

[Girl's Section]

1. CONTROL OF COMPETITION

- (A) The entire control and management of the competition shall be vested in the Management Committee, hereinafter referred to as the Committee, and their decisions shall be final
- (B) The Rules of the League shall apply to this Competition except where they are inappropriate or are amended by these Rules.

2. COMPETITION

At the discretion of the Committee all or some of the following Competitions will be organized each season and shall be known as the...

Under 18 League Challenge Cup
Under 17 League Challenge Cup
Under 16 League Challenge Cup
Under 15 League Challenge Cup
Under 14 League Challenge Cup
Under 13 League Challenge Cup
Under 12 League Challenge Cup
Under 11 League Challenge Cup

3. TROPHY OWNERSHIP

- (A) The Trophy shall remain the property of the SUSSEX COUNTY WOMEN AND GIRLS FOOTBALL LEAGUE.
- (B) Should the trophy be lost, stolen, destroyed, damaged by fire or other accident whilst under the care or custody of the Club that Club shall refund to the League the amount of its replacement value, or the cost of thorough repair.
- (C) The trophy can never become the absolute property of any Club, and in the event of the dissolution of this League, it shall again become the property of the donors.
- (D) The Chairman, Competition Secretary and Treasurer of the League shall be, for all intents and purposes, the legal owners of the trophy in trust for the donors.

4. ELIGIBLE CLUBS

Only those Clubs that are in Full Membership of Sussex County Women and Girls Football League will be eligible to compete.

5. WITHDRAWALS AND UNFULFILLED MATCHES

- (A) A Club withdrawing after entry, without a reason satisfactory to the Committee, may be liable to a fine not exceeding **£50.00** and may not be allowed to enter the Competition the following season. This will include any Club which is under suspension by a County Association to which it is affiliated.
- (B) A Club failing to fulfil a match, without a reason satisfactory to the Committee, may be liable to a fine not exceeding **£20.00** and may not be allowed to enter the Competition the following season. This will include any Club which is under suspension by a County Association to which it is affiliated.

6. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

- (A) Only those players registered with the League who are eligible to play in the same age group of the League as the age groups of the Competition will be eligible to compete.
- (B) A player shall not in the same season play for more than one Club in any one of the Competitions, but the members of each respective team may be changed during the series of matches.
- (C) In the case of postponed, abandoned or replayed matches, only those players shall be allowed to play who were eligible on the date fixed for the completion of the round, in which the match was originally played, or was to be played.
- (D) For all rounds up and including the semi-finals a player must have been a registered playing member of her Club for at least 5 days previous to the original date fixed for the match to be played.

A player who has played in less than 4 previous Sussex County Women & Girls Football League Divisional/Cup matches in the

- current season will not be eligible to play in Semi-Final or Final matches.
- (E) Players eligible to play in the semi-final of this competition shall be eligible to play in the Final tie.
 - (F) Any Club found guilty of fielding an ineligible player shall be removed from the Competition, their opponents being reinstated, and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding **£50.00**.

7. ORGANISATION OF THE COMPETITION

- (A) The Committee shall have the power to select any number of Clubs to be exempt until Second or subsequent round.
- (B) The names of the Clubs entering a Competition shall be placed in one lot, or in lots at the option of the Committee, and shall be drawn from such lot or lots in couples at a time, the first drawn Club having home advantage. These couples shall compete with each other at the time specified by the Committee and the names of the winning clubs shall be placed in a lot or lots, drawn in couples and compete as in the first tie, and so on until the final tie is reached.
- (C) The Fixture Secretary shall circulate to each Club the name of its opponent in each round and, if possible, date and time of Kick off when the fixture shall be played.
- (D) The Referees Secretary, if possible will appoint a Referee and will notify each Club of the appointment.

8. GROUNDS FOR CUP TIES

In each tie prior to the Semi Finals in Competition the game shall be played on the ground of the Club first drawn unless otherwise mutually agreed with the Fixture Secretary for the match to be played on the opponents or an alternative ground. Should the tie be postponed on two occasions due to poor condition of ground the Fixture Secretary shall order a change of venue.

9. DURATION OF MATCHES

- (A) The duration of each match in the Competitions shall be as follows...

For Under 18 and 17 League Challenge Cup 90 minutes (45 minutes each half) unless a shorter time (not less than 70 minutes (35 minutes each half) is mutually agreed by the two Captains and the Referee prior to the commencement of the match.

If the scores are level at the end of normal time an additional 30 minutes (15 minutes each half) extra time will be played. If, in the opinion of the Referee prevailing circumstances would not permit the match to be finished, 20 minutes (10 minutes each half) extra time may be played. If the Referee decides to play 10 minutes each half, he must notify both Clubs.

For Under 16 and 15 League Challenge Cup 80 minutes (40 minutes each half) unless a shorter time (not less than 60 minutes (30 minutes each half) is mutually agreed by the two Captains in consultation with the Referee prior to the commencement of the match.

For Under 14 and 13 League Challenge Cup 70 minutes (35 minutes each half) unless a shorter time (not less than 40 minutes (20 minutes each half)) is mutually agreed by the two Captains in consultation with the Referee prior to the commencement of the match.

For Under 16, 15, 14 and 13 matches in which the score is level at the end of normal time an additional 20 minutes (10 minutes each half) extra time will be played. If, in the opinion of the Referee prevailing circumstances would not permit the match to be finished, 10 minutes (5 minutes each half) extra time may be played. If the Referee decides to play 5 minutes each half, he must notify both Clubs.

For all the above Competitions, if the score is still level at the end of extra time the winner shall be determined by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the procedures adopted by The International Board.

For Under 12 and 11 League Challenge Cup 60 minutes (30 minutes each half) unless a shorter time is mutually agreed by the two Captains in consultation with the Referee prior to the commencement of the match.

For Under 12 and 11 matches no extra time will be played and the game will be determined by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the procedures adopted by The International Board.

10. POSTPONED OR ABANDONED MATCHES

- (A) Matches which are abandoned for any reason, in normal or extra time, shall be dealt with by the Management Committee which shall have the power to order the score at the time of the abandonment to stand as the result of the match, to order the match to be replayed and to determine on which ground the match shall be played, or to take any further action which it sees fit to determine.
- (B) Matches which are postponed shall be rearranged by the Fixture Secretary.

11. KICK OFF TIMES AND LATE START

- (A) All Competition matches shall commence as determined by the Fixtures Secretary. In the event of a team not ready to commence play at that time, the Referee shall order the game to commence as soon as possible, allowing for the playing of extra time and the taking of penalties. If time does not allow, the game will be declared null and void and will be referred to the Committee for a ruling.
- (B) The Referee shall report any late starts to the Referees Secretary, and a defaulting team may be liable for all match expenses and a fine not exceeding £10.00. Failure to provide a satisfactory explanation may also result in the match being awarded to the opposing team, in a manner as previously decided by the Committee.
- (C) During the months of November to February inclusive all Competition matches shall commence no later than 1.30pm. Agreement may be reached with the opponents, and the Fixture Secretary, for a later start if floodlights are available.

12. REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES

- (A) The Referees Secretary if possible will appoint Referees to the earlier rounds and Assistant Referees in the Semi-Final and Final Ties. For the Final Tie the Referee Secretary will if possible appoint a Fourth Official.

The duties of the Match Officials are defined in the Laws of the Game.
- (B) The fees and travelling expenses of all officials appointed by the League to officiate in any match prior to the Final tie shall be paid by the Home Club. (See League Rule 13(E)).

13. PROVISION FOR FINAL TIE

- (A) The Committee shall fix the ground, the date and time of kick off for the Final Tie and shall have direct control of the arrangements connected with the match. The Competition Secretary will confirm details to both Clubs and Match Officials regarding the Final Tie.
- (B) The Committee may order both Clubs to change their colours if their colours are similar.
- (C) Players must wear numbers on the back of their shirts and these numbers must correspond with the match day programme.
- (D) The League shall on the day of the Final present up to sixteen (16) plaques, medals or other suitable mementos to players in each team and a suitable memento to the Manager of each team. A Club which has participated in a Final tie may apply in writing to the Competition Secretary for other players who took part in the Competition during the current season. The application must contain full details of the players involved and the reason for the request. Any such awards approved by the Management Committee shall be at the expense of the applying Club. All applications for additional awards must be posted within 7 days following the Final tie involved.
- (E) The Match Officials will receive a memento in lieu of fee and expenses shall be as laid down.
- (F) When winning Club has been ascertained, the Competition Secretary shall deliver the trophy to that Club, which in return shall give written undertaking, in a form approved by the Committee, to return the trophy in good condition to the League Secretary on or before the 1st February in the following season. Any Club failing to return the trophy a trophy on time or failing to have a trophy engraved shall be liable to a fine.

14. CONTINGENCY

- (A) The Committee shall have the power to appropriately deal with any contingency not provided for in these Rules, including the imposition of any penalties.