

South Bucks Youth League

Rule Book

for the season 2009-2010

The following rules were sanctioned
for use by the B&B FA on 10th July.

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NOMENCLATURE AND CONSTITUTION

1. (A) This Competition shall be designated the **South Bucks Youth League** and shall consist of not more than sixty (60) Clubs who shall be Full Member Clubs.

All such Member Clubs shall be affiliated to an affiliated County Football Association and their names and particulars shall be returned annually by the appointed date on the Form "D" to the Berks & Bucks County Football Association. The area covered by the Competition Membership shall be for Clubs who shall have grounds or headquarters situated within a twenty (20 mile radius of High Wycombe Town Hall.

This Competition shall apply annually for sanction to the Berks & Bucks Football Association and the constituent Teams of Member Clubs may be grouped in Divisions.

Member Clubs shall not enter any of their Teams playing in the Competition in any other Competitions (with the exception of The Football Association and County FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION Competitions) except with the written consent of the Management Committee of the Competition.

The Competition shall provide 11-a-side football for players who have attained the age of fifteen (15) and are under the age of eighteen (18) as at midnight 31st August in a playing season.

(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

2. (A) Applications by Clubs for admission to this Competition or the entry of an additional Team(s) shall be made in writing to the Secretary by May 31st and shall be accompanied by an Entry Fee of £0.00 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 a Special General Meeting. The Entry Fee shall apply.

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 £50.00 per Team payable on or before the 31st May in each year.

(C) Each Club shall, with seven (7) days of election, pay a Deposit of £0.00 per Team, 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 shall advise annually to the Secretary in writing by July 1st of its County Football Association affiliation number for the forthcoming Season, failing which they shall be fined a sum not exceeding £15.00. Clubs shall advise the Secretary in writing, or on the prescribed form, of details of its Headquarters, Officers and any other information required by the Competition.

OFFICERS

3. (A) The Officers of the Competition shall be the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary, Registration Secretary, Referees Secretary, Fixture Secretary and Press Secretary to be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting. (N.B. Auditors are not Officers).

(B) The Executive Officers shall be Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.

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 four (4) 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 (2) Member Clubs, not later than 30th April in each year. Names of the candidates for election shall be circulated with the notice of the Annual General Meeting. In the event of there being no nomination in accordance with the foregoing for any office, nominations may be received at the Annual General Meeting

(C) The Management Committee shall meet monthly to deal with business as it arises.

On receiving a requisition signed by two-thirds of the Members of the Management Committee the Secretary shall convene a meeting of the Committee.

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

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

POWERS OF MANAGEMENT

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

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

(C) Each Member of the Management Committee shall have the right to attend and vote at all Management Committee Meetings and have one (1) vote thereat, but no Member shall be allowed to vote on any matters directly appertaining to such Member or to the Club so represented. (This shall apply to the procedure of any Sub-Committee).

In the event of 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. 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 shall 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 Football Association Rules by the appropriate Association.

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

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

(F) Six (6) members of the Management Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business of the Management Committee and three (3) 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 a sum not exceeding £15.00 or otherwise penalised at the discretion of the Management Committee.

(I) All fines and charges shall be paid within fourteen (14) days of the date of posting of the written notification. In addition an Administration Fee of £15.00 shall be imposed.

Clubs, Officials or individuals committing a breach of this Rule may be fined a sum not exceeding £15.00 and shall incur such penalties as the Management Committee may impose.

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

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

(L) The Management Committee may from time to time hold a meeting of Clubs for administrative or information purposes only. Each Club shall be empowered to send one (1) delegate to attend such meetings. Not less than seven (7) days notice of such meetings shall be given. Clubs failing to attend shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £25.00.

(M) A club having failed to comply with an order or instruction of the Management Committee within fourteen (14) days, shall not be allowed to play or take part in the business of the league until the order/instruction has been complied with.

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

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 (10) 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 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 ensuing season.
 - (vi) Election of Officers and Management Committee.

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

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

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

(D) Each Full Member Club shall be empowered to send two (2) delegates to an Annual General Meeting. Each Club shall be entitled to one (1) vote only. Not less than fourteen (14) days notice shall be given of any Meeting.

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

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

(G) No individual shall be entitled to vote on behalf of more than one (1) Full Member Club.

(H) Any continuing Member Club failing to be represented at the Annual General Meeting without satisfactory reason being given shall be fined a sum not exceeding £25.00.

(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 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, (name)_____of (address)
_____ (Chairman) and B (name) _____of
(address) _____ (Secretary) of the
_____Football Club have been provided
with a copy of the Rules and Regulations of the
_____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 shall be notified to the Berks & Bucks County Football Association to which the Club is affiliated and to the Secretary of the Competition.

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

QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

8. (A) Contract players, as defined in Football Association Rules, are not permitted in this Competition.

(B) No player registered with a Football Association Premier League or Football League Academy shall be permitted to play in this Competition. A Player registered with a Centre of Excellence may only play in this Competition subject to the Regulations of the Programme for Excellence.

A registered youth 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 his/her parent or guardian and by an Officer of the Club, and who has been registered with the Registration Secretary fourteen (14) days prior to the start of the season and thereafter any subsequent registration twenty-four (24) hours prior to playing his first game and whose completed registration card has been received by the Club prior to playing. The registration document shall incorporate any known serious medical conditions of the player and emergency contact details of the player's parents or guardians. These details shall be available at matches and training events the player attends within the management of the Club or Competition.

The registration document shall incorporate two (2) current passport-size photographs of the player seeking registration together with proof of the player's date of birth.

NB When forwarding the registration documents to the Registration Secretary they shall be accompanied by a stamped self-addressed envelope or arrangements made for their collection.

Each team shall have lodged with the Registration Secretary a minimum of nine (9) completed registration forms no later than fourteen (14) days prior to start of the league season. Failure to comply shall result in any unfulfilled matches being dealt with by the Management Committee under Rule 10(F).

Under 18 – the player shall be under the age of eighteen (18) as at midnight on 31st August in the playing season. (ie 31st August 2009)

(C) Opposing Team Managers shall request to see and verify their opponents Registration Cards before, during and up to the completion of the match. If this ruling is not complied with no protest regarding eligibility of players shall be considered. A League Officer may request to see Registration Cards at any time. A refusal or inability shall be dealt with in the same manner as a Team fielding an ineligible player in accordance with Rule 8(M).

(D) A Team shall not include any player who has taken part in any Senior Competition matches during the current season unless a period of twenty-one (21) days has elapsed since they played.

For the purpose of this Competition a Senior Competition(s) is a County Football Association Senior Cup.

(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 £5.00 shall be paid for each player registered after the first twenty (20), which are free.

Additional Registration forms shall be obtained from the Registration Secretary on prepayment of £5.00 per form.

(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 (1) Club in the Competition in the same season without first being transferred.

(ii) Having signed for one (1) 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) 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 Registration Secretary accompanied by a fee of £10.00. The Registration Secretary shall refer such transfer 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 (7) days of receipt of the transfer form. Upon receipt of the Clubs consent, or upon its failure to give written objection with seven (7) 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 seven (7) 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.

(J) (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 eighteen (18) years of age, at their discretion 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 Football Association 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 Rule 8(J)(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 shall in any case be subject to an Appeal to The Football Association. For the purpose of this Rule, bringing the Competition into disrepute can be only considered where the player has received in excess of one hundred and two (112) days' suspension or ten (10) matches in match based discipline, in a period of two (2) years or less from the date of the first offence.)

(K) 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.

(L) 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 (1) Team in the Competition, each Team shall be clearly designated "A" and "B" etc. In such cases, players shall be registered for one (1) Team only.

(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 (1) season only.

(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 four (4) games for that Team in this Competition in the current season.

(O) A player who has played for a Team in the highest Division five (5) times or more shall not in that season be eligible to play in a lower Division except by permission of the Management Committee.

(P)(i) Any Team playing an unregistered or otherwise ineligible player or players may have the points gained in the match deducted from its total and may be fined a sum not exceeding £25.00 and/or otherwise dealt with at the discretion of the Management Committee.

(ii) In addition the Team may have three (3) points deducted from its total at the discretion of the Management Committee and may be dealt with in any further manner which is thought to be fit.

(iii) The Management Committee 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 shall be given at all times to school and school organisation's activities.

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

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

CLUB COLOURS. CLUB NAME

9. (A) Every Club shall register the colour of its shirts and shorts with the Secretary by 30th June who shall decide as to their suitability.

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

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

Any Team not being able to play in its normal colours as registered with the Competition shall notify the colours in which they shall play to its opponents at least five (5) days before the match.

If, in the opinion of the Referee, two (2) Clubs have the same or similar colours, the Home Team shall make the change. Any Team not having a change of colours or delaying the kick-off by 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. All shirts shall be uniquely numbered to distinguish each from another.

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

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

10. (A) The Annual General Meeting shall determine the commencing and concluding dates for the ensuing season, which shall be in accordance with Football Association Rules. No Club shall be compelled to play after the concluding date. Original fixtures arranged by the Fixture Secretary, or shall not be arranged for a date later than seven (7) 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.

Clubs shall take all reasonable precautions to keep their grounds in a playable condition. All matches shall be played on pitches deemed suitable by the Management Committee. If through any fault of the Home Team a match has to be replayed, the Management Committee shall have power to order the venue to be changed.

The Management Committee shall have power to decide whether a pitch and/or facilities are suitable for matches in the Competition and to order the Club concerned to play its fixtures on another ground. All pitches shall conform to the Laws of the Game (i.e. Law 1 – The Field of Play) and shall only be used providing all types of approved footwear are permitted.

The use of FIFA Approved Artificial Surfaces shall only be deemed permissible with the prior sanction (in writing) by the Competition.

All matches shall have a duration as set out below unless a shorter time (not less than 60 minutes) is mutually arranged by the two (2) captains in consultation with the Referee prior to the commencement of the match, and in any event shall be of equal halves.

The duration of play shall be as follows unless it is mutually agreed by all parties to reduce the time. For under 18, 45 minutes each half.

No player under the age of 17 as at midnight on 31st August in any season shall be permitted to play more than one (1) game or, in the event the Competition allows the playing of a double-header, i.e. two (2) separate matches, 100 minutes per day in this Competition.

The times of kick-off shall be fixed by the Management Committee at 10-30am for morning matches or 2-00pm for afternoon matches. Any Club failing to commence at the appointed time without prior notice shall be fined a sum not exceeding £10.00 or be otherwise dealt with as the Management Committee may determine.

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

The Home Team shall provide at least two (2) footballs fit for play and the Referee shall make a report to the Competition if the footballs are unsuitable. The size of football to be used shall be for youth football – size 5 for under 18 age group. Goal nets shall be used.

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

(D) The Secretary of the Home Club shall 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 five (5) 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) Every Club shall play its best available qualified Team or Teams in all matches in the Competition.

In the event of a Club playing in any match with less than eleven (11) players they may be fined £5.00 for each missing player. A minimum of nine (9) players shall constitute a Team for a Competition match.

(F) 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 not exceeding £25.00, 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.

Any Club unable to fulfil a fixture shall, without delay, give notice to the Fixture Secretary, the Referee 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 any penalty it may deem suitable.

When a match is postponed for any reason, the Team/Club requesting a postponement, in the case of ground/playing conditions, just the Home Team/Club shall complete and submit to the Fixture Secretary a Postponement Form which shall be received within seventy-two (72) hours of the postponement. Failure to comply shall incur a fine of £10.00.

Postponement forms shall be accepted due to:

- 1 Waterlogged or Frozen Pitch duly signed by the Referee or Groundsman.
- 2 Local Council pitches closed as a result of Council Instruction.
- 3 School activities provided this is accompanied by letter(s) on School headed paper – naming the individuals involved.

Postponement forms received for any other reason shall only be sanctioned in exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of the Management Committee.

Requests for a postponement due to lack of players may be submitted to the Fixture Secretary for consideration and approval. These to be received no less than fourteen (14) days prior to the fixture concerned, naming the unavailable players and the reason for their unavailability. Unavailability of the Team Manager and/or Assistant shall not be considered a valid reason for a postponement. Only two (2) postponements per season shall be accepted. Postponement Forms received for any other reason shall only be sanctioned in exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of the Management Committee.

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 (2) Clubs and approved by the Management Committee. Failing such agreement and notification to the Fixture Secretary within seven (7) days the Management Committee shall have power to order the match to be played on a named date or on or before a given date.

All abandonment's shall be reported to the Fixture Secretary by both Teams on the relevant form to be received within seventy-two (72) hours following the date of the match. It shall include the time of the abandonment, the reason and the score at the time. Failure to submit the form shall result in a fine not exceeding £10.00.

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 the abandonment to stand. In all cases where the Management Committee are satisfied that a match was abandoned owing to the conduct of one Team or its Club 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 or their Club Members, 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.

(G) A Club may at its discretion and in accordance with the Laws of the Game use three (3) substitute players in any match in this Competition who may be selected from five (5) players.

The Referee shall be informed of the names of the substitutes not later than fifteen (15) 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.

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

REPORTING RESULTS

11. (A) The Registration Secretary shall receive within three (3) days of the date played, the result of each Competition match in the prescribed manner. This shall 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. Failure to do so shall incur a fine of £10.00 and/or the Club being dealt with as the Management Committee decides.

(B) The Home Club shall telephone the result of each match to the Press Secretary by 5-30pm on the day of the match. Failure to comply shall incur a fine of £10.00.

In outside Sunday competitions both Home & Away teams shall telephone the result.

(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.

All players named on the match result sheet shall be deemed to have played in the match.

DETERMINING CHAMPIONSHIP

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

In the event of two (2) or more Teams being equal on points Team rankings may be decided in any one (1) or more of the following ways:-

- (i) goal difference
- (ii) goals scored
- (iii) deciding match(es) played under conditions determined by the Management Committee.

(B) 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).

(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.

(C) The Management Committee may, if they consider it desirable, or upon application by the two (2) competing Clubs, appoint Assistant Referees, if available, to any match. Where Assistant Referees are not appointed each Team shall provide a Club Assistant Referee. Failure to do so shall result in a fine of £10.00 being imposed on the defaulting Club.

(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 shall be accepted unless the ground is declared fit for play.

(E) Match Officials appointed under this Rule shall be entitled to charge the following match fees:-

Referee £30.00 inclusive of expenses, Registered Referees appointed by the Management Committee as Assistant Referees £15.00 inclusive of expenses, subject to any limits laid down by the sanctioning Association.

The Home Club shall pay the Officials their fees and expenses before the match. When Assistant Referees are appointed both Clubs shall share the responsibility for their fees. It shall be the responsibility of the Home Club to collect the Away Clubs share of those costs.

(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 owing to one (1) Club being in default, that Club shall be ordered to pay the Officials, if they attend the ground, their full fee.

(G) A Referee not keeping his engagement, and failing to give a satisfactory explanation as to his non-appearance, may have his name removed from the list of Referees and the fact reported to the County Football Association with which he 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 a sum not exceeding £10.00 or dealt with as the Management Committee shall determine.

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 Berks & Bucks County Football Association.

(J) The Referee shall submit a report Form, supplied by the Competition, giving the result of the match, the number of players in each Team and the time of kick-off to the Registration Secretary within two (2) days of the match.

(K) Referees and Assistant Referees shall be supplied, each Season, with a copy of the Competition Rules 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 shall notify the Secretary in writing by 31st March each Season or be liable to a fine not exceeding £20.00.

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

(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 £30.00 per Team and shall also be liable for its share of any call which may be made under Rule 5(B).

(C) The Membership for the coming season having been decided at the Annual General Meeting held not later than 30th June, 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 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 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 shall not be entertained by the Management Committee unless a protest is lodged with the Referee before the commencement of the match. Any Club lodging such protest and not proceeding with it shall be deemed guilty of a breach of this Rule and shall be dealt with by the Management Committee.

(B) Except in cases where the Management Committee decide that there are special circumstances, protests and complaints (which shall contain full particulars of the grounds upon which they are founded) shall be lodged in duplicate with the Secretary within five (5) days (excluding Sundays) of the match or occurrence to which they refer. A protest or complaint shall not be withdrawn except by permission of the Management Committee. A Member of the Management Committee who is a member of any Club involved shall not be present (except as a witness or representative of his Club) when such protest or complaint is being determined.

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

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

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

Any Club failing to attend such a meeting, due to notice have been received, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £30.00.

(F) The Club Chairman or Secretary shall countersign all protests and appeals by a Club.

BOARD OF APPEAL

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

No appeal can be lodged against a decision taken at an Annual or Special General Meeting unless this is on the ground 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 shall be supported by more than two-thirds of those present and voting. Voting on this point shall be conducted by ballot.

(B) At the Annual General Meeting, or at a Special General Meeting called for the purpose, in accordance with the provisions of Rule 19, the accredited delegates present shall have the power to exclude from further participation in the Competition any Club or Team of a Club whose conduct has, in their opinion, been undesirable, which shall be supported by more than 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.

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

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

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

18. (A) A Competition Cup or Trophy shall be vested in the Association sanctioning the Competition as Trustees. 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 otherwise dealt with as the sanctioning Association may decide. At the close of each Competition awards shall be made to the winners and runners-up if the funds of the Competition permit.

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

“We A _____ and B _____, the Chairman and Secretary of _____FC, members of and representing the Club, having been declared winners of _____Cup or Trophy, and it having been delivered to us by the Competition, do hereby on behalf of the Club jointly and severally agree to

return the Cup or Trophy to the Competition Secretary on or before 1st March. If the Cup or Trophy is lost or damaged whilst under our care we agree to refund to the Competition the amount of its current value or the cost of its thorough repair.”

(B) Failure to return the trophy by the date shall result in a fine not exceeding £15.00. Any Club that does not re-apply for membership of the League shall return trophies to the League Secretary no later than twenty-eight (28) days after the end of the season in which the trophy was awarded.

(C) All trophies belonging to the South Bucks Youth League shall be returned to the Secretary within seven (7) days of a club withdrawing from the league or not continuing in membership.

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 (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 (2) delegates to all Special General Meetings. Each Club shall be entitled to one (1) vote only. Not less than seven (7) days notice shall be given of any Meeting.

Any continuing Member Club failing to be represented at a Special General Meeting without satisfactory reason being given shall be fined a sum not exceeding £25.00.

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

(B) Notice of proposed alterations to be considered at the Annual General Meeting shall be submitted to the Secretary by 28th February in each year. The proposals, together with any proposals from the Management Committee, shall be circulated to the Clubs by 15th March and any amendments thereto shall be submitted to the Secretary by 31st March.

The proposals and proposed amendments thereto shall be circulated to Clubs with the notice of the Annual General Meeting. A proposal to change a Rule shall be carried if two-thirds of those present and entitled to vote are in favour.

(C) A copy of the proposed alterations and proposed amendments to be considered at the Annual General Meeting shall be submitted to the Berks & Bucks Football Association by not later than 14th April.

A copy of the proposed alterations and proposed amendments to be considered at a Special General Meeting shall be submitted to the Berks & Bucks Football Association by no later than twenty-eight (28) days prior to the date of the meeting.

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

RULES BINDING ON CLUBS

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

FINANCE

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

(B) All expenditure in excess of £100.00 shall be approved by the Management Committee. Cheques shall be signed by at least two (2) Officers nominated by the Management Committee.

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

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

LEAGUE CUP RULES

1. The Competition shall be called the South Bucks Youth League Cup.
2. The Competition shall be open to all members of the South Bucks Youth League.
3. The entrance fee shall be incorporated in the League Subscription.
4. The Management Committee shall be as for the South Bucks Youth League.
5. League Rule 8 shall apply for the qualification of players except:-
 - a) That a player transferred from one (1) Club to another shall not be eligible to play for his new Club if he has played in a previous round of either the League Cup or Subsidiary Cup.
 - b) That in the event of a Tie being postponed or replayed for any reason, only those players who were qualified on the date fixed for the original match shall be eligible to play.
 - c) After the First Round, all players shall have played at least three (3) League games in the current season or been registered with his Club for a period of at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the date of the Tie.
6. Any Club playing an ineligible player(s) may be fined a sum not exceeding £25.00 per player and excluded from the Competition.
7. All eliminating rounds (included semi-finals) shall be played normal time (90 minutes). If scores are level, extra time to be played, 30 minutes (15 minutes each half). If scores are still level the Tie to be settled by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with International Board Procedures. The foregoing is subject to any variation announced by the Management Committee before the commencement of the Cup Competition.
8. Final Tie. The Final Tie shall be subject to extra time if the scores are level at the end of normal time (90 minutes). If the scores remain level after extra time has been played the Tie to be settled by taking of penalty kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with International Board Procedures.
9.
 - a) Referees and Assistant Referees fees as per League games
 - b) Referees and Assistant Referees fees (if applicable) in eliminating rounds to be shared equally by the Home and Away Teams. Home Clubs shall be responsible for the payment to the officials.
10. Any Team withdrawing from the Cup shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £25.00.
11. A maximum of sixteen (16) medals shall be awarded to both Finalists.
12. Except for the above, the Cup shall be subject to the Rules of the South Bucks Youth League.
13. Failure to fulfil a Cup Tie fixture as arranged by the League shall result in a fine not exceeding £25.00 and the Tie awarded to the opposing Team. The defaulting Club shall pay any reasonable expenses incurred.
14. Result Cards as per League Rules.
15. Clubs shall provide the League with squad list with shirt numbers and a brief write-up of the Team/Club suitable for inclusion in the programme for the final tie, upon reaching the semi-final stage of the Competition.

SUBSIDIARY CUP RULES

1. The Competition shall be called the South Bucks League Subsidiary Cup.
2. The Competition shall be open to all members of the South Bucks Youth League.
3. The entrance fee shall be incorporated in the League Subscription.
4. The Management Committee shall be as for the South Bucks Youth League.
5. League Rule 8 shall apply for the qualification of players except:-
 - a) That a player transferred from one (1) Club to another shall not be eligible to play for his new Club if he has played in a previous round either in the Subsidiary Cup or League Cup.
 - b) That in the event of a tie being postponed or replayed for any reason, only those players who were qualified on the date fixed for the original match shall be eligible to play.
 - c) After the First Round, all players shall have played at least three (3) League games in the current season or been registered with his Club for period of at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the date of the Tie.
6. Any Club playing an ineligible player(s) may be fined a sum not exceeding £25.00 per player and excluded from the Competition.
7. All eliminating rounds (included semi-finals) shall be played normal time (90 minutes). If scores are level, extra time to be played, 30 minutes (15 minutes each half). If scores are still level the Tie to be settled by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with International Board Procedures. The foregoing is subject to any variation announced by the Management Committee before the commencement of the Cup Competition.
8. Final Tie. The Final Tie shall be subject to extra time if the scores are level at the end of normal time (90 minutes). If the scores remain level after extra time has been played, the Tie to be settled by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with International Board Procedures.
9.
 - a) Referees and Assistant Referees fee as per League games.
 - b) Referees and Assistant Referees fees (if applicable) in eliminating rounds to be shared equally by the Home and Away Teams. Home Clubs are responsible for the payment to the officials.
10. Any Team withdrawing from the Cup shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £25.00.
11. A maximum of sixteen (16) medals shall be awarded to the finalists.
12. Except for the above, the Cup shall be subject to the Rules of the South Bucks Youth League.
13. Failure to fulfil a Cup Tie fixture as arranged by the League shall result in a fine not exceeding £25.00 and the Tie awarded to the opposing Team. The defaulting Club shall pay any reasonable expenses incurred.
14. Result Cards as per League Rules.
15. Clubs shall provide the League with squad list with shirt numbers and a brief write-up of the Team/Club suitable for inclusion in the programme for the final tie, upon reaching the semi-final stage of the Competition.

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. In these Regulations the expression “Offence” shall mean any one or more of the offences contained in Schedule 1 to the Children and Young Persons Act 1933 and any other criminal offence which reasonably causes The Association to believe that the person accused of the offence poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children.
3. Upon receipt by The 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 think 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 in 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.