



The Rules of the

THE WALLASEY JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE

2015/2016

This document contains the Standard Code of rules developed by the Football Association together with additions for Youth Competitions.

The Wallasey Junior Football League has added to the core of the mandatory Standard Code, as they see fit. (Shown in italics)

The Standard Code of Rules is mandatory for all sanctioned Youth Competitions.

Rule No: **Rule Title:**

1. Nomenclature and Constitution
2. Entry fee: Subscription: Deposit
3. Officers
4. Management: Nomination: Election
5. Powers of Management
6. Annual General Meeting
7. Agreement to be Signed
8. Qualification of Players
9. Club Colours: Club Name
10. Playing season: Conditions of play: Kick-off times: Postponements: Substitutes
11. Reporting Results
12. Determining Championships
13. Referees
14. Continuation of Membership or Withdrawal of a Club
15. Protests and Complaints
16. Board of Appeal
17. Exclusion of Clubs or Teams: Misconduct: Clubs, Officials, Players
18. Trophies: Legal Owners: Agreement to be Signed: Awards
19. Special General Meeting
20. Alteration of Rules
21. Finance
22. Insurance
 - The Three Cup Competitions
 - Child Protection
 - Guide to marking Referees

Respect 



Respect

RESPECT

Respect is The FA's response to a clear message from throughout the game that the health of football depends upon high standards of behaviour on and off the pitch.

- Respect is a behavioural code for Football
- Respect is about recognising that the integrity of the game is more important than the result of the match
- Respect is about creating an understanding of what is acceptable and unacceptable behaviour in Football
- Respect is about those involved taking responsibility for the consequences of their own actions
- Respect is about supporting match officials to do their job. Without them we don't have a game
- Respect is not a slogan. It is a collective responsibility of those involved in football to create a fair, safe and enjoyable environment in which the game can take place.

The following Respect Codes of Conduct outline the types of behaviour that will support a fair, safe and enjoyable game this country. They also identify a range of sanctions which may be taken if these codes are not abided by.

Young Players

We all have a responsibility to promote high standards of behaviour in the game. As a player, you have a big part to play. That's why The FA is asking every player to follow a Respect Code of Conduct.

When playing football, **I will:**

- Always play to the best of my ability
- Play fairly – I won't cheat, complain or waste time
- Respect my team-mates, the other team, the referee or my coach/manager
- Play by the rules, as directed by the referee
- Shake hands with the other team and referee at the end of the game
- Listen and respond to what my coach/team manager tells me
- Talk to someone I trust or the club welfare officer if I'm unhappy about anything at my club.

I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any/all of the following actions may be taken by my club, County FA or The FA:

I may:

- Be required to apologise to my team-mates, the other team, referee or team manager
- Receive a formal warning from the coach or the club committee
- Be dropped or substituted
- Be suspended from training
- Be required to leave the club.

In addition:

- My club, County FA or The FA may make my parent or carer aware of any infringements of the Code of Conduct
- The FA/County FA could impose a fine and suspension against my club.



Coaches, Team Managers and Club Officials

We all have a responsibility to promote high standards of behaviour in the game.

In the FA's survey of 37,000 grassroots participants, behaviour was the biggest concern in the game. This included the abuse of match officials and the unacceptable behaviour of over-competitive parents, spectators and coaches on the sideline.

Play your part and observe The Football Association's Respect Code of Conduct in everything you do.

On and off the field, **I will:**

- Show respect to others involved in the game including match officials, opposition players, coaches, managers, officials and spectators
- Adhere to the laws and spirit of the game
- Promote Fair Play and high standards of behaviour
- Always respect the match official's decision
- Never enter the field of play without the referee's permission
- Never engage in public criticism of the match officials
- Never engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour

When working with players, **I will:**

- Place the well-being, safety and enjoyment of each player above everything, including winning
- Explain exactly what I expect of players and what they can expect from me
- Ensure all parents/carers of all players under the age of 18 understand these expectations
- Never engage in or tolerate any form of bullying
- Develop mutual trust and respect with every player to build their self-esteem
- Encourage each player to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance
- Ensure all activities I organise are appropriate for the players' ability level, age and maturity
- Co-operate fully with others in football (e.g. officials, doctors, physiotherapists, welfare officers) for each player's best interests.

I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any/all of the following actions may be taken by my club, County FA or The FA:

I may be:

- Required to meet with the club, league or County Welfare Officer
- Required to meet with the club committee
- Monitored by another club coach
- Required to attend an FA education course
- Suspended by the club from attending matches
- Suspended or fined by the County FA
- Required to leave or be sacked by the club.

In addition:

- My FACA (FA Coaches Association) membership may be withdrawn.



Spectators and parents/carers

We all have a responsibility to promote high standards of behaviour in the game.

This League is supporting The FA's Respect programme to ensure football can be enjoyed in a safe, positive environment.

Remember children's football is a time for them to develop their technical, physical, tactical and social skills. Winning isn't everything.

Play your part and observe The FA's Respect Code of Conduct for spectators and parents/carers at all times.

I will:

- Remember that children play for FUN
- Applaud effort and good play as well as success
- Always respect the match officials' decisions
- Remain outside the field of play and within the Designated Spectators' Area (where provided)
- Let the coach do their job and not confuse the players by telling them what to do
- Encourage the players to respect the opposition, referee and match officials
- Avoid criticising a player for making a mistake – mistakes are part of learning
- Never engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting, or abusive language or behaviour.

I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any/all of the following actions may be taken by my club, County FA or The FA:

I may be:

- Issued with a verbal warning from a club or league official
- Required to meet with the club, league or CFA Welfare Officer
- Required to meet with the club committee
- Obligated to undertake an FA education course
- Obligated to leave the match venue by the club
- Requested by the club not to attend future games
- Suspended or have my club membership removed
- Required to leave the club along with any dependents.

In addition:

- The FA/County FA could impose a fine and/or suspension on the club.



Match Officials

We all have a responsibility to promote high standards of behaviour in the game. The behaviour of the match officials has an impact, directly and indirectly, on the conduct of everyone involved in the game – both on the pitch and on the sidelines. Play your part and observe The FA's Respect Code of Conduct of match officials at all times.

I will:

- Be honest and completely impartial at all times
- Apply the Laws of the Game and competition rules fairly and consistently
- Manage the game in a positive, calm and confident manner
- Deal with all instances of violence, aggression, unsporting behaviour, foul play and other misconduct
- Never tolerate offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour from players and officials
- Support my match official colleagues at all times
- Set a positive personal example by promoting good behaviour and showing respect to everyone involved in the game
- Communicate with the players and encourage fair play
- Respond in a clear, calm and confident manner to any appropriate request for clarification by the team captains
- Prepare physically and mentally for every match
- Complete and submit, accurate and concise reports within the time limit required for games in which I officiate.

I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any/all of the following actions may be taken by my County FA or The FA:

I may be:

- Required to meet with The FA/County FA Refereeing Official
- Required to meet with The FA/County FA Refereeing Committee

NOMENCLATURE AND CONSTITUTION

- 1 (A) This Competition shall be designated the WALLASEY JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE and shall consist of not more than 44 Clubs who shall be Full Member Clubs.

The Competition will provide football in accordance with the agreed youth formats published under FA Rule C4(A). This Competition will reproduce the relevant FA Rule in its handbook and on its website to ensure clarity and compliance with Rule 8(B).

(B) All such Member Clubs must 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 Cheshire County Football Association. The area covered by the Competition Membership shall be the area covered by the Wirral District Football Association.

This Competition shall apply annually for sanction to the CHESHIRE COUNTY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION and the constituent teams of Member Clubs may be grouped in divisions, **each** not exceeding 14 in number.

(C) Inclusivity and Non-discrimination

(i) This Competition and each Member Club must be committed to promoting inclusivity and to eliminating all forms of discrimination

(ii) This Competition and each Member Club does not and must not [by its rules or regulations or] in any manner whatsoever unlawfully discriminate against any person within the meaning and scope of the Equality Act 2010 or any law, enactment, order or regulation relating to discrimination (whether by age, gender, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, marital status, race, nationality, ethnic origin, colour, religion or belief, ability or disability or otherwise).

(iii) This Competition and each Member Club must make every effort to promote equality by treating people fairly and with respect, by recognising that inequalities may exist, by taking steps to address them and by providing access and opportunities for all members of the community, irrespective of age, gender, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, marital status, race, nationality, ethnic origin, colour, religion or belief, ability or disability or otherwise).

(iv) Any alleged breach of the Equality Act 2010 legislation must be referred to the appropriate sanctioning Association for investigation.

(D) Not applicable

(E) As an FA Charter Standard League this Competition requires all its Clubs to have achieved FA Charter Standard League status by 2014. The League management committee may expel any club that has failed to achieve Charter Standard status by this date. New Member Clubs have one year to achieve the Charter Standard club award. The League has the right to refuse membership to a Club if it fails to demonstrate commitment to achieving the award

(F) This Competition and its Clubs shall support the FA's Respect programme. As such it recognises that everyone in football has a collective responsibility to create a fair, safe and enjoyable environment in which the game can take place. A Respect League values the courtesy and fairness by opposing players, club officials and spectators. The League and its Clubs will seek to play fixtures in a fair, competitive but not antagonistic environment.

(G) Member Clubs shall not enter any of their teams playing in the Competition in any other Competitions (with the exception of F.A. and County F.A. Competitions) except with the written consent of the Management Committee of the Competition.

(H) At the Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting called for the purpose, a majority of the delegates present shall have power to decide or adjust the compilation of the divisions at their discretion. When necessary this Rule shall take precedence over Rule 12.

ENTRY FEE, SUBSCRIPTION, DEPOSIT

- 2 (A) Applications by Clubs for admission to this Competition must be made in writing to the Secretary and must be accompanied by an Entry Fee of £20-00p 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. The Entry Fee shall apply.

Subject to vacancies and Management Committee approval, teams MAY be permitted late entry onto any Division in the Competition up One Calendar Month PRIOR to the opening of the ensuing season, as agreed at the AGM.

When Rule 12(B) is applied and a team seeks a transfer or is compulsorily transferred to another division no Entry Fee shall be payable.

(B) The Annual Subscription shall be £20-00p per Team playing 11-a-side and 9-a-side football, £15-00p per team playing 7-a-side football and £10-00 per team playing 5-a-side football payable on or before the 1st August in each year. The fee shall be paid to the League Treasurer after acceptance of a team's application.

The annual subscriptions fee shall include the entrance fee for the Cup Competitions organised by the Competition. Teams that have completed the previous season and intend to remain with this Competition are liable to a penalty payment of twice the said fee if they fail to make the payment ON or BEFORE the due date.

(C) Each Club shall, upon election, pay a Deposit of £20-00p 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, Annual Subscription and Deposit have been paid.

(E) Clubs must advise annually to the Secretary in writing by 31st July its CHESHIRE County Football Association affiliation number for the forthcoming Season, failing which they shall be fined £10. Clubs must advise the Secretary in writing, or on the prescribed form, of details of its Headquarters, Officers and any other information required by the Competition.

OFFICERS

- 3 The Officers of the Competition shall be determined by the Annual General Meeting and elected thereat. (N.B. Auditors/Verifiers are not Officers).

No Member Club shall have more than one representative on the Management Committee, other than officers, at any given time, except in an emergency.

MANAGEMENT, NOMINATION, ELECTION

- 4 (A) 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 8 other 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.

(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 14th 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

The Management Committee shall have the power to nominate from time to time, Life Members of the League. Such nominations to be approved at an Annual General Meeting and when approved shall have full voting powers.

(C) The Management Committee shall meet at least quarterly.

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 must be conducted through their nominated Officers.

For the purposes of the WALLASEY JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE the only recognised Representative of a Club shall be the Secretary.

(F) The Competition shall present long service awards to members completing 21 years service with the Competition.

(G) Any person who misses three consecutive League Meetings without sufficient reason, will be deemed to have resigned.

POWERS OF MANAGEMENT

5 (A) The Management Committee may appoint 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 sub-committees shall be reported to the Management Committee for ratification. The Management Committee shall have the power to deal only with matters within the Competition and not any matters of misconduct that are under jurisdiction of the Football Association or affiliated Association.

(B) Subject to the permission of the Cheshire 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 or where there may be a conflict of interest. (This shall apply to the procedure of any sub-committee).

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

(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.

With the exception of Rules 5(l), 6(H), 10(A), 11 and 19 for any breaches of Rule a formal written charge must be issued. The respondent shall be given seven days from the date of notice to reply to the charge and given the opportunity to:-

- (i) Accept or deny the charge
- (ii) Submit in writing a case of mitigation, or
- (iii) Put 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 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 must be notified in writing to those concerned within seven days.

(F) Five 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 be fined or otherwise penalised at the discretion of the Management Committee.

(I) All fines and charges shall be paid within 14 days of the date of posting of the written notification.

Any Club failing to do so will be fined a maximum of £50. Further failure to pay the fine including the additional sum within 14 days will result in fixtures being withdrawn until such time as the outstanding payments are settled.

(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) No participant under the age of 18 can be fined.

(M) Leagues who organise Mini Soccer for teams playing U7 and U8 football may not, with the exception of Rules 6, 10(A), 11(D), 14 and 19 fine clubs for breaches of League Rules.

(N) For those Leagues defined under Rule 5(M) when a team fails to fulfil either a festival or development fixture and pitch hire costs have been incurred, the Organising Competition will be empowered to order the defaulting club to pay these costs and charge an administration fee of up to £10.

(O) The business of the Competition as determined by the Management Committee may be transacted by electronic mail or facsimile.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- 6 (A) The Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than 30th June in each year. At this meeting the following business shall be transacted provided that at least Ten 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 of the season and kick off times applicable to the Competitions.
 - (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 verified Balance Sheet, Statement of Accounts and Agenda shall be forwarded to each Club at least fourteen days prior to the meeting, and to the Cheshire County Football Association.

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

(D) 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. Fourteen 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. This provision will not apply to Clubs expelled in accordance with Rule 17.

(F) All voting shall be conducted by a show of voting cards unless a ballot is demanded by at least six 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 Member Club.

(H) Any continuing Member Club failing to be represented at the Annual General Meeting without satisfactory reason being given shall be fined £20-00p.

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

(J) Any Members Club not represented at the Monthly Competition Meeting shall pay £10-00 administration costs, for the posting of fixtures and minutes etc. and shall be fined the sum of £10.00.

(K) No club will be permitted to sign in at a Monthly Competition Meeting on behalf of another club, nor collect any notices or publications on their behalf.

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, A, _____ of _____ (Chairman) and
B, _____ of _____ (Secretary) of the
_____ Football Club have been provided with a copy of the Rules and Regulations of the Wallasey Junior Football League Competition 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 must be notified to the Cheshire County Football Association(s) 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).

*At least 14 days prior to the commencement of the season all Club Welfare Officers will submit a copy of their Safeguarding Report to the League Welfare Officer. Only persons listed on the report and have an FA CRB **and has also attended a Safeguarding Children course as provided by the FA** will be entitled to an Identity badge and lanyard.*

Managers and Assistant Managers shall complete and submit an ID Application form (which shall be supplied by the League Welfare officer) together with two photographs to the League's Welfare Officer. A fee of £2 per badge must accompany the application. The Welfare Officer will

*in return send a Lanyard and Identity Badge which **MUST be openly worn and displayed at ALL** games governed by the WJFL. Further, such Lanyards and ID Badge will only be supplied upon the satisfactory completion of an FA Safeguarding Course and a CRB check as Controlled on behalf of the WJFL by the Welfare Officer and the Relevant Authority. Loss of said Lanyard and/or ID Badge must be reported to the Welfare Officer as soon as possible and replacements will incur the charge of £5-00 and require a further photograph.*

*Where it is deemed necessary for a temporary stand in to run the team for one game (no more than two) the designated person **MUST** be issued with the Lanyard and ID Badge of the person they are standing in for **AND** that person **MUST** wear said Lanyard and ID Badge as per rule 7 (A) (i). Were it is expected that the person running the team will be away for longer than two games the Management Committee **MUST** be advised and other arrangements will be agreed upon. The Club should satisfy themselves that the designated person is a "suitable" person and the Club is not in breach of the Government's Vetting & Barring Scheme.*

All Lanyards and Identity Badges remain the property of the W.J.F.L. and should be returned to the W.J.F.L. Welfare Officer as soon as the holder no longer requires it.

Failure to wear and display said Lanyard and ID Badge will render offenders subject to a fine of £20.00 and they may be subject to further action by the Management Committee.

QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

- 8 (A)(i) Contract players, as defined in Football Association Rules, are not permitted in this Competition with the exception of those Players who are registered under Contract with the same Club who have a team operating at Steps 1 to 6 of the National League System.

It is the responsibility of each Club to ensure that any Player signing a registration form for that Club has, where necessary, the required International Transfer Certificate. Clearance is required for any Player aged 12 and over crossing borders including Wales, Scotland and Ireland.

(ii) No player registered with a F.A. Premier League or Football League Academy under the Elite Player Performance Plan contained within Youth Development Rules will be permitted to play in this competition. Details of the Youth Development Rules are published on the FA web site.

(B) A registered youth playing member of a Club is one who, being in all other respects eligible, has:-

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

The registration document must incorporate two current passport-size photographs of the player seeking registration.

If a player's age is required for registration purposes a Competition must accept an original birth certificate. In cases where the birth certificate is not available a Competition is required to accept the player's passport or other official document issued by a Government Agency attesting to the player's date of birth.

To qualify to play in the Wallasey Junior Football League all players should reside permanently within the CH41 to CH66 Post Code areas. Permission must be obtained from the Management Committee for anyone wishing to join the League and residing in another Post Code area.

(ii) Only registration forms dated for the forthcoming season will be accepted. Any forms submitted that are dated for previous seasons will be rejected, unregistered.

(iii) Teams MUST have a minimum of ELEVEN players registered for 11 v 11, NINE players registered for 9 v 9 and SEVEN players for Mini Soccer and Girls Soccer no later than 1st August prior to the opening date of the ensuing season. Failure to comply will result in the none-inclusion of that team in the League.

(iv) Proof of Date of Birth MUST accompany ALL registration applications at: under 11's Boys and under 10's Girls. For ALL other age groups, players that have not previously registered with the W.J.F.L must also supply proof of Date of Birth. The Management Committee or its Representative may request proof of Date of Birth to be furnished at any time.

(v) For the purposes of the WALLASEY JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE the recognised registration counterfoil will consist of the Laminated Registration card. The registration form AND counterfoil must be signed in ink by the Club Secretary (pre-signed photocopied forms will NOT be accepted). Any team representative fielding a player before having received such proof of registration shall be deemed to have played a non-registered player and will be dealt with in accordance with RULE 8(O) (F.A. Rules).

(vi) The team representative MUST have in their possession at ALL games governed by the WALLASEY JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE, proof of registration of ALL their players. The Laminated Registration Card being the only proof accepted by the Competition.

(vii) ALL TEAMS MUST EXCHANGE WITH THEIR OPPOSITION PRIOR TO KICK OFF, the Laminated Registration Cards of ALL their players. These cards are to also be verified against the corresponding player of the opposing team by the manager. After checking, the cards are to be returned PRIOR to Kick Off.

(C) A child who has not attained the age of six shall not play, and shall not be permitted or encouraged to play, in a match of any kind.

The relevant age for each player is determined by his or her age as at midnight on 31 August of the relevant playing season.

i.e. Children who are aged 6 as at midnight on 31 August in a playing season together with those who attain the age of 6 during the playing season will be classed as Under 7 players for that playing season. Children who are aged 7 as at midnight on 31 August in a playing season will be classed as Under 8 players for that playing season, and so on.

Notwithstanding the above, a child is permitted to play up in the age group above his or her chronological age group, irrespective of any changes of format or competition structure, save that a child who attains the age of 6 after 31 August is permitted to play only in the Under 7 age group, and may not play in the Under 8 age group, for that playing season.

The age groups that children are eligible to play in are set out in the table below, along with the permitted football formats for each of those age groups. Children shall not play, and shall not be permitted or encouraged to play, in a match between sides of more than the stated number of players, according to their age group:

Age on 31 August of the relevant playing season	Eligible Age Groups	Maximum Permitted Format
6	Under 7	5v5
	Under 8	
7	Under 8	5v5
	Under 9	7v7
8	Under 9	7v7
	Under 10	
9	Under 10	7v7
	Under 11	9v9
10	Under 11	9v9
	Under 12	

11	Under 12	9v9
	Under 13	11v11
12	Under 13	11v11
	Under 14	
13	Under 14	11v11
	Under 15	
14	Under 15	11v11
	Under 16	
15	Under 16	11v11
	Under 17	
	Under 18	
16	Under 17	11v11
	Under 18	
	Open Age	

(D) FA Rule not applicable

(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) A fee of £4.00p shall be paid for each player registered. (Mini Soccer shall be £3.00p). Registration forms shall be obtained from the Registrations Secretary.

(ii) For the purposes of the WALLASEY JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE the registration fee MUST be paid at the time of registration, said registration will NOT be accepted unless accompanied by the set fee. The maximum number of players to be registered on the books at any one time shall be as follows: 11 v 11 = 20, 9 v 9 = 16, 7 v 7 = 14, 5 v 5 = 10

(iii) Any Registration card that requires replacement through loss, theft, or damage will incur a fee of £1.00. A replacement photograph will be required.

(iv) A player will not be deemed to have been de-registered from any Team/Club until the laminated registration card has been returned and received by the Registrations Secretary,

(G) 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.

(H) It shall be deemed misconduct for a player to:-

- (i) Play for more than one Club in the Competition in the same season without first being transferred.
- (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.

(I) (i) The Management Committee shall have the power to accept the registration of any player subject to the provisions of clauses (ii) and (iii) below.

(ii) The Management Committee shall have power to refuse, cancel or suspend the registration of any player who has been charged and found guilty of registration irregularities. (Subject to Rule 16).

(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 proven misconduct, 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 or intending to be registered with.

(iv) For a player who has previously had a registration removed in accordance with clause (iii) but has a registration accepted at the expiry of exclusion will be considered to be under a probationary period of 12 months. Whilst under a probationary period, should the player commit a further act of proven misconduct under the jurisdiction of the Competition, (excluding standard dismissals), the Competition would be empowered to consider a further charge of bringing the Competition into disrepute.

(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. All decisions must include the period of restriction. 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 for any team playing in this Competition.)

(J) Subject to FA Rule C2(a) dealing with players without a written contract when a player desires a transfer, the Club the player wishes to transfer to shall submit a transfer form to the Registration Secretary accompanied by a fee of £4.00, (Mini Soccer shall be £3.00). Such transfer shall be referred by the Registration Secretary to the Club for which the player is registered. Should this Club object to the transfer it should state its objections in writing to the Registration Secretary and to the player concerned within seven days of receipt of the transfer form. Upon receipt of the Club's consent, or upon its failure to give written objection within seven days, the Registration Secretary may, on behalf of the Management Committee, transfer the player who shall be deemed eligible to play for the new Club from such date or Fourteen days after receipt of such transfer.

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

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

(ii) Any Transfer application that has been received prior to the closure deadline as defined in rule 8(J(i)), but cannot be instantly processed, will be permitted to proceed once clearance has been granted.

(iii) For the purposes of the WALLASEY JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE any special championship play-off described in rule 12(B)(i) in this rule book will include any possible Second Place play-off.

(L)(i) 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.

In the event a Club has more than one team in an age group, each team must be clearly identifiable but not designated 'A' or 'B' or 1st or 2nd. In such cases, players will be registered for one team only. A player so registered will be allowed to play for his Club in a younger or older age group within the provisions of Rule 8 (B).

(ii) It is considered incorrect for a boy/girl to attempt to play in 2 or more matches on the same day, as one match may affect his/her ability to play in another.

(M) A register containing the names of all players registered for each Club, with the date of registration, shall be kept by the Registration Secretary and shall 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.

In the event of a player without a written contract changing his status to that of a contract player with the same club, another club in the Competition or with a club in another Competition his registration as a player without a written contract will automatically be cancelled and declared void. In order to play in the league again either his original Club or for another Club it will be necessary for him to be re-registered as required by this rule.

All registrations become null and void on 31st May and new registrations do not become valid until after 1st July for the following season.

(N) A player shall not be eligible to play for a team in any special championship, promotion or relegation deciding match (as specified in Rule 12(A)) unless the player has played five games for that team in this Competition in the current season.

(O) FA Rule not applicable

(P) (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 and/or otherwise dealt with at the discretion of the Management Committee.

(ii) In addition the team shall have Two 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 may, at its discretion, award the points available in the match in question to the opponents, subject to the match not being ordered to be replayed.

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

(Q)(i) Priority must be given at all times to school and school organisations activities. This is not applicable for under 17/18 football.

(ii) The availability of children must be cleared with the Head Teachers (except for Sunday Competitions).

(iii) **A child under the age of 15 as at midnight on 31 August in a playing season, shall not be permitted to play in a match during that playing season where any other player is older or younger than that child by two years or more.**

CLUB COLOURS, CLUB NAME

9 (A) Every Club must register the colour of its shirts and shorts with the Secretary by 1st August who shall decide as to their suitability.

Goalkeepers must 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 will play to its opponents at least seven days before the match.

If, in the opinion of the referee, two Clubs have the same or similar colours, the away 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 £10-00.

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 must be numbered.

(B) Any Club wishing to change its name and/or colours must seek permission from its affiliated County Football Association and from the Management Committee.

(C) Should Team colours clash in a Competition playoff or Cup Final, Team colours will be decided by the toss of a coin.

PLAYING SEASON, CONDITIONS OF PLAY TIMES OF KICK-OFF, POSTPONEMENTS, SUBSTITUTES

10 (A) The Annual General Meeting shall determine the date of the commencement of the season in accordance with Football Association Rules. Original fixtures arranged by the Fixtures Secretary, or at a meeting specially convened for that purpose, to be held no later than 1st April, must not be arranged for a date later than seven days preceding the concluding date determined by the Annual General Meeting.

(B) All matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game as determined by the International Football Association Board or, for Mini-Soccer and 9 v 9 football, the Laws as set down by The Football Association.

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 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.

Football Turf Pitches (3G Artificial Pitches) are allowed in this Competition providing they meet the required performance standards and are listed on the FA's Register of Football Turf Pitches. For clubs playing at Step 7 and below from season 2014/15, all Football Turf Pitches used must be on the FA's register and must be tested (by an accredited test institute) every three years and the results passed to The FA. The FA will give a decision on the suitability for use and add the pitch to the Register.

The home Club is also responsible for advising participants of footwear requirements when confirming match arrangements in accordance with Rule 10(D).

All matches shall have a duration as set out below unless a shorter time is mutually arranged by the two Clubs in consultation with the referee prior to the commencement of the match, and in any event shall be of equal halves.

For Mini-Soccer – The maximum duration of play for the under 7 and under 8 age groups shall be two halves of 20 minutes each way, **and for the under 9 and under 10 age groups, two halves of 25 minutes each way.** The maximum playing time in any one day for the under 7 and under 8 age groups is 40 minutes, and for the under 9 and under 10 age groups is 60 minutes **in all competitions.**

For Youth football – The maximum duration of play shall be as follows unless it is mutually agreed by all parties to reduce the time. For under 11 and under 12, 30 minutes each half; for under 13 and under 14, 35 minutes each half; for under 15 and under 16, 40 minutes each half and for under 17 and under 18, 45 minutes each half.

The minimum time for any game will not be less than 20 minutes each half for players in the under 14 age group and below and 25 minutes each half for all other age groups.

No player participating in an under 11 or under 12 division as at midnight on 31st August in any season shall be permitted to play more than one game or, in the event the Competition allows the playing of a double-header, i.e. two separate matches, 80 minutes per day in all competitions. For under 13 to under 16 divisions, no player may play more than 100 minutes per day in all competitions and for under 17 and under 18 divisions, not more than 120 minutes per day in all competitions.

In the Girls league the duration of play will be u9 and u11, 20 minutes each half and u13 and u15, 30 minutes each half.

The times of kick-off shall be fixed by the A.G.M. or the Management Committee. Any Club failing to commence at the appointed time may be fined a sum not exceeding £10-00 or be otherwise dealt with as the Management Committee may determine.

Referees must order matches to commence at the appointed time and must report all late starts to the Competition.

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

A size 3 ball will be used for age groups U7 to U9.

A size 4 ball will be used for age groups U10 to U14.

A size 5 ball will be used for all other age groups.

Goal nets and corner flags must be used.

The away team should also ensure that they are in possession of at least one match ball.

Details of pitch allocations including sharing arrangements MUST be with the Fixture Secretary no later than 1st August. Failure to comply will result in a £10-00 fine.

The League will provide venue(s) for the mini soccer games. The hire cost for the venue(s) will be split equally between all teams in the mini soccer leagues. The cost will be announced at the AGM. Any team failing to pay their share by the 1st September will be excluded from the mini soccer league.

The Management Committee will, prior to the commencement of the season, draw up a rota, comprised of clubs using the mini soccer venue(s), whereby clubs will provide person(s) to open and close the venue(s). Such person(s) will be responsible for collecting the relevant key(s) from the nominated Committee Member and opening the venue half an hour before the first appointed kick off time. They will also be responsible for ensuring that all equipment is returned and securely locked away. The Key(s) to be returned to the nominated official at a time agreed with the official. Clubs failing to carry out their obligation will be dealt with by the Management Committee.

(C) Except by permission of the Management Committee all matches must be played on the dates originally fixed but priority shall be given to The Football Association and all relevant County Association Cup Competitions. All other matches must be considered secondary. Clubs may mutually agree to bring forward a match with the consent of the Fixtures Secretary.

In the case of a revised fixture date, the Clubs must be given by the Competition 5 clear days notice of the match (unless otherwise mutually agreed).

Any CLUB/TEAM, which causes a postponement/brings forward a fixture or mutually agrees to a postponement/bringing forward a fixture without prior authorisation from the Competition Secretary/Fixtures Secretary or their nominee that is not an extreme circumstance, will have given cause to face disciplinary action and be dealt with under Rule 10 (F).

NO postponements will be granted due to school activities and/or trips unless permission is sought in writing AT LEAST TWO months (where possible) in advance of the game(s). The Management Committee, subject to sufficient notice being given, will consider all requests. The Fixture Secretary will be permitted to make the final decision if insufficient notice of request is given.

(D) The Secretary of the home Club must give notice in writing of full particulars of the location of, and access to, the ground and time of kick-off to the match officials and the Secretary of the opposing Club at least THREE clear 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 of £10-00.

(E) In the event of a Team playing in an 11-a-side match with less than ELEVEN players they may be fined £5-00p for each missing player. A minimum of SEVEN players will constitute a team for a Competition match. In the event of a Team playing in a 7-a-side match with less than SEVEN players they may be fined £5-00p for each missing player. A minimum of FIVE players

will constitute a team for a Competition match. In the event of a Team playing in a 9-a-side match with less than NINE players they may be fined £5-00p for each missing player. A minimum of SIX players will constitute a team for a Competition match.

(F)(i) Home and away matches shall be played. In the event of a Club failing to keep its engagement the Management Committee shall have power to inflict a fine, deduct points from the defaulting Club, award the points to the opponents, order the defaulting Club 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.

Mini Soccer shall be played on League hired neutral grounds. The Management Committee have the right to move games to club grounds in special circumstances, if so required.

(ii) 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, A Team. Clubs in breach of this requirement shall be fined a sum not exceeding £10-00p or otherwise dealt with by the Management Committee.

(iii) Any Club unable to fulfil a fixture or where a fixture has been postponed for any reason must, without delay, give notice to the Fixtures Secretary, the Competition Secretary, The Competition Referees Appointments Secretary, the Secretary of the opposing Club and the match officials. Any Club failing to comply shall be dealt with by the Management Committee who may inflict a fine.

(iv) 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 the two Clubs and approved by the Management Committee. Failing such agreement and notification to the Fixtures Secretary within Seven 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.

(v) The Management Committee shall review all matches abandoned 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 Club, the Management Committee shall be empowered to order the score at the time of 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 member(s) they shall be empowered to award the points for the match to the opponents. In cases where a match has been abandoned owing to the conduct of both teams and/or their Club members, the Management Committee shall rule all points for the match as void. No fines(s) can be applied by the management Committee for an abandoned match.

(vi) The Management Committee shall review any match that has taken place where either or both teams were under a suspension imposed upon them by the Association or Affiliated Association. In each case the team that was under suspension would be dealt with in the same manner as if they had participated with ineligible players in accordance with Rule 8(O) above. Where both teams were under suspension the game must be declared null and void.

(vii) In the event of poor weather and the effect this may have on playing conditions the following procedures MUST be adhered to.

A request for a pitch inspection MUST be made to the Referees Secretary no later than the Saturday afternoon for the inspection of the pitch to be carried out on the following Sunday morning. In the case of Saturday fixtures the request must be made no later than Friday Afternoon. Once requested, the Referees Secretary will appoint a Panel Referee to assess the condition of the pitch and advise accordingly. ONLY THE PANEL REFEREE shall have the power to decide, at that time, on the condition of the pitch and if it is suitable for the game to proceed. Subsequently every effort will be made by the Management Committee to notify the Team Manager and/or Club Secretary of the decision to play, postpone or transfer the fixture to an alternative venue.

Failure to request a pitch inspection on or before the required deadline will require both teams to travel to the venue and await the decision of the Match referee or appointed Match Official.

(G) A Club playing 11 a side football may at its discretion and in accordance with the Laws of the Game use 5 substitute players in any match in this Competition who may be selected from 5 players.

A Club playing in the Girls League may at its discretion and in accordance with the Laws of the Game use 5 substitute players in any match in this Competition who may be selected from 5 players.

For Mini-Soccer – any number of substitutions may be used at any time with the permission of the Referee. Entry onto the field of play will only be allowed during a stoppage in play. A player who has been replaced may return to the play as a substitute for another player. A Team must not have a squad on match day greater than double the size of its team in an age group.

For Youth Football – for teams in the under 18 age group and below, 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.

The referee shall be informed of the names of the substitutes not later than Five 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.

Substitutes NOT used must NOT be named on the result sheet. Clubs, who contravene this rule, will be dealt with by the Management Committee.

(H) The half time interval shall be of Five minutes duration, but it shall not exceed fifteen minutes. The half time interval may only be altered with the consent of the referee.

(I) The Competition shall require all players and club officials to have signed the FA's Respect Codes of Conduct and produce these if so requested by the management committee.

Each home club shall make arrangements for the provision of designated areas for spectators. This area can be marked by an additional painted line, the use of cones, a roped off area or use of a temporary spectator barrier. The area for spectators should start two metres from the touchline on both sides of the pitch. Each area should run the full length of the pitch. It is recognised, however, that the alignment of some public pitches does not allow for this arrangement in which case other appropriate arrangements should be made.

(J) A maximum of two persons per team wearing a Lanyard (as referred to in Rule 7(A)(i)) and the Officially appointed Assistant Referee (where present) can be in the area between the Respect Barrier and the field of play.

Clubs in breach of these requirements will be liable to a fine of £10-00 and may be subject to further action by the Management Committee."

(K) Club Officials and Representatives MUST be of adult age. ALL Team managers and assistants MUST be over the age of 18 years.

(L) Only one person has the authority to convey tactical instructions to the players during the match. This person shall be the Team Manager or the Team Coach.

The above person must behave in a responsible manner at all times. Misconduct will be reported by the Referee to the County FA, who shall have the power to impose sanctions as deemed fit.

(M) All teams must be supervised by adults who shall be responsible for all matters in connection with the team. They must hold a current CRB / First Aid certificate.

(N) All teams must have a first aid kit available.

(O) For Child Protection purposes players' names must not be put on any part of a player's kit.

REPORTING RESULTS

11 (A) The Records Secretary must receive within Four days of the date played, the result of each Competition match in the prescribed manner. This must include the forename(s) and surname of the team players (in block letters) and also the Referee markings required by Rule 13, or any other information required by the Competition. *Team sheets as required in F.A. Rule 11(A) should be in alphabetical order They must also name the Outstanding sportsman in the opposing team and give points for the oppositions Sporting Attitude. For under 7's and 8's no players records can be kept by the competition, the clubs must still award points for the referee and oppositions sporting attitude.* Failure to do so will incur a fine of £10-00 for each offence and/or the Club being dealt with as the Management Committee decide.

(B(i) The Home Club shall telephone/notify the result of each match to the Fixture Secretary by 6:30pm on the day of the match, or within 2 hours of the completion of the game for evening fixtures, in default shall be fined £10-00.

(B) (ii) Failure to observe F.A. Rule 11(B) WILL result in the offending Club being fined £5-00p for each offence.

(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 which submits an incomplete form or incorrect information.

(D) Leagues are permitted to collect but not to publish results for fixtures they organize for U7, U8, U9 and U10 Mini Soccer **and U11**. They may require a Club to confirm that a set fixture has been played. A maximum fine of £5 may be imposed for a breach of this Rule

DETERMINING CHAMPIONSHIP

12 (A) Team rankings within the Competition will be decided by points with Three points to be awarded for a win and One 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 must not be played for double points. In Mini Soccer points can only be awarded for Under 9 Competitions onwards.

In the event of two or more teams being equal on points team rankings may be decided in deciding match(es) played under conditions determined by the Management Committee.

For the purposes of the WALLASEY JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE should two or more teams being equal on points for second position or any important position in a division at the close of the competition, a deciding match may be ordered to be played under conditions arranged by the Management Committee.

(B) Where there is more than one division in an age group automatic promotion and relegation shall be applied for the first placed and last placed teams in the division except as provided for hereunder, subject to the provisions of Rule 1(b).

(i) Should one or more teams withdraw from any one Division after the fixtures have commenced an equal number of teams to those withdrawing in that Division shall not be automatically relegated.

(ii) vacancies occurring after the conclusion of the season may be filled by any of the following ways:

- (a) retention of otherwise relegated team(s)
- (b) additional promotion of the next ranked team(s) from the Division below
- (c) election.

(C) In the event of a team not completing 75% of its fixtures for the season all points obtained by or recorded against such defaulting team shall be expunged from the Competition table.

REFEREES

13 (A) Registered Referees for all matches shall be appointed in a manner approved by the Management Committee and by the sanctioning Association(s).

(ii) The HOME team MUST confirm with the referee, (when so appointed), 96 hours prior to the allotted time of Kick off of their game.

(iii) Any Club failing to pay its share of the referee's fee will be fined £10-00, and remain liable for its share of the fee.

(B) In the event of the non-appearance of the appointed Referee, or where the competition has been unable to appoint a Referee, the Clubs shall agree upon a Referee. A Referee thus agreed upon shall, for that game, have the full powers, status and authority of a registered Referee.

(ii) If under Rule 13 (B) of the F.A. rules a Referee is mutually agreed upon, that person must be aged over 17 years. Referees who are qualified/registered may only officiate in a game where he/she is at least 14 years of age but not less than 3 years older than the age group of the Competition division in which he/she is officiating.

(iii) In the event of a match not being played due to having no appointed referee and failure to mutually agree on a referee, then the responsible Club(s) shall be fined £10-00 AND may be further dealt with as the Management Committee see fit.

(iv) If a match referee has not turned up TEN minutes after the appointed kick off time, the officials of the participating teams SHALL appoint a referee subject to rule 13(B) and start the match. If the appointed referee then turns up he shall take over the game at the point in play when the ball next goes out of the field of play.

(C) Where Assistant Referees are not appointed each Team shall provide a Club Assistant Referee. Failure to do so will result in a fine of £10-00 being imposed on the defaulting Club.

Where the teams provide a Club Assistant Referee such Club Assistant Referee must be in possession of a Lanyard and ID Badge as defined in Rule 7.

(D) The appointed Referee shall have power to decide as to the fitness of the ground in all matches and the decision shall be final subject to either in the case of a ground of a Local Authority or the owners of a ground, the Representative of that body is the sole arbiter and whose decision must be accepted unless the ground is declared fit for play.

(E) Subject to any limits/provisions laid down by the sanctioning Association Match Officials appointed under this Rule shall be paid a match fee of £18.00 which shall be paid in equal sums of £9.00 per each team, for 9 and 11 a side Games and u14 and u16 Games in the Girls League. The match referee fee of £10.00 shall be paid in equal sums of £5.00 per each team, for u10 and u12 Games in the Girls League and Mini Soccer.

The Clubs shall pay the Officials their fees and expenses immediately after the match.

(F) In the event of a match not being played because of circumstances over which the Clubs have no control, the Match Officials, if present, shall be entitled to half fee. Where a match is not played due 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.

(G) A Referee not keeping his or her engagement, and failing to give a satisfactory explanation as to their non-appearance, may be reported to the Association with which he or she is registered.

(H) Each Club shall, in a manner prescribed from time to time by The Football Association, award marks to the Referee for each match and the name of the Referee and the marks awarded shall be submitted to the Competition on the prescribed Form provided. Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be liable to be fined or dealt with as the Management Committee shall determine.

(I) The Competition shall keep a record of the markings and, on the Form provided by the prescribed date each season, shall submit a summary to The Football Association/County Football Association.

(ii) For the purposes of the Wallasey Junior League a written report shall be submitted with the duly completed match report form if the marks awarded to the match referee are determined at 50 or below.

(K) Referees and Assistant Referees shall be supplied, each Season, with a copy of the Competition Rules free of charge.

A referee should report to the Competition Secretary, Clubs that cause a late start and/or do not provide nets and/or corner flags and/or do not provide a suitable match ball as governed elsewhere within these rules.

CONTINUATION OF MEMBERSHIP OR WITHDRAWAL OF A CLUB

14 (A) After 31st December in the current Season a Club intending, or having a provisional intention, to withdraw a team from the Competition on completion of its fixtures and fulfilment of all other obligations to the Competition must notify the Secretary in writing by 31st March each Season or be liable to a fine not exceeding £50-00p.

All Clubs wishing to remain in membership of the Competition for the following Season must confirm their intention to do so, in writing, to the League Secretary by 30th April.

(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 £10-00p per team and shall also be liable for its share of any call which may be made under Rule 5(D).

(C) The Membership for the coming season having been decided at a Special General Meeting held for that purpose or at the Annual General Meeting the Competition shall have the right, irrespective of other provisions in this Rule, to refuse to permit a Club to withdraw its team(s) in order to join another Competition and may hold the Club to its engagements.

(D) 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.

PROTESTS AND COMPLAINTS

15 (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 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.

(B) 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 Five 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 £15-00p. 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 must receive a copy of the submission and must be afforded an opportunity to make a statement at least 7 days prior to the protest or complaint being heard.

(i) All parties must have received 14 days' notice of the Hearing should they be instructed to attend.

(ii) Should a Club elect to state its case in person then they should forward a deposit of £15-00 and indicate such when forwarding the written response.

(F) 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.

BOARD OF APPEAL

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 action is taken may appeal against such decision by lodging particulars in duplicate with the Secretary of the Cheshire Football Association, including a fee of £35-00p, 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.

EXCLUSION OF CLUBS OR TEAMS MISCONDUCT, CLUBS, OFFICIALS, PLAYERS

17 (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 must be supported by (more than) two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) 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 team of a Club whose conduct has, in their opinion, been undesirable, which must be supported by (more than) two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of those present and voting. 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 debarred from membership the following season.

TROPHY:- LEGAL OWNERS, CONDITIONS OF TAKING OVER, AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED, AWARDS

18 (A) 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 _____. 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 comply will result in a fine as determined by the Management Committee.

(B) At the close of each Competition awards may/shall be made to the winners and runners-up if the funds of the Competition permit.

(C)(i) Clubs/teams who, having won a returnable trophy in the previous season, then disband, choose to leave this Competition or have their fixtures withheld for any reason shall return all such trophies immediately to the Competition Secretary subject to the exclusions of RULE 18 (C)(ii).

(ii) Clubs/teams who, having won a returnable trophy in the previous season, then disband because no continuing division is available shall return the trophy to the Competition Secretary at a date as indicated on the signed agreement.

(iii) Member Clubs failing to return trophies to the Competition Secretary by the stipulated date in accordance with the relevant clauses of this rule will be fined £10-00p per trophy.

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.

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

At least Seven 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 Member Club shall be empowered to send two delegates to all Special General Meetings. Each Club shall be entitled to one vote only, as will members of the Management Committee.

Any continuing Member Club failing to be represented at a Special General Meeting without satisfactory reason being given shall be fined £10-00p.

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

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 31st March in each year. The proposals, together with any proposals by the Management Committee, shall be circulated to the Clubs by 14th April and any amendments thereto shall be submitted to the Secretary by 30th April. 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 **and voting** are 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 28 days prior to the date of the meeting.

FINANCE

- 21 (A) The Management Committee shall determine with which bank or other financial institution the funds of the Competition will be lodged.
- (B) All expenditure in excess of £150-00p 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 will end on 31st May.
- (D) The books, or a certified balance sheet, of a Competition shall be prepared and shall be verified annually by some suitable person(s) who shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting.

INSURANCE

- 22 All Clubs must have public liability insurance cover of at least ten million pounds (£10,000,000).
- 23 (A) Dissolution of the Competition shall be by resolution approved at a Special General Meeting by a majority of three quarters of the members present and shall take effect from the date of the relevant Special General Meeting.
- (B) In the event of the dissolution of the Competition, the members of the Management Committee are responsible for the winding up of the assets and liabilities of the Competition.
- (C) The Management Committee shall deal with any surplus assets as follows:
- (i) Any surplus assets, save for a Trophy or any other presentation, remaining after the discharge of the debts and liabilities of the Competition shall be transferred only to another Competition or Affiliated Association or The Football Association Benevolent Fund or to such other charitable or benevolent object in the locality of the Competition as determined by resolution at or before the time of winding up, and approved in writing by the sanctioning Association.
- (ii) 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.

Photography

Persons wishing to take Photographs/Videos at any game organised by the Wallasey Junior Football League should follow the guidelines set down by The FA.

Where the game is on land under the control of the Wallasey Junior Football League permission to take Photographs/Videos must be obtained from the League Secretary.

For Child Protection purposes permission must be obtained from both team managers before the game commences.

League Officers and Committee Members would request that you do NOT phone them after

9:30PM

PLEASE NOTE:

Club Secretaries are strongly advised to acquaint their Team Managers with these particular RULES.

THE THREE CUP COMPETITIONS

Section 1:

QUALIFICATION OF ENTRY IN TO THE CUP COMPETITIONS

1. The League shall run a MAXIMUM of 3 Cup Competitions per Division.
2. There must be a MINIMUM of 12 teams in the Division for the 3 Cup Competitions; to be run. Only 2 Cup Competitions; shall be run in a divisions with 11 teams or less. Only 1 (one) Cup Competition; shall be run in a division with 7 teams or less.
3. The First Cup (The Knock-Out Cup) shall include ALL teams within the division. The four teams that reach the semi-final stage shall take no further part in any of the other Cup Competitions
4. The Second Cup (The Challenge Cup) shall include ALL teams that were knocked-out up to and including the Quarter Final stage of the first Cup Competition. The four teams that reach the semi-final stage shall take no further part in the remaining Cup Competition.
5. The Third Cup (The Presidents Cup) shall include ALL the remaining teams. There MUST be FOUR teams minimum for this Competition to run.
6. ALL the Cup Competitions shall be played on a straight knock-out basis.
7. The positions of any team within the Division shall have NO bearing on qualification within the Cup Competitions.
8. Should a team, for whatever reason, be barred from continuing in a Cup Competition, the offended/beaten team will not step up to replace them if such team has played in a round of a lesser Cup Competition. A team that is barred from one Cup Competition for whatever reason shall not be allowed to compete in any other Divisional Competition in the same season subject to the discretion of the Management Committee.
9. The Management Committee shall be empowered to cancel any individual Cup Competition, if in their opinion, due to poor weather conditions, or other unforeseen circumstances, it is not possible to complete the competition before the conclusion of the season as determined by Rule 1(A).
10. Rules regarding qualification of players and replays etc. shall be separate from the qualifying rules.

Section 2:

THE RULES OF THE COMPETITIONS

1. MANAGEMENT:

The Management of the affairs of the Competitions shall be the responsibility of the Management Committee, as stated in the current RULES and REGULATIONS of the WALLASEY JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE.

2. COMPETING CLUBS:

Entry to the Competitions shall be available to Clubs who are members of the Wallasey Junior Football League and entry is compulsory.

3. QUALIFICATION of PLAYERS:

(a) All players participating in the Competitions must have the qualifications of the League and in addition, have been registered for his current team, for at least TWELVE days prior to participating in ANY Cup-Tie.

- (b) No players shall play for more than one team in each of the Competitions, in their appropriate age groups. Players who have transferred or registered for a new team during the course of the season may take part in any Cup Competition subject to this RULE and CLAUSE 3.(a).
- (c) Fourteen clear days prior to the Final Tie, the competing Clubs shall send to the Competition Secretary or nominee a list of players. Failure to comply will result in a £5-00p fine.
- (d) Teams that have reached a Final Tie of ANY Cup Competition may be requested to forgo any minimum notification period prior to the date set for that final. Should this request be made no fine will be incurred as per rule 3(c).
- (e) Any club playing a ineligible player, in a Cup-Tie, shall be struck out of the Competition, and shall not be allowed to compete in any other Divisional Competition in the same season, subject to the discretion of the Management Committee. If a team is subsequently found to have played an ineligible player, their opponents in that round, will be declared the winners of the tie, subject to that team NOT having played in a lesser Cup Competition, in which case, the opponents in the next round will receive a bye.
- (f) Any protests or complaints relating to the Cup Competitions will be controlled by League RULE 15.
- (g) Only those players eligible to play on the original date of a tie can play in the event of a postponement or replay.
4. **ROUNDS of the COMPETITIONS:**
- (a) Where possible the Semi-final stage of the first two Competitions will be completed by the end of February.
- (b) TEAMS SHALL BE DRAWN IN PAIRS, the first drawn in each pair shall be the 'HOME' team prior to the finals.
- (c) ALL games will be played to completion with NO replays. In the event of a draw after normal time rule 4(d) of this section shall be observed.
- (d) Extra time shall be played in all drawn games, duration of which shall be of ten minutes each way, 5 minutes each way for Mini Soccer. In the event of the scores being level after extra time, the tie will be decided by the taking of penalty kicks to obtain a result as agreed by the International Board (referees are strongly urged to study this rule).
5. **REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES FEES:**
The fees payable to the match Officials are governed by FA Rule 13(E). If however, either Official elects to accept a Trophy, the normal fee is not payable to that official.
6. **GATE RECEIPTS:**
In the Final Tie, the Management Committee shall defray the expenses of the Ground, Referee, Assistant Referees, Printing, etc.: and retain any balance or receipts. Any revenue remaining will be donated to the League Funds.
7. **MEDAL AWARDS:**
At the conclusion of the competitions, the team declared the overall winner shall be presented with the trophy and the players with awards. A trophy and awards may also be presented to the runners up.
8. Alcohol is not permitted on any ground used for the playing of Wallasey Junior League fixtures except where the ground has appropriate Licensed Premises. The owners of Grounds with Licensed Premises must ensure that alcohol is not permitted to be outside the Licensed Bar area and the laws regarding such Licensed Premises must be adhered to.
9. **GENERAL:**
It is to be understood that in all cases, where not otherwise stated, the normal Rules of the Wallasey Junior Football League, will apply to the running of these Competitions.

CHILD PROTECTION

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.(a) In these Regulations the expression "Offence" shall mean any one or more of the offences contained in the Schedules of the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000 and any other criminal offence which reasonably causes The Association to believe that the person accused of the offence poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children
- (b) All persons in such positions that The Association deems relevant whose normal duties include caring for, training, supervising or being in sole charge of children are required to obtain an Enhanced Disclosure via The Association's CRB process.
3. Upon receipt by The Association of:
 - 3.1 notification that an individual has been charged with an Offence; or
 - 3.2 notification that an individual is the subject of an investigation by the Police, Social Services or any other authority relating to an Offence; or
 - 3.3 any other information which causes The Association reasonably to believe that a person poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children then The Association 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 should be made The Association shall give consideration, inter alia, to the following factors:
 - 4.1 whether a child is, or children are, or may be at risk of harm;
 - 4.2 whether the matters are of a serious nature;
 - 4.3 whether an order is necessary or desirable to allow the conduct of any investigation by The Association 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 Association or any Offence is decided or brought to an end.
6. Where an order is imposed on an individual under regulation 3 above, The Association shall bring and conclude any proceedings under the Rules of The Association 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 Association and The Association 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 Association shall act through its Council 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. The applicable standard of proof shall be the civil standard, of the balance of probability. The more serious the allegation taking into account the nature of the misconduct alleged and the context of the case the greater the burden of evidence required to find the matter proved. Save that for charges pursuant to The Football Association's Child Protection Policy, where the welfare and protection of children shall be paramount and the test shall be whether more likely than not.

Guide to Marking of Referees

The mark awarded by a club must be based on the referee's **overall** performance. It is most important that the mark is awarded fairly and not based upon isolated incidents or previous games. The referee's performance should be determined by the table below which should act as a guide for the overall mark which should fall within the mark range for each standard of performance.

<u>Mark Range</u>	<u>Comment</u>
91-100	The referee was extremely accurate in decision making and very successfully controlled the game using management and communication skills to create an environment of fair play, adding real value to the game.
81-90	The referee was very accurate in decision making and successfully controlled the game using management and communication skills to create an environment of fair play.
71 - 80	The referee was accurate in decision making and controlled the game well, communicating with the players, making a positive contribution towards fair play.
61-70	The referee was reasonably accurate in decision making, controlled the game quite well and communicated with players, establishing a reasonable degree of fair play.
51-60	The referee had some shortcomings in the level of accuracy of decision making and control, with only limited success in communicating with the players resulting in variable fair play.
50 and below	The referee had significant shortcomings in the level of accuracy of decision making and control with poor communication with the players which resulted in low levels of fair play

Notes

- Using a scale of up to 100 allows greater flexibility for clubs to distinguish between different refereeing performances more accurately.
- A mark within each mark range can be given to reflect the referee's performance e.g. a mark of 79 indicates a somewhat better performance than a mark of 71.
- A mark between 71 and 80 represents the standard of refereeing expected.
- When a mark of 50 or less is awarded, an explanation must be provided to the League or Competition by completing the appropriate box on the marking form. It must include comments which could help improve the referee's future performances. Even where a referee has significant shortcomings there will have been some positive aspects which should be given credit; extremely low marks (below 20) should be very rare.

The following questions focus on the key areas of a referee's performance. They are intended as an "aide memoire", are not necessarily comprehensive and need not be answered individually. It is, however, worth considering them before committing yourself to a mark for the referee.

How to Decide on the Referee's Mark

CONTROL AND DECISION MAKING

- How well did the referee control the game?
- Were the players' actions recognised correctly?
- Were the Laws applied correctly?
- Were all incidents dealt with efficiently/effectively?
- Were all the appropriate sanctions applied correctly?
- Was the referee always within reasonable distance of incidents?
- Was the referee well positioned to make critical decisions, especially in and around the penalty area?
- Did the referee understand the players' positional intentions and keep out of the way accordingly?
- Did the referee demonstrate alertness and concentration throughout the game?
- Did the referee apply the use of the advantage to suit the mood and temperature of the game?

- Was the referee aware of the players' attitude to advantage?
- Did the referee use the assistants effectively?
- Did the officials work as a team, and did the referee lead and manage them to the benefit of the game?

COMMUNICATION AND PLAYER MANAGEMENT

- How well did the referee communicate with the players during the game?
- Did the referee's level of involvement/profile suit this particular game?
- Did the referee understand the players' problems on the day – e.g. difficult ground/weather conditions?
- Did the referee respond to the changing pattern of play/mood of players?
- Did the referee demonstrate empathy for the game, allowing it to develop in accordance with the tempo of the game?
- Was the referee pro-active in controlling of the game?
- Was the referee's authority asserted firmly without being officious
- Was the referee confident and quick thinking?
- Did the referee appear unflustered and unhurried when making critical decisions?
- Did the referee permit undue questioning of decisions?
- Did the referee deal effectively with players crowding around after decisions/incidents?
- Was effective player management in evidence?
- Was the referee's body language confident and open at all times?
- Did the pace of the game, the crowd or player pressure affect the referee negatively?

Final Thoughts

- Always try to be objective when marking. You may not obtain the most objective view by marking immediately after the game.
- Judge the performance over **the whole game**. Don't be too influenced by one particular incident.
- Don't mark the referee down unfairly because your team was unlucky and lost the game or some disciplinary action was taken against your players.