

# Swansea Junior Football League

In association with the Swansea City Supporters Trust.

*Affiliated to the West Wales Football Association*

## League Handbook

### 2023/24



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## SWANSEA JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE

### GENERAL RULES

#### 1. Name and Constitution of the League

- a) The League shall be called "The Swansea Junior Football League" and shall be affiliated to the West Wales Football Association, whose General Rules shall be binding upon this League, unless the following rules vary same.
- b) The Swansea Junior Football League shall consist of those clubs whose names are returned to the West Wales Football Association via Comet. All member clubs of the Swansea Junior Football League must affiliate to the WWFA on Comet
- c) All matches are to be played under the rules of the FA of Wales.

#### 2. Election of Officers and Executive Council

- a) The Officers of the League shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the League to be held during June of each year, and shall consist of President, Chairperson, Honorary General Secretary, and Honorary Treasurer, together with a Council composed of eight members, who shall consist of not more than two members from the same club, in whom shall be vested all power of management. The Officers (except Chairperson) and Executive Council members shall be privileged to vote at all properly constituted meetings, but will not be allowed to cast a vote on behalf of a club. At the Annual General Meeting new candidates and Council Members seeking re-election to the Executive Council, shall not have the power to vote on the election of Executive Council Members. Should the voting on any matter prove equal, the Chairperson shall be entitled to a casting vote.
- b) The Executive Council shall have the power to appoint the representative to the Council of the West Wales Football Association.
- c) The Executive Council shall have the power to appoint an Assistant Secretary when deemed necessary whose duties shall be defined by Council and who shall have full voting power.
- d) The Executive Council shall have the power to appoint a Referees Officer annually whose duties shall be defined by Council and who shall have full voting power.
- e) The Executive Council shall have the power to appoint up to two Co-Opted members as deemed necessary whose duties shall be defined by Council and who shall have full voting powers at Council meetings.
- f) The Executive Council shall have the power to appoint a Mini-Football Sub-Committee whose composition, number and duties shall be defined by Council and who shall have full voting powers at Mini-Football Sub-Committee meetings.
- g) Life Members who shall have full voting power shall be elected from those who have served continuously on the Council for not less than fifteen years, or persons considered by the Council to have given outstanding and meritorious service to the League.
- h) All new candidates for election as Members of the Council shall be nominated by an affiliated club, signed by the secretary of the nominating club and forwarded to the Honorary General Secretary on or before the first day of May in each year. Four members of the Council shall be eligible for re-election each year, and shall be added to the nomination list. As soon as all nominations have been received a list of nominations shall be sent to every member club entitled to vote at the meeting. Where there are more than four nominations, each ballot paper shall record not more than four votes. In the event of there being less than four nominations, verbal nominations shall be invited at the Annual General Meeting.
- i) Any member of the Council who has been absent from three consecutive meetings without, in the opinion of the Council, a sufficient reason, shall be considered to have resigned.
- j) Any member of the League Executive Council deemed to have brought the League into disrepute shall be asked to appear before Council at the next available meeting
- k) The Executive Council shall have power to appoint a suitable person to act as Safeguarding Officer for the League.
- l) The Executive Council shall have power to fill any vacancy which may arise as a result of any member resigning whether under rule 2(g) or otherwise.
- m) Travelling and other expenses of Officers, Council Members and the League's West Wales Football Association representatives, may be paid out of the League funds.

#### 3. Disputes.

- a) Where clubs / teams / individuals contravene League rules they must be reported to the Executive Council. Upon receipt of a written notice that they will be reported to the Executive Council, then they may submit a written submission of the facts to the Honorary General Secretary to reach him within 10 days. A personal hearing may be requested in writing to the Honorary General Secretary within 10 days of the date of the letter accompanied by a deposit of £10.00 which may be with-held at the discretion of the Executive Council. If a club / team / individual fails to respond to the notice with either a written submission or a request for a personal hearing the Executive Council shall be empowered to deal with such matters taking into account what evidence is to hand. (Players must be accompanied by a parent or have written permission to attend from their parent or guardian).
  
  - b) In accordance with WWFA Standard Rule 25, you have a right of appeal against any part of this decision or the decision as a whole, and any such appeal must be served on the West Wales Football Association (the "WWFA") not more than seven (7) Business Days after the earlier of (a) the decision being announced at the time of the hearing or (b) receipt by the party appealing of the written notification of the decision. All appeals must be accompanied with the appropriate fee of £50.00 (made payable to the WWFA) and be addressed to the Honorary General Secretary, Mr Ceri Richards, 5 Cardonnel Villas, Skewen, Neath. SA10 6BD. (WWFA Standard Rules 28.2.1 to 28.2.14 refer). Please note, a Business day is any day of the week except a Saturday or Sunday or public bank holiday in Wales. However, as a protection of the League funds [which is a duty to its members] an application for costs will be made to the WWFA Appeals Panel.
4. Special Meeting
- The Honorary General Secretary shall call a Special Meeting of the League at any time by order of the Executive Council, or upon a requisition signed by five clubs belonging to the League. Any Club failing to attend a meeting called by the Council without producing a satisfactory reason shall be fined £15.
5. General Meeting
- a) 20% of clubs in membership of the League shall form a quorum. No General Meeting shall have power to alter any decision of the Executive Council.
  - b) Any club failing to attend a meeting called by the Council without producing a satisfactory reason shall be fined £15.
  - c) At all General Meetings of the League, every member club will be entitled to one vote only.
  - d) Clubs may only give apologies for a maximum of 2 consecutive General meetings any club failing to attend any General meeting on a 3rd occasion following 2 immediately prior meetings without satisfactory reason will be fined as above.
6. Annual Report and Balance Sheet
- The annual report and balance sheet shall be forwarded to each member club at least 7 days before the Annual General Meeting.
7. Amendments to the Rules.
- a) Any amendment or alteration to the rules of the League and / or its various competitions may only be made at the Annual General Meeting. No such amendment or alteration to the rules shall be made unless supported by at least two thirds of those present and eligible to vote at the meeting.
  - b) Any proposed amendment or alteration to the rules must be sent to the Honorary General Secretary to reach him before March 1st, in order that they may be forwarded to the West Wales Football Association by March 31st.
8. Notice to Secretaries

- a) All clubs must apply for membership of the League to the Honorary General Secretary by July 1st in each year, as well as affiliating to the Area Association via the Comet system giving the name, address and telephone number of its secretary, its club's officers and its distinguishing colours, and any other information as required to be furnished on the official entry form supplied by the League. Any alteration in these details must be notified to the Honorary General Secretary immediately.
  - b) Any club failing to submit their application forms by the date stated shall be fined the sum of £20 and may be refused entry into the Swansea Junior Football League
  - c) Any club failing to complete the Accreditation process through the Comet system by the designated date shall be refused entry into the Swansea Junior Football League until this is satisfied. All clubs must pay entrance and affiliation fees within ten days of the date of the invoice in order to be accepted into the Swansea Junior Football League
  - d)
    - i) The Executive Council shall have power to fine any club or team proved guilty of failing to answer correspondence within a reasonable period (10 days) £10.00.
    - ii) All invoices and charges to clubs must be paid within 10 days of the date of invoice. Payment not received within the ten days will result in the club concerned having an automatic suspension until all dues have been cleared. Any club who persistently fails to pay their invoices within the required time will be instructed to appear before the Executive Council to explain their reasons for non-payment and will remain suspended until the appearance. A further fine of £50 will be imposed on clubs who persistently (more than twice) fail to pay invoices as per rule
9. Executive Members on Dispute  
No member of the Executive Council or other committee shall be eligible to sit on the Council or other committee when a matter concerning his club is being considered.
10. Communication  
All communication between the Honorary General Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Safeguarding Officer, Registration Secretary, Hon Treasurer and Club Secretaries must be made in writing or by email and must be made through the Club Secretary only.
11. Schoolboys.
- (a) There shall be no limit to the number of Schoolboy players a team may register.
  - (b) The maximum number of Schoolboy Players a team is allowed to have on the field of play at any one time is three, the only exception being where players were registered with that team prior to their selection to a Schoolboy Squad. This ensures that those teams who have developed players to Schoolboy standard are not penalised.
  - (c) All Schoolboy Players registered with that team can be used in one match provided one Schoolboy is substituted for another.
12. Academy.
- a) A player registered with an Academy cannot register with a Junior League team, the only exception being that Clubs may register Under 8s, 9s, 10s and 11s players in order that where the Academy cannot provide a meaningful games programme for Under 8s, 9s, 10s and 11s players then, with the permission of the Director of the Academy, these players may be allowed to play for their Club team provided it is not to the detriment of other players in the team squad.
  - b) A player who no longer holds Pro Academy status may register for any junior club via the FAW Comet system. The said player is entitled to register for the last club he was registered with prior to becoming a Pro Academy player, regardless of the number of players they have registered at the time.

13. Referees and Assistant Referees
  - a) The League encourages boys and girls to take the Referees and Assistant Referees course and being able to referee Swansea Junior Football League matches.
  - b) All Swansea Junior Football League referees to be listed in the League Handbook with names. Any club directly contacting a referee for an appointment will be fined £10.00
  
14. Return of Trophies

Clubs holding League trophies must return them to the Honorary General Secretary on or before the first day in April of each year, properly cleaned and engraved accordingly. Clubs failing to do so shall be fined a maximum of £50.00 for each trophy not returned the Swansea Junior Football League. Clubs will bear the cost of engraving. Clubs failing to return trophies in a presentable condition will be charged the full cost of the trophy.
  
15. Permission to Enter the League.
  - a) The League Executive Council shall have the right to refuse admittance to the League of any club / team.
  - b) Any new club / team applying to enter the League must satisfy the League Council that it has sufficient eligible players to form a squad.
  
16. Club Accreditation

The Standard Award for Club Accreditation is the minimum standard that must be reached to allow the Club to compete in the Swansea Junior Football League No club will be allowed to enter teams in the Swansea Junior Football League, unless they have achieved the minimum standard accreditation as set down by the Football Association of Wales via the Comet system. Please note that if the process is not completed satisfactorily, the affected club, team or individual will face suspension. Any person whose qualifications and/or DBS checks have expired will be automatically suspended from all junior football activity. Any new volunteers must complete the FAW DBS checks straight away and if coming in as a coach, assistant coach or 1st Aid person must complete the appropriate award (minimum of Football Leader Award for coaching duties).

All clubs shall notify Comet and the Swansea Junior Football League Accreditation Officer of any change of personnel. Clubs who fail to do so shall be reported to the Executive Council and risk being suspended from fixtures.
  
17. Insurance

Each Club shall be responsible for registering players via the FAW Comet system thereby ensuring that they are covered by the Blue Fin insurance.
  
18. Funds of the League.

The whole of the funds of the League shall be lodged in a bank to be approved by Council. There shall be three trustees, the Chairperson, the Honorary General Secretary, and the Honorary Treasurer, who shall be for all intent and purpose the legal owners of the trophies, monies and properties of the League and in conformity with the regulations of the West Wales Football Association shall deal with the same in accordance with the directions of Council.
  
19. Fund-Raising

When the Executive Council organises an event to raise funds for the League then the costs incurred in staging that event shall be borne equally by all clubs in membership of the League.
  
20. Rules of the West Wales Football Association

Any matter not covered by these rules to be dealt with in accordance with the regulations of the West Wales Football Association.

21. Matters not provided for in the Rules  
Any infringement of the rules and any matter not provided for in the rules shall be dealt with by the Executive Council.
22. Child Protection Policy
  - (a) The League will adopt the principles laid down in the Football Association of Wales "Child Protection Awareness and Code of Conduct".
  - (b) All Member Clubs must appoint a suitable person to act as Club Safeguarding Officer
23. Misconduct  
Any club or individual deemed by the Swansea Junior Football League Council to have provided false information to the purposes of registering players or teams within the League, or who have been deemed to have brought the League or the game into disrepute will be charged with misconduct.  
In the event of any club or individual being found guilty of misconduct, the Council shall have the power to order the name of the offending club or individual removed from the League, or suspend, fined or otherwise dealt with, as the Council may determine.
24. Friendlies  
Clubs wishing to play friendlies, festivals or tournament matches must obtain permission from the SJFL in the first instance, from the Area Association (WWFA) if applicable and from the FAW if the friendly, festival or tournament is taking place outside Wales.  
Clubs wishing to organise festivals or tournaments must obtain permission from the SJFL in the first instance and from the Area Association (WWFA) if applicable. Clubs who fail to do this will be reported to the WWFA. Mini Football teams are not allowed to participate in competitive tournaments.

## LEAGUE COMPETITION RULES

1. Entrance Fees
  - a) The entrance fee shall be £40.00 per team in Divisions A,B and C and £40.00 per squad in Divisions D , E, F, and G. The guarantee fee shall be £10.00 per team. A player signing on fee shall be determined by Comet.
  - b) The rules of the league are available to download on the Swanseajfl website
  - c) The guarantee fee will be returned and credited to only those teams who fulfil all their League fixtures and who owe no money to the League. Fines or claims levied by the Council against any club or team will not be paid from the guarantee fee. Any club withdrawing a team from the League during a season shall not be allowed to re-enter that team unless it deposits with the League a guarantee fee of £25.00.
  - d) Unless requested by any club or team, the guarantee fee shall be carried over to the following season, and kept in a special account, the interest from which shall be credited to the League funds.
  - e)
    - (i) Entrance fees and guarantee fees must be paid within ten days of the invoice. No club shall be allowed to take part in any match until the fees are paid. The Executive Council may allow an extension of time on written application.
    - (ii) If a club fails to pay its entrance and guarantee fees within ten days then that club shall be fined the sum of £25.00 and be suspended until the fees are paid.
2. Champion Teams
  - a) At the end of each season's competition, the team scoring the highest number of points in its Division / Section shall be declared the champion team of the Division / Section. Three points shall be awarded for a win, one point for a draw, and no points for a defeat. Teams finishing level on points at the end of the season shall have the tie decided on a play off. All points gained in connection with matches played against subsequently withdrawn teams shall be deducted.
  - b) Where there is more than one Section in Division C, to obtain the Champion team for the Division a system of play-off matches will be arranged the format of which shall be at the discretion of the Executive Council.

3. Trophies.
- a) In any division where there is only one section, medals or trophies shall be awarded to the champion team and the runner-up in that division.
  - b) In any division where there are two sections, medals or trophies will be awarded to the champion team in Section A and the top team in Section B only.
  - c) The value of the medals or trophies shall be decided by the League Executive Council.

4. Arrangements of Fixtures.

- a) The Executive Council shall have power to arrange all matches through its appointed Fixture Secretary. No club shall be allowed to postpone a match or change the time of kick off without the permission of the League Fixture Secretary, or in his/her absence the League Chairperson, the League Vice Chairperson, the Honorary General Secretary or Honorary Treasurer.
- b) Teams may not arrange to play a match in lieu of a League match. If a match is played to a conclusion it must be a League match.
- c) (i) A team will be granted a postponement of a fixture, where they have 4 or more registered players involved in proven school commitments. The League will require written confirmation from the school.

Teams will be allowed to request postponement of a maximum of two League competition games in total per season, (Cup games not applicable) and only one cancellation will be allowed during the month of April, for proven school commitments. The club/team must follow with a written confirmation. The permission of the League Fixture Secretary must be obtained first. In the event of a game being cancelled due to pitch condition, weather or other safety reason on the match day for which a postponement was authorised then the team will **not** retain the postponement for another occasion. A cancellation can only be used against two different teams in each season.

- (ii) A minimum of 72 hours must be given.
- (iii) Where a verbal request is made and permission is granted it must be followed up by a written request to the League Fixture Secretary within 72 hours giving precise details of the request and the names of the players involved.
- (iv) If the reasons given are found to be untrue, the Executive Council will award three points to the opposing team and fine as per rule 7 (a).
- (v) The team granted permission shall be responsible to meet any expenses incurred.
- (vi) The Council, through its appointed Fixture Secretary, may grant postponements in exceptional circumstances.
- (vii) Clubs may mutually agree to play a listed League Competition fixture before the listed date to enable them to have a free date, subject to the agreement of the Fixture Secretary.

5. Duration of Matches.

- a) The duration of all matches shall be as follows:-
  - Division A (under 14): 70 minutes (35 minutes each way)
  - Division B (under 13): 70 minutes (35 minutes each way using 9v9 format)
  - Division C (under 12): 60 minutes but no more than 70 minutes using 9v9 formatClubs shall not arrange to play a match of shorter duration without the consent of the referee, which must be obtained at the beginning of the game, unless unavoidable circumstances arise. If the game is abandoned, due to unavoidable circumstances, the result shall stand if 2/3 or more of the stipulated time has been played.
- b) When a game of shorter than stipulated duration is agreed upon, the agreement must be made in writing and signed by the two team managers and the referee.
- c) In the event of a team leaving the field of play before the expiration of the game, 3 points shall be deducted from the offending team. This fixture may be declared void and shall be re-arranged by the Fixture Secretary.

- d) If a match is abandoned through the misconduct of players, the result at the time of abandonment, even though the full time has not been played, may be ordered by the League Executive Council to stand. Should a replay be ordered the expenses for the replay shall be paid by the club or team declared to be the offender. The names of the player(s) responsible for the abandonment shall be reported to the West Wales Football Association.
  - e) In the event of a match not being played due to the non-arrival of either team, the defaulting team will meet all expenses.
6. Starting Time.
- a) All League matches must commence at the notified time. Any club or team found guilty of delaying the start shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £10.00. Any match not completed may be ordered to stand provided that at least two thirds has been played. At the discretion of the Executive Council, the match may be replayed.
  - b) In the event of one team arriving at the venue late, their opponents must remain until a period of at least 20 twenty minutes has elapsed after the scheduled kick-off. Should the offending (i.e. late) team be ready to commence the match no later than (20) twenty minutes after the scheduled kick-off time, the match must take place. No team shall be compelled to wait longer than (20) twenty minutes, after the scheduled start of the match.
7. Failure to Fulfil League Fixtures.
- a) Any club failing to fulfil a listed League fixture without due notification as detailed in League Competition Rule 4 shall be deemed to have lost the match and shall have three points awarded to their opponents and be fined as follows: 1st offence - £5.00; 2nd offence - £5.00; 3rd offence - £5.00; 4th offence - £5.00.
  - b) On the fourth occasion the team shall be struck out of the competition and forfeit their guarantee fee, unless there is a satisfactory reason to the contrary.
  - c) In addition, the offending club shall reimburse the opposing team of any expenses incurred.
  - d) Where both teams are guilty of the offence, the match will be adjudged void and will not be played. Both teams will be fined accordingly.
8. Playing Kit.
- (a) All players in League matches must play in the colours registered for their respective team. In the event of a colour clash, it is the duty of the home team to change its colours.
  - (b) **No team is permitted to wear a black kit in Swansea Junior Football League matches and competitions.**
  - (c) Shirts must be numbered. Number on player's shirt must correspond to number on Match Report Sheet.
9. Corner Flags
- Corner flags must be provided by the home team for all matches. Failure to provide corner flags will result in a fine of £5.00 for each offence.
10. Referees and Assistant Referees
- a) Where there is no qualified referee present, the two team managers must agree before the game begins on a suitable person who has a current FAW DBS certificate and is listed on the Comet system to act as referee, and sign the declaration on the match report sheet accordingly. Where a substitute referee officiates and the clubs have not agreed in writing before the match, it will be deemed that both teams have agreed to the substitute referee. If a match is not played because agreement cannot be reached regarding a substitute referee officiating, Rule 7 will



- apply. The Executive Council reserves the right to appoint a Referee and Assistant Referees for any match.
- b) It shall be the responsibility of all clubs concerned in the postponement, change of kick-off time, or change of venue, to notify the Referees Appointments Secretary, as well as the League Fixture Secretary. Failure to do so will result in fines as follows: 1st offence - £5.00; 2nd offence - £10.00; 3rd offence - £15.00; further offences to be dealt with by the Executive Council.
  - c) In the event of a game not being played as listed and an appointed referee in attendance, the club or clubs or League being held responsible shall pay the referee full match fee.
11. Referee's Match Report Sheet.
- a) The League will provide Referees Match Report Sheets to every team. The Secretary/Manager of each team must see that their sheet is completed properly in respect of each game and handed to the Referee before the game commences. If an appointed League Referee is not in attendance, it shall be the responsibility of the HOME team to ensure the Team Sheets are sent to the League Fixture Secretary within the stipulated time. Any player whose identity is disputed must sign the Match Report sheet in the presence of the referee. The Match Report or Match Cancelled sheet must be sent to the League Fixture Secretary to reach him not later than 72 hours after the match (Sunday excepted).
  - b) Under no circumstances will any alteration to a Match Report sheet be allowed after it has been received by the League Fixture Secretary.
  - c) Clubs failing to observe these rules shall be liable to a fine of £8.
  - d) The referee must indicate on the Match Report sheet if corner flags were not used.
  - e) Line-ups must be entered on the Comet fixture App before the game commences, and the result entered at the end of the game before the fixture is set to complete.
12. Referee and Assistant Referee Fees
- a) In all games where a qualified referee has charge of a match an all-in fee of £25.00 which is inclusive of travelling expenses will be paid. The fee shall be paid equally between the two teams to the referee immediately after the match.
  - b) In all games where assistant referees have been appointed by the League Council an all-in match fee of £16.00 which is inclusive of travelling expenses will be paid. The fee shall be paid equally between the two teams to the assistant referees immediately after the match.
  - c) Any team failing to pay the referee his match fee shall be fined £10 as well as the outstanding referee match fee.
13. Power of the Referee.
- a) In order that the League competition shall be carried out in a fair and sportsmanlike manner, the Executive Council have empowered all referees to put down the slightest attempt at rough play or intimidation.
  - b) All reports of misconduct by players, officials or spectators must be reported via Comet or to the Asst Secretary of the West Wales Football Association, as appropriate.
14. Registration of Players
- a) All registrations must be completed via the FAW Comet system. Each club is required to appoint their own registration officer/s, who should ensure the registration of all players within their club, in accordance with FAW Comet rules and regulations.
  - b) Only players showing as confirmed on the FAW Comet system are eligible to participate within the Swansea Junior Football League.  
NOTE: players registered or transferred after the 1st February will not be eligible to participate in any cup/plate matches.

- c) Digital Registration Cards - The club secretary / team manager must ensure that a players' digital registration card is available to be inspected when reasonably requested to do so by a League Officer, Executive Council Member, or opposing club secretary/ team manager, when doubt arises over the eligibility of player(s). Failure to produce the digital registration card(s) will render the player(s) ineligible for the fixture.
  - d) Age Limits -The age limit for all divisions shall be midnight on August 31st, and the age bands for each division are as follows:  
 Division A – Over 12 and Under 14  
 Division B – Over 11 and Under 13  
 Division C – Over 11 and Under 12
  - e) Squad size - The advised maximum number of players a team can have registered in each division at any one time is eighteen. The exception being:
    - i) At Under 12's where a club/team may be allowed to register all players of eligible age, who were registered at under 11 with that club at the end of the previous season.
    - ii) When a player ceases to be a Pro Academy player and wishes to return to the team he was last registered with before becoming a Pro Academy player. (In accordance with General rule 12B).
    - iii) Clubs/teams with more than 18 players registered at any age group will only be able to sign or transfer new players if their squad numbers fall below eighteen.
    - iv) If it is found that a club/team has registered more than eighteen players (excluding exceptions (i) and (ii) above) then the last players registered above the eighteen will be deemed as ineligible, and teams will be charged accordingly if these players participate in the Swansea Junior League
  - f) Multiple Teams - Players are registered with a club within the FAW Comet system. However, where a club has more than one team at a specific age group, the club must notify the league prior to the start of the season and when any changes are made to the squads as to which players are registered to each team. Players are not permitted to switch between teams. Where a player wishes to move to another team within the same club, the club must notify the league, in writing / email, at least 24 hours before the player plays for the new team. During the current playing season, a player is only permitted one move between teams within the same club.
15. Club Withdrawal.  
 In the event of a player's club withdrawing from the League, the registration of all players registered to that club/team should be terminated on the FAW Comet system. Once the registration is terminated, the player may register for another club. Should a player decide to join another club before the registration is terminated, then this will be recorded as a transfer on the Comet system.
16. Transfers.  
 a) All transfer requests must be completed via the FAW Comet system.  
 Note: The Transfer deadline is the last Thursday in March in each season. No transfers will be allowed after this date.
17. Protests  
 a) All questions of eligibility of players shall be dealt with by the Executive Council.  
 b) Protests must be made in writing and sent via email to the Honorary General Secretary within 72 hours (Sunday excepted) of the game. Protests must be accompanied by a fee of £10.00 for all divisions and cups. The Executive Council has the right to decide whether the protest fee be forfeited.  
 c) The Executive Council may order any club engaged in a protest to pay the cost of the hearing.
18. Ineligible Players

Clubs proved on protest or report to have played a player under suspension, a player who has played more than one match on any one day, an unregistered or overage player in a League match shall be liable to a fine not exceeding five pounds (£5.00) in respect of each player for each match in which the ineligible player has played. Three points for each match shall be awarded to the non-offending team. Should both clubs in a match prove to have played an ineligible player, the match shall be void. The reference earlier in this rule to a fine shall still apply.

19. Size of Match Ball

All matches in the League and League Cup Competition shall be played with the following size football: Division A - Size 5; Division B & C - Size 4. The home team is responsible for providing a match ball and ensuring it is the correct size.

20. Number of Teams in Each Division.

- a) The recommended maximum number of teams in a division is fourteen.
- b) Where there are more than the recommended number of teams in any division, the division shall be split into two sections. Wherever possible the sections shall consist of an equal number of teams.
- c)
  - i) In Division C (Under 12) the teams for each section will be decided by an open draw. The champion team shall be decided by a play-off match between the top team in Section A and the top team in Section B.
  - ii) In Division B (Under 13) the teams for each Section will be decided by the previous season's Division C final Section league tables. The top half of each Section forming Section A and the bottom half of each Section forming Section B.
  - iii) In Division A (Under 14) the Sections will be decided by the previous season's Division B final Section league tables with the bottom two teams in Section A entering Section B and the top two teams in Section B taking their place in Section A.
- d)
  - (i) The format of play within a Section will be decided by the League Executive Council.
  - (ii) Where teams finish level on points at the end of the current season then their positions in the Sections for Divisions A and B for the following season shall be decided by the results between the teams in the current season.
- e) In any division where there is only one section the previous season, then the sections will be decided by an open draw.

21. Duration of the Season.

The League season shall commence on the 1st September and end on the 30th April and all League Competition matches must be completed during this period. Any League Competition matches not played by this date shall be declared void unless otherwise directed by the FAW or WWFA

22. Substitutes.

- a) In all League Competition Matches each team may name all registered players, all of whom may take part in the match, with the consent of the referee.
- b) All players named on the Match Report sheet will be deemed to have played in that match.
- c) Clubs may use a rolling substitutes system in League, Cup and Plate Competition fixtures

23. Players Registration Numbers.

All players' Comet numbers must be entered on the Match Report sheet for every game by both teams before the start of the match. Any club / team failing to fill in all numbers shall be fined a sum of £5.00.

24. Match Results.  
The home club / team shall be responsible to phone the result of their matches to the Fixture Secretary by not later than 9 p.m. on Saturday for matches played on Saturday, and by not later than 9 p.m. on the evening of a midweek match. Any club / team failing to comply with this rule shall be fined the sum of £5.00 for each occasion.

## **LEAGUE CUP COMPETITION RULES.**

1. League Cup Competition  
The League Competition Rules shall apply equally to the League Cup Competition unless otherwise varied by the following rules. The entrance fee shall be £10.00 per team.
2. Control of the Competition
  - a) The competition for all cups shall be annual and shall be open to all member clubs and teams, or registered players in the League. The control and management shall be vested in the Executive Council, who shall nominate the various divisions which shall compete for the particular cup.
  - b) Each team desirous of competing in the League Cup Competition shall give notice of their desire to the Honorary General Secretary at the time of entering the League Competition. The fee paid on entry to the League will include the Cup fee.
3. The Draw
  - a) The draw will be made at a General Meeting of the League.
  - b) As a general rule, all byes will be drawn in the first round.
4. Notice of Draw; Postponed or Replayed Matches.
  - a) After each drawing the Fixture Secretary shall intimate to the secretary of each club or team the name of the club or team it is drawn against and the date and venue and kick-off time. The Executive Council shall have power to arrange midweek games when necessary. Teams shall not mutually arrange to play a match in lieu of a Cup-tie. If a match is to be postponed or replayed it shall be arranged by the Fixture Secretary. Postponements will only be granted if a team has 4 or more players involved in a school activity or proven illness, and only then at the discretion of the Executive Council. If a match is played to a conclusion it must be a Cup-tie.
  - b) Any teams who, having been drawn together and having been notified of the date arranged or sanctioned by the League, fail to comply with these instructions shall be disqualified and fined a sum of £10.00
5. Arrangements  
The Executive Council shall determine the venue and all other arrangements for the playing of all Cup matches.
6. Clubs Refusing to Play Extra Time.  
In all rounds extra time must be played: 10 minutes each way for teams in Divisions A and B; and 7 minutes each way for teams in Divisions C, unless circumstances are considered by the referee (or in the absence of a qualified referee, by members of the Executive Council) to be exceptional. Clubs refusing to play extra time shall be struck out of the competition and fined £10.00
7. Duration of Matches.

- a) The duration of each match shall be 60/70 minutes, as appropriate to age group. In the event of the scores being equal at the end of 60/70 minutes, an extra 14/20 minutes must be played. If the scores remain equal after extra time, the penalty kick procedure shall apply in all rounds including the final.
  - b) In the event of a team leaving the field of play before the expiration of the game they shall be judged to have lost the game.
8. Final Tie.
- a) In the final tie the ground shall be played on such grounds as chosen by the League Executive Council who shall appoint referees and assistant referees and have all management thereof. In the event of a team refusing to play they shall be adjudged to have lost the match and shall be dealt with for misconduct.
  - b) In the final tie no team shall be compelled to play for more than the stipulated time except by order of the Executive Council. If after extra time the scores are level on goals, the result shall be decided by a penalty shoot-out.
  - c) Both sides must arrange to change their colours in the event of a colour clash.
9. Trophies.
- The Cup Winners of each division will be presented with the appropriate cup, and in addition, they, and the Runners-up will be awarded up to a maximum of eighteen medals, replicas or badges, the value of same to be decided by the Executive Council.
10. Results to be Reported.
- a) The referee shall, within two days of the match, in any round, send the Match Report sheet to the Fixture Secretary, together with the full names of the players in each team.
  - b) The referee must indicate on the Match Report sheet if Corner Flags were not used.
11. Registration of Players.
- a) The competing teams shall number up to 11 players each, the members of the team may be changed during the series of matches, but no player may play for more than one competing team during the season, the only exception being in the event of a club withdrawing from the League, the players dispersing should only be cup-tied if the withdrawal occurs after their original team has played more than one game in the Cup Competition, and they must be a bona fide player member for that team / club for whom they propose to play.
  - b) A bona fide player member of a team / club is one who is showing as confirmed for that club on the FAW Comet system, and subject to the competition rules and WWFA Junior Challenge Cup Competition Rules.
12. Ineligible Players.
- In the case of any player found to be ineligible, the team playing them must be adjudged to have lost the match.
13. Disqualification.
- If the Executive Council has any doubt as to the qualification of any player competing in this competition, it shall have the power to call upon such player, or the team to which they belong or for whom they have played, to prove to the satisfaction of the Executive Council that they are properly qualified according to the rules, and failing such satisfactory proof, the Executive Council shall have power to disqualify such player and remove the club or team from the said Competition.
14. Safe Custody of Cups.
- When a winning club or team has been ascertained, the League shall deliver the Cup to the representative of the club upon receiving a document of liability to keep safe, and indemnify the League against loss of the Cup upon a form to be issued by the League. This document is to be subscribed by two persons whose names shall be previously submitted and approved by the League.
15. Clash of Colours.

In the event of a colour clash in any round (except final) it is the duty of the first named team in the tie to change.

#### **LEAGUE CUP PLATE COMPETITION RULES.**

1. League Cup Plate Competition  
The League Competition Rules and League Cup Competition Rules shall apply equally to the League Cup Plate Competition unless otherwise varied by the following rules.
2. Control of the Competition  
The League Cup Plate Competition is restricted to teams who were knocked out either in the Preliminary Round or First Round of the League Cup Competition.
3. Cup-Tied Players  
A player is cup-tied in the League Cup Plate Competition if they played in a match for their previous club in the current season's League Cup Competition. If the player did not play for their previous club in the current season's League Cup Competition, the only exception being in the event of the club withdrawing from the League, as per League Cup Competition Rule 11a, then they would only be cup-tied in the League Cup Plate Competition if they played in a match for their previous club in the current season's League Cup Plate Competition.

#### **LEAGUE MINI FOOTBALL RULES (U8-11). Please refer to the FAW rules for Small side Football for more game specific rules**

1. League General Rules and League Competition Rules  
The League General Rules and League Competition Rules shall apply to Small sided-Football.
2. Arrangements of Fixtures.
  - a) The Executive Council shall have power to arrange all matches through its appointed Mini Football Fixture Secretary. No club shall be allowed to postpone a match without the permission of the Mini Football Fixture Secretary, or in their absence the League Chairperson, the Honorary General Secretary, the Honorary Treasurer or Mini-Football Registration Secretary and Assistant Secretary.
  - b) Teams may not arrange to play a match in lieu of a match.
  - c)
    - (i) No club / team will be granted permission to postpone a fixture except for illness or proven school commitments where they are unable to field the required number of players. FAW mini football rules permit the borrowing of players from opposing teams to ensure that there are an equal number of players on both teams.
  - d) Teams will be granted up to two postponements in any season.
    - (ii) A minimum of 72 hours must be given. (Wednesday 9pm)
    - (iii) Where a verbal request is made and permission is granted it must be followed up by a written/emailed request to the Small sided-Football Fixture Secretary within 24 hours giving precise details of the request and the names of the players involved.
    - (iv) If the reasons given are found to be untrue, the Executive Council will fine as per League Small sided Football Rule 5 (a).
    - (v) The team granted permission shall be responsible to meet any expenses incurred.
    - (vi) Council, through its appointed Fixture Secretary, may grant postponements in exceptional circumstances.
3. Duration of Matches.

- a) All listed fixtures shall be of the nature of a non-competitive round-robin following the rules set down by the FAW
- b) When a game of shorter than stipulated duration is agreed upon, the agreement must be made in writing and signed by the two team managers.
- c) In the event of a team leaving the field of play before the expiration of the game, the team may be charged with failing to fulfil the fixture and may be reported to the West Wales Football Association.
- d) If a match is abandoned through the misconduct of player(s), the names of the player(s) responsible for the abandonment shall be reported to the West Wales Football Association.
- e) In the event of a match not being played due to the non-arrival of either team, the defaulting team will meet all expenses.

4. Starting Time.

All listed matches must commence at the notified time. Any club or team found guilty of delaying the start shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £5.00.

5. Failure to Fulfil Fixtures.

- a) Any club failing to fulfil a listed fixture without due notification shall be fined as follows: 1st offence - £5.00; 2nd offence - £7.50; 3rd offence - £10.00 thereafter
- b) On the fourth occasion the team shall be struck out of the competition and forfeit their guarantee fee, unless there is a satisfactory reason to the contrary.
- c) In addition, the offending club shall reimburse the opposing team of any expenses incurred.
- d) Where both teams are guilty of the offence, both teams will be fined accordingly.

6. Playing Kit.

- (a) All players in listed matches must play in the colours registered for their respective team. In the event of a colour clash, it is the duty of the first named team to change its colours.
- (b) **No team is permitted to wear a black kit in Swansea Junior Football League matches.**

7. Goals.

Goal sizes will be set in accordance with FAW guidelines. By entering a team into the small sided age-groups, each team must have a portable goal which they must carry with them to every venue unless notified that goals are already available at the venue.

8. Power of the Match facilitator

- a) In order that Mini Football shall be played in a fair and sportsmanlike manner, the Executive Council have empowered all match facilitators to put down the slightest attempt at rough play or intimidation.
- b) All reports of misconduct by players, officials or spectators must be reported to the Secretary of the West Wales Football Association.

9. Registration of Players

- a) A player aged under 16 and below may only be registered for ONE Junior club at a time. A player may be registered for a maximum of THREE clubs during any given season. During this period the player is only eligible to play for TWO clubs (in accordance with FAW Rule 66.4.2) There is no registration window for players up to 11 years of age. Players within this age band may be registered at any time.
- b) All requests to transfer, register or cancel a player's registration will be dealt with by Comet and in accordance with the criteria as currently determined by the Football Association of Wales Council.
- c) Players must be registered via the Comet system Any club / team failing to register sufficient players to fulfil a fixture shall be fined a sum not exceeding £5.00. For clubs in Division 'D'

under 11 and Division 'E' under 10, sufficient players will be a minimum of 10 for one side and 20 for two sides. For Clubs in Division 'F' under 9, sufficient players will be 8 for one side and 16 for two sides. For Clubs in Division 'G' under 8, sufficient players will be 7 for one side and 14 for two sides. The league retains the right to refuse the addition of a second team if it is deemed that the club has insufficient players to make it sustainable for the remainder of the season. Similarly, the league retains the right to remove a second team from the fixture list if it deems the team to be unsustainable due to insufficient players being registered. Clubs may request a third team which may be allowed at the discretion of the Executive Council.

- d) Any player having been found guilty of signing for more than one team or club shall be reported to the Honorary General Secretary and, until the decision of the Executive Council is made known, the player shall not be allowed to play for any club or team in the League.
- e) The club secretary / team manager shall be responsible for their team's Comet ID numbers. These Comet ID numbers MUST be produced on reasonable request to a League Officer, Executive Council Member, or opposing club secretary / team manager, when doubt arises over the eligibility of player(s). Failure to produce the card will render the player(s) ineligible for the fixture.
- f) Should any doubt arise as to the identity / eligibility of any player, it shall be the responsibility of that player's club secretary / team manager to ensure that the player signs his name on the team sheet alongside his name and Comet ID number, and in the presence of the opposing club secretary / team manager.
- g) The age limit for all divisions shall be midnight on August 31st and subject to FAW Comet approval and the age bands for each division are as follows:
  - Division D - Over 9 and Under 11.
  - Division E - Over 8 and Under 10.
  - Division F - Over 7 and Under 9.
  - Division G - Over 6 and Under 8.
- h) In the event of a club entering more than one team in any division, a player may play for any team for which they are eligible by virtue of their age, provided that they play for one team only in any series of round robin fixtures on any one day, or for one team only in a Small sided Football Festival.
- i) Player registration fees are to be paid via the Comet system following the rules set down by the FAW
- j) Where a club/team wishes to register a player who was last registered for a club outside of Wales then and ITC (International Transfer Clearance) must be obtained before that player becomes eligible to play for their new club.

#### 10. Club Withdrawal.

In the event of a player's club withdrawing from the League, they shall be allowed to register for another team or club subject to the approval of the Executive Council. Any player of a club or team withdrawn, and not registering for another club or team, shall be deemed to have had their registration cancelled.

#### 11. Transfers.

- a) A player aged under 16 and below may only be registered for ONE junior club at a time.  
Note: The transfer deadline is the last Thursday in March in each season. No transfers will be allowed after this date.

#### 12. Protests

- a) All questions of eligibility of players shall be dealt with by the Executive Council.
- b) Protests must be made in writing to the Honorary General Secretary within 72 hours (Sunday excepted) of the game. Protests must be accompanied by a fee of £10.00. The Executive Council has the right to decide whether the protest fee be forfeited.



- c) The Executive Council may order any club engaged in a protest to pay the cost of the hearing.
13. Ineligible Players  
Clubs proved on protest or report to have played an unregistered or over-aged player, or a player defined by small sided football Rule 9 d) in a listed match shall be fined the sum of £5. The fine shall be placed on the team and not the individual player.
14. Size of Match Ball  
All matches shall be played with an appropriate size football for age group. The first named team is responsible for providing a match ball and ensuring it is the correct size.
15. Duration of the Season.  
The League season shall commence on the 1st September and end on the 30th April and all listed matches must be completed during this period unless otherwise directed by the FAW.
16. Substitutes.
- a) In all matches each team may name an unlimited number of substitutes, all of whom may take part in the series of match, with the consent of the referee.
- b) All players named on the official League Squad Sheet will be deemed to have played in that match.
- c) i) Only players present on the day are to be listed on the Official League Squad Sheet.  
ii) Where squad sheets are preprinted, team managers must cross out any players not present on the day.  
iii) Team Managers by signing the Official League Squad Sheet are confirming that all their players listed on their Official League Squad Sheet were actually present on the day of and participated in the weekly round-robin matches.  
iv) Team Managers by signing their opponents Official League Squad Sheet are confirming that all the players listed on their opponents Official League Squad Sheet were actually present on the day of and participated in the weekly round-robin match.
17. Players Registration Numbers.  
All players' Comet numbers must be entered on the Squad Sheet for every game before the games commence. Any club / team failing to fill in all numbers shall be fined a sum of £5.00.
18. Corner Flags. This rule has been disapplied but flags should be used where appropriate
19. Small-sided Football Squad Sheets
- a) The League will provide squad sheets to every team. The Manager must ensure that the squad sheet is completed fully and signed by all other managers in the group. The squad sheet must be received by the Small-sided Football Administration Officer within 72 hours of the match.
- b) Teams failing to observe this Rule shall be liable to a fine of £5.
- c) Any team failing to submit a squad sheet on four separate occasions shall be reported to the League Executive Council and if found guilty shall be fined £50. Continued failure to submit squad sheets will result in the team being fined a further £75 and suspended from playing for a period of 4 weeks.'
- d) The listed manager on the sheet should match the name stated on the Comet system.
- e) All managers shall state their FAW Comet number as requested on the sheet. Persons with no FAW Comet number are not permitted to participate in football activities involving children.

## STANDING ORDERS FOR THE CONDUCT OF MEETINGS

1. The Chairperson shall have control of the business of the meeting and in the event of a tie on voting for any motion or amendment shall have power to give a casting vote.
2. Every motion shall be moved and seconded (and if required reduced to writing) before it is discussed or put to the meeting.
3. A member shall stand when speaking, and shall address the Chair. The Chairperson only shall have power to check or call to order a speaker. When the Chairperson rises, no one else shall continue speaking, nor shall anyone rise until the Chairperson resumes their seat.
4. No member shall speak on any matter not before the meeting.
5. No member shall speak twice on any motion unless permission is given to explain, except the mover of the resolution or the amendment.
6. A motion or amendment once made and seconded shall not be withdrawn without the consent of the meeting.
7. If any amendment is carried, the original motion as thereby amended shall become the matter upon which further amendments shall be moved.
8. Any motion having been passed by an Executive Council meeting or a general meeting shall not be discussed further or rescinded without the consent of at least half of those present. Notice of motion must be given and appear on the agenda before any decision arrived at can be carried or rescinded.
9. Matters not on the agenda may be introduced under any other business.
10. No member shall address the meeting for a longer period than five minutes on any one question, except for the mover of the resolution who may speak, on bringing forward his proposition, for a period not exceeding ten minutes.
11. When two or more members rise at one time, the Chairperson shall decide who shall have priority of speaking.
12. If the Chairperson be of the opinion that any motion proposed to be made is of an objectionable character they may at once put it to the vote (on which there shall be no discussion) whether it shall be entertained or not, and if 2/3 of the members present decide not to entertain such motion, the matter is disposed of for that meeting.
13. The quorum shall be five members for an Executive Council meeting and 20% of membership for General Meetings.
14. Should there be any dispute which involves the conduct or otherwise of any member, the said member, or members shall retire during its discussion.
15. The Executive Council meetings, or General Meeting, shall by vote, resolve itself into committee if proposed, seconded and passed accordingly. There shall be no restriction as to the number of times a member shall speak.
16. The evidence of witnesses, statements of members, general discussion and other matter within or before the Executive Council meeting shall be deemed to be privileged and private. The Executive Council shall have power to censure or suspend from service on the Executive Council any member proved to be guilty of breach of this rule. There shall be no law of privilege with regard to General Meetings.
17. The Chairperson shall have power to nominate a deputy should the occasion arise.

