

EVERARDS CHARNWOOD SUNDAY FOOTBALL LEAGUE

RULES

NOMENCLATURE AND CONSTITUTION

- (A). This Competition shall be designated the Charnwood Sunday Football League and known as the Everards Charnwood Sunday Football League shall consist of not more than 60 Clubs approved by the sanctioning authority. 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 Leicestershire and Rutland County Football Association. The area covered by the Competition Membership shall be Leicestershire and Rutland.

This Competition shall apply annually for sanction to the Leicestershire and Rutland County Football Association and the constituent teams of member clubs may be grouped into divisions, each not exceeding 14 in number.

Member clubs shall not enter any of their teams playing in the competition in any other competitions (with the exception of FA and County FA Competitions) except with the written consent of the Management Committee of the Competition.

- (B). 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

- (A). Applications by clubs for admission to this Competition or for the entry of additional team(s) must be made in writing to the Secretary and must be accompanied by an entry fee of £120.00 per team 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 at a Special General Meeting. The entry fee shall apply.

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

- (B). The Annual Subscription shall be £60.00 per team payable on or before 31st March in each year.
- (C). Each club shall, within 7 days of election, pay a deposit of £50.00 which shall be returnable to Clubs on leaving the Competition provided that the Club has fulfilled all 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 1st May of its Sanctioning County Football Association affiliation number for the forthcoming season, failing which they shall be fined £10.00. Clubs must advise the Secretary in writing, or on the prescribed form, of details of the Club 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).

MANAGEMENT, NOMINATION, ELECTION

- (A). The Competition shall be governed in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of The Football Association by a Management Committee comprised of the Officers and a maximum of 4 Club 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 General Secretary in writing and signed by Secretaries of two Member Clubs, not later than 31st March 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 of any office, nominations may be received at the Annual General Meeting.
- (C). The Management Committee shall meet monthly, or as often as is necessary, to deal with business as it arises. On receiving a requisition signed by two thirds of the Members of the Management Committee the Secretary shall convene a meeting of the Committee.
- (D). Except where otherwise mentioned all communications shall be addressed to the Secretary who shall conduct the correspondence of the Competition and keep a record of the proceedings.
- (E). All communication between Clubs and the Management Committee must be conducted through their nominated Officer(s).

POWERS OF MANAGEMENT

5. (A). The Management Committee may appoint sub-committees and delegate such of their powers as deemed necessary. The decisions of all such committees shall be reported to the Management Committee for ratification. The Management Committee shall have power to deal only with matters within the Competition and not for any matters of misconduct that are under the jurisdiction of the Football Association or Affiliated Association.
5. (B). Subject to the permission of the Sanctioning 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)).
5. (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 any Club so represented or where there may be a conflict of interest. (This shall apply to the procedure of the sub-committee). In the event of the voting being equal on any matter the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.
5. (D). The Management Committee shall have powers to apply, act upon and enforce the Rules of Competition and shall have jurisdiction over all matters affecting the Competition, including any not provided for in the Rules.

With the exception of Rules 5(I), 6(H), 11 and 19 for all breaches of Rule a formal written charge must be issued. The respondent shall be given 7 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.

Except where these Rules provide for the imposition of a set penalty any Club, Club Official (limited to Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer) or Player alleged to be in breach of a Competition Rule must be formally charged in writing and given the opportunity to present their case before the Management Committee. Financial penalties can only be imposed if included within the set penalties for breaches of Competition rules. All breaches of the Laws of the Game, Rules and Regulations of The Football Association shall be dealt with in accordance with FA Rules by the appropriate Association. With the exception of Clubs playing at Step 7 of the Football Pyramid and the FA Women's Premier League, the maximum fine permitted for any breach of Competition Rule is £250.00 and, when setting any fine, the Competition must ensure that the penalty is proportional to the offence, taking into account any mitigating circumstances.

5. (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 14 days.
5. (F). 4 Members of the Management Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business of the Management Committee and 3 Members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business by any sub-committee of the Competition.
5. (G). The Management Committee, as it may deem necessary, shall have power to fill, in an acting capacity, any vacancies that occur amongst their number.
5. (H). A Club having failed to comply with an order or instruction of the Management Committee, or failing to satisfactorily attend to the business and/or the correspondence of the Competition, shall be liable to a fine or otherwise penalised at the discretion of the Management Committee.
5. (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 £50.00. 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.
5. (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.
5. (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 Meeting or Special General Meeting called to decide the Constitution and the commencement of the Competition Season.
5. (L). The business of the Competition as determined by the Management Committee may be transacted by post, electronic mail or facsimile.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

6. (A). The Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than 31st May in each year. At this meeting the following business shall be transacted provided that at least 20 Members are present and entitled to vote:
 - (i) To receive and confirm the Minutes of the preceding Annual General Meeting.
 - (ii) To consider any other business arising therefrom.
 - (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 the ensuing season.
 - (vi) Election of Officers and Management Committee.
 - (vii) Appointment of Auditors.

- (viii) Alteration of Rules, if any (of which notice has been given).
 - (ix) Fix the date for the commencement and conclusion of playing season.
 - (x) Other business of which due notice shall have been given and accepted as being relevant to an Annual General Meeting.
6. (B). A copy of the duly verified Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts and Agenda shall be forwarded to each Club at least 14 days prior to the meeting, and to the Leicestershire and Rutland County Football Association..
 6. (C). A signed copy of the duly verified Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts shall be sent to the Leicestershire and Rutland County Football Association within 14 days of adoption by the Annual General Meeting.
 6. (D). Each Member Club shall be empowered to send 2 delegates to an Annual General Meeting. Each Club shall be entitled to 1 vote only. Not less than 14 days notice shall be given of any meeting.
 6. (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.
 6. (F). All voting shall be conducted by a show of voting cards unless a ballot be demanded at least two thirds of the delegates qualified to vote or the Chairman so decides.
 6. (G). No individual shall be entitled to vote on behalf of more than one Full Member Club.
 6. (H). Any continuing Member Club failing to be represented at the Annual General Meeting without satisfactory reason being given shall be fined £20.00.
 6. (I). Officers and Management Committee members shall be entitled to attend and vote at an Annual General Meeting.

AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED

7. The Chairman and 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.....(Chairman) and B.....(Secretary) of the Football Club have been provided with a copy of the Rules and Regulations of the Charnwood Sunday Football League and do hereby agree for and on behalf of the said Club to, if elected or accepted into membership, to conform to those Rules and Regulations 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 Leicestershire and Rutland County Football Association to which the Club is affiliated and to the Secretary of the Competition.

QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

8. (A). Contract players, as defined in Football Association Rules, are not permitted in this Competition. A contract player may only play for the Club that holds his contract.
8. (B). A registered playing member of a Club is one who, being in all other respects eligible, has signed a fully and correctly completed Competition registration form in ink, countersigned by an Officer of the Club, and who has been registered with the (Registrations) Secretary one day prior to playing. Registration forms may also be submitted to the (Registrations) Secretary by electronic mail or facsimile with the original document being forwarded by post within 3 days of the match being played to the appropriate Officer.
8. (C). A team **shall not** include more than 3 players who have taken part in 3 or more senior Competition matches during the current season unless a period of 14 days has elapsed since they played.

For the purpose of this Competition a senior Competition match is a higher division.

8. (D). 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 this 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.
8. (E). Registration forms shall be obtained from the Registrations Secretary at a cost of 50p per form.
8. (F). The Management Committee shall decide all registration disputes. In the event of a player signing a registration form or having a registration submitted for more than one Club priority of registration shall decide for which Club the player shall be registered. The Registrations Secretary shall notify the Club last applying to register the player of the fact of the previous registration.
8. (G). It shall be a breach of rule 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.
8. (H)
 - (i) The Management Committee shall have power to accept the registration of any Player.
 - (ii) The Management Committee shall have power to refuse, cancel or suspend the registration of any player or may fine any player, except those under 18 years of age, at their discretion who has been charged and found guilty of registration irregularities. (Subject to Rule 16).

- (iv) The Management Committee shall have power to make application to refuse or cancel the registration of any player charged and found guilty of undesirable conduct (subject to Rule 16) subject to the right of appeal to the FA or the relevant County Football Association. Undesirable conduct shall mean an incident of repeated conduct, which may deter a participant from being involved in this Competition. Application should be made to the parent County of the Club the player is registered with. (Note: Action under clause (iii) shall not be taken against a player for misconduct until the matter has been dealt with by the appropriate Association, and then only in cases of the player bringing the Competition into disrepute and any case will be subject to an Appeal to the Football Association). For the purpose of this Rule, bringing the competition into disrepute can only be considered when 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.
- 8. (I). Subject to the Football Association Rules 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 Registrations Secretary accompanied by a fee of £5.00. Such transfer shall be referred by the Registrations 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 Registrations Secretary and to the player concerned within 7 days of receipt of the transfer form. Upon receipt of the Club's consent, or upon its failure to give written objection within 7 days, the Registrations Secretary may, on behalf of the Management Committee, transfer the player who be deemed eligible to play for the new Club from such date or one day 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.
- 8. (J). A player may not be registered for a Club nor transferred to another Club in the Competition after the last day of February in each year except by special permission of the Management Committee.
- 8. (K). A Club shall keep a list of 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.
- 8. (L). A register containing the names of all players registered for each club, with the date of registration, shall be kept by the Registrations Secretary and shall be open to the inspection of any duly appointed Member Club representative at all Management Committee meetings or at other times as 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 for his original Club or for another Club it will be necessary for him to be re-registered as required by this Rule.
- 8. (M). 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 6 games for that team in this Competition in the current season.
- 8. (O). (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 or otherwise dealt with at the discretion of the Management Committee.
(ii) In addition the team may have 3 points deducted from its total at the discretion of the Management Committee and may be dealt 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 being ordered to be replayed.

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

- 8. (P). (i) Priority must be given to school and school organisations activities.
(ii) Availability of children must be cleared with the Head Teachers (except for Sunday Leagues).
(iii) To play open age football the player must have achieved the age of 16.

CLUB COLOURS, CLUB NAME

- 9. (A). Every Club must register the colour of its shirts and shorts with the Secretary by 1st May in each year 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 4 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 £15.00. The General 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.
- 9. (B) Any Club wishing to change its name, ground or colours must obtain permission from its affiliated County Association and from the Management Committee.

PLAYING SEASON, CONDITIONS OF PLAY, TIME OF KICK-OFF, POSTPONEMENTS AND SUBSTITUTES

- 10. (A). The Annual General Meeting shall determine the date for 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 31st July, must not be arranged for a date later than seven days preceding the concluding date.
- 10. (B) All matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game as determined by the International Football Association Board. 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 the power to order the venue to be changed. The Management Committee shall have the

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

All matches shall have a duration of 90 minutes unless a shorter time (not less than 80 minutes) is mutually agreed by the two captains in consultation with the referee prior to the commencement of the match, and in any event shall be of two equal halves.

The times of kick-off shall be fixed by 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 will make a report to the Competition if the footballs are unsuitable. Goal nets must be used.

10. (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).
10. (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 Secretary of the opposing Club at least 4 clear days prior to the playing of the match. Any Club failing to comply with this Rule shall be liable to a fine of £10.00.
10. (E). In the event of a Club playing in any match with less than 11 players they shall be fined £7.00 for each missing player. A minimum of 7 players will constitute a team for a Competition match.
10. (F). Home and away matches shall be played. In the event of any team within a Club failing to keep their engagement the Management Committee shall have the power to inflict a fine, deduct points from the defaulting Club, order the defaulting Club to pay any expenses incurred by the opponents or otherwise deal with them except with the award of goals. Notwithstanding the foregoing home and away provision, the Management Committee shall have the 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. 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 £35.00 or otherwise dealt with by the Management Committee. Any Club unable to fulfil a fixture must, without delay, give notice to the Fixtures 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. 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 4 days the Management Committee shall have power to order the match to be played on a named date or on or before a given date. The Management Committee shall review all abandoned matches in cases where it is consequent upon the conduct of either or both teams. Where it is to the advantage of the Competition and does no injustice to either Club, 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 is abandoned owing to the conduct of both teams or their Club member(s), the Management Committee shall rule all points for the match as void. No fine(s) can be applied by the management Committee for an abandoned match.
10. (G). A Club may at its discretion and in accordance with the Laws of the Game use 3 substitute players in any match in this Competition who may be selected from 5 players. The referee shall be informed of the names of the substitutes not later than 10 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.
10. (H). The half time interval shall be a minimum of 5 minutes duration, but shall not exceed 15 minutes. The halftime interval may only be altered with the consent of the referee.

REPORTING RESULTS

11. (A). The Registrations Secretary must receive within 3 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 and name required by Rule 13, or any other information required by the Competition. Failure to do so **will** incur a minimum fine of £7.00 and/or the Club being dealt with as the Management Committee decide.
11. (B). Home and away Clubs shall telephone/notify the results of each match to the Press Secretary between 2pm and 6pm on Sunday afternoon. Evening matches as advised by the League. The Press Secretary must also be advised of abandoned matches or Sunday morning cancellations. Clubs in default shall be fined.
11. (C). The match result notification, correctly completed, **shall** be signed by a responsible member of the Club. Failure to do so **will** result in a fine of £10.00.

NB. If the fixed penalty exceeds £20.00 the Club must be charged as detailed in Rule 5(D).

DETERMINING CHAMPIONSHIP

12. (A). Team rankings within the Competition will be decided by points with 3 points awarded for a win and 1 point for a drawn match. The teams gaining the highest number of points in their respective Divisions at the conclusion of the season shall be adjudged the winners. Matches must not be played for double points. In the event of two or more teams being equal on points team rankings may be decided in any one or more of the following ways:
- (i) Goal Difference
 - (ii) Goals Scored or deciding match(es) played under conditions determined by the Management Committee.
12. (B). Automatic promotion and relegation shall be applied for the first and last teams in each 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 the Division shall not be automatically relegated.
 - (ii) Vacancies occurring after the conclusion of the season may be filled in 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.
 - (iii) The last team in the lowest division shall retire but be eligible for re-election except as below and subject to the conditions of paragraph (B)(i) above.
12. (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.

REFEREES

13. (A). Registered Referees (and Assistant Referees where approved by the FA or County FA) for all matches shall be appointed in a manner approved by the Management Committee and by the sanctioning Association(s).
13. (B). In the event of a non-appearance of the appointed Referee the appointed senior Assistant Referee shall take charge and a substitute Assistant Referee appointed by the competing teams. In cases where there are no officially appointed Assistant Referees, 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.
13. (C). Where Assistant Referees are not appointed each Team shall provide a Club Assistant Referee. Failure to do so **will** result in a minimum fine of £7.00 being imposed on the defaulting team.
13. (D). The appointed Referee shall have the 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.
13. (E). Match Officials appointed under this Rule shall be entitled to the following match fees:-
Referee as per relevant county cup fee (£30.00). Assistant Referees as per relevant county cup fee (£22.00) and any other permitted expenses actually incurred subject to any limits laid down by the sanctioning Association(s). The home team shall pay the Officials no less than 15 minutes before the match.
13. (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 expenses only. Where a match is not played owing to one Club being in default, that Club shall be ordered to pay the Officials, if they attend the ground, their full fee and expenses.
13. (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.
13. (H). Each Club shall, in a manner prescribed by The Football Association, awards 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.
13. (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 Association.
13. (J). Referees shall be supplied, each season, with a copy of the Competition Handbook free of charge.

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 £250.00. 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 Secretary by 1st May.

14. (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.
- (i) Any Club infringing this Rule after the fixtures have commenced shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £250.00 per team and shall also be liable for its share of any call which may be made under Rule 5(b).
 - (ii) Any Club infringing this Rule and not disbanding before the fixtures have commenced shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £250.00 per team and shall also be liable for its share of any call which may be made under Rule 5(B).
 - (iii) Any Club infringing this Rule and disbanding before the fixtures have commenced cannot be fined but will be liable for their financial commitments prior to disbanding.
14. (C). The Membership for the coming season having been decided at a Special General Meeting held for that purpose not earlier than the 1st May or at the Annual General Meeting held not later than 31st May. 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.
14. (D). In the event of a Member Club which is an un-incorporated association withdrawing and / or disbanding it shall be immediately liable to discharge all its financial and other obligations to the Competition. In the event that any such obligation remains undischarged after a period of 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.

If the debt remains unpaid after 84 days the Competition may apply to the Club's parent County Association for the debt to be recovered in accordance with the FA Football Debt recovery System. Once the matter has been passed to the Club's parent County Association the debt can only be cleared by payment to that County Association.

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.
15. (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 3 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.
15. (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.
15. (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 £25.00. This may be forfeited in whole or in part in the event of the complaining or protesting Club loses 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 be shared by the parties.
15. (E). All parties to a protest or complaint must be afforded the opportunity to make a statement when the protest or complaint is being heard and must have received 7 days notice of the hearing, together with a copy of the submission. When dealing with a protest or complaint the Management Committee shall take into consideration the possession by the protesting or complaining Club 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 Leicestershire and Rutland County Football Association, including a fee of £25.00 for adjudication of a Board of Appeal. The grounds of appeal shall be in accordance with the 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 on the grounds of unconstitutional conduct.

EXCLUSION OF CLUBS OR TEAMS MISCONDUCT, CLUBS, OFFICIAL, PLAYERS.

17. (A). At the Annual General Meeting, or Special General Meeting called for the purpose, Notice of Motion having been duly circulated on the Agenda, the accredited delegates present shall have the power to exclude any Club or Team from further membership which must be supported by two thirds of those present and voting. Voting on this point shall be conducted by ballot.
17. (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 whose conduct has, in their opinion, been undesirable, which must be supported by two thirds 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.

17. (C). Any official or member of a Club proven 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.

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

18. (A). If a Competition is discontinued for any reason a Trophy or any other presentation shall be returned to the donor if the conditions to it so provide, or if not, dealt with as the sanctioning Association may decide.
18. (B). The following agreement shall be signed on behalf of the winners of the Cup or Trophy:

We, A.....and B..... the Chairman and Secretary of FC, members of and representing the Club, having been declared winners of.....Cup or Trophy, and it having been delivered to us by the Competition, do hereby on behalf of the Club, jointly and severally, agree to return the Cup or Trophy to the Competition Secretary on or before 31st March.

If the Cup or Trophy is lost or damaged whilst under our care we agree to refund to the Competition the amount of its current value or the cost of its thorough repair. Failure to comply will result in a fine as determined by the Management Committee.

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 7 days notice shall be given of either meeting under this Rule, together with an agenda of the business to be transacted at such meeting. Each Full Member Club shall be empowered to send two delegates to all Special General Meetings. Each Club shall be entitled to one vote only, 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 £20.00. Officers and Management Committee members shall be entitled to attend and vote at all Special General Meetings.

All amendment to Rules can only be implemented once approved by the appropriate sanctioning authority.

ALTERATION TO RULES

20. Alterations shall be made to these Rules only at the Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting 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 January in each year. The proposals, together with any proposals by the Management Committee, shall be circulated to Clubs by 1st March of each year and any amendments thereto shall be submitted to the Secretary by 31st March. The proposals and proposed amendments thereto shall be circulated to Clubs with the notice of the Annual General Meeting. A proposal to change a Rule shall be carried if a majority of those present and entitled to vote are in favour.

FINANCE

22. (A). The Management Committee shall determine with which bank or other financial institution the funds of the Competition will be lodged.
22. (B). All expenditure in excess of £250.00 shall be approved by the Management Committee. Cheques shall be signed by at least two Officers nominated by the Management Committee.
22. (C). The financial year of the Competition will end on 31st March.
22. (D). The books, or a certified balance sheet, of a Competition shall be prepared and shall be audited annually by some suitable person(s) who shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting.

FREE DATES

Any Club may request a free date in the fixture list providing they do so within 7 days of issue IN WRITING to the Fixtures Secretary.

PUBLISHED FIXTURE LIST

Clubs must send confirmation of receipt of each fixture list to the Fixtures Secretary within 4 days of issue. It is not permissible for any Club to 'NOT ACCEPT' a fixture on a published list.

POSTPONEMENT

Clubs cancelling a fixture at ANY time or for ANY reason must notify the Referees Secretary at once. They must also notify their opponents and send their reasons IN WRITING to the Discipline Secretary within 4 days of the cancellation (not including Sundays).

PUNISHMENT

Clubs are reminded that under rule 10(F) 3 points may be deducted for cancellation of any fixture if their explanation is not acceptable to the Management Committee.

FOUR DAY FIXTURE RULE

Clubs are reminded that the Fixtures Secretary can arrange a fixture provided that at least 4 days notice is given to each Club unless a request for a free date has been received in line with paragraph 1 above.

SEASON CONCLUSION

The Management Confirms that the 2011-2012 season will end on Sunday 13th May 2012 subject to any unforeseen circumstances arising.

N.B. Local Councils including the Charnwood Borough Council and the Leicester City Council do not offer any compensation for pitch bookings cancelled after 9am on Thursdays in the week of the match, except for reasons of adverse weather. Therefore Clubs are advised that fixture cancellations from Thursday onwards at any of the Leicester City Parks, Derby Road Playing Fields, Burleigh College or school pitches will attract the standard pitch booking fee in addition to any fine which the Charnwood Sunday League may impose.

APPENDIX A

COMPETITION HANDBOOKS

Clubs will be provided with handbooks containing the League Rules and Regulations. Clubs with one team will be levied for the cost of 2 handbooks. Clubs with two or more teams will be levied for the cost of an extra handbook for each team.

MEMBERS REGULATIONS

Each Club **must** submit a minimum of 15 player registrations for each team within the Club to field a team for their relevant first fixture(s), to be received by the Registrations Secretary no later than 7 days prior to the official start date of the season. Failure to register a minimum of 15 players, per team, by this date will result in the Club being dealt with as having caused a fixture cancellation and **shall** be fined or dealt with as the Management Committee decides.

The League Divisions Shield and Cups cannot be won outright. The winning Clubs must return the League trophies by the 31st March each year. Clubs failing to comply will be fined £15.00. Clubs returning League Trophies in a damaged condition will be held responsible for the cost of repair or replacement.

GROUND

Clubs shall permit the League the use of their grounds and facilities once a season. The grounds and facilities must comply with the Rules of the Competition.

REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES

In the event of the League playing Inter-League matches Clubs must release players selected. Clubs will be allowed to cancel a fixture if both matches are arranged for the same date providing that two or more players are selected for the League Squad.

RULES BINDING ON CLUBS

Each Member Club shall be deemed to have given its assent to the foregoing Rules plus Appendix 'A' Members Regulations and agreed to abide by the decisions of the Management Committee subject to Rule 16. Each Member Club must abide by any issued Football Association Standard Code of Rules.