any other competition or any tournament competition during the East Berks Youth Football League season without first obtaining written permission from the East Berks Youth Football League Competition Secretary. Any team in breach of this rule shall incur a fine of up to £50.00.

(Note: For Junior players throughout these Rules mean both girls and boys, for Intermediate players these Rules mean all boys teams and for Junior Girls and Intermediate Girls these Rules means all girl teams).

2. Entry Fee, Subscription, Deposit

(A) Applications by Clubs for admission to this Competition shall be made in writing on the League application form to the Secretary not later than 31st May in each year and shall be accompanied by an Entry Fee of £60.00 for Junior and Junior Girls Football or £70.00 for Intermediate and Intermediate Girls Football inclusive of player registration fees, as per schedule, which shall be returned in the event of non-election.

Each Club shall be controlled by at least two adults one of whom shall be contactable by post and telephone and shall be responsible to the League for all matters regarding the Club. This

person, who shall be designated "Club Secretary", shall be the person indicated on the County Affiliation Form "A" and shall be responsible for all communications with the league. Each club shall have an e-mail contact address (unless a dispensation has been given by the Management Committee). Each Team that is registered for the league shall have a "Team Manager" who is the person responsible for the day to day administration of the Team and shall also be contactable by telephone and email.

At the discretion of a majority of the accredited voting members present applications, of which due notice has been given, may be received at the Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting. The Entry Fee shall apply.

(B) The Annual Subscription, including player registrations up to 31st August, shall be as £60.00 for Teams playing Junior and Junior Girls Football (7-a-side) and £70.00 for Teams playing Intermediate and Intermediate Girls Football (11-a-side).

(C) Each new Club shall within seven (7) days of election pay a Deposit of £100.00, which shall be returnable to Clubs on leaving the Competition provided they have fulfilled their fixtures and complied with all orders of the Management Committee.

(D) A Club shall not participate in this Competition until the Entry Fee and Annual Subscription and Deposit have been paid.

(E) Clubs shall advise annually to the Secretary in writing by July 1st of its Berks & Bucks County Football Association affiliation number for the forthcoming Season, failing which they shall be liable to be fined £20.00. Clubs shall advise the Secretary in writing, or on the prescribed form, of details of its Headquarters, Officers and any other information required by the Competition.

(G) Clubs applying to enter the Competition shall submit a completed Club Application Form (one per Club) by the due date each season. By submitting a Club Application Form it is accepted that the supplied details shall be published in the league handbook and other literature and shall be displayed on the league website. A Club Application form shall not be accepted without accompanying Team Application form(s).

(H) Teams applying to enter the Competition shall submit a completed Team Application Form (one per Team) by the due date each season. By submitting a Team Application Form it is accepted that the supplied details shall be published in the league handbook and other literature and shall be displayed on the league website. A Team Application Form shall not be accepted without an accompanying Club Application form.

(I) Each team shall indicate on the Team Application Form if they will enter the EBYFL Cup or Plate competition appropriate for their age group and allocated section or division. Any team that indicates entry to the Cup or Plate competition and subsequently withdraws from any round of the Cup or Plate competition shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £50.00.

3. Officers

(A) The Management Committee Executive Officers of the Competition shall be the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary, Referees Secretary, Child Welfare Officer and Divisional Secretary(s) for each age group playing in the current season.

The above Officers to be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting. (N.B. Auditors are not Officers).

(B) The Management Committee shall have the power to appoint Vice-Presidents in recognition of their services to football in the Competition.

4. Management, Nomination, Election

(A) The Competition shall be governed in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of The Football Association by a Management Committee comprised of the Executive Officers who shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting together with Representative Team Manager(s) who shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

(B) Retiring Officers shall be eligible to become candidates for re-election without nomination. All other candidates for election as Officers or Members of the Management Committee shall be nominated to the Secretary in writing, signed by the Secretaries of two Member Clubs, not later than 31st May in each year. Names of the candidates for election shall be circulated with the notice of the Annual General Meeting. In the event of there being no nomination in accordance with the foregoing for any office, nominations may be received at the Annual General Meeting.

(C) The Management Committee shall meet as often as is necessary to deal with business as it arises. On receiving a requisition signed by two-thirds of the Members of the Management Committee the Secretary shall convene a meeting of the Committee.

(D) Except where otherwise mentioned all communications shall be addressed to the Secretary who shall conduct the correspondence of the Competition and keep a record of its proceedings.

(E) All communications received from Clubs shall be conducted through their nominated Officers.

5. Powers Of Management

(A) The Management Committee appoint sub-committees and delegate such of their powers as they deem necessary. The decisions of all sub-committees shall be reported to the Management Committee for ratification. The Management Committee shall have power to deal only with matters within the Competition and not for any matters of misconduct that are under the jurisdiction of the Football Association or affiliated Association

(B) Subject to the permission of the Berks & Bucks County Football Association having been obtained the Management Committee may order a match or matches to be played each season, the proceeds to be devoted to the funds of the Competition and, if necessary, may call upon each Club (including any Club which may have withdrawn during the season) to contribute equally such sums as may be necessary to meet any deficiency at the end of the season. (See Rule 6(e)).

(C) Each Member of the Management Committee shall have the right to attend and vote at all Management Committee Meetings and have one vote thereat, but no Member shall be allowed to vote on any matters directly appertaining to such Member or to the Club so represented. (This shall apply to the procedure of any Sub-Committee). In the event of voting being equal, the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote. No decision of the Management Committee shall be deemed to necessarily set a precedence in respect of future similar decisions.

(D) The Management Committee shall have powers to apply, act upon and enforce the Rules of the Competition and shall also have jurisdiction over all matters affecting the Competition, including any not provided for in the Rules. Except where these Rules provide for the imposition of a set penalty any Club, Club Official (limited to Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer) or Player alleged to be in breach of a Competition Rule must be formally charged in writing and given the opportunity to present their case before the Management Committee. Financial penalties can only be imposed if included within the set penalties for breaches of Competition Rules. All breaches of the Laws of the Game, Rules and Regulations of The Football Association shall be dealt with in accordance with F.A. Rules by the appropriate Association.

(E) All decisions of the Management Committee shall be binding subject to the right of appeal to the Board of Appeal in accordance with Rule 16.

Decisions of the Management Committee shall be notified in writing to those concerned within fourteen (14) days.

(F) Fifty Percent (50%) of Members of the Management Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business of the Management Committee and three Members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business by any Sub-Committee of the Competition.

(G) The Management Committee, as it may deem necessary, shall have power to fill in an acting capacity, any vacancies that may occur amongst their number.

(H) A Club having failed to comply with an order or instruction of the Management Committee, or failing to satisfactorily attend to the business and/or the correspondence of the Competition, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £50.00 or otherwise penalised at the discretion of the Management Committee.

(I) All fines and charges shall be paid within fourteen (14) days of the date of posting of the written notification. The responsibility for payment of the fines is inherent on the Member Club and not on the Team. Clubs, Officials or individuals committing a breach of this Rule shall be liable to be further fine of £50.00 and incur such penalties as the Management Committee may impose.

(J) A member of the Management Committee appointed by the Competition to attend a meeting or match may have any expenses incurred refunded by the Competition.

(K) The Management Committee shall have the power to fill any vacancy that may occur in the membership of the Competition, between the Annual General or Special General Meeting called to decide the constitution and the commencement of the Competition season.

(L) Divisional Secretaries shall report to the Management Committee on all matters of discipline and breaches of Rules within their appropriate age group and Divisions.

(M) Any Club failing to be represented at the Pre-Season General Meeting shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £50.00.

(N) In addition to the Annual General Meeting there shall be a minimum of three General Meetings, for administrative purposes only, each year. Fourteen (14) days notice in writing shall be given for all General Meetings. Each Club shall be empowered to send two (2) delegates to all General Meetings and shall be entitled to one vote.

Any Club failing to be represented at a General Meeting shall be fined a sum not exceeding £50.00.

6. Annual General Meeting

(A) The Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than June 30th in each year. At this meeting the following business shall be transacted provided that at least twelve (12) Members are present and entitled to vote:-

- (i) To receive and confirm the Minutes of the preceding Annual General Meeting.
- (ii) To consider any business arising there from.
- (iii) To receive and adopt the Annual Report, Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts.
- (iv) Election of Clubs to fill vacancies (as recommended by the Management Committee).
- (v) Constitution of the Competition for ensuing season.
- (vi) Election of Officers and Management Committee.
- (vii) Appointment of Auditors.

- (viii) Alteration of Rules, if any (of which notice has been given).
- (ix) Fix the date for the commencement and conclusion of playing season.
- (x) Other business of which due notice shall have been given and accepted as being relevant to an Annual General Meeting.

(B) A copy of the duly audited Balance Sheet, Statement of Accounts and Agenda shall be forwarded to each Club at least fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting, and to the Berks & Bucks County Football Association.

(C) A signed copy of the duly audited Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts shall be sent to the Berks & Bucks County Football Association within fourteen (14) days of its adoption by the Annual General Meeting.

(D) Each Full Member Club shall be empowered to send two (2) delegates to an Annual General Meeting. Each Club shall be entitled to one vote only. Not less than fourteen (14) days' notice shall be given of any Meeting.

(E) Clubs who have withdrawn their Membership of the Competition during the season being concluded or who are not continuing Membership shall be entitled to attend but shall vote only on matters relating to the season being concluded.

(F) All voting shall be conducted by a show of voting cards unless a ballot is demanded by at least one-third of the delegates qualified to vote or the Chairman so decides.

(G) No individual shall be entitled to vote on behalf of more than one Full Member Club.

(H) Any continuing Member Club failing to be represented at the Annual General Meeting without satisfactory reason being given shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £50.00.

(I) Officers and Management Committee members shall be entitled to attend and vote at an Annual General Meeting.

7. Agreement To Be Signed

The Chairman and the Secretary of each Club shall complete and sign the following agreement which shall be deposited with the Competition together with the Application for Membership for the coming season, or upon indicating that the Club intends to compete.

"We, A, of(Chairman) and B of (Secretary) of the Football Club have been provided with a copy of the Rules and Regulations of the East Berks Youth Football League and do hereby agree for and on behalf of the said Club, if elected or accepted into Membership, to conform to those Rules and Regulations and to accept, abide by and implement the decisions of the Management Committee of the Competition, subject to the right of appeal in accordance with Rule 16.

Any alteration of the Chairman and/or Secretary on the above Agreement shall be notified to the Berks & Bucks County Football Association to which the Club is affiliated and to the Secretary of the Competition.

(Note: The spaces above are intended for the inclusion of the signatures and addresses of officers and members).

8. Qualification of Players

(A) A registered playing member of a Club is one who, being in all other respects eligible, has completed one of the following registration procedures:-

(i) Signed a fully and correctly completed Competition registration form in ink, countersigned by their parent/guardian and by an Officer of the Club, and who has been registered with the Registration Secretary prior to playing and whose completed registration counterfoil has been received by the Club prior to playing. The registration document shall incorporate any known serious medical conditions of the player and emergency contact details of player's parents or guardians. These details shall be available at matches and training events the player attends within the management of the Club or Competition.

(ii) Signed a fully and correctly completed Competition registration form in ink on a match day prior to playing, countersigned by his or her parent/guardian and by an Officer of the Club and witnessed by an Officer of the opposing Club and submitted to the Registration Secretary within two (2) days (Sundays excluded) subsequent to the match. The player shall not again play until the Club is in possession of the completed counterfoil. A maximum of 2 players per season per team may be registered in this way and registration is conditional on meeting all other requirements as stated in the Rules of the Competition. The registration document shall incorporate any known serious medical conditions of the player and emergency contact details of the players parents or guardians. These details shall be available at matches and training events the player attends within the management of the Club or Competition.

Registration shall be for a named Team within a Club.

Contract players, as defined in Football Association Rules, are not permitted in this Competition.

(B) A player is eligible to play in the relevant age group if their birthday is after midnight 31st August in that season.

Junior and Junior Girls Football Age limits shall be:

Under 7 & Under 7g	Over 6 but Under 7 as at Midnight 31st August
Under 8 & Under 8g	Over 6 but Under 8 as at Midnight 31st August
Under 9 & Under 9g	Over 7 but Under 9 as at Midnight 31st August
Under 10 & Under 10g	Over 8 but Under 10 as at Midnight 31st August
Under 11 & Under 11g	Over 9 but Under 11 as at Midnight 31st August
Under 12g	Over 10 but Under 12 as at Midnight 31st August

Intermediate and Intermediate Girls Football Age limits shall be:

Under 12b	Over 10 but Under 12 as at Midnight 31st August
Under 13b & Under 13g	Over 11 but Under 13 as at Midnight 31st August
Under 14b & Under 14g	Over 12 but Under 14 as at Midnight 31st August
Under 15b & Under 15g	Over 13 but Under 15 as at Midnight 31st August
Under 16b & Under 16g	Over 14 but Under 16 as at Midnight 31st August
Under 17b & Under 17g	Over 15 but Under 17 as at Midnight 31st August
Under 18b & Under 18g	Over 15 but Under 18 as at Midnight 31st August

In accordance with the foregoing qualifications a player under the age of 14 as at midnight on 31st August in the playing season shall not play in a match where any other player is older or younger by 2 years or more.

Each Team shall have a minimum number of registered players before they are permitted to play matches organised by the Competition.

Nine (9) players for Under 7, Under 8, Under 9, Under 10, Under 11 and Under 7g, Under 8g, Under 9g, Under 10g, and Under 11g age groups.

For Under 7 to Under 10 Teams they may comprise of both boys and girls and the maximum number of players to be registered per Team is twelve (12).

For Under 7g to Under 11g Teams they may comprise of girls only and the maximum number of players to be registered per Team is twelve (12).

For Under 11 Teams, they may comprise of both boys and girls and the maximum number of players to be registered per Team is fourteen (14).

For Under 12g Teams, they may comprise of girls only and the maximum number of players to be registered per Team is fourteen (14).

For Under 12 to Under 18 Teams, they may comprise boys only and the maximum number of players to be registered per Team is twenty (20).

For Under 13g to Under 18g Teams, they may comprise girls only and the maximum number of players to be registered per Team is twenty (20).

(C) Players shall submit, at their own expense, two recent identical passport sized photographs at the time of registration together with proof of player's age. This can be either by production of a birth certificate (copies accepted) or any proof of age by means of official documentation i.e. medical card, passport or previous seasons League Player Registration Cards. The photographs to be affixed in the appropriate places on the registration form. The registration fee of £5.00 per player shall be payable for players registered after the start of the season.

(D) Opposing Team Managers shall request to see and verify their opponents Player Identity Cards prior to the start of the match (Appendix C PROCEDURE FOR VERIFICATION OF PLAYER IDENTITY CARDS). If this procedure is not complied with then protests regarding eligibility shall not be considered. When a Team Manager fails to produce their Registration Cards for inspection when requested, and is reported to the Competition by their opponents, he shall provide a written explanation to the Secretary within three (3) days of the match, detailing the reason for non-production. At the discretion of the Management Committee, the offending Club may be liable to be fined a sum not exceeding £60.00 and the match may be awarded to the opposing Team.

The Divisional Secretaries or any Officer of the Competition shall have power to attend matches to check Registration Cards of the competing Teams.

(E) A player having taken part in matches for any Club affiliated to any County Football Association shall not be allowed to join, be transferred to, or sign for a Club in the Competition without first proving to the officials of the intended Club that the player has discharged all reasonable financial liabilities to the previous Club or Clubs, and a Club official may not accept such player's signature without first ascertaining whether such claims have been discharged to the satisfaction of the Club, or Clubs, for which the player last played.

(F) The Management Committee shall decide all registration disputes.

In the event of a player signing a registration form or having a registration submitted for more than one Club priority of registration shall decide for which Club the player shall be registered. The Registration Secretary shall notify the Club last applying to register the player of the fact of the previous registration.

(G) It shall be a breach of Rule for a player to:-

- (i) Play for more than one Team in the Competition in the same season without first being transferred except Under 7 and Under 8 age groups who may transfer to another Team within the same Club at the same age group at no cost.
- (ii) Having signed for one Club in the Competition, sign for another Club in the Competition in that season except for the purpose of a transfer.
- (iii) Submit a signed registration form for registration that the player had wilfully neglected to accurately or fully complete.

(H)

- (i) The Management Committee shall have power to accept the registration of any player.

- (ii) The Management Committee shall have power to refuse or cancel the registration of any player found guilty of undesirable conduct and to disqualify the player in question from participating in all games in the Competition. (Subject to Rule 16). (Note: Action under Rule 8(H) (iii) shall not be taken against a player for misconduct on the field of play until the matter has been dealt with by the appropriate Association, and then only in cases of the player bringing the Competition into disrepute.)
- (iii) The Management Committee shall have power to make application to refuse or cancel the registration of any player charged and found guilty of undesirable conduct (subject to Rule 16) subject to the right of appeal to the FA or the relevant County Football Association. Undesirable conduct shall mean an incident of repeated conduct, which may deter a participant from being involved in this Competition. Application should be made to the parent County of the Club the player is registered with.. (Note: Action under Clause (iii) shall not be taken against a player for misconduct until the matter has been dealt with by the appropriate Association, and then only in cases of the player bringing the Competition into disrepute and will in any case be subject to an Appeal to the Football Association.) For the purpose of this Rule, bringing the competition into disrepute can only be considered where the player has received in excess of 112 days' suspension, or 10 matches in match based discipline, in a period of two years or less from the date of the first offence.

(I) Subject to The Football Association Rules dealing with players without a written contract when a player desires a transfer, the Team the player wishes to transfer to shall submit a transfer form to the Divisional Secretary accompanied by a transfer fee of £8.00. Such transfer shall be referred by the Divisional Secretary to the Team for which the player is registered. Shall this Team object to the transfer it shall state its objections in writing to the Divisional Secretary and to the player concerned within seven (7) days of receipt of the transfer form. Upon receipt of the Team's consent, or upon its failure to give written objection within seven (7) days, the Divisional Secretary may, on behalf of the Management Committee, transfer the player who shall be deemed eligible to play for the new Team from such date.

In the event of an objection to a transfer the matter shall be referred to the Management Committee for a decision.

(J) No player shall be allowed more than three (3) transfers in any one season, except in exceptional circumstances by written permission of the Secretary, as approved by the Management Committee.

(K) A player desiring not to play for his/her Team, or a Team not wishing to use the services of a player again may submit a notice of de-registration together with the player's Registration Card to the relevant Divisional Secretary accompanied by a de-registration fee of £8.00. In either case, it is the duty of parties to inform the other of the action taken and the date of submitting the notice. A player being de-registered shall not play for his or her relinquishing Team on or after the date when de-registration notice was posted. Any Team requiring official notice of de-registration from the Divisional Secretary shall enclose a stamped addressed envelope for its return.

(L) No de-registered player may re-register after 1st March.

(M) A notice of de-registration submitted by a Team shall be signed by Club Chairman or Club Secretary and Team Manager. Teams may only de-register a maximum of 3 players per season.

(N) A player shall not be registered for a Team nor transferred to another Team in the Competition after 1st March except by special permission of the Management Committee.

(O) A Team shall keep a list of the players it registers and a record of the games in which they have played, and shall produce such records upon demand by the Management Committee.

(P) A register containing the names of all players registered for each Team, provided by the Team, with the date of registration, shall be kept by the respective Divisional Secretary for each division and shall only be open to the inspection of any duly appointed Member Club representative at all Management Committee meetings or at other times mutually arranged. Registrations are valid for one season only.

(R)

- (i) Any Team playing an unregistered or otherwise ineligible player or players shall have the points gained in the match deducted from its total and may be fined a sum not exceeding £60.00 and/or otherwise dealt with at the discretion of the Management Committee.
- (ii) In addition the Team shall have three (3) points deducted from its total at the discretion of the Management Committee and may be dealt with in any further manner which is thought to be fit.
- (iii) The Management Committee in exceptional circumstances may, at its discretion, award any points deducted from a Team under this Rule to the opponents in the match in question, subject to the match not being ordered to be replayed.

(S) The following Clause applies to Competitions involving players in full-time secondary education:-

- (i) Priority shall be given at all times to school and school organisations activities.
- (ii) The availability of children shall be cleared with the Head Teachers (except for Sunday Leagues).
- (iii) Children under 14 shall not play in a Team involving players who are more than 2 years older.

(Note: For players under the age of 18 the provisions contained in Football Association Rules shall apply.)

(Q) In the event of the League entering a Representative Competition only bona-fide registered players are to be selected. No player who is chosen to represent the League shall play for his own Club on the day of the Representative.

9. Club Colours, Club Name

(A) Every Team shall register the colour of its shirts and shorts with the Secretary by 1st May, who shall decide as to their suitability.

Goalkeepers shall wear colours, which distinguish them from other players and the Referee.

No player, including the goalkeeper, shall be permitted to wear black or very dark shirts.

Any Team not being able to play in its normal colours as registered with the Competition shall notify the colours in which they shall play to its opponents at least seven (7) days before the match.

If, in the opinion of the Referee, two Teams have the same or similar colours, the Home Team shall make the change. Any Team not having a change of colours or delaying the kick-off by not having a change shall be fined £20.00.

The Secretary of the Competition may request shirts to be submitted if complaints are received as to lack of distinguishing colours, and the Management Committee may refuse to permit any shirts or shorts as they think fit. Shirts shall be uniquely numbered (Blood Shirts excepted). Any Team failing to comply with this Rule shall be liable to a fine of £5.00 per shirt per match.

Except by special permission of the Management Committee on a per team per season basis Players names shall not be printed or otherwise displayed on shirts or other equipment such that the players name is visible to spectators. Any Team failing to comply with this Rule shall be liable to a fine of up to £5.00 per shirt per match..

(B) Any Club or Team within a Club wishing to change its name and/or colours shall obtain permission from its affiliated County Association and from the Management Committee.

10. Playing Season, Conditions Of Play, Times Of Kick-Off, Postponements, Substitutes

(A) The Annual General Meeting shall determine the commencing and concluding dates for the ensuing season, which shall be in accordance with Football League Rules. No Club shall be compelled to play after the concluding date. Original fixtures arranged by the Fixture Secretary, or at a meeting specially convened for that purpose, to be held no later than 5th September, shall not be arranged for a date later than seven (7) days preceding the concluding date determined by the Annual General Meeting.

(B) No player under the age of 17 as at midnight on 31st August in any season shall be permitted to play in more than one game per day, within all Competitions that have been sanctioned by the Football Association or a County FA.

(C) All matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game as determined by the International Football Association Board.

Grounds and Pitch Fitness

The Management Committee shall have power to decide whether a pitch and/or facilities are suitable for matches in the Competition and to order the Club concerned to play its fixtures on another ground.

Clubs whose grounds are owned and maintained by a Local Authority shall accept the right of that Authority to decide the fitness of the ground for play. In the event a Local Authority decides to cancel a game, their decision shall be taken as final and the Club shall notify in writing the Divisional Secretary, within three (3) days of the decision, the date and time of the inspection and the reason for the decision.

In cases where the decision as to the fitness of the ground for play is left to the appointed Referee, the Home Club/Team, with the approval of the Referee and in order to avoid unnecessary travel, shall arrange for a ground inspection by a current registered Referee.

The visiting Club/Team shall be advised also that a pitch inspection is to take place, and the subsequent result of that inspection.

A Team being unable to supply a home venue for whatever reason (frost, snow, waterlogged etc) SHALL offer their opponents the opportunity to play the game at their opponent's ground on that day if the kick off time can be arranged within 1 hours of the original set by the Team whose pitch is unavailable. Any fixture not taking place in these circumstances shall be reviewed by the Management Committee who shall have the power to inflict a fine and/or award the points or otherwise deal with the matter at their discretion. Circumstances such as travelling distances and kick off times shall all be taken into account when the Management Committee makes their decision.

In these circumstances the home Team shall be responsible for the costs of the pitch supplied, this applies to both League and Cup matches.

Shall it be found that the pitch unavailability notification has been unduly delayed in being given to the Divisional Secretary thereby preventing this section of the rule being invoked, the offending Team may be dealt with as having failed to fulfil a fixture, and all due penalties may be imposed.

Clubs shall take all reasonable precautions to keep their grounds in a playable condition. All matches shall be played on pitches deemed suitable by the Management Committee. If through

any fault of the Home Team a match has to be replayed, the Management Committee shall have power to order the venue to be changed.

The Management Committee shall have power to decide whether a pitch and/or facilities are suitable for matches in the Competition and to order the Club concerned to play its fixtures on another ground.

Managers & Coaches

Each Club shall have their Teams managed by a responsible adult. Also a nominated adult shall be at every match controlling the Team.

Pitch Sizes

The field of play is divided into two halves by a halfway line. The centre mark is indicated at the mid-point of the halfway line. The dimensions of the ground, which shall be rectangular, on a grass surface, shall be as follows:

Junior Football and Junior Girls Football

For Under 7 – Under 8 and Under 7g – Under 8g	Minimum Size – 40m x 30m Maximum Size – 50m x 40m
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For Under 9 to Under 10 and Under 9g – Under 10g	Minimum Size – 50m x 40m Maximum Size – 60m x 40m
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For Under 11s and Under 11g – Under 12g	Minimum Size – 60m x 40m Maximum Size – 60m x 40m
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Intermediate Football and Intermediate Girls Football

For Under 12b – Under 18b And Under 13g – Under 18g	Minimum Size – 90m x 45m Maximum Size – 120m x 90m
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A spectator line consisting of a dashed or solid marked line or a line of cones or some other barrier shall be placed adjacent to each touchline at a minimum distance of 1m from the touchline for the whole length of the touchline unless the area adjacent to the touchline is smaller than 3m. The penalty for failing to provide a spectator line shall be a fine of up to £10.00 per match.

Where a spectator line or other spectator barrier is provided then no spectators shall persistently stand or otherwise remain in any area where the spectator line is not present. Unless invited to do so by the Referee the only persons permitted to cross the spectator line or barrier shall be one manager and one coach from each team plus the players and the match officials and Club Assistant Referees. If any other person crosses the spectator line or barrier then at the next stoppage in play the Referee shall warn the manager of the offending team. If the offence is repeated a second time then at the next stoppage in play the Referee shall inform the manager of the offending team that the offence shall be reported to the league. Any team reported to the Management Committee for allowing spectators to cross the spectator line or barrier shall be liable to a fine of up to £20.00 per offence and shall be dealt with as the Management Committee see fit.

Unless invited to do so by the Referee the only persons permitted to stand or otherwise remain within 10m of either goal shall be one manager and one coach from each team plus the players and the match officials and Club Assistant Referees. For Junior Football (7-a-side) one extra person from the team that is defending the goal shall also be permitted to remain near the goal.

If any other person stands or otherwise remains within 10m of either goal then at the next stoppage in play the Referee shall warn the manager of the offending team. If the offence is repeated a second time then at the next stoppage in play the Referee shall inform the manager of the offending team that the offence shall be reported to the league. Any team reported to the Management Committee for allowing spectators to stand or otherwise remain within 10m of either goal shall be liable to a fine of up to £20.00 per offence and dealt with as the Management Committee see fit.

Pitch Equipment

The home Team shall ensure that the field of play has adequate markings and regulation equipment including 2 linesmen's flags.

Goal sizes shall be as follows:

Junior Football and Junior Girls Football

Under 7 – Under 11	6 Feet x 12 Feet
Under 7gs – Under 12g	6 Feet x 12 Feet

Intermediate Football and Intermediate Girls Football

Under 12b – U14b and Under 13g – U14g	Minimum Size – 7 Feet by 21 Feet Maximum Size – 8 Feet by 24 Feet
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Under 15b – U18b and Under 15g – U18g	Minimum Size – 8 Feet by 24 Feet Minimum Size – 8 Feet by 24 Feet
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Goals shall be secured in accordance with manufacturers instructions.

Goal nets and corner flags are compulsory.

Any Team failing to comply with this Rule shall be liable to a fine of £5.00.

Players Equipment

Teams shall ensure that their players' equipment is not dangerous and Referees shall check the studs of players taking part in the game before allowing them to enter the field of play. Kick-offs shall not be delayed to allow equipment to be adjusted.

Players shall wear shin guards, which shall be entirely covered by the stockings.

Times and Duration of Play

All matches shall consist of two periods of play, equal in their duration:

Junior Football

Under 7, 7g, 8, 8g, 9 and 9g	40 minutes (20 minutes each half)
Under 10 and 10g	50 minutes (25 minutes each half)
Under 11, 11g and 12g	60 minutes (30 minutes each half)

The maximum playing time in any one day for Under 7, 7g, 8 and Under 8g age groups is 45 minutes and for Under 9, 9g, 10, 10g age groups is 60 minutes.

Intermediate Football

Under 12	60 minutes (30 minutes each half)
Under 13, 13g, 14 and 14g	70 minutes (35 minutes each half)
Under 15, 15g, 16 and 16g	80 minutes (40 minutes each half)
Under 17, 17g, 18 and 18g	90 minutes (45 minutes each half)

Junior Football matches shall be played on Saturday mornings and the times of kick-off shall be on or before midday.

Junior Girls Football matches shall be played on Sunday with times of kick-off between 10;00am and 2:00pm.

Intermediate Football matches Under 12s to Under 15s shall be played on Saturday mornings and the times of kick-off shall be on or before 1pm.

Intermediate Football matches Under 16s to Under 18s shall be played on Saturday.

Intermediate Girls Football matches Under 13s to Under 18s shall be played on Sunday with times of kick-off between 10;00am and 2:00pm.

Any Team failing to commence at the appointed time shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £10.00 or be otherwise dealt with as the Management Committee may determine.

Referees shall order matches to commence at the appointed time and shall report all late starts to the Competition. In the event of the non-appearance of a Team, the opposition shall remain at the ground until fifteen (15) minutes after the scheduled kick-off time.

Size of Footballs

The Home Team shall provide at least two (2) footballs fit for play to the Referee at least five (5) minutes prior to the kick-off, and the Referee shall make a report to the Competition if the footballs are unsuitable.

Junior Football and Junior Girls Football

Under 7, 7g, 8 & 8g age groups	Size 3 ball
Under 9, 9g, 10, 10g, 11, 11g and 12g age groups	Size 4 ball

Intermediate Football and Intermediate Girls Football

Under 12b, 13b, 13g, 14b and 14g age groups	Size 4 ball
Under 15b and 15g upwards	Size 5 ball

(D) Except by permission of the Management Committee all matches shall be played on the dates originally fixed but priority shall be given to The Football Association and all relevant County Association Cup Competitions. League fixtures shall take preference over friendly fixtures and cup fixtures take preference overall.

(E) Junior Football and Intermediate Football Home Teams shall confirm full particulars of the location of, and access to, the ground and time of kick-off to the match officials and the opposing Team by 9.00pm on the Sunday prior to the playing of the match. Junior Girls Football and Intermediate Girls Football Home Teams shall confirm full particulars of the location of, and access to, the ground and time of kick-off to the match officials and the opposing Team by 9.00pm on the Tuesday prior to the playing of the match. Any Team failing to comply with this Rule shall be liable to a fine of £10.00. All messages such as voice mail, emails and texts shall be considered to be undelivered until such time as a positive acknowledgement of delivery has been received in person from the recipient.

(F) Home and away matches shall be played. The home team shall be responsible for arranging a suitable venue complete with pitch and all equipment. The home team shall be responsible for all costs relating to the provision of the pitch and equipment. In the event of a

Club/Team failing to keep its engagement the Management Committee shall have power to inflict a fine not exceeding £50.00, deduct points from the defaulting Club/Team, award the points to the opponents, order the defaulting Club/Team to pay any expenses incurred by the opponents or otherwise deal with them except the award of goals. Notwithstanding the foregoing Home and Away provision, the Management Committee shall have power to order a match to be played on a neutral ground or on the opponent's ground if they are satisfied that such action is warranted by the circumstances.

No Team shall be allowed to postpone a league fixture or cup match without prior permission from the appropriate Divisional Secretary. The lack of availability of players due to suspension, illness or absence on holiday at the time of the scheduled fixture shall not be accepted as sufficient grounds for postponement.

Postponements shall only be sanctioned.

- (i) If three (3) or more players for Junior or five (5) or more players for Intermediate from the Team are required to participate in school or other activities which are deemed by the Management Committee to take precedence over the league and the respective Divisional Secretary is notified in writing or by email of the activity using the EBYFL Application to Postpone a Match Form at least seven (7) days before the fixture in question is due to be played and a letter from the school or organisation confirming the activity is submitted to the respective Divisional Secretary before the fixture in question is due to be played.
- (ii) For any Team supplying one or more players for the Competition Representative matches or the Berks & Bucks FA Representative matches and the respective Divisional Secretary is notified in writing or by email using the EBYFL Application to Postpone a Match Form at least seven (7) days before the fixture in question is due to be played.
- (iii) On the grounds of Club activities, providing eight (8) weeks notice in writing is given to the Competition Secretary using EBYFL Form Application to Postpone a Match, and the Management Committee approves the request and the reasons given.

Any Club unable to fulfil a fixture shall, without delay, give notice to the Divisional Secretary, the Referee Secretary, the Team manager of the opposing Team and the match officials. Any Club failing to comply shall be dealt with by the Management Committee who may inflict any penalty it may deem suitable. All messages such as voice mail, emails and texts shall be considered to be undelivered until such time as a positive acknowledgement of delivery has been received in person from the recipient.

In the event of a match not being played or abandoned owing to causes over which neither Team has control, it shall be played in its entirety on a date to be mutually agreed by the two Teams and approved by the Management Committee. Failing such agreement and notification to the Divisional Secretary within three (3) days the Management Committee shall have power to order the match to be played on a named date or on or before a given date.

The Management Committee shall review all abandoned matches in cases where it is consequent upon the conduct of either or both Teams. Where it is to the advantage of the Competition and does no injustice to either Team, the Management Committee shall be empowered to order the score at the time of the abandonment to stand. In all cases where the Management Committee are satisfied that a match was abandoned owing to the conduct of one Team or its Club/Team member(s) they shall be empowered to award the points for the match to the opponents and/or take what other action they may deem necessary. In cases where a match is abandoned owing to the conduct of both Teams and their Club/Team members, the Management Committee shall take such action as they consider appropriate. Such action is subject to any disciplinary action taken by the appropriate Affiliated Association.

(G) Under 7s to Under 16, a player who has been selected, appointed or named as a substitute before the start of the match shall participate in the match. Any Team failing to comply with this Rule shall be liable to a fine of £20.00.

A Team may at its discretion and in accordance with the Laws of the Game use a number of substitute players in any match in this Competition.

Junior Football and Junior Girls Football

For Teams in the Under 7 to Under 11 and Under 7g to Under 12g age groups the use of three substitutes from three shall be allowed, a player who has been substituted himself becomes a substitute and may replace another player at any time subject to the substitution being carried out in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of Association Football.

A Team shall not have a squad greater than double the size of its Team in any age group.

Intermediate Football and Intermediate Girls Football

For Teams in the Under 12b to Under 16b and Under 13g to Under 16g age groups the use of five substitutes from five shall be allowed, a player who has been substituted himself becomes a substitute and may replace another player at any time subject to the substitution being carried out in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of Association Football.

For Teams in the Under 17b, 17g, 18b and 18g age groups the use of three substitutes from five shall be allowed.

The Referee shall be informed of the names of all substitutes before the start of the match.

(H) In the event of a Team playing in any match with less than the normal number of players then the following criteria applies:

Junior football and Junior Girls football

Six is the minimum number of players required to constitute a Team for a Competition match at the time of the kick off.

Intermediate football and Intermediate Girls football

Nine is the minimum number of players required to constitute a Team for a Competition match at the time of the kick off.

In the event of a Team playing in any match with less than the above number of players, they may be liable to a fine of £5.00 for each missing player.

If at the time of kick-off the number of players available to a Team is less than 7 players for Junior and Junior Girls football or 11 players for Intermediate and Intermediate Girls football then that Team shall not be obliged to play the match with a reduced sized Team. However the match may only be postponed with the prior agreement of the opposition Team manager and the appropriate Divisional Secretary. If permissions to postpone the match are not forthcoming from the opposition Team manager and the appropriate Divisional Secretary then the match shall be awarded to the opposition Team and the defaulting Team shall be fined as per schedule.

(I) The Team Manager or the adult indicated in League Rule 10(C) SHALL be in possession of the League Registration Cards for his Team, including substitutes, for each match. Team Officials SHALL EXCHANGE the relevant League Registration Cards at least 10 minutes prior to kick off in accordance with Appendix C PROCEDURE FOR VERIFICATION OF REGISTRATION CARDS. Both Teams SHALL ensure that the exchange of League Registration Cards takes place before the start of the match and failure to do so shall incur a fine not exceeding £60.00 and/or the Club being dealt with as the Management Committee decide.

Failure to produce a player's League Registration Card renders that player ineligible to play in that match.

(J) The half time interval shall be of five (5) minutes duration, but it shall not exceed fifteen (15) minutes. The half time interval may only be altered with the consent of the Referee.

(K) Qualified First Aider & First Aid Kit

Each Team shall provide a suitable first aid kit as well as a person with a First Aid Certificate in their name.

Each club shall provide, for the individual use of each of its Teams, a clearly marked first aid kit, which shall be made available for inspection by any League or match official, containing the following basic items -

- (i) A supply of adhesive dressings;
- (ii) A selection of clean bandages;
- (iii) Suitable dressing material to enable temporary cover of lacerations etc;
- (iv) A supply of clean water and an eye wash facility;
- (v) A suitable mouth to mouth resuscitation aid.

Adequate first aid cover shall be provided at all matches. The minimum basic cover is the attendance of a Qualified First Aider (QFA) who is registered as such with the League. The presence of a person(s) equipped to resuscitate and render emergency aid, e.g. St. John Ambulance, is accepted as compliance with this Rule.

An application for registration as a Qualified First Aider shall be made providing evidence is given of one of the following;

- (i) A Certificate of Attendance, obtained within the last 3 years, at a course of instruction in basic first aid procedures, including resuscitation techniques, organised and executed by St. John Ambulance, British Red Cross or The Football Association (including the other Home Associations).
- (ii) Other training approved by the League, e.g. attendance at a "First Aid at Work" scheme or professional medical qualification, and that refresher training has been completed within the previous 3 years.

It is the responsibility of the home club to ensure that a QFA is in attendance at the match from immediately prior to the kick off until all the players and officials have left the field of play at the conclusion of the game.

The QFA may be provided by either the home or the visiting Team; he/she shall be made known to both managers and verbally agree to provide the required cover. The presence of a QFA does not preclude treatment by other persons but the QFA's advice shall be sought where necessary.

It is the responsibility of the home Team to enter the name and registration number of the nominated QFA on the League Match Record Card prior to the commencement of the game. The visiting Team shall check that a QFA is present but does not have the power to reject the nominated QFA or to request evidence of qualification. If the details of a QFA are not included it shall be assumed that no QFA was present.

No match can take place without the presence of a QFA and failure to comply shall result in a fine of £10.00. Additionally, if the match is postponed due to the absence of a QFA the game shall be rearranged by the appropriate Divisional Secretary to be played on the opponents' ground and any costs incurred shall be the responsibility of the offending Team.

Any objection or complaint regarding QFAs shall be forwarded to the League Secretary, in writing, in accordance with League Rule 15.

(L) Junior Football age group rules in accordance with Football regulations are detailed in Appendix A.

11. Reporting Results

(A) The appropriate Divisional Secretary shall receive from both the home and the away Teams within three (3) days of the date played (Sunday excluded), the result of each Competition match in the prescribed manner. This shall include both Teams names, the forename(s) and surname of the Team players (in block letters) in registration order of each Team, result of the Match, the name of the qualified First Aider on duty, **Fair Play score for the opposition and a mark for the Referee** and or any other information required by the Competition. Failure to do so shall incur a fine not exceeding £20.00 and/or the Club and or Team being dealt with as the Management Committee decides.

(B) Both teams SHALL communicate match results and Fair Play scores to the appropriate Divisional Secretary by 19:00 hours on the day of the match. Approved methods of communication are by telephone or e-mail only. Failure to comply may result in a fine not exceeding £20.00.

(C) The match result notification, correctly completed, shall be signed by a responsible member of the club. The Management Committee shall have power to take such action as they deem suitable against a Club/Team which submits no result sheet, an incomplete result sheet or incorrect information. If a match is not played for any reason, abandoned, a phone call and a Result Sheet from the Home Team shall be sent accordingly. Failure to comply may result in a fine not exceeding £20.00.

(NB. Result is defined as abandoned, postponed, unfulfilled match or result).

(D) (i) If a Club's Team(s) persistently fail to submit Result Sheets the Club shall be suspended by the Management Committee from the Competition until all outstanding completed Result Sheet(s) have been received. The suspension shall commence from the Monday following the Management Committee meeting. All matches under this suspension shall be dealt with under Rule 10(F).

(D) (ii) For U7 and U8 age groups teams shall submit results in the prescribed manner but the details shall not be published or displayed in any Club or League publication including newspapers, websites or other. The data shall be used by the League only and for the purposes of streaming teams into sections of like ability.

12. Determining Championship

(A) Team rankings within the Competition shall be decided by points with three (3) points to be awarded for a win and one (1) point for a drawn match. The Teams gaining the highest number of points in their respective Divisions at the conclusion shall be adjudged the winners. Matches shall not be played for double points.

In the event of two (2) or more Teams being equal on points Team rankings shall be decided in the following order:-

- (i) goal difference
- (ii) goals scored

In the event of Teams still being equal the league position shall be shared.

(B) In the event of a Team withdrawing from the Competition having played 75% of league matches it shall retain its record, but the points shall be awarded to the opponents of the outstanding matches. A Team withdrawing having played less than 75% of matches, then their record shall be deleted in the respective Division.

(C) Any unfulfilled matches at the end of the season shall be considered by the Management Committee and shall be awarded against the Team not fulfilling a fixture. With a 0-0 win and three points awarded to the opposing Team. Where neither of the Teams is considered at fault, then both Teams shall be recorded as having lost the match 0-0 with no points awarded.

(H) Referees and Assistant Referees shall be permitted, each Season, to obtain a copy of the Competition Rules free of charge by download from the League website..

(I) The Home Team shall provide suitable flags for Club Assistant Referees.

(J) All persons nominated to Referee an East Berks Youth Football League match, shall be registered with the League Referee Secretary before Refereeing matches in the League. Each registered Referee shall be provided with a League registration number to be quoted on the match result sheet. Referees can be registered at any time prior to a match.

(K) Referees have an obligation towards the game to support the introduction and implementation of The Football Association Child Protection Policy. Referees shall respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person, player and non-player alike, treating everyone equally within the context of the game. In particular, to be aware of the special needs of young people, their wellbeing, including difficulties or possible abuse experienced from within the game or from other sources. The Referee has a duty to ensure that every child and young person involved in the game of football is able to participate in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from abuse.

(L) Referees shall be given a mark by both the home and away team, on their appropriate result sheet. The referee shall be marked out of a possible 100 marks, broken down as follows;
Personality/Appearance – Marks out of 20
General Control – Marks out of 30
Application of the Laws – Marks out of 50
Marks will be given only on the approved result sheet and are to be submitted in accordance with rule 11 (A). Marks given for a referee of 50 or less out of 100 are to be accompanied by a written explanation, by the appropriate team manager, giving their reasons for the low marking.

14. Continuation Of Membership Or Withdrawal Of A Club Or Club's Team

(A) After 31st December in the current Season a Club intending, to withdraw a Team from the Competition on completion of its fixtures and fulfilment of all other obligations to the Competition shall notify the Secretary in writing by 31st March each Season or be liable to a fine of £50.00.

(B) A Club shall not be allowed to withdraw any or all of its Teams from the Competition after the Annual General Meeting for the following Season. Any Club infringing this Rule shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £50.00.

(C) In the event of a Member Club which is an unincorporated Association withdrawing and/or disbanding it shall be immediately liable to discharge all its financial and other obligations to the Competition.

In the event that any such obligation remains undischarged after a period of twenty-one (21) days then such obligation shall be met by the then current Club Members, excluding those under the statutory school leaving age. Until a Member's pro rata obligation is discharged in full the Member shall not be allowed to participate in the Competition, which may apply to the Club's Parent County Association for a suspension order.

15. Protests And Complaints

- (A)
- (i) All questions of eligibility, qualifications of players or interpretations of the Rules shall be referred to the Management Committee.
 - (ii) Objections relevant to the dimensions of the pitch, goals, flag posts or other facilities of the venue shall not be entertained by the Management Committee unless a protest is lodged with the Referee before the commencement of the

match. Any Club lodging such protest and not proceeding with it shall be deemed guilty of a breach of this Rule and shall be dealt with by the Management Committee.

- (iii) The Team officials shall be held responsible for the behaviour of players, supporters and any other persons involved with the fixture. Any dispute or complaint shall be forwarded to the League Secretary as per this Rule.

(B) Except in cases where the Management Committee decide that there are special circumstances, protests and complaints (which shall contain full particulars of the grounds upon which they are founded) shall be lodged in duplicate with the Secretary within three days (excluding Sundays) of the match or occurrence to which they refer. A protest or complaint shall not be withdrawn except by permission of the Management Committee. A Member of the Management Committee who is a member of any Club involved shall not be present (except as a witness or representative of his Club) when such protest or complaint is being determined.

(C) Any dispute occurring between Clubs in the Competition shall be referred for determination by the Management Committee whose decision shall be binding upon all parties subject to Rule 16.

(D) No protest of whatever kind shall be considered by the Management Committee unless the complaining Club shall have deposited with the Secretary a sum of £15.00. This may be forfeited in whole or in part in the event of the complaining or protesting Club losing its case. The Competition shall have power to order the defaulting Club or the Club making a losing or frivolous protest or complaint to pay the expenses of the enquiry or to order that the costs to be shared by the parties.

(E) All parties to a protest or complaint shall be afforded an opportunity to make a statement when the protest or complaint is being heard and shall have received seven (7) days notice of the hearing, together with a copy of the submission. When dealing with a protest or complaint the Management Committee shall take into consideration the possession by the protesting or complaining Club of any information which, if properly used, might have avoided the protest or complaint.

(F) All protests shall be dealt with by a Sub-Committee consisting of three (3) Officers of the League. The Secretary or his delegate shall act as Secretary to the Sub-Committee, none of whom shall have any association with the Club involved.

16. Board Of Appeal

Within fourteen (14) days of the posting of written notification of any decision of the Management Committee or the Competition a Club, Official or Player against whom action is taken may appeal against such decision by lodging particulars in duplicate with the Secretary of the Berks & Bucks Football Association, including an Appeal Fee of £50.00 (Minor and Youth Clubs £25.00), for adjudication of a Board of Appeal. The grounds of appeal shall be in accordance with FA Rules. The Board of Appeal may order the appeal fee to be forfeited and shall decide by whom the costs of the appeal shall be borne. The decision of the Board of Appeal is final and binding on all parties concerned.

No appeal can be lodged against a decision taken at an Annual or Special General Meeting unless this is on the grounds of unconstitutional conduct.

17. Exclusion Of Clubs Or Teams Misconduct, Clubs, Officials, Players

(A) At the Annual General Meeting, or Special General Meeting called for the purpose in accordance with the provisions of Rule 19, Notice of Motion having been duly circulated on the Agenda, the accredited delegates present shall have the power to exclude any Club or Team

from further membership which shall be supported by (more than) two-thirds of those present and voting. Voting on this point shall be conducted by ballot.

(B) At the Annual General Meeting, or at a Special General Meeting called for the purpose, in accordance with the provisions of Rule 19, the accredited delegates present shall have the power to exclude from further participation in the Competition any Club or Club's Team whose conduct has, in their opinion, been undesirable upon a majority of two-thirds of the votes cast. Voting on this point shall be conducted by ballot. A Club whose conduct is the subject of the vote being taken shall be excluded from voting.

(C) Any official or member of a Club proved guilty of either a breach of Rule other than field offences or of inducing or attempting to induce a player or players of another Club in the Competition to join them shall be liable to expulsion or such penalty as a General Meeting or Management Committee may decide, and their Club shall also be liable to expulsion in accordance with the provisions of Clauses (A) and (B) of this Rule.

(D) Any Club or Team failing to complete 75% of its fixtures in any season shall (unless the conditions are beyond their control, or the accredited delegates present at the Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting decide otherwise by a majority of two-thirds of the votes cast) be excluded from membership the following season.

(E) The League holds each Club responsible for the good behaviour of its players, officials and supporters both on and off the field of play. Clubs, players or persons found guilty by the County of bringing the Game into Disrepute under F.A. Rules shall be further charged by the League for bringing the League into Disrepute and may be fined a sum not exceeding £200.00 and/or may be dealt with further by the Management Committee of this League.

18. Trophy: Legal Owners, Conditions Of Taking Over, Agreement To Be Signed, Awards.

(A) If a Competition is discontinued for any reason a Trophy or any other presentation shall be returned to the Donor if the conditions attached to it so provide or, if not, dealt with as the sanctioning Association may decide.

(B) The following agreement shall be signed on behalf of the winners of the Cup or Trophy:-

"We A _____ and B _____, the Chairman and Secretary of _____ FC, members of and representing the Club, having been declared winners of _____ Cup or Trophy, and it having been delivered to us by the Competition, do hereby on behalf of the Club jointly and severally agree to return the Cup or Trophy to the Competition Secretary on or before 1st March. If the Cup or Trophy is lost or damaged whilst under our care we agree to refund to the Competition the amount of its current value or the cost of its thorough repair."

Failure to return the Trophy by 1st March a fine not exceeding £50.00 shall be imposed.

The Club is responsible for the insurance of the Cup or Trophy whilst in their possession. Shall the Club cease to function, it shall return the said Cup or Trophy in like good order etc, as stated above within seven (7) days of cessation.

(C) The Competition shall provide individual trophies to all members of winning Teams and runners-up in the Competition, to a maximum of the number of the players constituting a full Team plus three plus the manager. Additional trophies may be purchased from the League using the form provided for this purpose.

If the trophies are presented at a Presentation Event arranged by the Management Committee then the Club of any Team not present without satisfactory reason being given shall be fined as per schedule for 'Bringing the League into Disrepute', a fine not exceeding £200.00 shall be imposed.

19. Special General Meetings

Upon receiving a requisition signed by two-thirds of the Clubs in membership the Secretary shall call a Special General Meeting.

The Management Committee may call a Special General Meeting at any time.

At least fourteen (14) days notice shall be given of either meeting under this Rule, together with an agenda of the business to be transacted at such meeting.

Each Full Member Club shall be empowered to send two delegates to all Special General Meetings. Each Club shall be entitled to one vote only. Not less than fourteen (14) days' notice shall be given of any Meeting.

Any continuing Member Club failing to be represented at a Special General Meeting without satisfactory reason being given shall be fined a sum not exceeding £50.00.

Officers and Management Committee members shall be entitled to attend and vote at all Special General Meetings.

20. Alteration To Rules

(A) Alterations shall be made to these Rules only at the Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting specially convened for the purpose called in accordance with Rule 19. Any alterations made during the playing season to the Rule relating to the qualification of players shall not take effect until the following season.

(B) Notice of proposed alterations to be considered at the Annual General Meeting shall be submitted to the Secretary by 28th February in each year. The proposals, together with any proposals from the Management Committee, shall be circulated to the Clubs by 15th March and any amendments thereto shall be submitted to the Secretary by 31st March. The proposals and proposed amendments thereto shall be circulated to Clubs with the notice of the Annual General Meeting. A proposal to change a Rule shall be carried if two-thirds of those present and entitled to vote are in favour.

(C) A copy of the proposed alterations and proposed amendments to be considered at the Annual General Meeting shall be submitted to the Berks & Bucks Football Association by not later than 14th April. A copy of the proposed alterations and proposed amendments to be considered at a Special General Meeting shall be submitted to the Berks & Bucks Football Association by no later than twenty-eight (28) days prior to the date of the meeting.

(D) Any alterations or additions decided upon at any meeting shall not become operative until the approval of the Berks & Bucks Football Association shall have been obtained.

21. Rules Binding On Clubs

Each Member Club shall be deemed to have given its assent to the foregoing Rules and agreed to abide by the decisions of the Management Committee subject to Rule 16. Each Member Club shall abide by any issued Football League Code of Conduct.

22. Finance

(A) The Management Committee shall determine with which bank or other financial institution the funds of the Competition shall be lodged.

(B) All expenditure in excess of £200.00 shall be approved by the Management Committee. Cheques shall be signed by at least two Officers nominated by the Management Committee.

(C) The financial year of the Competition shall end on 31st May.

(D) The books, or a certified balance sheet, of a Competition shall be prepared and shall be audited annually by some suitable person(s) who shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting.

23. Handbook

Each Club shall provide information relating to their Club and Teams for insertion into the League website as requested by the Management Committee no later than 31st July. Failure to do so shall result in a fine of £20.00 being imposed.

Club Secretaries and Team Managers shall provide a valid postal address, telephone contact details and an e-mail contact. E-mail shall be checked at least once per week during the season. Any change in Club Secretaries, Team Managers and other contact details shall be immediately notified to the Competition using the appropriate form. Failure to do so may result in a fine of £20.00 being imposed.

Each Team Manager and Club Secretary in the Competition shall be permitted to obtain a copy of the Competition Handbook free of charge by download from the League website.

Updates to contact details shall be posted to the Competition's website and e-mailed to Club Secretaries and Team Managers as relevant.

24. Legal Representation

An Association, Competition, Club, Director, Manager, Club Official, Referee, Assistant Referee, or Player may be legally represented at a Personal Hearing or at an appeal, complaint, claim or enquiry, only with the written consent of the County Football Association.

25. Publication Of Results And Reports On Web Sites And In Publications

(A) The League wishes to encourage the publication of results and reports on East Berks Youth Football League matches. However, any published content, on web sites or indeed any publication, shall not in any way be defamatory, abusive, or level any negative comments at the League or any Club, Team or individual, whether they are an official, manager, player, or spectator.

(B) Publications and web sites shall only refer to League Tables provided on the League web site. No League Tables are available for Under 7s and Under 8s. Progression League Tables are available for Under 9s.

(C) In the opinion of the Management Committee failure to comply with the publications Rules may result in a fine not exceeding £50.00.

26. Code Of Conduct

(A) The League is committed to maintaining the highest standards of behaviour and conduct which incorporate the "Spirit of Football" as set out in Rule 28 and apply to all matches played under the auspices of the League.

(B) Clubs are responsible at all times for ensuring that play is conducted within the "Spirit of the Game" as well as within the Laws.

(C) No Players, Club Officials and Supporters may intimidate or assault, or attempt to intimidate or assault a Referee, another Player or Spectator.

(D) No Players, Club Officials and Supporters shall use insulting, offensive or abusive language or gestures or deliberately attempt to distract an opponent.

(E) Players, Officials, Members, Supporters and Employees of the League and of Member Clubs shall adhere to the FA Code of Conduct, which prohibits racially, or sexual abusive comments and/or actions against any person.

(F) Players, Officials, Members, Supporters and Employees of the League and of Member Club shall adhere to the FA Child Protection Guidelines, which is committed to developing a culture in which children can play football in a safe and enjoyable environment.

(G) Clubs shall take adequate steps to ensure the good behaviour of their members and supporters at all times.

(H) Failure to comply with this instruction shall result in disciplinary action being taken against the offender(s) as specified in the League's Disciplinary Rules and Procedures.

(I) Breaches of these rules may result in a charge of 'Bringing the League into Disrepute' and may result in a fine not exceeding £200.00.

27. The Spirit Of Football

(A) Managers/Coaches and Referees together set the tone for the conduct of a football match. Every player is expected to make an important contribution to this.

(B) The Spirit of the Game involves Respect for your Opponents, your own Captain and Team, the Referee and the Games' traditional values.

(C) It is against the Spirit of the Game to dispute a Referee's decision in any way, to direct abuse towards an opponent, Referee or any other person, including Racial and Sexual Abuse. It is also against the Spirit of the Game to indulge in cheating or any sharp practice.

(D) There is no place for acts of violence of any kind on or off the field of play.

(E) Breaches of these rules may result in a charge of 'Bringing the League into Disrepute' and may result in a fine not exceeding £200.00.

Cup Competition Rules

(A) The Competition shall be for each age group, except Junior's Under 7s and 8s who are not permitted to play in knock out competitions, and shall be called the "East Berks Youth Football League Cup Competition".

(B) The Management Committee shall give consideration to hold both a Cup and Plate competition in any age group.

(C) Teams shall not be charged a fee to participate in the Competition..

(D) The Officers and Management Committee of the Cup/Plate Competition shall be as for the Competition.

(E) All rounds of the competition shall be played on a knockout basis.

(F) The provisions of the League Rule 8 shall govern the qualification of players, except that any player transferred from one Team to another shall not be eligible to play for his new Team if he has played for his former Team in the Cup or Plate Competition in the same season. In the event of a tie being postponed for any reason only those players who were qualified on the date of the original match shall be eligible to play. After the Quarter-Final stage no player shall be allowed to transfer Teams for Cup or Plate matches.

Except in the first two rounds of the Competition a player shall not be eligible to play for a Team in any Cup Competition unless he has played in two (2) league fixtures for the Team in this League in the current season. If adverse weather conditions make it impossible for a registered player to complete the two (2) league fixtures then it shall be at the discretion of the Divisional Secretary, who shall provide written authority if an exception is agreed

(G) Any Club playing an ineligible player(s) or unregistered player(s) shall be fined a sum not exceeding £60.00 for each such player and the match shall be awarded to their opponents.

(H) All matches shall consist of two periods of play, equal in their duration:

Junior Football and Junior Girls Football

Under 7, 7g, 8, 8g, 9 and 9g	40 minutes (20 minutes each half)
Under 10 and 10g	50 minutes (25 minutes each half)
Under 11, 11g and 12g	60 minutes (30 minutes each half)

Intermediate Football and Intermediate Girls Football

Under 12b	60 minutes (30 minutes each half)
Under 13b, 13g, 14b and 14g	70 minutes (35 minutes each half)
Under 15b, 15g, 16b and 16g	80 minutes (40 minutes each half)
Under 17b, 17g, 18b and 18g	90 minutes (45 minutes each half)

(I) In the event of the scores in a match being level at the end of normal time, extra time shall be played in two equal periods:

Extra time for all Competitions shall be:

Junior Football and Junior Girls Football

Under 9 and 9g	5 minutes each way
Under 10 and 10g	8 minutes each way
Under 11, 11g and 12g	10 minutes each way

Intermediate Football and Intermediate Girls Football

Under 12b, 13b, 13g, 14b, 14g, 15b, 15g, 16n and 16g 10 minutes each way
Under 17b, 17g, 18b and 18g 15 minutes each way

If the scores are still level at the end of extra time the winners shall be determined by the taking of penalty kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with International Board Procedures (Five penalties followed by sudden death).

(J) Unless otherwise decided by the Management Committee the semi-final ties shall be played at the venues of the first named semi-finalists who shall host the opposite semi-final. The host Club shall be responsible for the cost of providing the pitch and shall also be responsible for arranging a qualified Referee who is registered with the League with the cost of the Referee shared between both Clubs. Finals shall be played on dates and at venues as arranged by the Management Committee with the cost shared between both clubs and the Management Committee shall appoint match officials with the costs shared between both clubs.

(K) Referees and Assistant Referees shall be appointed in accordance with Rule 13.

(L) Any Team withdrawing from the Competition shall be liable to a fine as per not exceeding £50.00.

(M) A maximum Team size plus 3 mementoes shall be presented to the winning Team, and runners-up of the Final.

(N) Except where otherwise specified in the foregoing, the Competition shall be subject to the Rules of the League and matches played in conformity therewith.

Appendix A - Junior Age Group Rules

Under 7, 7g, 8 and 8g (Junior Football & Junior Girls Football)

The game is for Junior Football (boys and girls mixed football is allowed) and Junior Girls Football (Girls only football). The object is to keep the game flowing as much as possible, and make sure the players enjoy themselves.

Age Limits

U7s - Over 6 but Under 7 as at Midnight August 31st.

U8s - Over 6 but Under 8 as at Midnight August 31st.

1. Team size shall be 7v7.
2. The playing area shall be maximum size 50 metres x 40 metres, minimum size 40 metres x 30 metres. Cones can be used to mark touch and goal lines.
3. The Penalty area shall be designated by a marked out rectangle, size 16.5 metres (18 yards) wide by 9.2 metres (10 yards) deep from the goal line. The penalty area can either be marked by cones on the touchline or one or two marker cones across the playing area.
4. The penalty spot shall be in the centre of the penalty area 7.3 metres (8 yards) from the goal line.
5. The goal size for all age groups is 12 ft X 6 ft (3.6m x 1.8m). The Samba Junior Multigoal, Harrods and Coca-Cola Big Red Bag goals are suitable. Goals shall be secured in accordance with manufacturers instructions.
6. Goal nets and corner flags are compulsory.
7. The ball shall be a size 3.
8. A maximum of 3 substitutes may be used at any time with the permission of the Referee. Players may re-enter the game and all substitutes shall have a period of play.
9. Players shall wear shin guards, which shall be entirely covered by stockings.
10. A Referee shall be allocated to every match. It is his decision as to whether he requires Assistant Referees to run the line. All Referees shall have a Red and Yellow card plus a note book. It is the responsibility of the home Team to ensure this.
11. Duration of matches shall be 20 minutes each way with no one playing more than 45 minutes per day.
12. The kick off is taken in the centre of the playing area to start the game and after a goal has been scored.
13. There is no off-side
14. All Free kicks are direct
15. Throw ins shall be taken in the normal way. A player making a foul throw shall be given the chance to take it again.
16. The opposition shall be at least 4.5 metres (5 yards) away when a corner, free kick, centre kick is awarded.
17. Goalkeepers can handle the ball in the penalty area and there are no restrictions on the number of steps they may take when holding the ball. They may return the ball into play by either drop kicking it or throwing it out of the penalty area.
18. Goal kicks are to be taken from the goalkeeper's hands.
19. Defensive free kicks within the penalty area shall be kicked from the edge of the penalty area.
20. Back Pass The back pass rule does not apply.
21. Club officials who Referee a match shall refrain from coaching.
22. Players shall shake hands at the end of each match.
23. Common sense shall prevail at all times.
24. The Team officials shall be held responsible for the behaviour of players, supporters and any other persons involved with the fixture. Any dispute or complaint shall be forwarded to the League Secretary as per Rule 15.

Except where otherwise provided above, the Laws of Association football shall apply

Under 9 and 9g (Junior Football & Junior Girls Football)

The game is for Junior Football (boys and girls mixed football is allowed) and Junior Girls Football (Girls only football). The object is to keep the game flowing as much as possible, and make sure the players enjoy themselves.

Age Limits

U9s - Over 7 but Under 9 as at Midnight August 31st.

1. Team size shall be 7v7.
2. The playing area shall be maximum size 60 metres x 40 metres, minimum size 50 metres x 40 metres. Marker cones can be used to mark touch and goal lines.
3. The Penalty area shall be designated by a marked out rectangle, size 16.5 metres (18 yards) wide by 9.2 metres (10 yards) deep from the goal line. The penalty area can either be marked by cones on the touchline or one or two marker cones across the playing area.
4. The penalty spot shall be in the centre of the penalty area 7.3 metres (8 yards) from the goal line.
5. The goal size for all age groups is 12 ft X 6 ft (3.6m x 1.8m). The Samba Junior Multigoal, Harrods and Coca-Cola Big Red Bag goals are suitable. Goals shall be secured in accordance with manufacturers instructions.
6. Goal nets and corner flags are compulsory.
7. The ball shall be a size 4.
8. A maximum of 3 substitutes may be used at any time with the permission of the Referee. Players may re-enter the game with permission of Referee and all substitutes shall have a period of play.
9. Players shall wear shinguards, which shall be entirely covered by stockings.
10. A Referee shall be allocated to every match. It is his decision as to whether he requires Assistant Referees to run the line. All Referees shall have a Red and Yellow card plus a note book. It is the responsibility of the home Team to ensure this.
11. Duration of matches shall be 20 minutes each way with no one playing more than 45 minutes per day.
12. The kick off is taken in the centre of the playing area to start the game and after a goal has been scored.
13. There is no off-side
14. All Free kicks are direct
15. Throw ins shall be taken in the normal way. A foul throw shall be given another chance after which it shall be awarded to the opponent.
16. The opposition shall be at least 4.5 metres (5 yards) away when a corner, free kick, centre kick and goal kicks are awarded.
17. Goalkeepers can handle the ball in the penalty area and there are no restrictions on the number of steps they may take when holding the ball. They may return the ball into play by either drop kicking it or throwing it out of the penalty area.
18. Goal kicks and Defensive free kicks within the penalty area may be kicked from the edge of the penalty area.
19. Back Pass The back pass rule does not apply.
20. Club officials who Referee a match shall refrain from coaching.
21. Players shall shake hands at the end of each match.
22. Common sense shall prevail at all times.
23. The Team officials shall be held responsible for the behaviour of players, supporters and any other persons involved with the fixture. Any dispute or complaint shall be forwarded to the League Secretary as per Rule 15.

Except where otherwise provided above, the Laws of Association football shall apply

Under 10 and 10g (Junior Football & Junior Girls Football)

The game is for Junior Football (boys and girls mixed football is allowed) and Junior Girls Football (Girls only football). The object is to keep the game flowing as much as possible, and make sure the players enjoy themselves.

Age Limits

U10s - Over 8 but Under 10 as at Midnight August 31st.

1. Team size shall be 7v7.
2. The playing area shall be maximum size 60 metres x 40 metres, minimum size 50 metres x 40 metres. The Playing area shall be marked with a regulation line marking compound.
3. The Penalty area shall be designated by a marked out rectangle, size 16.5 metres (18 yards) wide by 9.2 metres (10 yards) deep from the goal line.
4. The penalty spot shall be in the centre of the penalty area 7.3 metres (8 yards) from the goal line.
5. The goal size for all age groups is 12 ft X 6 ft (3.6m x 1.8m). The Samba Junior Multigoal, Harrods and Coca-Cola Big Red Bag goals are suitable. Goals shall be secured in accordance with manufacturers instructions.
6. Goal nets and corner flags are compulsory.
7. The ball shall be a size 4.
8. A maximum of 3 substitutes may be used at any time with the permission of the Referee. Players may re-enter the game with permission of Referee and all substitutes shall have a period of play.
9. Players shall wear shin guards, which shall be entirely covered by stockings.
10. A Referee shall be allocated to every match. Each Team shall provide an Assistant Referees to run the line. All Referees shall have a Red and Yellow card plus a note book. It is the responsibility of the home Team to ensure this.
11. Duration of matches shall be 25 minutes each way with no one playing more than 60 minutes per day.
12. The kick off is taken in the centre of the playing area to start the game and after a goal has been scored.
13. There is no off-side
14. All Free kicks are direct
15. Throw ins shall be taken in the normal way. A foul throw awarded to the opponent.
16. The opposition shall be at least 4.5 metres (5 yards) away when a corner, free kick, centre kick and goal kicks are awarded.
17. Goalkeepers can handle the ball in the penalty area and there are no restrictions on the number of steps they may take when holding the ball. They may return the ball into play by either drop kicking it or throwing it out of the penalty area.
18. Goal kicks and Defensive free kicks within the penalty area may be kicked from anywhere within the penalty area.
19. Back Pass The back pass rule does apply. In the event that the goalkeeper picks the ball up from a pass by his own Team mate. A direct free kick shall be taken from the edge of the penalty area parallel with where the ball was picked up.
20. Club officials who Referee a match shall refrain from coaching.
21. Players shall shake hands at the end of each match.
22. Common sense shall prevail at all times.
23. The Team officials shall be held responsible for the behaviour of players, supporters and any other persons involved with the fixture. Any dispute or complaint shall be forwarded to the League Secretary as per Rule 15.

Except where otherwise provided above, the Laws of Association football shall apply

Under 11 (Junior Football) & Under 11g and 12g (Junior Girls Football)

The game is for Junior Football (boys and girls mixed football is allowed) and Junior Girls Football (Girls only football). The object is to keep the game flowing as much as possible, and make sure the players enjoy themselves.

Age Limits

U11s - Over 9 but Under 11 as at Midnight August 31st.

1. Team size shall be 7v7.
2. The playing area shall be size 60 metres x 40 metres. The Playing area shall be marked with a regulation line marking compound.
3. The Penalty area shall be designated by a marked out rectangle, size 16.5 metres (18 yards) wide by 9.2 metres (10 yards) deep from the goal line.
4. The penalty spot shall be in the centre of the penalty area 7.3 metres (8 yards) from the goal line.
5. The goal size for all age groups is 12 ft X 6 ft. The Samba Junior Multigoal, Harrods and Coca-Cola Big Red Bag goals are suitable. Goals shall be secured in accordance with manufacturers instructions.
6. Goal nets and corner flags are compulsory.
7. The ball shall be a size 4.
8. A maximum of 3 substitutes may be used at any time with the permission of the Referee. Players may re-enter the game with permission of Referee and all substitutes shall have a period of play.
9. Players shall wear shin guards, which shall be entirely covered by stockings.
10. A Referee shall be allocated to every match. Each Team shall provide an Assistant Referees to run the line. All Referees shall have a Red and Yellow card plus a note book. It is the responsibility of the home Team to ensure this.
11. Duration of matches shall be 30 minutes each way with no one playing more than 60 minutes per day.
12. The kick off is taken in the centre of the playing area to start the game and after a goal has been scored.
13. There is no off-side
14. All Free kicks are direct.
15. Throw ins shall be taken in the normal way. A foul throw shall be awarded to the opponent.
16. The opposition shall be at least 4.5 metres (5 yards) away when a corner, free kick, centre kick and goal kicks is awarded.
17. Goalkeepers can handle the ball in the penalty area and there are no restrictions on the number of steps they may take when holding the ball. They may return the ball into play by either drop kicking it or throwing it out of the penalty area.
18. Goal kicks and Defensive free kicks within the penalty area may be kicked from anywhere within the penalty area.
19. Back Pass The back pass rule does apply. In the event that the goalkeeper picks the ball up from a pass by his own Team mate. A direct free kick shall be taken from the edge of the penalty area parallel with where the ball was picked up.
20. Club officials who Referee a match shall refrain from coaching.
21. Players shall shake hands at the end of each match.
22. Common sense shall prevail at all times.
23. The Team officials shall be held responsible for the behaviour of players, supporters and any other persons involved with the fixture. Any dispute or complaint shall be forwarded to the League Secretary as per Rule 15.

Except where otherwise provided above, the Laws of Association football shall apply With the exception of these age group rules all other Association Rules shall be enforced.

Appendix B - Fair Play Awards

1. The aim is to give young players, managers and parents/supporters a Fair Play Trophy to aim for during the season.
2. The ethos behind the scheme is to encourage fair play throughout the younger age groups. Encouraging young sports people to behave in a sportsman like manner and play fairly is a step towards these players adhering to these ways in the future. The increased pressure of the professional game do not always set the best examples, and we need to show, through the Fair Play Award Scheme, how the game shall be played and what behaviour is expected.
3. Soccer in the League is aimed at developing the football skills in young people in a safe but enjoyable environment. Serious competition at too early an age has been shown to be damaging to players and turned many away from what shall be an enjoyable and worthwhile sport.
4. Goal scores shall not count towards the award, as it is really all about fair and sporting behaviour.
5. After each fixture the opposing Teams fill out a score card each with a rating for the other Team's behaviour for not only the players, but also the managers and supporters.

Results Publication

6. Team positions shall be published on the East Berks Youth Football League Web Site and updated every six weeks during the season and made available to local newspapers.

Rules Of The Fair Play Award Scheme

7. The Fair Play scorecard system incorporates the opposing Team's behaviour from not only the players, but also the managers and supporters.
8. A maximum of 5 points can be scored for each of the three categories of opposing players, manager and supporters.
9. Team managers/coaches are required to complete the Fair Play Section of the Result Sheet for Divisional and section Games and return them in accordance with Rule 11.
10. Teams that do not return or complete the Fair Play section shall only receive half of the points awarded to them for that match.
11. Teams from which the opposition have not returned a scorecard shall receive full point for that match, unless both Teams do not return scores when they shall receive 0 points each. Walk over are not counted towards fair play.
12. Players, managers or supporters shall deduct points for the following offences.
 - (i) Losing control of temper.
 - (ii) Arguing with the Referee / questioning the Referee's decision.
 - (iii) Criticising players' performances (from their own Team or the opposition).
 - (iv) Shouting abuse or Encouraging unfair play.
 - (v) Failure to show respect to the opposition i.e. not apologising after 'putting in a hard tackle'.

Marking System

13. In order to bring in more consistency to the marking on the scorecards, we have developed a marking system. Each category is still out of 5 with the marking required as follows:

1	2	3	4	5
Very poor	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent

10 points are deducted for a sending off, and 5 points are deducted for a booking.

14. After each fixture, the two-Team managers/coaches are responsible for completing their Result Sheet Fair Play Section scorecard and returning them to the Divisional Secretary so that the scores can be calculated and published. Each time Scores shall be communicated to shall communicate the fair play scores to the Divisional Secretary by 1900 hours on the day of the match. Approved methods of communication are by telephone or e-mail only. Failure to comply may result in a fine as per schedule.
15. Scorecards shall only be completed for officially listed East Berks Youth Football League Divisional or Section fixtures. Cup/Plate, friendlies or other matches do not count in the Fair Play Award Scheme.
16. Failure to return the Fair Play Section of the Result Sheet may result in a fine not exceeding £20.00.

Appendix C - Procedure For Verification Of Player Identity Cards

The Competition only approves the following two procedures for the verification of Player Identity cards before the commencement of the match:

1. With-in the penalty area of the Team being verified there shall only be the Team to be verified and the two Managers and a Management Committee official if present. The Team Manager of the players to be verified shall issue each player with their respective Identity Card. Each Player then presents their card to the opposition manager, who collects each card and returns them to the opposite Manager after receiving all Cards.
2. Within the penalty area of the Team being verified there shall only be the Team to be verified and the two Managers and a Management Committee official if present. The Team Manager of the Team players to be verified shall give his card to the opposition Manager. The Team Manager of the Team players to be verified shall then call forward each player in card order for verification. The verifying Manager shall never be calling any of the opposition player's names. At the end of the process the cards are returned.

At no time shall the players being verified be lined up in an identity style line up.

Appendix D - Child Protection/Welfare

1. Any act, statement, conduct or other matter, which harms a child or children, or poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children, shall constitute behaviour, which is improper and brings the game into disrepute.
2. In these Regulations the expression "Offence" shall mean any one or more of the offences contained in Schedule 1 to the Children and Young Persons Act 1933 and any other criminal offence which reasonably causes The County Association and/or League believe that the person accused of the offence poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children.
3. Upon receipt by The League of:
 - (i) Notification that an individual has been charged with an Offence; or
 - (ii) Notification that an individual is the subject of an investigation by the Police, Social Services or any other authority relating to an Offence; or
 - (iii) Any other information which causes the League reasonably to believe that a person poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children then the League shall have the power to order that the individual be suspended from all or any specific football activity for such period and on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit.
4. In reaching its determination as to whether an order under Regulation 3 shall be made The League shall give consideration, inter alia, to the following factors:
 - (i) Whether a child is or children are or may be at risk of harm;
 - (ii) Whether the matters are of a serious nature;
 - (iii) Whether an order is necessary or desirable to allow the conduct of any investigation by The League or any other authority or body to proceed unimpeded.
5. The period of an order referred to in 3 above shall not be capable of lasting beyond the date upon which any charge under The Rules of The League or any Offence is decided or brought to an end.
6. Where an order is imposed on an individual under Regulation 3 above, The League shall bring and conclude any proceedings under the Rules of The League against the person relating to the matters as soon as reasonably practicable.
7. Where a person is convicted, or is made the subject of a caution in respect of an Offence, that shall constitute a breach of the Rules of The League and The League shall have the power to order the suspension of the person from all or any specific football activity for such a period (including indefinitely) and on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit.
8. For the purposes of these Regulations, The League shall act through its Management Committee or any Committee or Sub-Committee thereof, including the Board.
9. Notification in writing of an order referred to above shall be given to the person concerned and/or any Club with which he is associated as soon as reasonably practicable
10. All member Clubs shall have to inform the League of the contact details of their Child Protection/Welfare Officer and they relevant qualifications.

Appendix E - Policy For Postponing Matches

The league policy regarding postponing matches is intended to be fair to all parties whilst avoiding potential fixture backlogs causing problems at the end of the season.

All Teams entering the competition have an obligation to maintain a viable squad which is capable of fulfilling all its fixtures.

Matches that cannot be fulfilled for reasons of unsuitable pitches shall always be postponed and rearranged for the first free fixture date available for both Teams.

To determine the number of available players, Teams shall draw upon the full number of players that are registered with the league for that Team.

The minimum number of players for starting a match is

Junior Football and Junior Girls Football

Six is the minimum number of players required to constitute a Team for a Competition match at the time of the kick off.

Intermediate Football and Intermediate Girls Football

Nine is the minimum number of players required to constitute a Team for a Competition match at the time of the kick off.

For reasons of child welfare it is at the manager's discretion to play with a Team of less than 7 players (Juniors and Junior Girls) and 11 players (Intermediate and Intermediate Girls). No Team shall be obliged to play a match if the size of the Team at the start of the match would comprise less than 7 players (Juniors and Junior Girls) and 11 players (Intermediate and Intermediate Girls). Although the Team is not obliged to play the match it is not necessarily entitled to postpone the match.

For junior matches if 3 or more players are unavailable due to school activities then a Team is entitled to postpone a match. If only 1 or 2 players are unavailable due to school activities then the Team is not entitled to postpone a match. All players that are unavailable due to school activities shall be backed up by written evidence from the school head teacher. Failure to provide such evidence before the original scheduled date of the match shall result in the match being awarded to the opposition as a 0 – 0 win.

For intermediate matches if 5 or more players are unavailable due to school activities then a Team is entitled to postpone a match. If only 1, 2, 3 or 4 players are unavailable due to school activities then the Team is not entitled to postpone a match. All players that are unavailable due to school activities shall be backed up by written evidence from the school head teacher. Failure to provide such evidence before the original scheduled date of the match shall result in the match being awarded to the opposition as a 0 – 0 win.

If the size of a Team is reduced below 7 players (Juniors and Junior Girls) and 11 players (Intermediate and Intermediate Girls) and the players reducing the Team below these level are unavailable due to injury, illness, holidays, other sporting event or shopping etc then the match can only be postponed with the agreement of both the opposition manager and the Divisional Secretary. If the opposition manager or the Divisional Secretary, do not agree to a postponement then the match is awarded as a 0 – 0 win to the opposition.

A Team cannot elect to concede a match. If the opposition agrees to a postponement then the fixture shall be fulfilled on the first free fixture date available for both Teams.

If a match is postponed then the rearranged match shall be scheduled for the next free fixture date that is available to both Teams. Any further postponement regarding the rearranged fixture shall be decided without taking any of the circumstances of the original fixture postponement

into consideration. Opposition managers shall consider this point when agreeing to postpone a match and if there is any doubt then they shall not agree to the original postponement.

An available fixture date is any date in the league calendar designated for league or cup matches.

To accommodate rearranged fixtures the Teams shall keep all future fixture dates to the end of the season available.

No match shall be postponed if there are no available fixture dates for a rearranged match before the end of the season.

For any match that is defaulted and awarded to the opposition as a 0 - 0 win then the defaulting Team may be fined in accordance with our rules.

Examples (Junior and Junior Girls)

1. A Team has 10 registered players and 3 players are on holiday. The Team has 7 available players and shall fulfil their fixture.

2. A Team has 10 registered players and 4 players are on holiday. The Team has 6 available players. The Team can elect to play the fixture but the match can only be postponed with the agreement of the opposition manager and the Divisional secretary. If the opposition manager or the Divisional secretary do not agree to a postponement then the match is awarded to the opposition as a 0 – 0 win.

3. A Team has 10 registered players and 3 players are unavailable due to school activities. The Team can elect to play the fixture or can request that the match be postponed and played at the next fixture date available for both Teams.

4. A Team has 12 registered players and 3 players are unavailable due to school activities. The Team can elect to play the fixture or can request that the match be postponed and played at the next fixture date available for both Teams.

5. A Team has 10 registered players and 2 players are unavailable due to school activities and 2 players are on holiday. The Team has 6 available players. The Team can elect to play the fixture but the match can only be postponed with the agreement of the opposition manager and the Divisional secretary. If the opposition manager or the Divisional secretary do not agree to a postponement then the match is awarded to the opposition as a 0 – 0 win.

6. A Team has 8 registered players and 2 players are unavailable due to school activities. The Team has 6 available players. The Team can elect to play the fixture but the match can only be postponed with the agreement of the opposition manager and the Divisional secretary. If the opposition manager or the Divisional secretary do not agree to a postponement then the match is awarded to the opposition as a 0 – 0 win.

7. A Team has 10 registered players and 5 players are on holiday. Only 5 players are available. The Team does not have enough players to play the fixture but the match can only be postponed with the agreement of the opposition manager and the Divisional secretary. If the opposition manager or the Divisional secretary do not agree to a postponement then the match is awarded to the opposition as a 0 – 0 win.

Examples (Intermediate and Intermediate Girls)

1. A Team has 14 registered players and 3 players are on holiday. The Team has 11 available players and shall fulfil their fixture.

2. A Team has 14 registered players and 4 players are on holiday.

The Team has 10 available players. The Team can elect to play the fixture but the match can only be postponed with the agreement of the opposition manager and the Divisional secretary. If the opposition manager or the Divisional secretary do not agree to a postponement then the match is awarded to the opposition as a 0 – 0 win.

3. A Team has 16 registered players and 5 players are unavailable due to school activities. The Team can elect to play the fixture or can request that the match be postponed and played at the next fixture date available for both Teams.

4. A Team has 20 registered players and 5 players are unavailable due to school activities. The Team can elect to play the fixture or can request that the match be postponed and played at the next fixture date available for both Teams.

5. A Team has 16 registered players and 4 players are unavailable due to school activities and 2 players are on holiday.

The Team has 10 available players. The Team can elect to play the fixture with 10 players but the match can only be postponed with the agreement of the opposition manager and the Divisional secretary. If the opposition manager or the Divisional secretary do not agree to a postponement then the defaulting team shall not be compelled to play with less than 11 players and if the match is not played then the match shall be awarded to the opposition as a 0 – 0 win.

6. A Team has 14 registered players and 4 players are unavailable due to school activities. The Team has 10 available players. The Team can elect to play the fixture with 10 players but the match can only be postponed with the agreement of the opposition manager and the Divisional secretary. If the opposition manager or the Divisional secretary do not agree to a postponement then the defaulting team shall not be compelled to play with less than 11 players and if the match is not played then the match shall be awarded to the opposition as a 0 – 0 win.

7. A Team has 12 registered players and 4 players are on holiday. Only 8 players are available. The Team does not have enough players to play the fixture but the match can only be postponed with the agreement of the opposition manager and the Divisional secretary. If the opposition manager or the Divisional secretary do not agree to a postponement then the match shall be awarded to the opposition as a 0 – 0 win.

Appendix F - Appointment Of Referees

Under normal circumstances the Home Team shall be responsible for arranging a Referee for the match. The name of the Referee shall be notified to the Away Team at the time of notification of venue and kick-off.

Whenever possible the Home Team shall arrange for a Registered Referee to officiate the match. A Registered Referee is a Referee who is currently registered as a Referee with a County FA and who is in possession of a Referees Registration Card and is wearing a regulation Referees jersey with FA or County FA badge.

If the Home Team arranges a Registered Referee to officiate the match then the Away Team shall accept the appointment of Referee.

If the Home Team is unable arrange a Registered Referee to officiate the match then the Home Team shall request the Away Team to arrange a Registered Referee. If the Away Team arranges a Registered Referee to officiate the match then the Home Team shall accept the appointment of Referee.

If neither the Home Team or the Away Team can arrange a Registered Referee then both Teams shall agree upon a responsible person to officiate the match. A Referee thus agreed upon shall, for that game, have the full powers, status and authority of a registered Referee.

The minimum uniform for a Registered Referee is a regulation Referees jersey with FA or County FA badge. There is no requirement to wear shorts or socks.

A Qualified Referee is not a Registered Referee unless meeting the criteria for a Registered Referee described above.

An appointed Referee or a mutually agreed Referee is entitled to the appropriate fee. The Home team shall pay the full fee to the Referee prior to kick-off and the Away team shall pay their share to the Home team prior to kick off.

From Junior U7 through to Intermediate U18 it is the recommendation of the League that all matches are Refereed by a Registered Referee.

From Junior U10 upwards it is highly recommended that matches are Refereed by a Registered Referee. A suitable appointment would be a young newly qualified Referee who is seeking to gain their first experiences of Refereeing.

From Intermediate U12 upwards it is strongly recommended that matches are Refereed by a Registered Referee. Note that young Referees shall be at least 2 years older than the players participating in the match. Thus a Referee of 14 years can officiate matches up to U12.

At all age groups Junior U7 through to Intermediate U18 if it is not possible to arrange a Registered Referee then with the agreement of both Teams it is acceptable for a responsible person to be the Referee for the match.

If a Team manager or coach or a players parent is to be the Referee for a match then it is courteous to notify the opposition Team of the Referees connections.

All Registered Referees and responsible persons who are to Referee matches in East Berks Youth Football League shall be registered with the Referees Secretary. This a simple procedure whereby the Referees Secretary is notified of the Referees Name, Date Of Birth, Address, Telephone, Number and Email Address. If the Referee is a Registered Referee then Referee Qualification Level and Referee Registration number shall also be stated. Notification can be by telephone, text, email or other communication at any time prior to kick-off. This information is required so that the League can contact the Referee about any incidents that may have occurred in the match.

Any person appointed as a Referee and regardless of whether the person is a qualified or a Registered Referee has the full powers, status and authority of a registered Referee and as such must make appropriate use of the Yellow and Red cards. Any use of the Yellow or Red cards or any incident of misconduct by a player, team official or spectator must be reported to the League Secretary and to the appropriate County FA. Help and guidance for submitting reports will be provided by the League Secretary.

Appendix G - Policy For Recording Images Of Players

Introduction

The East Berks Youth Football League is committed to providing a safe environment for children/young people under the age of 18. Implicit in this is the commitment to ensure that all publications, resources and media represent participants appropriately and with due respect. The points outlined in this policy you shall be putting in place the best possible practice to protect children and young people wherever photographs or recorded images are taken and stored.

Key Concerns

The key concerns contained within this policy regarding the use of images of children/young people relate to:

- (i) The possible identification of children when a photograph is accompanied by personal information
- (ii) The inappropriate use, adaptation or copying of images for use on child pornography websites
- (iii) The taking of inappropriate photographs or recorded images of youngsters.

Recording Images Of Children/Young People

There have been concerns about the risks posed directly and indirectly to children and young people through the use of photographs on sport web sites and other publications.

Firstly, Photographs can be used as a means of identifying children when they are accompanied with personal information, for example: "This is a member of the Anytown Junior Football Club who likes Atomic Kitten". This information can make a child vulnerable to an individual who may wish to start to "groom" that child for abuse.

Secondly the content of the photo can be used or adapted for inappropriate use. There is evidence of this adapted material finding its way onto child pornography sites.

Guidelines For Recording Images

You shall ensure that images of a young person, who is under a court order, are NOT recorded or published.

All children featured in recordings shall be appropriately dressed with outer clothing garments covering their torso from at least the bottom of their neck to their thighs, (i.e. a minimum of vest/shirt and shorts)

The photograph shall ideally focus on the activity. Where possible images of children/young people shall be recorded in small groups (the group may comprise any combination of adults and children)

Any instances of the use of inappropriate images shall be reported to The Management Committee.

A Club's, Official's, Manager's and coaches shall still be allowed to use video equipment as a legitimate coaching aid. However, footballers and their parents/carers shall be aware that this is part of the coaching programme and care shall be taken in the storing of such films and video. Child protection and best practice

Guidelines For Publishing Images

If the child is named, avoid using their photograph

If a photograph is used, avoid naming the young person or use their first name only. Personal details of children such as an email address, home address and telephone numbers shall never be revealed on a website

Ask for the child's permission to use their image. This ensures that they are aware of the way the image is to be used to represent the sport. A Parent/Carer and Child Permission Form is the best way of achieving this and can be done at the beginning of the season (Club Membership Form)

Ask for parental/carer permission to use an image of a young person. This ensures that parents/carers are aware of the way the image of their child is representing the sport. A Parent/Carer and Child Permission Form is the best way of achieving this and can be done at the beginning of the season (Club Membership Form)

In order to guard against the possibility of a young person under a court order appearing on a website, the simultaneous streaming of images onto a website is not recommended. Delayed streaming also provides an opportunity for the editing of inappropriate clips (e.g. disarranged clothing). If the video/film clips are delivered from your own server that material can be downloaded. It is therefore recommended that you use an independent server so that material cannot be accessed, copied or downloaded

Think about the level of consideration that you give to the use of images in all publications, for example the processes used in choosing photographs for a publicity brochure for the club. Apply an increased level of consideration to the images of youngsters used on websites. Simple technology features such as watermarking may dissuade third parties from using or attempting to access controlled imagery

Try to take photographs that represent the broad range of youngsters participating safely in football.

This might include:

- Boys and girls
- Minority ethnic communities
- A range of clothing e.g. tracksuit/jogging trousers
- Girls with hair covered e.g. baseball cap or scarf
- Disabled people
- Glasses if not actually playing at the time
- Shin pads shall be on if they are recorded playing
- Jewellery shall be removed in all images

Guidelines For Use Of Photographic Filming Equipment At East Berks Youth Football League Football Events

All Managers shall agree before the start of the event about the use of photographic filming equipment.

Failure to follow this policy shall be referred to the Management Committee. Clubs, players or persons found guilty of breaches shall be charged by the League for bringing the League into Disrepute and may be fined a sum not exceeding £200.00 and/or may be dealt with further by the Management Committee of this League.

There is evidence that some people have used sporting events as an opportunity to take inappropriate photographs or film footage of young and disabled sportspeople. While this might be rare in football you still have a duty of care to young people to ensure that this risk is as small as possible.

By taking some simple steps you shall be reducing that risk.

If you are commissioning professional photographers or inviting the press to a football activity or event it is important to ensure they are clear about your expectations of them in relation to child protection.

Provide a clear brief about what is considered appropriate in terms of content and behaviour.

Inform participants and parents that a photographer shall be in attendance at an event and ensure they consent to both the taking and publication of films or photographs.

Do not allow unsupervised access to footballers or one to one photo sessions at events.

Do not approve/allow photo sessions outside the event or at a footballer's home.

Parents and spectators might also wish to take photographs or record their children participating at the event:

If parents or other spectators are intending to photograph or video at an event they shall also be made aware of your expectations

In addition:

Participants and parents shall be informed that if they have concerns about inappropriate or intrusive photography these shall be reported to the event organiser or official and recorded in the same manner as any other child protection concern

Event organisers shall approach and challenge any person taking photographs who has not registered with them. They might need to refer to the local police force if this person continues to record images

Summary

Child protection is about putting in place the best possible practices and procedures; this shall protect not only the child but also you, the adult, in football.

Appendix H - Parents Code Of Conduct

By supporting your Child, what can children who play in the League expect from adults?

CHILDREN CAN EXPECT ADULTS NOT TO:

- Attempt to 'coach' or 'manipulate' the players while they are playing
- Shout, swear, become violent or use sarcasm
- Ignore Children who need help
- Attempt to 'Referee' the game by appealing for free kicks, etc.
- Assess players by their incompetence.
- Abuse or argue with the Referee or assistant Referees.

BUT CHILDREN CAN EXPECT ADULTS TO:

- Praise effort and performance more than results
- Look for aspects to praise in players who might not otherwise get attention
- Give them clear examples of excellent behaviour
- Show consistency
- Assess players with regard to their skills and attitudes
- Praise good behaviour quickly to show adults value it
- Help, encourage and support
- Learn the Laws of Association Football and East Berks Youth Football League Rules

REMEMBER: CHILDREN DO NOT MEAN TO MAKE MISTAKES

The Team officials shall be held responsible for the behaviour of supporters and any other persons involved with the fixture.

Breaches of this code of conduct may result in a charge of 'Bringing the League into Disrepute' and may result in a fine not exceeding £200.00.

Appendix I - Players Code Of Conduct

By Playing in the Association, Players are expected to agree to the following Players Code of Conduct.

- Players shall always play by the rules of the game and within the spirit of sportsmanship and fair play.
- The Referees decision shall always be accepted, and match officials respected at ALL times.
- Foul and abusive language shall not be tolerated under any circumstances, and every player is expected to control their temper at all times.
- All Team mates, coaches, spectators, match officials, and players and officials of opposing clubs shall be treated with respect at all times.
- Players are expected to play to the best of his//her ability and within the 'Spirit of the Game'.
- After every game, opposition players and match officials shall be applauded and thanked.

REMEMBER: Players shall always accept Winning or Losing equally

The Team officials shall be held responsible for the behaviour of players involved with the fixture.

Breaches of this code of conduct may result in a charge of 'Bringing the League into Disrepute' and may result in a fine not exceeding £200.00.

Appendix J - The Responsible Football Coach Code Of Conduct

1. Coaches shall respect the rights, dignity and worth of each and every person and treat each equally within the context of the sport.
2. Coaches shall place the well-being and safety of each player above all other considerations, including the development of performance.
3. Coaches shall adhere to all guidelines laid down by the Rules of the League and the Football Association.
4. Coaches shall develop an appropriate working relationship with each player based on mutual trust and respect.
5. Coaches shall not exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward.
6. Coaches shall encourage and guide players to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance.
7. Coaches shall ensure that the activities they direct or advocate are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of players.
8. Coaches shall, at the outset, clarify with the player (and, where appropriate, their parents) exactly what is expected of them and also what they are entitled to expect from their coach.
9. Coaches shall co-operate fully with other specialists (e.g. other coaches, officials, sports scientists, doctors, physiotherapists) in the best interests of the player.
10. Coaches shall always promote the positive aspects of the sport (e.g. fair play) and never condone violations of the Laws of the Game, behaviour contrary to the spirit of the Laws of the Game or relevant rules and regulations or the use of prohibited substances or techniques.
11. Coaches shall consistently display high standards of behaviour and appearance.

Breaches of this code of conduct may result in a charge of 'Bringing the League into Disrepute' and may result in a fine not exceeding £200.00.

Appendix K – Communications Policy

When sending any communication relating the League please limit each communication to a single subject and be sure to state as clearly as possible the age group and division, the name of the club and the name of the team. Also state your full name, your official capacity in relation to the team or club and your full contact details including email, telephone and postal address. This information will greatly assist the Management Committee in carrying out the business of the league.

Any communication such as a telephone message, letter, fax, email or text which is sent in relation to a time critical event such as match arrangements or time of kick-off or for the postponement of a fixture shall only be considered received if a positive acknowledgement is received from the recipient.

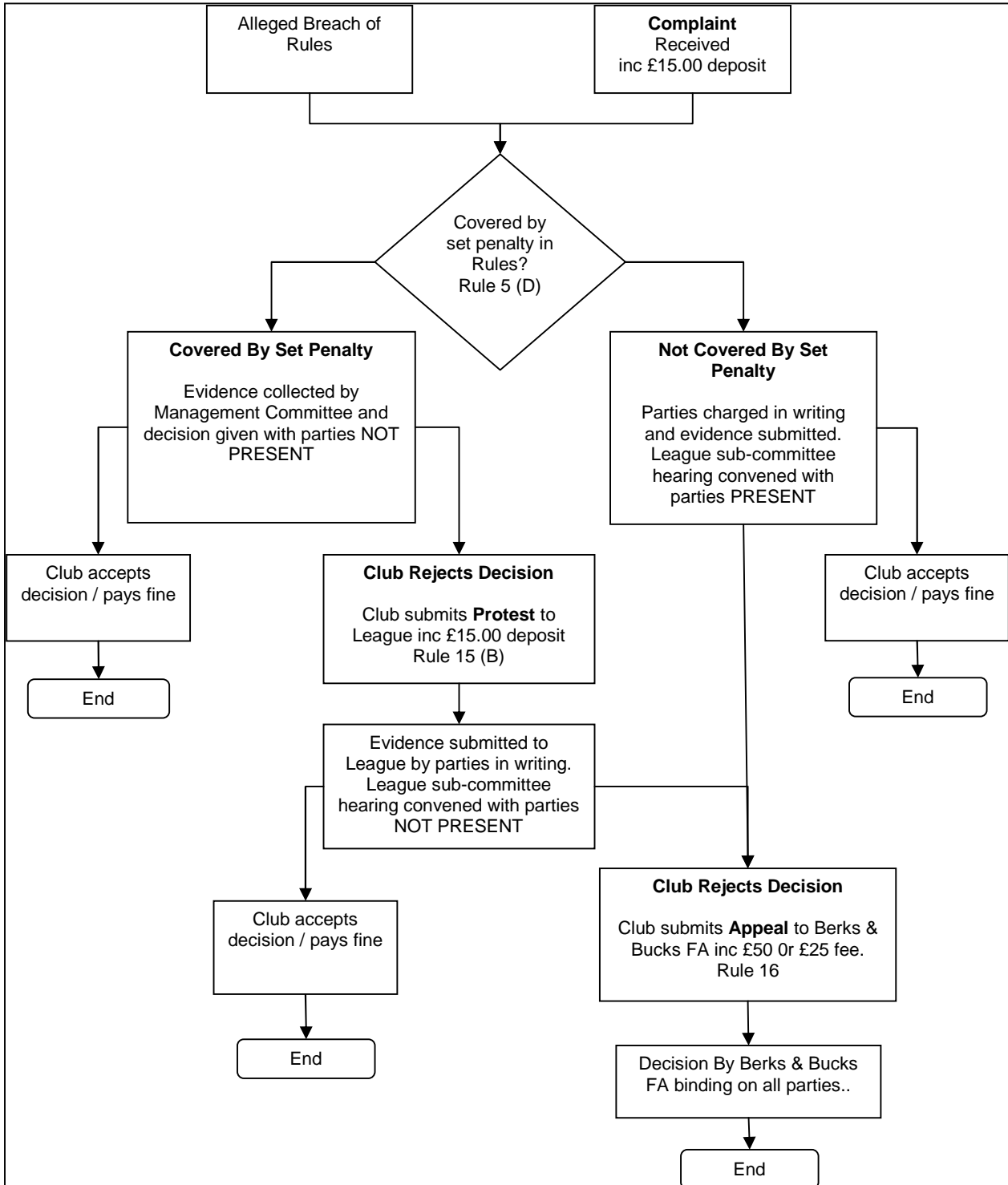
When sending a time critical message the sender must always add the text “Please confirm that you have received this message” to the end of the message and if no confirmation is received from the recipient then every reasonable effort must be made to deliver the communication by alternative means.

Summary

- One subject per message
- State age group and division, club, team and date
- Who are you and what is your connection to the team
- Please confirm that you have received this message

Appendix L – Advice On Complaints, Protests, and Appeals

Protests, Complaints and Appeals Procedure



How to Submit a Complaint To The League

A Club must use the complaint procedure to bring a grievance to the attention of the Management Committee. All communication must be between the Club Secretary and the League Secretary.

The complaint procedure will also be used by the Management Committee to deal with any alleged breach of Rules. In this case no deposit is required.

Except in cases of alleged off field misconduct a complaint must be lodged with the League Secretary within 3 working days of the incident and must be accompanied by a deposit of £15.00.

In cases of alleged off field misconduct of players, team and club officials and spectators there is no time limit and no deposit required.

It is acceptable to email the League Secretary within 3 working days and to send a cheque to arrive as soon as possible thereafter. Do not send cash.

The deposit cheque of £15.00 will not be banked until such time as the complaint is considered by the Management Committee and if the complaint is upheld in favour of the Club making the complaint then the deposit cheque will be returned.

If according to the Rules the complaint can be dealt with using a fixed penalty then the matter will be considered at a future meeting of the Management Committee. The Management Committee will collect evidence and the parties to the complaint will not be present at the meeting when the decision is made.

A Club not agreeing to a decision of the Management Committee must submit a protest according the procedure below.

If according to the Rules the complaint cannot be dealt with using a fixed penalty then a sub-committee will be convened. The parties concerned must submit all evidence in writing and the parties will be invited to make a brief statement at the sub-committee hearing.

A Club not agreeing to a decision of a Sub-Committee must submit an appeal according the procedure below.

How to Submit a Protest To The League

A Club must use the protest procedure to request the Management Committee to reconsider an earlier decision of the Management Committee. All communication must be between the Club Secretary and the League Secretary.

A protest must be lodged with the League Secretary within 3 working days of the decision being communicated and must be accompanied by a deposit of £15.00.

It is acceptable to email the League Secretary within 3 working days and to send a cheque to arrive as soon as possible thereafter. Do not send cash.

The deposit cheque of £15.00 will not be banked until such time as the protest is considered by the Management Committee and if the complaint is upheld in favour of the Club making the complaint then the deposit cheque will be returned.

A sub-committee will be convened and the parties concerned must submit all evidence in writing and the parties will be invited to make a brief statement at the sub-committee hearing.

A Club not agreeing to a decision of a Sub-Committee must submit an appeal to Berks & Bucks FA according the procedure below.

How to Submit an Appeal To Berks & Bucks FA

A Club must use the appeal procedure to challenge a decision of a sub-committee of the League.

An appeal must be lodged with Berks & Bucks FA within 14 working days of the sub-committee decision being communicated and must be accompanied by an Appeal Fee of £50.00 (Minor and Youth Clubs £25.00).

The decision of the Board of Appeal is final and binding on all parties concerned.

Please Consider The Following

Half the teams in the league want to ignore all the rules whilst the other half of team want to stick to the letter of every rule. Many teams seem to adopt whichever opinion suits them best at the time. The Management Committee is expected to sort this situation out.

Complaints and protests are very difficult for the Management Committee to deal with and the matter is unlikely to be resolved to the satisfaction of either parties or the Management Committee.

In any grievance situation there is often fault on both sides which can often counteract the complaint.

All complaints must be submitted via your Club Secretary.

All complaints must be submitted to the League Secretary.

When submitting evidence be brief and concentrate on the main complaint and only mention facts relevant to the complaint. Only mention what you saw or heard with your own eyes and ears and do not mention anything that you found out after the event. An exception is that an adult may directly relate what was said by a player or child.

Do not make general moral statements regarding behaviour considered to be inappropriate in the presence of children. The League is aware of what is appropriate and inappropriate behaviour and is also aware that all the players are children.

Do not make general statements regarding your many years of previous experience involved in children's football as this is not evidence and is not relevant.

Do not make statements about the weather or the distance and travelling time to the match as this is not evidence and is not relevant.

Do not make statements describing the obliging way in which you dealt with a similar situation last week so you expect the same courtesy to be offered to you on this occasion. The fact that you allowed the opposition to postpone their previous fixtures does not mean that they are obliged to postpone your fixture now that you are short of players.

The Management Committee will consider all complains and where necessary will assist with submitting a complaint to Berks & Bucks FA.

Finally be aware that complaints and protests can take a considerable length of time to resolve.

Format For Submitting a Complaint

Write a separate letter or email for each person submitting a complaint.

<Today's Date>

To whom it may concern

I was present at the EBYFL match U18 Div 1 Trumpton Town Reds v Camberwick Green played on 31/12/2009

I am the parent/guardian/coach of Barney McGrew who plays for Trumpton Town Reds.

During the match I saw a player/parent/coach from Chigley Blues whom I later identified as being called Windy Miller do something very very bad. I heard another player/parent/coach from Camberwick Green say something very very bad.

Your sincerely

<signed>

<Full Name>

<Address>

<Telephone Number>

<Email>

<Date of Birth>

Schedule Of Fees

East Berks Youth Football League

Rule No	Rule	Fee Amount
2(A)	Entry Fee per Team (To include all player registrations): Intermediate and Intermediate Girls Football (11-a-side) Junior Football and Junior Girls (7-a-Side)	£ 70.00 £ 60.00
2(C)	Standard Deposit	£100.00
8(C)	Registration Fee After start of season	£ 5.00
8(I)	Transfer fee	£ 8.00
8(K)	De-Registration fee	£ 8.00
13(E)	Referees' fees Junior and Junior Girls Football (7-a-side) Under 7 to Under 11-12g Intermediate Football (11-a-side) Under 12-13g to Under 14 Under 15 to Under 16 Under 17 to Under 18 Assistant Referees (all ages)	£ 12.00 £ 20.00 £ 20.00 £ 20.00 £ 15.00
15(D)	Deposit for protest	£ 15.00
16	Appeal Fee	£ 10.00

Schedule Of Fines

East Berks Youth Football League

Rule No	Rule	Fine Amount
2(E)	Failure to provide affiliation number for the forthcoming Season	£ 20.00
5(H)	Failure to attend to League business/correspondence (maximum)	£ 50.00
5(I)	Failure to pay fine within 14 days	£ 50.00
5(N)	Failure to attend General Meeting – up to a maximum	£ 50.00
6(H)	Failure to attend Annual General Meeting (maximum)	£ 50.00
8(D)	Failure to produce registration cards (maximum)	£ 60.00
8(R)	Playing of unregistered player - up to a maximum	£ 60.00
9(A)	Delaying the kick-off by not having a change	£ 20.00
9(A)	Failure to wear numbers on shirts: each offence	£ 5.00
9(A)	Failure for shirts to be uniquely numbered: each offence	£ 5.00
9(A)	Players name on shirts: each offence	£ 5.00
10(A)	Failure to attend Pre-Season General Meeting (maximum)	£ 50.00
10(C)	Failure to provide match equipment - per item	£ 5.00
10(C)	Late kick-off, if not within 15 minutes of set time(maximum)	£ 10.00
10(E)	Failure to confirm match	£ 10.00
10(F)	Failure to fulfil a fixture not more than not less than (at the discretion of the Management Committee – Fine plus expenses for ground hire or travel to Team/Club let down)	£ 50.00 £ 10.00
10(G)	Failure to use all players in a match- up to a maximum	£ 20.00
10(H)	Team playing in any match with less that approved number of players per player	£ 5.00
10(I)	Failure to exchange League Registration Cards not more than not less than	£ 60.00 £ 20.00

Rule No	Rule	Fine Amount
10(K)	Failure to ensure the presence of a Qualified First Aider	£ 10.00
11(B)	Failure to notify Divisional Secretary of match result (maximum)	£ 20.00
11(B)	Failure to notify Divisional Secretary of Fair Play result (maximum)	£ 20.00
11(C)	Failure to send a fully completed match result card within the stipulated time (maximum)	£ 20.00
11(C)	Failure to correctly complete a match result card (maximum)	£ 20.00
13(C)	Failure to provide a Club Assistant Referee	£ 20.00
13(E)	Failure to pay match fee to appointed Referee (maximum)	£ 20.00
14(A)	Withdrawal of a Team after 31st Dec & notify by 31st Mar	£ 50.00
14(B)	Withdrawal of a Team after the AGM (maximum)	£ 50.00
17(E)	Bringing the League into disrepute, at the discretion of the Management Committee (maximum)	£200.00
18(A)	Failure to return trophies by 1st March, at the discretion of the Management Committee(maximum)	£ 50.00
18(B)	Bringing the League into disrepute, at the discretion of the Management Committee (maximum)	£200.00
19	Failure to attend Special General Meeting (maximum)	£ 50.00
19	Failure to attend General Meeting (maximum)	£ 50.00
23	Failure to provide information relating to Club/Team	£ 20.00
23	Failure to provide change of information relating to Club/Team	£ 20.00
25	Failure to comply with the League publication rules (maximum)	£ 50.00
26(I)	Bringing the League into disrepute, at the discretion of the Management Committee (maximum)	£200.00
27(E)	Bringing the League into disrepute, at the discretion of the Management Committee	£200.00
Cup Rule 1(G)	Playing of unregistered player (maximum)	£ 60.00
Cup Rule 1(L)	Withdrawing from Competition (maximum)	£ 50.00
Cup Rule 2(B)	Withdrawing from Competition within 14 days of event (maximum)	£ 50.00
	Appendix B – FAIR PLAY SCHEME Failure to notify Divisional Secretary of Fair Play result (maximum)	£ 20.00
	Appendix G – POLICY FOR RECORDING IMAGES OF PLAYERS Bringing the League into disrepute, at the discretion of the Management Committee (maximum)	£200.00
	Appendix H – PARENTS CODE OF CONDUCT Bringing the League into disrepute, at the discretion of the Management Committee (maximum)	£200.00
	Appendix I – PLAYERS CODE OF CONDUCT Bringing the League into disrepute, at the discretion of the Management Committee (maximum)	£200.00
	Appendix J – THE RESPONSIBLE FOOTBALL COACH CODE OF CONDUCT Bringing the League into disrepute, at the discretion of the Management Committee (maximum)	£200.00

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