

Cornwall County FA Rules and Articles of Association

These Rules are made pursuant to the Association's Memorandum and Articles of Association. Where there is any inconsistency between these rules and the provisions of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Memorandum and Articles of Association shall prevail. The Memorandum and Articles of the Association were last circulated to clubs in 2007.

1. A Disciplinary Committee shall be constituted comprising members of the Council together with the appropriate Official to deal with bad conduct of players, officials or spectators. Any matter of urgency which may arise and requires to be dealt with before the next Meeting of the Council may be dealt with by the appointment of a Special Commission if deemed necessary. The decision of such Commission shall be final. Any League, Competition, Club or individual wishing to appeal against the decision of the Council of the Association shall forward to the Secretary of the Football Association (25 Soho Square, London W1D 4FA), within fourteen days of the posting of written notification, a notice setting forward the grounds of appeal, together with the sum of Thirty-Five Pounds (£35) except in the case of appeals by schoolboys when the appeal fee shall be Ten Pounds (£10). In the case of an Association or Club the appeal must be signed by the Chairman or his deputy and one member of the Committee. Appeals can not be made in regard to matters arising out of the competitions of this Association when the rules provide that the decision of this Association shall be final. The Appeals Board appointed by the Football Association to hear the appeal shall have the power to order the fee to be forfeited if it thinks fit and may, in addition, order the appellant concerned to pay the cost of hearing the appeal. When an appeal has been made to an Appeals Board of a County Association the decision of that Appeals Board is final. There can be no further appeal to the Football Association against the decision of that Appeals Board. An administration charge of Eight Pounds (£8) will be levied against a Club for every Caution registered against a playing member of the Club.

2. In addition to assisting a Referee who has reported an assault upon him by a Player following which proceedings in a Court of Law are contemplated, the appropriate affiliated Association shall, without delay, investigate the report and if the Chairman and Secretary of the Association or their nominees are satisfied that a prima facie case can be made out against the Player, shall take such steps as are necessary to ensure a Disciplinary Charge is brought against the player within 28 days of the date of the assault. Until the Disciplinary Committee has heard and adjudicated on the charge the Player shall not participate in any football activity.

3. Clubs to rank as Seniors for the ensuing season shall be members of recognised Senior Leagues or as selected by the Council.

4. A playing season shall commence on the date fixed annually by the Football Association as the Official Starting Date in one year and end on the 31st May the following year. Charity or similar matches must be played within this period. The Close Season shall be from 1st June to 30th June inclusive each year. Note: The Council has decided that the end of the Season for County Competitions shall be the last day in May in each year.

5. A Club which has not entered for the County Competitions shall not be allowed to participate in a League without the permission of the Council. In every case where a Cornish Club desires to enter any League or Cup Competition outside the jurisdiction of the Cornwall County Football Association, such Club must each year apply to the Council for permission to take part in any such League or Cup Competition. Permission will not be unreasonably withheld. Membership by any Cornish Club of any such League or Cup Competitions shall in no case absolve any playing member from the right of the Council to require him to play for Cornwall. Such Club shall be required to enter the County Cup Competitions of the Association unless exempted by the Council.

6. Each affiliated Club shall be provided with a current copy of these Rules and of the Association's Competitions as well as the Standing Orders of the Association and (on request) a copy of the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

7. A Club may at its discretion use substitute Players at any time in a Competition match, except to replace a player who has been suspended from the game by the Referee. The substitution can only be made when the play is stopped for any reason and the Referee has given permission. Substitutes will only be permitted in accordance with the Rules of the respective League or Cup Competition, and shall be restricted to three in number chosen from a maximum of five, all of whom must be nominated to the Referee before the match.

8. All Leagues and Clubs shall keep a Minute Book; they shall also keep a Cash Book, showing all income and expenditure, with the date when members paid their subscriptions, and they shall keep the same properly posted up every week and present the same to the Association when called upon to do so. All books and vouchers for at least two Seasons preceding the current Season must be retained by the Club and be ready for production whenever required by the Association.

9. No Club, player, official, referee or linesman shall be compelled to participate in football on Sundays, Good Friday or Christmas Day except that membership of or participation in Sunday football shall be taken as consent to play on Sundays, except when Christmas Day be on a Sunday.

10. The County Senior and Junior Cup Finals shall be played on Easter Monday and no other matches shall be played on that day.

11. Each Club shall forward the address of its Honorary Secretary, the situation of its ground, and a statement of its distinguishing colours on the affiliation form provided, to the Registration Secretary at the time of sending subscriptions (not later than the 31 May). No player, including the goalkeeper, shall be permitted to wear black or very dark colours. Any change of Secretary must be notified to the County Secretary within seven days. Failure to do so may render the club liable to a fine of Twenty Pounds (£20).

12. All Clubs shall be bound to place their players at the disposal of the County Executive for County matches, the choice of such players to rest with the Selection, Women's or Youth Committee appointed by the Council at their first meeting. A player selected to play for the County and failing to do so shall not play for any Club on the day of the County game for which he was selected unless he first obtains the consent of the Council. A player in contravention of this Rule shall be deemed guilty of misconduct and be dealt with accordingly. In the event of any Club having two or more players selected to represent the County such Clubs shall on application in writing to the County Secretary, be granted permission to cancel their fixture. The Council shall have the power to postpone any club Matches which may affect or be affected by County engagements provided the Association gives the clubs affected 14 days' notice.

12A. The County colours shall be a basic one of Old Gold shirts, Black shorts, Black/Gold socks. Second choice colours to be White shirts, Black shorts, Black/White socks.

13. All fines and administration charges imposed and claims ordered to be paid must be paid immediately on notice thereof. Any fine or charge not paid within 14 days will be doubled. In the case of Disciplinary Fines see The FA Disciplinary Memorandum of Procedures for penalties imposed for late payment.

14. In the case of a Club ceasing to exist, or being wound up, the members responsible for the management thereof shall not be allowed to take part in the management of other clubs and playing members shall not be allowed to play for any other Club without permission of the Council until any fine or order against the old Club has been complied with.

15. Registration of Players. There shall be one registration form by which a player shall be registered for his Club in all Cornwall County Senior Competitions in which his Club is participating. A separate form must be signed for the Cornwall Junior Cup Competition. Should a player sign for more than one club, except as provided in Junior, Sunday and Women's Cup Rule 13, or plays for a Club without being properly registered he shall be guilty of misconduct and liable to be dealt with as the Council may determine. A player may be transferred from one Club to another by sending the proper transfer form to the Registration Secretary who shall not grant a transfer unless the said form bears the signatures of the two Club Secretaries. A player with a written contract having had his registration cancelled by The Football Association shall not grant a transfer unless the said form bears the signatures of the two Club Secretaries. A player with a written contract having had his registration cancelled by The Football Association ceases to be a member of that Club from the date of the cancellation. The Club Secretary must at once notify the Registrations Secretary of the date of the cancellation. Should the player wish to play again he must complete new registration forms for all competitions. No player will be eligible to play unless his registration or transfer form is received by the Registrations Secretary before the match. In case of a dispute over delay of receipt of registration, proof of posting of such form shall be accepted. The Registration Fee for all Clubs shall be in accord with the rules of the respective Cup Competition, covering all registrations and transfers of players. Such amount to be paid with the affiliation and competition fees. A service player having signed for a civilian club shall not assist his Unit in the

same competition without having been transferred. Before playing any boy on the roll of a School, except when playing for a Sunday Club, written permission must be obtained from the Headmaster or his Deputy and decisions of the School should be accepted on this matter. Where a boy plays for his School it is considered inadvisable for him to play a second match on the same day.

16. With the exception that Leagues sanctioned by the Football Association under regulation 3 of the Regulations for the Sanction and Control of Leagues and Competitions who make their own regulations for the approach of players between Clubs within their own League, the following regulation shall apply in the case of a player who does hold a written contract with a Club. A player who does not hold a written contract with a Club shall not be approached, except during the period of 1 June to 30 June inclusive by any Club or person attempting to induce such Player to play for another Club or Clubs without at least seven days' notice in writing to the Secretary of the Club for which the player was last known to have played (subject to FA Rule C2(a)) and the negotiations with the player must cease at the expiration of 21 days from the date of such notice being given. The notice must be forwarded by registered or recorded post or a written acknowledgement otherwise obtained. A second notice shall not be given by the same Club in respect of the same player during the current Season. The approaching Club or person shall not give notice of intention to approach more than one player of a Club at the same time and shall not give notice of intention to approach another player of the same Club within 28 days of a prior notice. Except with the written consent of the Club if the first approach is made by the player at least seven days' notice of approach is necessary from the Club he wishes to join. This consent shall not be unreasonably withheld where circumstances of a special character exist, e.g. change of residence or non-selection of any team of the Club for three consecutive weeks. Players with a written contract must conform with FA Rule.

17. No player who has played in the close season, or who has played in an unauthorised competition or match, shall be eligible to play again until he shall have been reported to and dealt with by the Council.

18. A player having taken part in matches for any Club affiliated to this or any other Association shall not be allowed to join, be transferred to, or sign for another affiliated Club, without first proving to the officials of his intended Club that he has discharged his reasonable financial or other liabilities to his previous Club, and a Club official may not accept his signature without first ascertaining whether such claims have been discharged to the satisfaction of the Club last played for. Note: See Regulation 19 for dealing with football debt recovery in the FA Memorandum of Procedures section of this Handbook.

19. In the event of any Club, Player, Official or Member being proved to the satisfaction of the Council to have been guilty of any breach of Rules or Misconduct, the Council shall have the power to order the name of the offending Club, Player, Official or Member to be removed from the Association or suspended for a stated period, or otherwise dealt with as the Council may deem fit, and any Club or Player playing with or against the offending Club, Official, Player, after such removal or during such suspension shall also be dealt with in such a manner as the Council may deem fit. All Clubs will be held responsible for the conduct of their Players, Officials, Supporters and Staff, whether home or away. Clubs, Officials, Players, to pay all or part of the expenses incurred in hearing and determining the case. Clubs having been notified of an inquiry into matters in which they are concerned, shall not have the right of appeal against the Council's decision if they were not represented at the inquiry, unless prevented by circumstances over which they had no control.

20. A referee must be registered with the County Association within whose area he resides and may be required to pay an annual subscription as determined by The Football Association subject thereto he may also be registered with any other County Association and payment of the subscription fixed by such Association. All referees shall be appointed by the Cornwall County Football Association, and shall pay an annual subscription as follows: £15 paid on or before 31 May and £3 extra after that date. In the event of the referee appointed not attending the match, and the competing clubs agreeing to one on the ground, such referee shall be considered an Official Referee for the time being. The following is a scale of fees which appointed referees shall be entitled to charge: -

NOTE: Referees registered with any other County or Service Football Association shall be permitted to register with Cornwall County Football Association at half of the above fee which is appropriate to their level.

	Referee	Asst
Cornwall Senior Cup Semi-Finals	£25.00	£12.50

Cornwall Senior Cup Matches	£20.00	£10.00
Charity Cup Matches	£18.00	£9.00
Cornwall Junior Cup	£13.00	£6.50
County Representative Friendly Games	£18.00	£9.00
Youth Matches	£10.00	£5.00
Cornwall Sunday Cup	£13.00	£6.50
Cornwall Women's Cup	£13.00	£6.50

In all finals, Referees and Assistant Referees and Reserve Officials shall each receive a plaque each in lieu of a fee, to be presented at the conclusion of the game when presentations are made to the respective teams, plus second class railway or other public conveyance fare, and where no railway or public conveyance is available and convenient, reasonable travelling expenses. Where a Referee uses his own transport he shall be allowed 25p per mile. These travelling expenses will also apply to matches listed above. Neutral Assistant Referees shall be appointed for all Senior Cup and Charity Cup matches. The expenses of the Referee and Assistant Referees shall be the first charge on the and the home Club shall pay these Officials their fee and expenses on the day of the match. Note: In all cases where Excursions or cheap tickets are obtainable referees MUST avail themselves of those cheap tickets.

21. On points of fact concerned with the play the decision of the Referee shall be given by the sound of the whistle. The decisions in all cases shall be final. Note: The Referee is the sole judge of allowance of time, whether lost through accident or other causes and his decision on this matter is not subject to appeal.

22. In all matches referees are empowered to put down the slightest attempt at rough play or intimidation, also to close the game at any time for the same cause or where the interference of spectators incites any display of feeling or rough play. The spectators of any match stopped on this account shall not obtain return of the money paid for admission.

23. The Council will not consider any claim for expenses for non-fulfilment of fixtures etc, until an attempt has been made mutually to settle the dispute. Any such complaints must be forwarded to the County Secretary in duplicate within three months of the date on which the expense was incurred.

24. The Council shall have the power to claim the use of any Club's ground and stand for County or other matches on giving 14 days notice. The rent to be paid for such privilege shall be in accordance with the following scale:

- (1) County Cup Finals: Five per cent of the gross takings, less tax, if any.
- (2) All County Matches: Ten per cent of the gross takings, less tax, if any, or £40 whichever is the greater.
- (3) Senior Cup Semi-Finals: Ten per cent of the gross takings, less tax, if any, or £40 whichever is the greater.
- (4) Junior Cup Divisional Finals, Sunday and Women's Cup Semi-Finals and Finals: Ten per cent of the gross takings, less tax, if any, or £30 whichever is the greater.
- (5) Youth League Intergroup Ties, Semi-Finals and Finals: Ten per cent of the gross takings, less tax, if any, or £10 whichever is the greater.

In all cases the Club shall receive ten per cent of Stand receipts, less tax, if any. Also £20 for marking the ground etc. Where floodlights are used a fee of £30 shall be paid.

25. No member of the Council shall represent a League, Club, Official, Player or Spectator at the hearing of a complaint or claim, and no member of the Council who is actively associated with a Club concerned shall take part in discussing or dealing with such complaint or claim.

26. Leagues or Competitions must submit their proposed rules changes by 30 April each year and rules in duplicate to the Council for sanction or renewal of sanction before 1st August in each year. Application for renewal of sanction of rules together with the appropriate fee plus form D or E together with two copies of the rules must be sent to the County Secretary as above. A fine of £10 will be imposed for non-compliance with this rule. Leagues and competitions must not operate until their rules have been sanctioned nor can they alter their Constitution, Rules or clubs without consent of the Association sanctioning the Competition.

27. Appeals from the decisions of sanctioned Leagues or Competitions may be made by the Council, who shall have the power to vary or reverse any decision appealed against,

and to order payment of such expenses as they may deem fit. Every appeal must be lodged with the County Secretary, in duplicate, within fourteen days of the receipt of written confirmation of the League's decision, accompanied by a deposit of £25, which may be forfeited if the appeal is not upheld.

28. Six-a-side and other contests of this nature, are absolutely prohibited without the sanction of the Council. Sanction must be obtained also for the playing of Benefit matches, making collections on grounds and presentation to players. Clubs applying for permission to play a Charity or Benefit match shall state specifically the object of such match, the proposed date and place where the match is to be played. In the event of permission being granted, a balance sheet certified by a qualified accountant together with the vouchers must be sent to the County Secretary within 14 days after playing such match.

29. Affiliated clubs must not play against unaffiliated Clubs. The Council will take action against players who are members of affiliated Clubs playing for or against Clubs who are not affiliated or Clubs who permit unaffiliated teams to play on their grounds. See FA Rule.

30. All Clubs of Senior status must provide adequate dressing accommodation for visiting teams and match officials without any charge.

31. No amendment shall be made to these rules except in accordance with Article 6.

32. An Official of an Association or Club, Referee, Assistant Referee, or Player proved to have taken part in coupon football betting (Authorised and Registered Football Pools excepted) shall be permanently suspended from taking part in football or football management.

33. The Association shall be entitled to publish with the exception of players under the statutory school-leaving age in the Public Press, or in any other manner as it shall see fit, reports of the proceedings, acts and resolutions, whether the same shall or shall not reflect on the character or conduct of any Club, Official, Player, Spectator, and every such Club, Official, Player or Spectator, shall be deemed to have assented to such publication.

34. Each Official and member of the Council shall be furnished with a pass (which shall not be transferable), and all clubs belonging to this Association shall admit the holder to their grounds and stands upon the production of each pass without requiring any other authority.

35. When the winners of the Cups shall have been ascertained by matches as aforesaid, the County Secretary of the C.C.F.A. shall hand over the Cup to such winners on their subscribing a document to the following effect. "We, A.B., the Secretary of the Club and C.D., E.F., G.H., members of representing said Club, having been declared the winners of the Association Cup, and the same having been delivered to us by J.K., the Secretary of the Association, do hereby, on behalf of the said Club, and individually and collectively, engage to return the same to J.K., or Secretary of the Association for the time being, when called upon to do so, in good order and condition and in accordance with the conditions of the annexed Rules, to which we have also subscribed our respective names."

36. The County Secretary of the C.C.F.A., for the time being, shall be to all intents and purposes the legal holder of the Cup in trust for the C.C.F.A. to whom all cups shall be returned by 1st January failing which a fine shall be incurred.

37. Any point not provided for or dealt with in these Rules, or in the Rules of the County Competitions shall be left to the decision of the Council, and their decision shall be final and binding on all parties.

NOTE

ATTENTION IS DRAWN TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF FA RULE WHICH MUST BE COMPLIED WITH AT ALL TIMES ESPECIALLY IN RESPECT OF THE FOLLOWING:

A FINANCIAL STATEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNTY RULE 8 SHALL BE ISSUED EACH SEASON AND A COPY SENT TO THE ASSOCIATION TO WHICH THE CLUB IS AFFILIATED WITHIN 28 DAYS OF THE CLUB'S AGM.