

London Old Boys' Cup Competition Rules

1. Nomenclature and Constitution

1a: This Competition shall be designated the London Old Boys Cup Competition and shall consist of not more than 128 Clubs who shall be Full Member Clubs. All such Member Clubs must be affiliated to The Amateur Football Alliance and their names and particulars shall be returned annually by the appointed date on the Form "D" to the Amateur Football Alliance.

The Competition shall apply annually for sanction to the Amateur Football Alliance, London Football and Middlesex Football Associations and the constituent teams of Member Clubs may be grouped in cup sections.

1b: At the Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting called for the purpose, a majority of the delegates present shall have power to decide or adjust the compilation of the cup sections at their discretion. When necessary this Rule shall take precedence over Rule 12.

2. Entry Fee, Subscription, Deposit

2a: Applications by Clubs for admission to this Competition or the entry of an additional team(s) must be made in writing to the Secretary and must be accompanied by an Entry Fee, which shall be returned in the event of non-election.

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.

2b: The Annual Subscription and due payment date shall be set by the Annual General Meeting.

2c: A Club shall not participate in this Competition until the Entry Fee has been paid.

2d: Clubs must advise annually to the Secretary in writing by 21st July of its Amateur Football Alliance affiliation number for the forthcoming season, failing which they shall be fined. Clubs must advise the Secretary in writing, or on the prescribed form, details of its Grounds, Officers and any other information required by the Competition.

3. Officers

3: The Officers of the Competition shall be the President, Vice-Presidents, Chairman, Vice- Chairman, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Fixtures Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, and Hon. Referees Secretaries. They are to be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting. (N.B. Auditors are not Officers).

4. Management, Nomination, Election

4a: The Competition shall be governed in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of The Football Association by a Management Committee comprised of the Officers and up to six members who shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting. All participants shall abide by The Football Association Regulations for Safeguarding Children as determined by The Association from time to time.

4b: 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 1st April 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.

4c: 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.

4d: 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.

4e: All communications received from Clubs must be conducted through their nominated Officers.

5. Powers of Management

5a: The Management Committee may appoint such other sub-committees as they may consider necessary and may delegate such of their powers, as they deem necessary to such committees. The decisions of all such committees shall be reported to the Management Committee for ratification.

5b: Subject to the permission of the Amateur Football Alliance 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. The Competition 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))

5c: 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 subcommittee).

In the event of the voting being equal on any matter, the Chairman shall have a second casting vote.

5d: The Management Committee shall have the 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 Competition Rule must be formally charged in writing and given the opportunity to present their case before the Management Committee. All breaches of the Laws of the Game, Rules and Regulations of the Football Association shall be dealt with in accordance with FA Rules.

5e: All decisions of the Management Committee must be notified in writing to those concerned within 14 days. All communications requiring reply from Clubs must be answered within 14 days.

Any change to the information declared in the handbook must be notified to the Secretary of the Competition within 7 days. Clubs in breach are liable to a fine.

5f: Four 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.

5g: 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.

5h: 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 correspondence of the Competition shall be liable to be fined or otherwise penalised at the discretion of the Management Committee.

5i: All fines and charges shall be paid within 14 days of the date of posting of the written notification. Clubs, Officials or individuals committing a breach of this Rule will incur such penalties as the Management Committee may impose.

5j: A member of the Management Committee who is appointed by the Competition to attend a meeting or match may have any expenses incurred refunded by the Competition. Officers and Committee members of the Competition shall be reimbursed expenses for the attendance at Committee Meetings at a rate to be determined by the Management Committee

5k: The Management Committee shall have the power to fill any vacancy that may occur in the membership of the Competition, between the dated of the Annual General or Special General Meeting called to decide the constitution and the commencement of the Competition season.

5l: No participant under the age of 18 can be fined.

6. Annual General Meeting

6a: The Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than June in each year. At this meeting the following business shall be transacted.

- (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.

6b: A copy of the duly audited Balance sheet, Statement of Accounts and Agenda shall be forwarded to each Club at least fourteen days prior to the meeting, and to the Amateur Football Alliance.

6c: A signed copy of the duly audited Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts shall be forwarded to the Affiliated County Football Associations within fourteen days of its adoption at the Annual General Meeting

6d: Each Full Member Club shall be empowered to send two delegates to an Annual General meeting. Each Club shall be entitled to one vote only. Not less than fourteen days' notice shall be given of any meeting.

6e: 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.

6f: All voting shall be conducted by a show of voting cards unless a ballot be demanded by at least 25% of the delegates qualified to vote or the Chairman so decides.

6g: No individual shall be entitled to vote on behalf of more than one Full Member Club

6h: Any continuing Member Club failing to be represented at the Annual General Meeting without satisfactory reason being given may be fined.

6i: Officers and Management Committee members shall be entitled to attend and vote at an Annual General Meeting.

7. Agreement to be Signed

7: 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, ... of ... (Chairman) and

... Of (Secretary) of the

Football Club have been provided with a copy of the Rules and Regulations of the London Old Boys Cup Competition. We do hereby agree for and on behalf of the said Club to, if elected or accepted into Membership, to conform to those Rules and Regulations. We 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 must be notified to the Amateur Football Alliance or other County Association to which the Club is affiliated and to the Secretary of the Competition.

8. Qualification of Players

8a: Contract players, as defined in Football Association Rules, are not permitted in this Competition.

8b: A registered playing member of a Club is one who, being in all other respects legible, has signed a fully and correctly completed Competition registration form in ink, countersigned by an officer of the Club, and who has been registered with the Secretary 7 days prior to playing and whose completed registration counterfoil has been received by the Club prior to playing.

8c: For the Jack Perry Veterans Section teams shall consist of players who have attained the age of 35 years prior to the 1st October in the season of the Competition, and have played regular league football for the Club they represent.

Clubs found in contravention of this rule or who play ineligible players are liable to exclusion from the current and future Veterans Cup Competition.

8d: A team shall not include any player who has taken part in a more senior competition match during the current season.

8e: A player having taken part in matches for any Club affiliated to any County Football Association shall not be allowed to join, be transferred, 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. 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.

8f: 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 Secretary shall notify the Club last applying to inform the player of the fact of the previous registration.

8g: It shall be deemed misconduct for a player to: -

- (i) Play for more than one Club in the Competition in the same season.
- (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 registrations that the player had wilfully neglected to accurately or fully complete.

8h: (i) The Management Committee shall have power to accept the registration any player. The Management Committee shall have power to refuse, cancel or suspend the registration of any player or may fine any player, except those less than 18 years of age, at their discretion proved guilty of registration irregularities. (Subject to Rule 16).

(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 (ii) shall not be taken against a player for misconduct on the field of play until the matter has been dealt with by the appropriate County Association, and then only in cases of the player bringing the Competition into disrepute.

8i: A Club 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.

8j: A player who has played for a team of higher rank in any section of the Competition shall not in that season be eligible to play for a team of lower rank in any section except by permission of the Management Committee.

8k: Any team playing an unregistered or otherwise ineligible player or players may forfeit that game and may be fined and/or otherwise dealt with at the discretion of the Management Committee

8l: No player under the age of 16 shall play in any LOB Cup match
Note: For players under the age of 18 the provisions contained in Football Association Rules will apply.

A player sent off from the field of play for misconduct in a Cup Final shall not be presented with a medal for playing in that Final. Any player who wilfully refuses to attend the presentation ceremony to receive a medal will not be presented with such medal, nor, being the Captain shall be presented with the Cup or Club Memento. In all such cases the Management Committee shall decide subsequently whether to make any award.

9. Club Colours, Club Names

9a: Every Club must register the colour of its shirts and shorts with the Secretary by July who shall decide as to their suitability.

Goalkeepers must wear colours that 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 will play to its opponents at least 5 days before the match.

If in the opinion of the referee, both Clubs 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 to having a change shall be fined.

Shirts must be numbered.

9b: Any Club wishing to change its name and /or its colours must obtain the approval of its affiliated County Association and from the Management Committee.

10. Playing Season, Conditions of Play, Times of Kick Off, Postponement, Substitutes

10a: The Annual General Meeting shall determine the commencing and concluding dates for the ensuing season which shall be in accordance with Football Association Rules. No Club shall be compelled to play after the concluding date. Original fixtures arranged by the Results Secretary must not be arranged for a date later than seven days preceding the concluding date determined by the Competition.

10b: All matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game as determined by IFAB.

Clubs must 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 the 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.

All matches shall have duration of 90 minutes unless the two captains in consultation with the referee prior to the start of the match (not less than 60 minutes) mutually arrange a shorter time, and in any event the game shall have equal halves.

The A.G.M. or the Management Committee shall fix the times of kick-off. Any Club failing to commence at the appointed time may be fined as the Management Committee may determine. (See Standard Level of Fines).

Referees must order matches to commence at the appointed time and must report all late starts to the Secretary. In the event of a team not being ready at the appointed time, provided 7 or more of the players are available, the referee shall have the power to order the game to proceed as soon after the time he sees fit.

Any team not able to commence the game within 30 minutes of the due kick off time may be liable to forfeit the tie. If it is not possible to commence the game 30 minutes after the scheduled kick off time, the referee has the power to refuse to officiate and will be entitled to his fee from the home team.

The home team must provide at least two footballs that are fit for play and the referee shall make a report to the Competition if the footballs are unsuitable.

Accommodation: -

- (i) Hooks, pegs and seating accommodation must be provided.
- (ii) Adequate electric lighting must be provided.
- (iii) Adequate hot showers must be provided.
- (iv) Home Clubs must notify visitors of arrangements for the safekeeping of valuables and clothing.

Playing Pitch: -

- (i) Goal nets and four corner flags must be used.
- (ii) All lines must be clearly marked, preferably in white.
- (iii) The Home Club must provide first aid equipment on the touchline.
- (iv) Pitches shall be of grass or any other surface agreeable to the participating Clubs.

Hospitality: -

- (i) The Home side shall provide at least a cup of tea and a cake or biscuit without cost to the visiting players and match officials.
- (ii) The Home team is host to the visitors and officials and must act as such. (NB. The visiting team should respond to hospitality offered.)
- (iii) Where a visiting Club wishes to decline the refreshments provided by the home Club it must do so no later than two days before the day of the match.
- (iv) Details must be given to visiting captains and match officials on the day of the game detailing the facilities available for the provision of refreshment.
- (v) After accepting a home Club's offer of refreshment the visiting team shall ensure that it honours that arrangement. Any Club failing to do so shall be liable to reimburse the home Club's reasonable expenses.
- (vi) Refreshments must be provided to the visitors and match officials at half – time.

Addenda: -

- (i) Separate changing rooms are desirable but not essential.
- (ii) Referees should change with the home team unless separate accommodation is available.
- (iii) Pitches for matches in the Senior Cup should not be shorter than 110 yards, or narrower than 66 yards. In all other Sections the minimum dimension should be 100 yards by 60 yards.

10c: Except by permission of the Management Committee all matches must be played on the dates originally fixed, unless this coincides with another match that has precedence, in such case the tie must be played prior to the set date. Clubs may only change the date with the consent of the Results Secretary.

10d: The Secretary of the Home Club must give notice in writing of full particulars of, and access to, the ground and time of kick off to the match officials and to the Secretary of the away Club at least 5 days prior to the playing of the match. The away Club shall seek and acknowledge receipt of such particulars. Any Club failing to comply with this Rule shall be liable to a fine.

10e: All Clubs must play their strongest team in all matches in the Senior Section of the Competition, their second strongest team in the Intermediate and so on unless the Club has applied for and been granted Junior or Special Status. The Management Committee shall have the power to place a team in what is deemed to be the appropriate competition.

10f: In the event of a Club failing to keep its engagement the Management Committee shall have the power to inflict a fine, order the defaulting Club to pay any expenses incurred by the opponents, and to award the tie to the opponents, or otherwise deal with them. The Management Committee shall have the power to order a match to be played on a neutral ground or on the opponents ground if they are satisfied that such action is warranted by the circumstances.

Any Club with more than one team in the Competition shall always fulfil its fixture within the Competition, in the following order of precedence: - First Team, Reserve Team, Third Team and so on. Clubs in breach of this rule shall be fined a sum not exceeding £25 or otherwise be dealt with by the Management Committee.

In the event of a Club finding itself short of players, it must cancel the fixture or fixtures of its lower eleven in preference to that of a higher eleven even though the lower eleven is due to play in this Competition. Such cancellation is to be deemed as withdrawal from the cup concerned. Any match played in contravention of this rule will be deemed to be a friendly and not form part of the Competition.

The postponing Club must give notice of postponement of any match without delay to the Results Secretary, the Secretary of the opposing Club, the match officials and the Referees Secretary.

Both Clubs must inform The Results Secretary of any postponed or abandoned matches no later than 9pm of the day of the match.

The Management Committee, who may inflict any penalty it may deem suitable, shall deal with any Club failing to comply.

In the event of a match not being played or abandoned owing to causes over which neither Club has control, it shall be played in its entirety on a date to be mutually agreed by both Clubs and approved by the Management Committee. Failing such agreement and notification to the Results Secretary within 7 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 and in a case where it is to the advantage of the Competition and does no injustice to either Club, 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 Members they shall be empowered to award the tie to the opposition. In cases where a match is abandoned owing to the conduct of either teams or their Club members, the Management Committee shall take such action as they consider appropriate. Such action is subject to any disciplinary action taken by the appropriate County Association.

10g: A Club may at its discretion and in accordance with the Laws of the Game use 3 substitute players in any match who may be selected from 3 players. However, for all Finals and for all games in the Jack Perry Veterans Cup 3 substitute players may be selected from 5 players.

The referee shall be informed of the names of the substitutes, not later than 5 minutes before the start of the match.

A player who has been selected, appointed or named as a substitute before the start of the match but does not actually play in the game shall not be considered to have been a player in that game within the meaning of Rule 8 of this Competition.

10h: The half time interval shall be of 10 minutes maximum duration. The half time interval may only be altered with the consent of the referee.

11. Reporting Results

11a: Both Clubs must send fully completed result cards, including, players names and referees name and marks, to the Fixtures Secretary by either email, or first class post and postmarked no later than a.m. on the Monday following the match. The result cards must include the forenames and surname of the team players in block letters. Failure to do so will incur a fine and/or the Club being dealt with as the Management Committee decides.

11b: The home club shall telephone the result to the Fixture Secretary by no later than 9pm on the day of the match.

11c: A responsible member of the Club shall sign the match result notification, correctly completed. The Management Committee shall have power to take such action, as they deem suitable against a Club that submits an incomplete form or incorrect information.

12. Determining Championship

12: The Competition shall be run on a knockout principle, in accordance with the Laws of the Game and the rules of the Competition, which provide that ties must be settled on a one-match basis.

The Management Committee shall make the draw for the various rounds, fix the dates and kick-off times, with the first drawn Club in each tie being at home unless mutually agreed and sanctioned by the Management Committee.

All matches shall be of 90 minutes, with 30 minutes extra-time if a draw after normal time. If the result still remains a draw the tie will be decided by the taking of penalty kicks from the Penalty mark as set out in the appendix to the Laws of the Game. The referee is entitled to reduce normal time to 60 minutes, extra time to 20 minutes or to dispense with extra-time and go straight to the penalty competition if conditions make this necessary to obtain a decision.

13. Referees

13a: Registered Referees for all matches shall be appointed in a manner approved by the Management Committee, which is by the Referees Secretaries.

13b: When no official referee is appointed by the Competition the home Club shall provide a person to undertake the duties of a referee. In the event of the non-appearance of the appointed referee the game must be played and will rank as a cup match. If it is not possible to obtain a mutually acceptable substitute referee for the whole match each side must provide a referee for one half. Clubs shall have a whistle available for home games. A

referee thus agreed upon shall, for that game, have the full powers, status and authority of a registered Referee. A Referee may not play in the match while refereeing.

13c: The Management Committee may, if they consider it desirable, appoint Assistant Referees to any match.

13d: The appointed Referee shall have power to decide as to the fitness of the ground in all matches and the decision shall be final, unless the grounds man has declared the ground unfit, whose decision must be accepted.

13e: Match officials appointed under this rule should be entitled to charge standard class public transport expenses, subject to any limits laid down by the sanctioning Associations. The home Club shall offer the Officials their fees and expenses before the match. The Competition shall pay all Officials fees for all Finals. Trophies will be awarded to Match Officials in finals.

13f: In the event of a match not being played because of circumstances over which the Club has no control, the match officials, if present, shall be entitled to full fee plus expenses. Where a match is not played owing to one Club being in default, that Club shall be ordered to pay the Officials, if they attend the ground, their full fee and expenses.

13g: A Referee not keeping his engagement, and failing to give a satisfactory explanation as to his nonappearance, may have his name removed from the list of Referees and the fact reported to the Association with which he is registered.

13h: Each Club shall, in a manner prescribed from time to time by The Football Association, award marks to the Referee for each match. The marks shall be entered on the comprehensive result sheets provided by the Club's League, or any other format agreed by the Competition.

Where a Club marks a referee 5 or less on the result card, a written explanation must be sent within 7 days of the match to the appropriate Referees Secretary giving the name of the Referee and the reasons for such a mark

13i: The Referee shall submit a report Form, supplied by the Competition, giving the result of the match, the number of players in each team and the time of kick-off to the Referees Secretary within two days of the match.

13j: Referees shall be supplied each season, with a free copy of the Competition Rules.

14. Continuation of Membership or Withdrawal of a Club

14a: After 31st December in the current season a Club intending, to withdraw a team from the Competition on completion of its fixtures and fulfillment of all other obligations to the Competition must notify the Secretary in writing by 31st March each Season or be liable to a fine.

14b: 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, and shall also be liable for its share of any call, which may be made under Rule 5(B).

14c: In the event of a Member club that is an un-incorporated association withdrawing and/or disbanding it shall be immediately liable to discharge all its financial and other obligations to the Competition. In the event of any such obligation remains undischarged after a period of twenty-one days then the then current Club Members, excluding those under the statutory school leaving age shall meet such obligation.

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 Appeals,

This rule applies only to complaints or appeals made by a club or a person against another club or person. All appeals against decisions by the Management Committee must be dealt with under Rule 16.

15a: (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 will 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.

15b: Except in cases where the Management Committee decide that there are special circumstances, protests, and complaints (which must contain full particulars of the grounds upon which they are founded) must be lodged in duplicate with the Secretary within 10 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.

The Competition shall run an emergency appeals procedure consisting of the Chairman and at least one other member of the Management Committee.

15c: The Management Committee whose decision shall be binding upon all parties subject to Rule 16 shall refer any dispute occurring between Clubs in the Competition for determination.

15d: The Management Committee shall consider no protest of whatever kind unless the complaining Club shall have deposited with the Secretary a sum of £20. 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.

15e: All parties to a protest or complaint must be afforded an opportunity to make a statement when the protest or complaint is being heard and must have received 14 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.

16. Board of Appeal

This appeal process deals with ALL appeals against decisions made by the Management Committee, including any of its subcommittees or officers.

16: Within 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 the action is taken may appeal against such decision by lodging particulars in duplicate with the Secretary of the Amateur Football Alliance, including a fee decided by the AFA, 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.

17. Exclusion of Clubs or Teams, Misconduct - Clubs, Officials, Players

17a: At the Annual General Meeting, or Special General Meeting called for the purpose, 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 upon a majority of two-thirds of the votes cast. Voting on this point shall be conducted by ballot.

17b: At the Annual General Meeting, or 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 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.

17c: Any Official or member of a Club proved guilty of either misconduct, 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. Their Club shall also be liable to expulsion in accordance with the provisions of Clauses (A) and (B) of this Rule.

18. Trophy:- Legal Owners, Conditions of Taking Over, Agreement to be Signed, Awards

18: Competition trophies shall be vested in the Association sanctioning the Competition as Trustees. If a Competition be discontinued for any cause the trophies shall be returned to the donor, if the conditions attached to it so provide, or otherwise dealt with as the Association may decide.

Trophy holders must return the Cup to the engravers by a date advised annually by the Competition prior to the Annual Dinner.

Trophies will be returned to the engravers within 30 days after the Annual Dinner in preparation of for presentation at the current seasons Cup Finals. Clubs in breach of this condition shall be fined not less than £5 per day

(NB) The current engravers are Len Fowler (Trophies) Ltd., 55 Lambs Conduit Street, Holborn, London, WC1N 3NB

Winners of the trophy must send a representative to the Annual Dinner to collect the trophy. Clubs who breach this Rule shall be fined. Trophies not so collected will be retained by the Competition.

The following agreement shall be signed on behalf of the winners of each trophy:

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“ We, _____ and _____, the Chairman and Secretary of _____

_____ FC, members of and representing the Club, have been declared winners of _____ Trophy. It having been delivered to us by the Competition do hereby on behalf of the Club jointly and severally agree to return the trophy to the Competition on or before _____. If the 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.” Commemorative plaques will be awarded to finalist Clubs for their retention.

19. Special General Meetings

19: Upon receiving a requisition signed by two-thirds of the Clubs in membership the Secretary shall call a Special General Meeting, within 28 days.

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

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

Any continuing Member Club failing to be represented at such a Meeting without satisfactory reason being given may be fined.

Management Committee members shall be entitled to attend and vote.

20. Alteration to Rules

20: 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 alteration made during the playing season to the Rule relating to the qualification of players shall not take effect until the following season.

Notice of proposed alterations to be considered at the Annual General Meeting shall be submitted to the Secretary by the 30th April. The proposals, together with any proposals by the Management Committee, shall be circulated to the Clubs within 14 days and any amendments thereto shall be submitted to the Secretary within 14 days. 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 a majority of those present and entitled to vote is in favour.

A copy of the proposed alterations to Rules to be considered at the Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting shall be submitted to the sanctioning Football Association 14 days prior to the date of the meeting.

Any alterations or additions decided upon at any meeting shall not become operative until the approval of the Association issuing sanction shall have been obtained.

21. Rules Binding on Clubs

21: 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 must abide by any issued Football Association Code of Conduct.

22. Finance

22a: The Management Committee shall determine with which bank or other financial institution the funds of the Competition will be lodged.

22b: The Management Committee shall approve all expenditure in excess of the agreed budget. Cheques shall be signed by at least two Officers nominated by the Management Committee.

22c: The financial year of the Competition will end on 31st May

22d: The books, or a certified balance sheet, of a Competition shall be prepared and shall be audited annually by some suitable persons who shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting.

Notice to the Rules

Standard Level of Fines

£10 Late, or non-return , or incorrect result card

£10 Late kick-off 6-14 minutes

£15 Late kick-off 15-24 minutes

£20 Late kick-off 25-34 minutes

£25 Late kick-off 35+ minutes.

£20 No refreshments provided

£10 No corner flags.

£15 No nets.

£25 Playing an overstrength team

Up to £50 Withdrawal from fixture

£15 Failure to notify referee or opposition of fixture in good time

£15 Failure to respond to correspondence.

£25 Failure to advise of affiliation numbers by due date

NB In addition to all fines an administration fee of £5 will be charged