

**RULES OF N.E.W.F.A.
UNDER 19, 17, 16, 15, 14,13 &12 CUP COMPETITIONS**

1 (a) The cup shall be called the "N.E.W.F.A. Youth Under'19, 17, 16, 15, 14, 13 & 12 Cup or such name as a Sponsor may require.

(b) The competition shall be held annually and shall be open to all registered Clubs of the Association.

(c) The entire control and management of the competition shall be vested in the Council of the North East Wales Football Association.

(d) All competitions must have a minimum of three entries to proceed if entries to NEWFA Cups are three but less than 8 teams NEWFA holds the discretion to format the competition away from the traditional knockout rounds.

2 (a) Clubs should give notice via COMET and pay the entrance fee by the closing date set by N.E.W.F.A

(b) The Association may reject the entry of any Club if they deem such course desirable.

3 (a) The competing teams shall number 11 players each. (9 players for U12's & U13's)

(b) Each player shall wear the distinctive colours of the Club of which they are a playing member, and the shirts shall be numbered individually.

(c) Substitutes, roll on, roll off under 17, 16, 15, 14, it is FIVE for 13 & 12, it is NINE of whom may play, shall be numbered individually.

For U19's clubs can nominate up to five substitutes, all five of which can be used during the match.

The substitutions must be made in accordance with the IFAB Laws of the Game, so during the match, each team:

- i. may use a maximum of five substitutes.
- ii. has a **maximum of three substitution opportunities.**
- iii. may additionally make substitutions at half-time (Includes ET)
- iv. in the event of ET each team would have one additional opportunity to make a substitution in open play from any of the 5 unused names substitutes

where both teams make a substitution at the same time, this will count as one substitution opportunity for each team.

(d) Details of both teams and the substitutes shall be submitted via COMET to the Referee 30 minutes before the match starts in accordance with Rule 9(b).

(e) Failure to submit team sheet to Referee will render EITHER Club to be dealt with for MISCONDUCT.

(f) In all ties should both Clubs have similar colours then the AWAY team must change its colours. In Semi-Finals & Finals the first drawn team are deemed to be the home team.

4. (a) The members of each team may be changed during the competition if considered necessary. There is no cup-tied rule for U12 to U16.

(ii) Please note any player on trial at an Academy is ineligible to participate in any matches during the 6-week trial period.

(iii) They must not have attained the age of 19, 17, 16, 15, 14, 13 or 12 years on 1st September of each season.

(b) A bona fide playing member of a team is one who has completed and fully registered via COMET and has been registered by 5.30 p.m. on the night prior to the original scheduled date of the Tie.

(c) In the case of postponed, or replayed matches only those players shall be allowed to play who were eligible to play on the Conference date fixed in accordance with Rule 7.

5 (a) The names of the Clubs shall be drawn in pairs; these pairs shall play each other.

(b) Byes shall be drawn, as necessary.

(c) The winner of each tie shall continue in the same manner to the Final Tie and the winner of this Final Tie shall be the holder of the cup for the current year.

6 (a) Any appeal relevant to the qualification of any player must be made to the Secretary of the Association within TWO days of the conclusion of the match (Sundays & Bank Holidays excluded).

(b) This appeal should be in writing and give full particulars of the player concerned.

(c) No Appeal will be considered unless it is accompanied by the Appeal fee of FIFTY Pounds.

7 (a) The lots shall be drawn, and the Competition matches played as the Council of the Association may determine.

(b) As soon as possible after each draw NEWFA shall intimate in writing to the Secretary of each Club the name of the Club they have been drawn against and the conference date. Referee details will follow accordingly. Club, the name of the Club they have been drawn against, the date on which the tie must be played (conference date), the Referee and the time of the Kick-Off.

(c) Clubs shall not mutually arrange to play a match in lieu of a Cup Tie.

(d) If a match is played to a conclusion, it must be a Cup Tie.

(e) All postponed matches shall be played the following week or as instructed by the Association.

(f) This rearranged date shall be regarded for all purposes as the Conference date for the tie concerned, except for the qualifications of players which shall still be in accordance with Rule

(g) Each Home team must appoint a Referee's Steward, please see Appendix A for more information and duties of the Referee Steward.

- Meeting the Official(s) on their arrival at the ground.
- To escort the Referee to and from the ground if required.
- The Steward must always wear the Hi Vis Vest.
- To make sure the Referee's fee is paid.
- Failure to comply the above will result in Disciplinary action.

(h) Where Clubs fail to agree as to the date fixed for this tie, or any postponed or replayed match, the Association shall decide the issue upon such terms and conditions as shall be deemed expedient.

8 (a) The duration of the match shall be as follows: Youth 90 minutes (being two equal periods of 45 minutes) Under 16 & Under 15, 80 minutes (being two equal periods of 40 minutes) Under 14, Under 13 & Under 12, 70 minutes (being two equal periods of 35 minutes)

b) In the event of the scores being equal at the end of this period (rule 8a) for all rounds up to and including the Quarter Final the game will be decided by a series of PENALTY KICKS in accordance with the Referee's Chart. No extra time to be played.

(8b.1) In the event of the scores being equal at the end of this period (rule 8a) for the Semi-final and Final a further extra period, 20 minutes (being two equal periods of 10 minutes) for U19 to U14 and for U13 & U12 10 minutes (being two equal periods of 5 minutes) must be played.

(c) If, for the Semi-final & Final, following the completion of the extra time the scores are still level then the game will be decided by a series of PENALTY KICKS in accordance with the Referee's Chart.

(d) Any Club failing to fulfil the fixture will be charged with misconduct and if found guilty, will be dismissed from the competition, and will be fined.

9 (a) Competing Clubs must complete a TEAM SHEET via COMET IN FULL and submitted via COMET to the Match Referee 30 MINUTES before kick-off thus ensuring that Referee is in possession of the names of the players and substitutes of BOTH teams prior to the commencement of match in accordance with Rule 3 (d).

(b) Both clubs will obtain their respective team sheet on COMET and complete as per FAW guidelines.

(c) The Referee will be responsible for completing the team sheet by adding any cautions, checking the match score and any other comments, signing in the appropriate place, submitting via Comet as per FAW guidelines.

10 (a) In the event of any Clubs being drawn together in any tie, failing to play the game within the appointed time, they shall be struck out of the competition, unless they shall have played an extra 20 minutes, or shall have played twice before the date fixed for the conclusion of the tie, or unless sufficient reason be given to the Association for allowing an extension of time.

(b) Any Clubs drawn together in the competition having arranged to play on a certain date, either Club failing to comply shall be disqualified.

(c) No Club shall be allowed to SCRATCH from any round unless notice is given to the General Secretary of the Association before the draw is made for the round in question.

11 (a) The HOME Club is responsible for notifying their Opponents and the Match Officials of the exact location of the Ground and Dressing Rooms. This must be done no later than 48 hours prior to day of match.

(b) Failure so to do will cause the HOME Club to be dealt with for MISCONDUCT.

12 (a) The online Referee's Report form must be completed within TWO days (Sundays and Bank Holidays excepted).

(b) Failure to action will render EITHER Club to be dealt with for MISCONDUCT.

13 (a) The HOME Club shall provide TWO match balls in all games up to the Semi-Final. In the Semi-Final and Final matches both competing Clubs must provide a suitable match ball to the Referee 30 minutes prior to kick-off.

(b) Failure so to do will cause the Clubs to be dealt with for MISCONDUCT.

(c) Each Club should provide their own Pre-Match balls.

14 (a) In each tie, the game will be played on the ground of the Club drawn first in the ballot, unless otherwise mutually arranged and the consent of the Association obtained.

(b) It shall not be allowable for a Club to select any ground other than that which is registered with the Association as their Home ground or as authorised by the Association.

(c) In the event of two clubs who share a ground being drawn at home in the same round, the team drawn first shall have priority at such ground, the other tie being played on a ground nominated by the Association.

(d) If the ground of the Club having choice of venue shall not comply with Rule 23 or is in any way considered unsuitable for a Cup-Tie then their opponents may appeal to the Association within SEVEN days of the notification of the draw.

(e) Such Appeal to be accompanied with the Appeal Fee of FIFTY Pounds.

(f) If the Appeal is sustained then the Association shall order the match to be played on the ground of the appealing Club or on a neutral ground.

(g) If such an Appeal is not sustained the complaining Club shall be called upon at the discretion of the Association to pay the expenses incurred in deciding such Appeal.

h) It shall be permissible for a Club whose ground does not comply with Rule 23 to play this Junior/Youth Cup Tie on an adjacent ground of requisite dimensions, providing such Club may satisfy the Association at the beginning of the season that it has done everything in its power to improve its ground or to secure another.

(l) Should there be, in the opinion of the Association, any acceptable delay in the completing of a Cup Tie the Association Secretary shall have the power to re-arrange the date and venue accordingly. Home Team will then take overall responsibilities, including nets and roping off pitch. Away Team will be responsible for Referee's Fees.

(j) If, a game is postponed on two occasions then the Cup Tie will be reversed and played on the registered ground of the Away Team. The Home Club remains responsible for confirming the game with match officials. If North East Wales F.A. cancels the Cup Tie, then this will not count as a postponed game.

15 (a) The Semi-Final Ties will be played on the ground of the Home Side. Referee's Fees will be shared jointly by both Clubs.

(b) The Final shall be played on a ground chosen by the Association who shall appoint the Referee and Assistants and have the management thereof. Should neutral ground be a Council Venue the First Named Team will be responsible for nets and corner flags. The second Named Team will rope off the pitch.

16. (a) The Referee in this Cup Competition shall not belong to either of the competing Clubs and shall be appointed by the Council of the Association.

(b) The Council may appoint neutral Assistant Referees and their fees and expenses in addition to those of the Referee shall be shared 50/50 between the two competing teams.

(c) If through any cause the match is not played and the Referee and Assistant Referees, where appointed, attend the ground, they shall be paid their expenses and half their fees.

(d) The Clubs shall be notified of Referee and Assistant Referees Fees before the start of each season. Travelling expenses will be at a rate to be decided by Council, but if Public Transport is used the actual are paid will be reimbursed. To minimise travelling costs Match Officials should travel together whenever possible.

(e) In Semi-Final and Final ties, the match official costs will be paid by NEWFA if played on a neutral ground by appointment of NEWFA.

(f) No Member of the Association shall be appointed as an Official

17 Clubs are reminded that they are RESPONSIBLE for the conduct of their PLAYERS, OFFICIALS and SUPPORTERS and the strongest DISCIPLINARY action will be taken against any OFFENDING CLUB.

18 (a) All questions of eligibility, qualification of players, interpretation of the Rules of the Competition and the Laws of the Game shall be referred to the Association whose decision shall be final.

(b) Should any Club in connection with any dispute or protest have a Member on the Council of the Association, then the said Member shall not be eligible to sit on the Association while such dispute or protest is being considered.

(c) No protest relative to the playing ground, goal posts or other appurtenances of the game shall be entertained by the Association unless it was laid before the Referee, in writing, BEFORE the commencement of the game.

(d) No protest relative to the interpretation to the Laws of the Game shall be entertained unless it was laid with the Referee in writing, on or before the conclusion of the match.

(e) (i) A written report of such protest and a COPY thereof must be lodged with the Secretary of the Association within TWO days (Sundays and Bank Holidays excepted) after the conclusion of the match, within which time a written protest against the eligibility of any player may be lodged.

(ii) The sum of £50 (FIFTY POUNDS) must accompany such Appeals and Protests, which sum shall be forfeited to the Funds of the Association in the event of such Appeals and Protests are not sustained.

(iii) If it is found on enquiry that a Protest or Appeal is frivolous, the Club laying such Protest or Appeal, in addition to forfeiting the Appeal fee, may be held liable for the Costs of the Appeals Commission

(f) In the case of any player being found ineligible, the Club playing him shall be adjudged to have lost the tie and shall be dealt with by the Association for MISCONDUCT.

19 Any Club leaving the Field of Play before the expiration of the game shall be adjudged to have lost the match and be dealt with for MISCONDUCT.

20 If the Association have any doubts as to the qualification of any player competing in this competition it shall have the power to call upon such player, or the Club to which they belong or for which they have played, to prove to the satisfaction of the Association that they are properly qualified in accordance with the rules of the competition, and, failing such satisfactory proof, the Association shall have the power to disqualify such player and remove their Club from the competition or to take such action as is deemed expedient.

21 (a) U19 – U14 - The Field of Play for all Cup Ties shall be not less than 100 yards by 50 yards and not more than 120 yards by 80 yards. U12's/U13's should be standard 9 v 9 pitch as per small-sided rules.

(b) The Field of Play MUST be ROPED off a minimum of 2 metres from the TOUCH lines and GOAL NETS must be used in all ties.

(c) Failure so to do will cause the HOME Club to be dealt with for MISCONDUCT.

22 In addition to the Cup, the Association will present suitable mementos to the Players, Substitutes and Match Officials in the Final Tie.

23 The Rules governing this competition shall be those of the NORTH EAST WALES FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION and the FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF WALES.

24 (a) In the interests of administration the draw for successive rounds will be made by the cup committee with independent council members and will be made no later than 6 days prior to the conference date

This draw shall be communicated to the League Fixture Secretaries as quickly as possible.

25 (a) At the conclusion of the Final Tie the Cup and Mementos will be distributed on the ground.

(b) Clubs winning trophies shall be responsible for their safekeeping and good condition. Any damage sustained whilst in the care of the clubs shall be repaired at the Clubs expense. Any repair's to be conducted at the direction of the NEWFA Cup Committee.

Trophies to be returned by 1st March each year or Clubs shall be fined £20 (TWENTY POUNDS) for each Trophy not returned. A Club failing to return Trophy/Trophies by the above date due to loss, theft or damage of such Trophy/Trophies shall bear the cost of replacing such Trophy/Trophies at the current value as determined by the NEWFA Cup Committee.

APPENDIX A

**NORTH EAST WALES
FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION**



**CYMDEITHAS PÊL DROED
GOGLEDD DWYRAIN
CYMRU**

Referee's Steward

Thank you very much for acting as a club Referee's Steward. This role is required to enable the club to comply with the rules of all junior leagues and NEWFA. The club is very grateful to you for accepting the responsibility.

The Home team must appoint a Referee's Steward to EVERY home game.

- The team manager will inform you of the referee's name in advance of the game.
- The team manager will ascertain the referees fee including travel in advance.

On match day the Steward should :-

- Please ensure you wear the high visibility vest provided.
- Please meet the referee at the car park where possible, this is normally half an hour before kick-off time. If taken directly to the pitch offer them somewhere to store their belongings in safe place or under your supervision.
- Please introduce yourself and welcome the referee to the club and escort them to the pitch or changing room.
- The Referee steward should be aware of the age of the Referee
- If the referee is under 18, they should wear a yellow arm band, and may be accompanied by a parent/guardian. Sometimes you may need to remind them to wear it.
- Collect the Referee fee from both teams.
- Pay the referee their requested fee before the game.
- Introduce yourself to the away manager and spectators and let them know who you are and that you are there to stop the referee being verbally abused and that the referee is not to be approached.
- Introduce the referee to both managers/coaches.
- Ask all spectators to always remain behind the respect barriers and that standing behind the goals is prohibited.
- Inform the referee where you plan to stand should they need to speak to you at any time during the match.
- At half time check the referee is ok and address any concerns.

- If players, coaches, or spectators of either team approach the referee complaining at half time or at the end of the match please try and support the referee quickly and politely encourage the complainer(s) to move away.
- At the end of the match, escort the referee from the pitch to their car if required.

Please note the recommendation from NEWFA is that the appointed Referee's Steward should not be involved directly with the running of the team ie Manager, Coach