

RULES

NOMENCLATURE AND CONSTITUTION

- (A) This Competition shall be designated The Alliance Football League and shall consist of the teams of all full member clubs. All such Member Clubs must be affiliated to an affiliated County Football Association and their names and particulars shall be returned annually by the appointed date on the Form 'D' to the Leicestershire & Rutland County Football Association. The area covered by the Competition Membership shall be Leicestershire & Rutland and adjacent counties. This Competition shall apply annually for sanction to the Leicestershire & Rutland County Football Association and the constituent teams of Member Clubs may be grouped in divisions, each not exceeding fourteen in number. Member Clubs shall not enter any of their teams playing in the Competition in any other Competitions (with the exception of F.A. and County F.A. Competitions) except with the written consent of the Management Committee of this Competition.

ENTRY FEE, SUBSCRIPTION, DEPOSIT

- (A) Applications by Clubs for admission to this Competition or the entry of an additional team(s) must be made in writing to the Secretary and must be accompanied by an Application Fee of £10 per team
(B) The Annual Subscription shall be £70 per team. This can be paid in 2 installments, but if the fee is to be paid in installments then there shall be two installments of £40.
(C) Clubs must advise annually to the Secretary in writing by 1st May of its Leicestershire & Rutland County Football Association affiliation number for the forthcoming season, failing which they shall be fined £10. Clubs must also advise the Secretary, on the prescribed form, of details of its officers, pitch, any other information required by the Competition together with the signed agreement referred to in Rule 7 by the date of the Annual General Meeting.

OFFICERS

3. (A) The Officers of the Competition shall be the President, Vice Presidents, Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Referees Secretary, Fixtures Secretary, Treasurer, Website Manager and Press Officer(s). All officers shall be elected at an Annual General Meeting. The President and Vice Presidents shall be elected for a five and three year term of office respectively. All other officers shall be elected annually.
- (B) Life membership shall be granted to any member of the Management Committee who has been a member of the Committee for a minimum of twenty years.

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 no more than seven members who shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.
- (B) Retiring Officers shall be eligible to become candidates for reelection without nomination. All other candidates for election as Officers or Members of the Management Committee shall be nominated to the Secretary in writing, signed by the Secretaries of two Member Clubs, not later than 1st May in each year. Names of the candidates for election shall be circulated with the notice of the Annual General Meeting. In the event of there being no nomination in accordance with the foregoing for any office, nominations may be received at the Annual General Meeting.
- (C) The Management Committee shall meet as often as is necessary to deal with business as it arises. On receiving a requisition signed by two-thirds of the Members of the Management Committee the Secretary shall convene a meeting of the Committee.
- (D) Except where otherwise mentioned all communications shall be addressed to the Secretary who shall conduct the correspondence of the Competition and keep a record of its proceedings.
- (E) All communications received from Clubs must be conducted through their nominated Officers.

POWERS OF MANAGEMENT

5. (A) The Management Committee may appoint such other subcommittees as they may consider necessary and may delegate such of their powers as they deem necessary to such committees. The decisions of all such committees shall be reported to the Management Committee for ratification.
- (B) Subject to the permission of the Leicestershire and Rutland County Football Association having been obtained, the Management Committee may order a match or matches to be played each season, the proceeds to be devoted to the funds of the Competition and, if necessary, may call upon each club (including any club which may have withdrawn during the season) to contribute equally such sums as may be necessary to meet any deficiency at the end of the season. (See Rule 6(e)).
- (C) Each member of the Management Committee shall have the right to attend and vote at all Management Committee meetings and have one vote thereat, but no member shall be allowed to vote on any matters directly appertaining to such member or to the club so represented. (This shall apply to the procedure of any subcommittee). 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, official or player alleged to be in breach of a Competition Rule must be formally charged in writing and given the opportunity to present their case, in writing, before the Management Committee. All breaches of the Laws of the Game, Rules and Regulations of The Football Association shall be dealt with in accordance with F.A. Rules.
- (E) All decisions of the Management Committee shall be binding subject to the right of appeal to the Board of Appeal in accordance with Rule 16. Decisions of the Management Committee must be notified in writing to those concerned within seven days.
- (F) Four members of the Management Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business of the Management Committee and three members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business by any sub-committee of the Competition.

(G) The Management Committee, as it may deem necessary, shall have power to fill in an acting capacity, any vacancies that may occur amongst their number.

(H) A club having failed to comply with an order or instruction of the Management Committee, or failing to satisfactorily attend to the business and/or the correspondence of the Competition, within ten days shall be liable to be fined £10 or otherwise penalised at the discretion of the Management Committee.

(I) All fines and charges shall be paid within 14 days of the date of posting of the written notification, clubs, officials or individuals committing a breach of this rule will be suspended and incur a further fine of £10.

(J) The Management Committee shall have the power to fill any vacancy that may occur in the membership of the Competition.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

6. (A) The Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than 1st July in each year. At this meeting the following business shall be transacted provided that at least six 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) Election of Officers and Management Committee.
- (vi) Appointment of Auditors.
- (vii) Alteration of Rules, if any (of which notice has been given).
- (viii) Fix the date for the commencement and conclusion of playing season.
- (ix) 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 days prior to the meeting.

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

(D) Each team of a full member club shall be empowered to send one delegate to an Annual General Meeting. Each delegate shall be entitled to one vote only. Not less than seven 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 voting cards unless a ballot be demanded by at least two thirds of the delegates qualified to vote or the Chairman so decides.

(G) No individual shall be entitled to more than one vote unless he is also entitled to vote as an officer or member of the Management Committee.

(H) Any team of any continuing member club failing to be represented at the Annual General Meeting shall be fined £15.

(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 details prescribed under Rule 2(E).

"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 Alliance Football League Competition and do hereby agree for and on behalf of the said club, 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 Agreement must be notified to the Leicestershire & Rutland County Football Association(s) to which the club is affiliated and to the Secretary of this Competition.

QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

8. (A) Contract players, as defined in Football Association Rules, are not permitted in this Competition.
- (B) A registered playing member of a club is one who, being in all other respects eligible, has:-
- (1) Signed a fully and correctly completed Player Registration Form in ink, countersigned by an officer of the club, and who has been registered with the Secretary or Registration Secretary prior to playing,
 - (2) Signed a fully and correctly completed Player Registration Form in ink on a match day prior to playing, countersigned by an officer of the club and by an officer of the opposing club, and submitted to the Secretary or Registration Secretary within four days (Sundays excluded) subsequent to the match. A maximum of six players may be registered in this way, prior to any one game.
- Registration forms may also be submitted to the Registrations Secretary by facsimile machine prior to the player playing.
- (C) 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.
- (D) Player Registration Forms shall be obtained from the Secretary or Registration Secretary on prepayment of £10 per book of 20 forms.
- (E) 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 Secretary or Registration Secretary shall notify the club last applying to register the player of the fact of the previous registration.

- (F) It shall be deemed misconduct for a player to:-
- (i) Play for more than one club in the Competition in the same season without first being transferred.
 - (ii) Having signed for one club in the Competition, sign for another club in the Competition in that season except for the purpose of a transfer.
 - (iii) Submit a signed registration form for registration that the player had wilfully neglected to accurately or fully complete.
- (G) (i) The Management Committee shall have power to accept the registration of any player. The Management Committee shall have power to refuse, cancel or suspend the registration of any player or may fine any player at their discretion proved guilty of registration or other irregularities. (Subject to Rule 16).
- (ii) The Management Committee shall have power to refuse or cancel the registration of any player found guilty of undesirable conduct and to disqualify the player in question from participating in all games in the Competition. (Subject to Rule 16). (Note: Action under Clause (ii) shall not be taken against a player for misconduct on the field of play until the matter has been dealt with by the appropriate Association, and then only in cases of the player bringing the Competition into disrepute.)
- (H) Subject to The Football Association Rules dealing with players without a written contract, when a player desires a transfer, the club to which the player wishes to transfer shall submit a Player Transfer Form to the Secretary or Registration Secretary accompanied by a fee of £10. The player will only be transferred when a correctly and fully completed form has been received by the Secretary or Registration Secretary.
- (I) A player may not be transferred before 1st October and a player may not be transferred or registered after the last day of February.
- (J) 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.
- (K) 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 Club Secretary at a time mutually arranged.

(L) At no time, may a club play more than 3 first team players in a reserve team. A player becomes a first team player as soon as he has played 5 first team games in any one season. Any club not complying with this rule shall be fined £10 and the Management Committee may order the game to be replayed at the expense of the defaulting club. In addition the club shall be removed from the Competition if the game concerned is part of a Cup Competition.

(M) Any club playing while suspended or playing an unregistered, suspended, contract or otherwise ineligible player may be fined up to £50 and shall have 3 points deducted. The Management Committee may order the game to be replayed at the expense of the offending club, without the player concerned taking part.

CLUB COLOURS. CLUB NAME

9. (A) Every club must register the colour of its shirts and shorts with the Competition Secretary by the date of the Annual General Meeting who shall decide as to their suitability. Any changes during the season shall be advised to the Competition Secretary. Goalkeepers must wear colours, which distinguish them from other players and the referee. No player, including the goalkeeper, shall be permitted to wear black or very dark shirts. Any team not being able to play in its normal colours as registered with the Competition shall notify the colours in which they will play to its opponents at least four days before the match. If, in the opinion of the referee, two clubs have the same or similar colours, the away team shall make the change. Any team not having a change of colours or delaying the kick-off by not having a change shall be fined £10 or in accordance with Rule 10(A). Shirts must be uniquely numbered, failing which a fine of £10 shall be imposed.
- (B) Any Club wishing to change its name must seek permission from its affiliated County Association and from the Management Committee.

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

- 10.(A) All matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game as determined by the International Football Association Board. Clubs must take all reasonable precautions to keep their grounds in a playable condition. All matches shall be played on pitches deemed suitable by the Management Committee. If through any fault of the home team a match has to be replayed, the Management Committee shall have 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 matches shall have a duration of 90 minutes unless a shorter time (not less than 70 minutes) is mutually arranged by the two captains in consultation with the referee prior to the commencement of the match, and in any event shall be of equal halves. The times of kick-off shall be fixed by the Management Committee. Any club failing to commence at the appointed time shall be fined a sum not exceeding £20. Referees must order matches to commence at the appointed time and must report all late starts to the Competition Secretary unless playing conditions are unacceptable at the prescribed kick off time, in which case the kick off may be delayed by up to 30 minutes. Goal nets must be used, otherwise a fine of £10 shall be incurred..
- (B) Except by permission of the Management Committee all matches must be played on the dates originally fixed but priority shall be given to The Football Association and all relevant County Association Cup Competitions. All other matches must be considered secondary. Clubs may mutually agree to bring forward a match with the consent of the Management Committee.
- (C) The Secretary of the home club must give notice in writing of full particulars of the location of, and access to, the ground and time of kick-off to the match officials and the secretary of the opposing club at least four clear days prior to the playing of the match. Any club failing to comply with this Rule shall be liable to a fine of £10. Each team shall play eleven players in all matches. Teams breaking this rule shall be reported by the referee to the Competitions Secretary and shall be liable to a fine of £5 for each player short of full strength at the kick off. No game shall start where a team fields less than nine players.

(D) Home and away matches shall be played. However, 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. A club may request a free date but this will only be granted at the entire discretion of the Management Committee, and providing the request is received at least three weeks prior to the issue of the fixture booklet covering the date concerned.

Clubs with two teams shall play the first team in preference to the reserve team, failing which a fine of up to £50 may be imposed in addition to any other action determined by the Management Committee.

Notice of postponement of any match must be given without delay by the postponing club to the Secretary or Assistant Secretary, the Referees 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. Any team causing a postponement of any match shall be fined up to £50 for each offence, shall be fined up to £50 for each offence, shall have one point deducted for the first offence, two points deducted for the second offence and three points deducted for each subsequent offence and be liable to pay all approved expenses incurred.

In the event of a match not being played owing to causes over which neither club has control, it shall be played in its entirety on a date to be arranged by the Management Committee.

The Management Committee shall review all abandoned matches and in a case where it is to the advantage of the Competition, shall be empowered to order the score at the time of the abandonment to stand. Otherwise the Management Committee shall order the game to be replayed and shall determine the venue and the costs.

(E) A club may at its discretion and in accordance with the Laws of the Game use 3 substitute players in any match in this Competition who may be selected from up to seven players.

The referee shall be informed of the names of the substitutes 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.

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

REPORTING RESULTS

11. (A) The Competition Secretary must receive within four days of the date when the game was played, the result of each Competition match in the prescribed manner. This must include the surname of the team players (in block letters) In cases where there is more than one player with the same surname, the forename shall be given. The Referee markings required by Rule 13, or any other information required by the Competition, shall also be provided. Failure to submit a timely, accurate or complete Player/Result Form will incur a fine of £5 and a fine of £10 for all offences. Clubs will be suspended if a Player/Result Form has not been received within ten days of the match taking place.
- (B) All clubs shall provide a report of each match to the appropriate Press Officer during the prescribed times failing which a fine of £10 will be imposed.

DETERMINING CHAMPIONSHIP

12. (A) Team rankings within the Competition will be decided by points with three points to be awarded for a win and one point for a drawn match. The teams gaining the highest number of points in their respective Divisions at the conclusion shall be adjudged the winners. Matches must not be played for double points. In the event of an equal number of points then the team with the better goal difference shall take precedence. In the event of points and goal difference being equal, then goals scored shall take precedence. If precedence is still undecided, then a match or matches shall be played at a venue decided by the Management Committee to determine the Champions and Runners Up. Any team refusing to play in a play-off shall be judged to have lost and the game be awarded to their opponents. Expenses shall be shared equally between the clubs taking part. The net proceeds shall go to Competition funds.

- (B) Automatic promotion and relegation shall be applied for the first two and last two teams in each Division except as provided for hereunder, subject to the provisions of Rule 1(b).
- (i) Should one or more teams withdraw from any one Division after the fixtures have commenced an equal number of teams to those withdrawing in that Division shall not be automatically relegated.
- (ii) Vacancies occurring after the conclusion of the season may be filled on any of the following ways:
- (a) retention of otherwise relegated team(s)
 - (b) additional promotion of the next ranked team(s) from the Division below
 - (c) as the Management Committee may determine.
- (iii) Two teams from the same club shall not play in the same division.
- (C) In the event of a team not completing all of its fixtures for the season the results of all games played by such defaulting team shall be expunged from the Competition table.

REFEREES

- 13.(A) Registered Referees and Assistant Referees for all matches shall be appointed in a manner approved by the Management Committee and by the sanctioning Association.
- (B) In the event of the non-appearance of the appointed Referee the appointed senior Assistant Referee shall take charge and a substitute Assistant Referee appointed by the competing teams. In cases where there are no officially appointed Assistant Referees, the clubs shall agree upon a referee. A referee thus agreed upon shall, for that game, have the full powers, status and authority of a registered referee.
- (C) The Management Committee may, if they consider it desirable, or upon application by the two competing clubs, appoint Assistant Referees, if available, to any match, under these circumstances, the fees of the Assistant Referees shall be equally shared by both clubs. Where Assistant Referees are not appointed each team shall provide a club Assistant Referee. Failure to do so will result in a fine of £5 being imposed on the defaulting team.

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

(E) Match Officials appointed under this Rule shall be entitled to charge fees determined by the Management Committee. The home club shall offer the Officials their fees before the match, failing which a fine of £10 shall be imposed.

(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, payable by the home club. Where a match is not played owing to one club being in default, that club shall be ordered to pay the officials, if they attend the ground, their full fee.

(G) A referee who fails to accept or declines his appointment in writing to the Referees Secretary within seven days of receipt, fails to attend his game or causes a late start may be fined, suspended and/or censored. Similar action may also be taken against a referee who accepts an appointment and subsequently declines within 4 days of the game without prior permission of the Referees Secretary.

(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 Player/Result Form provided.

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

(J) The referee shall submit within two days of the game taking place a Report Form, in duplicate, supplied by the Competition, giving the details of any infringements of these Rules.

(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) A club intending to withdraw a team from the Competition on completion of its fixtures and fulfilment of all other obligations to the Competition must notify the Secretary in writing by 1st February each season or be liable to a fine not exceeding £250 per team.
(B) Any club failing to complete its fixtures or meet its other obligations shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £250 per team. The club shall also be liable for its share of any call which may be made under Rule 2(B).
(C) 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 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 APPEALS

15. (A) (i) All questions of eligibility, qualifications of players or interpretations of the Rules shall be referred to the Management Committee.
(ii) Objections relevant to the dimensions of the pitch, goals, flag posts or other facilities of the venue will not be entertained by the Management Committee unless a protest is lodged with the referee before the commencement of the match. Any club lodging such protest and not proceeding with it shall be deemed guilty of a breach of this Rule and shall be dealt with by the Management Committee.

(B) Except in cases where the Management Committee decide that there are special circumstances, protests and complaints (which must contain full particulars of the grounds upon which they are founded) must be lodged in duplicate with the Secretary within three 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 £20. This may be forfeited in whole or in part in the event of the complaining or protesting club losing its case. The Competition shall have power to order the defaulting club or the club making a losing or frivolous protest or complaint to pay the expenses of the enquiry or to order that the costs to be shared by the parties.

(E) All parties to a protest or complaint must be afforded an opportunity to make a statement when the protest or complaint is being heard and must have received seven 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.

BOARD OF APPEAL

16 .Within 14 days of the posting of written notification of any decision of the Management Committee or the Competition, a club, official or player against whom action is taken may appeal against such decision by lodging particulars in duplicate with the Secretary of the Leicestershire & Rutland County Football Association, including a fee, 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.

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

17.(A) At the Annual General Meeting, or at a Special General Meeting called for the purpose, in accordance with the provisions of Rule 19, the accredited delegates present shall have the power to exclude from further participation in the Competition any club whose conduct, in their opinion, has been undesirable upon a majority of two-thirds of the votes cast. 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.

(B) Any official or member of a club proved guilty of either misconduct, 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 Clause (A) of this Rule.

(C) Any club or team failing to complete all of its fixtures in any season shall, unless the conditions are beyond their control, be debarred 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 be discontinued for any cause the Cup or Trophy shall be returned to the Donor, if the conditions attached to it so provide, or otherwise dealt with as the 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. Clubs resigning from the League shall return the trophy at the time of resignation.

Clubs failing to return the cups or trophies by the due date may be fined up to £25. 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."

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 14 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 team of a member club shall be empowered to send a delegate to all Special General Meetings. Each delegate shall be entitled to one vote only.

Any continuing member club failing to be represented at a Special General Meeting shall be fined £15.

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

ALTERATION TO RULES

20. Alterations shall be made to these Rules only at the Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting specially convened for the purpose called in accordance with Rule 19. Any alteration made during the playing season to the Rule relating to the qualification of player's shall not take effect until the following season.

Notice of proposed alterations to be considered at the Annual General Meeting shall be submitted to the Secretary by 15th April in each year. The proposals, together with any proposals by the Management Committee, shall be circulated to the Clubs by 30th April and any amendments thereto shall be submitted to the Secretary by 15th May. The proposals and proposed amendments thereto shall be circulated to Clubs with the notice of the Annual General Meeting. A proposal to change a Rule shall be carried if a majority of those present and entitled to vote are in favour.

A copy of the proposed alterations to Rules to be considered at the Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting shall be submitted to the sanctioning Football Association 7 days prior to the date of the meeting.

Any alterations or additions decided upon at any meeting shall not become operative until the approval of the Association issuing sanction 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 must 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 will be lodged.
(B) All expenditure in excess of £500 shall be approved by the Management Committee. Cheques shall be signed by two Officers nominated by the Management Committee.
(C) The financial year of the Competition will end on 30th April.
(D) The books, or a certified balance sheet, of a Competition shall be prepared and shall be audited annually by some suitable person(s) who shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting.
(E) Any deficiency in the league accounts at the end of the season shall be made good by all clubs in equal proportions.

APPENDIX - MEMBERS REGULATIONS

- (a) All clubs shall register a minimum of 12 players per team by 31st July, failing which their membership of the League will be reviewed by the Management Committee and shall be fined £10.
(b) Clubs who mark a referee, four or less must set out their reasons in writing to the Competition Secretary within four days of the match taking place.
(c) Annual trophies cannot be won outright. Any club failing to return the cup or trophy by the date specified or on resignation shall be fined up to £25. Each club which receives a cup or trophy shall pay the cost of engraving its name and the year on the base.
(d) The pitch fee for any League or cup game played under floodlights and on a neutral ground shall be shared between the two clubs taking part.
(e) The Management Committee shall have power to arrange representative matches and to call upon the services of any player of any member club for such matches. A player's registration may be suspended for one or two games if he fails to attend any representative match after indicating availability and selection unless a satisfactory explanation has been given prior to the game.
(f) Clubs must be able to meet all financial obligations, have adequate dressing room accommodation and a satisfactory ground.
(g) Each team shall provide a suitable first aid kit for each game.
(h) Any team refusing to play a game, with appointed match official(s) in attendance shall be deemed to have caused a postponement and shall be dealt with in accordance with Rule 10 (D). Under these circumstances, the game shall not take place.

RULES FOR CUP COMPETITIONS

1. The Competitions shall be called 'The Arthur Moore Cup Competition', 'The E W Foster Cup Competition', or 'The Stokes Cup Competition'.
2. The cup competitions shall be confined to teams in membership of The Alliance Football league as follows:

Premier and Division 1 teams	- 'Arthur Moore Cup'
Divisions 2 and 3 teams	- 'E W Foster Cup'
Divisions 4 and 5 teams	- 'Stokes Cup'.
3. A player who has played for one club in any one of these Competitions may not play for any other club in any of these Competitions. A player who has played for a first team in any of these Competitions may not subsequently play for the reserve team in any of these Competitions.
4. With the exception of the preceding rules, the Rules of the 'Bill Walton Cup Competition' shall apply to these Competitions.

RULES OF 'THE BILL WALTON CUP COMPETITION' NOMENCLATURE AND CONSTITUTION

1. The Competition shall be called 'The Bill Walton Cup Competition'.
2. The Competition shall be confined to clubs in membership of 'The Alliance Football League'.

POWERS OF MANAGEMENT

3. The Competition shall be governed by the Management Committee. Any decision of the Committee may be the subject of an appeal in accordance with League Rule 16.
4. The Management Committee shall have the power to arrange all matches.

QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

5. No player may play for more than one club in each season Competition. A player may not play for a reserve team, having already played for the first team in this Competition.
6. All players are to be registered in accordance with League Rule 8. In the semifinal and final, all players, with the exception of the goalkeeper, must have played in at least 4 and 6 games respectively, arranged by the League, for the team concerned.

5. Prior to semi finals and the final, clubs shall forward a list of players to their opponents with a copy to the League Registration Secretary at least ten days before the date of the game and no objection to the qualification of any player in the list shall be entertained unless notice is given, stating full details to the club concerned and the General Secretary in writing at least 48 hours before the game is to be played.

Any club failing to forward a complete list of players in accordance with this rule shall be fined £10 in addition to any other action taken. Only players named in the list shall play in the game concerned.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR AND CONDITIONS OF PLAY

6. The first named club shall advise the match officials and the opposing club secretary by letter or personal telephone call at least four days before the game, of the location of the ground and dressing rooms and the colours. In semifinal games, the first named club shall also confirm arrangements with the host club and the Management Committee member.
7. The period of play may be reduced to two equal periods of not less than 35 minutes each if mutually agreed between the referee and the competing clubs before the start of play.
8. If the scores are level at the end of normal time, extra time of 15 minutes each way shall be played. If the scores remain level at the end of extra time, kicks from the penalty mark shall be taken to decide the winner. Both clubs may mutually agree to reduce the period of extra time or dispense with extra time completely if the weather conditions are adverse.
9. Any club refusing to play extra time or take kicks from the penalty mark when ordered to do so, shall be excluded from the competition and their opponents shall be deemed to be the winners.
10. Any club causing the game to be postponed without the express permission of the Management or Emergency Committee or playing while suspended, or playing an unregistered, suspended, contract or otherwise ineligible player may be fined up to a maximum of £50, shall be removed from the Competition and shall be liable to pay all approved expenses incurred. The Management or Emergency Committee may decide that the opponents shall go through to the next round provided it has not already been played.

11. In the event of two clubs adopting the same colours, the second named club shall change.
12. Prior to semi finals, the first drawn club shall have choice of ground.
13. Prior to semi finals, each competing club shall provide an Assistant Referee for the whole of each game, failing which a fine of £5 will be imposed.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR SEMI FINALS AND FINAL

14. The semi-final and final games shall be played on neutral grounds and on such dates and grounds and under such control as the Management Committee shall determine. In semi-final games, the host club shall be paid £30 or the actual cost of pitch hire, whichever is the greater. This payment together with the fees and expenses of the match officials shall be equally shared between the teams taking part. Failure to make the necessary preparations by the host club may result in a fine of £25.

TROPHIES

15. The winning club shall receive a cup, which cannot be won outright, subject to a declaration being signed in accordance with League Rule 18. Each club shall be responsible for the cost of appropriate engraving which shall be arranged by the League.
16. Cup final officials shall receive a memento in lieu of fees and expenses.

APPLICATION OF LEAGUE RULES

17. Unless specifically provided for in these rules, all applicable rules of 'The Alliance Football League' shall apply to this Competition.

RULES OF THE 6-A-SIDE COMPETITION

1. The Competition shall be called The Alliance Football League Six-a-Side Competition and shall be confined to members of The Alliance Football League.
2. The Competition shall be organised by a sub-committee of the league Management Committee which shall have full powers delegated to it.
3. The General Secretary and Chairman shall be ex-officio members of the sub-committee, with full voting powers.
4. The Competition shall, if possible, be completed in one day.
5. An Entrance Fee of £20 shall be paid on application.
6. All players are to be registered as per League Rule 11; any team play an unregistered, suspended, contract or otherwise ineligible player shall be removed from the Competition and may be fined by the Management Committee.
7. Any protest concerning eligibility of players shall be made to a member of the organising sub-committee at or before the end of the game concerned.
8. A player shall take no further part in the Competition if, in accordance with Law 12 of the Laws of the Game, he
 - (i) is dismissed from the field of play, or
 - (ii) receives a second caution in the Competition. Under these circumstances he may complete the game in which he receives the second caution.
9. All referees shall be appointed by the Referees Secretary.
10. All games shall be played at a time on a date specified by the sub-committee. Any team failing to appear shall be ruled out of the Competition and may be fined by the Management Committee.
11. 'Billy Walton Cup' rules 14 and 15, and League Rule 5 shall apply to this Competition.
12. In the event of scores being equal after extra time has been played, in any knock-out stage of the Competition, kicks from the penalty mark shall decide the winner in accordance with FA regulations.
13. Appeals may be made against a decision of the sub-committee or the Management Committee in accordance with Rules of the County Football Association.
14. The sub-committee may place a restriction on the number of teams accepted into the Competition. Acceptance shall be at the sole discretion of the sub-committee.