

Epsom & Ewell Youth League Index

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1. Nomenclature & Constitution

(a) This Competition shall be designated the Epsom & Ewell Youth Football League and shall consist of not more than 80 Clubs approved by the sanctioning authority.

All such Member Clubs must be affiliated to an affiliated County Football Association and shall have their grounds situated within twelve miles of the centre of Epsom. Their names and particulars shall be returned annually by the appointed date on form 'D' to the Surrey County Football Association.

This Competition shall apply annually for sanction to the Surrey County Football Association and the constituent teams of member clubs may be grouped in divisions between the ages of eighteen and six.

The Competition will provide 11 a side football for players who have attained the age of 10 years, and Mini Soccer for players who have attained the age of 6 years but not the age of 10 years, as at midnight on the 31st August in a playing season. 9v9 may be provided for players who have attained the age of 10 as at midnight on 31st August.

Other formats of youth football, as authorised from time to time by the FA, are also permitted.

(b) At the Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting called for the purpose, a majority of the delegates present shall have the power to decide or adjust the compilation of the divisions at their discretion.

(c) The object of the League shall be to organise football as a leisure time activity for players of school age and to increase their enjoyment of the game through friendship and co-operation with both team-mate and opponents.

2. Entry Fee, Subscription, Deposit

(a) Applications by clubs for admission to this Competition must be made in writing to the Secretary and must be accompanied by an Entry Fee as per rule 25A, which shall be returned in the event of a non election.

At the discretion of a majority of the accredited voting members present, applications of which due notice has been given, may be received at the Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting. The Entry Fee shall apply.

(b) The Annual Subscription shall be as Rule 25B, payable in two stages, (1) On or before 30th June, (2) On or before 31st October.

(c) Each Club, within seven days of election, shall pay a deposit as per Rule 25C which shall be returnable to the clubs on leaving the Competition provided they have fulfilled their fixtures and complied with all orders of the Management Committee.

Such deposits shall be held by the League in a separate deposit account.

(d) A Club shall not participate in this Competition until the Entry Fee, Annual Subscription (First part, see (b) above) and Deposit have been paid.

(e) Clubs must advise annually to the Secretary in writing by 31st August of its County Football Association Affiliation Number for the forthcoming season. Clubs must advise the Secretary in writing, or on the prescribed form, of details of its Headquarters, Officials and any other information required by the Competition.

3. Officers

The Officers of the Competition shall be determined by the AGM and elected thereat. (N.B. Auditors are not Officers)

4. Management, Nomination, Election

(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 a maximum of six members, being appointed delegates of their respective clubs who shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting. All participants shall abide by the Football Association Regulations for Safeguarding Children as determined by the Association from time to time.

(b) Retiring Officers shall become eligible to become candidates for re-election without nomination. All other candidates for election as Officers or Management Committee Members shall be nominated in writing signed by the Secretaries of two Member Clubs to the Secretary not later than 30th April in each year. Names of the candidates for election shall be circulated with the notice of the Annual General Meeting. In the event of there being no nominations in accordance with the foregoing, nominations may be received at the Annual General Meeting.

(c) The Management Committee shall meet at least quarterly to deal with business as it arises. On receiving a requisition signed by two thirds 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.

5. Powers of Management

(a) The Management Committee may appoint sub-committees and delegate such of their powers, as they deem necessary. The decisions of all sub-committees shall be reported to the Management Committee. The Management Committee shall have power only to deal with matters within the Competition and not for any matters of misconduct that are

under the jurisdiction of the Football Association or affiliated Association.

(b) Subject to the permission of the Surrey 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 be entitled to attend and vote at all Management Committee meetings and to have one vote thereat, but no member shall be allowed to vote on any matter directly appertaining to such Member or to the Club so represented, or where there may be a conflict of interest. This principle shall apply to the procedure of any Sub Committee.

In the event of any voting being equal on any matter, the Chairman of the meeting 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.

With the exception of Rules 5(i), 6(h), 11 and 19 for any breaches of Rule a formal written charge must be issued. The respondent shall be given seven days from the date of the notice to reply to the charge and given the opportunity to:-

- (i) Accept or deny the charge
- (ii) Submit in writing a case of mitigation, or
- (iii) Put their case 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 by the appropriate Association.

With the exception of Clubs playing at Step 7 of the Football Pyramid and the FA Women's Premier League, the maximum fine permitted for any breach of a Competition Rule is £250 and, when setting any fine, the competition must ensure that the penalty is proportional to the offence, taking into account any mitigating circumstances.

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

Decisions must be notified in writing to those concerned within fourteen days.

(f) Eight members (of whom at least five shall be Officers of the Competition) shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business of the Management Committee and five members (of whom at least three shall be Officers of the Competition) shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business of any sub-committee of the Competition.

(g) The Management Committee as it may deem necessary shall have the 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 (with the exception of instructions as ordered under Rule 5(i)) or instruction of the Management Committee or to satisfactorily attend to the business and/or correspondence of the Competition shall be liable to be fined as per Rule 25E or otherwise penalised at the discretion of the Management Committee.

(i) All fines and charges shall be paid within fourteen days of the date of posting of the written notification.

Any club failing to do so will be fined a maximum of £50. Further failure to pay the fine, including the additional sum, within 14 days will result in fixtures being withdrawn until such time as the outstanding payments are settled.

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

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

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

(m) Leagues who organise Mini Soccer for teams playing U7 and U8 football may not, with the exception of Rules 6, 11(d), 14 and 19 fine clubs for breaches of the League Rules.

(n) The business of the Competition as determined by the Management Committee may be transacted by electronic mail or facsimile.

(o) A Club failing to be represented at a League Council or General Meeting may be fined as per Rule 25D and failing to be represented at three consecutive meetings shall be further dealt with as the Management Committee may determine. Not less than fourteen days notice shall be given of any meeting. (Apologies are not accepted in lieu of non attendance)

(p) Any team that is suspended for any reason will automatically forfeit all fixtures scheduled for that period.

6. Annual General Meeting

(a) The Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than 31st May each year. At this meeting the following business shall be transacted provided that at least 20 Members are present and entitled to vote:-

- (i) To receive and confirm the minutes of the preceding Annual General Meeting.
- (ii) To consider any business arising therefrom
- (iii) To receive and adopt the Annual Report, Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts

- (iv) Election of Clubs to fill vacancies (as recommended by the Management Committee)
- (v) Constitution of the Competition for the ensuing season
- (vi) Election of Officers and Management Committee
- (vii) Appointment of Auditors
- (viii) Alteration of Rules, if any (of which notice has been given)
- (ix) Fix date of commencement and conclusion of playing season and confirm kick off times (see Rule 10(b)) applicable to the Competition
- (x) Other business of which due notice shall have been given and accepted as being relevant to an Annual General Meeting.

(b) A copy of the duly audited Balance Sheet, statements of Accounts and Agenda shall be forwarded to each Club at least fourteen days prior to the meeting, and to the Surrey County Football Association.

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

(d) Each Full Member shall be empowered to send two delegates to an Annual General Meeting. Each Club shall be entitled to one vote only. Fourteen days notice shall be given for any Meeting.

(e) Clubs who have withdrawn their membership of the Competition during the season being concluded, or who are not continuing their membership, shall be entitled to attend, but shall only vote 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 one third of the delegates qualified to vote, or the Chairman so decides.

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

(h) Any continuing Member Club failing to be represented at the Annual General Meeting, without satisfactory reason being given shall be fined as per Rule 25D.

(i) Officers and Management Committee Members shall be entitled to attend and vote at an Annual General Meeting.

7. Agreement to be Signed

The Chairman and the Secretary of each Club shall complete and sign the following agreement which shall be deposited with the Competition together with the Application for Membership for the coming season, or upon indicating that the Club intends to compete.

“We, A.....of.....(Chairman) and
B.....of.....(Secretary) of the
..... Football Club have been

provided with a copy of the Rules and Regulations of the Epsom & Ewell Youth League Competition and do hereby agree for and on behalf of the said Club, if elected or Accepted into Membership, to conform to those Rules and Regulations and to accept, abide by and implement the decisions of the Management Committee of the Competition, subject to the right of appeal in accordance with Rule 16.

Any alteration to the Chairman and/or Secretary on the above agreement must be notified to the County Football Association to which the Club is affiliated and to the Secretary of the Competition.

8. Qualification of Players

(a) (i) Contract players, as defined in Football Association Rules are not permitted in this Competition. It is the responsibility of each club to ensure that any player signing a registration form for that club has, where necessary, the required International Transfer Certificate. Clearance is required for any player aged 12 and over crossing borders including Wales, Scotland and Ireland.

(ii) No player registered with a F.A. Premier League or Football League Academy will be permitted to play in this Competition. A player

registered with a Centre of Excellence may only play in this Competition subject to the Regulations of the Programme for Excellence.

(iii) While serving in any branch of Her Majesty’s Regular Forces, a player must first obtain the consent of his Association Secretary before signing a registration form to play for a club.

Other than the restrictions in the above paragraphs any bona-fide member of a Club shall be eligible to play for that Club in this Competition provided they have not, in the current season, played for another Club in the same division* in the Competition, or previously signed for, or been registered for another Club in the same division* in the Competition. If they so played, or remain on the Competition register of players, permission for their transfer must be obtained from the club to which they are attached (see Clause 8(i)).

(b) A Registered Youth playing member of a Club is one who, being in all other aspects eligible has: -

Signed a fully completed Competition Registration Form in ink, countersigned by his/her parent or guardian and by an Officer of the Club and who has been registered with the relevant Registration Secretary by Monday 10.00pm prior to playing.

The registration document must incorporate a current passport size photograph (two must be provided) of the player seeking registration together with proof of the player’s date of birth.

The qualification dates for the Competition shall be as follows:

MINI SOCCER

To play in a KO Cup game or a game where points are awarded, or results published, a player must have achieved the age of eight on or before 31st of August.

UNDER 7 - The player must have attained the age of 6 as at midnight on 31st August in the playing season, but must be under the age of 7 as at midnight on 31st August in the playing season.

UNDER 8 – The player must be under the age of 8 as at midnight on 31st August in the playing season.

UNDER 9 - The player must be under the age of 9 as at midnight on 31st August in the playing season

UNDER 10 – The player must be under the age of 10 as at midnight on 31st August in the playing season.

In accordance with the foregoing qualifications a player in the above age ranges must not play in a match where any other player is older or younger by 2 years or more.

YOUTH FOOTBALL

UNDER 11 - The player must have attained the age of 10, but must be under the age of 11 by midnight on 31st August in the playing season.

UNDER 12 - The player must be under the age of 12 as at midnight on 31st August in the playing season.

UNDER 13 - The player must be under the age of 13 as at midnight on 31st August in the playing season.

UNDER 14 - The player must be under the age of 14 as at midnight on 31st August in the playing season.

UNDER 15 - The player must be under the age of 15 as at midnight on 31st August in the playing season.

UNDER 16 - The player must be under the age of 16 as at midnight on 31st August in the playing season.

UNDER 17 - The player must be under the age of 17 as at midnight on 31st August in the playing season.

In accordance with the foregoing qualifications a player under the age of 15 as at midnight on 31ST August in the playing season, must not play in a match where any other player is older or younger by 2 years or more.

(Note:- Rule (c) has not been adopted.

(The above qualification dates are subject to the provisions contained in FA Rule C.4 (A)(v) and (vi).

(d) 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 players signature without first ascertaining whether such claims have been discharged to the satisfaction of the Club, or Clubs, for which the player last played.

(e) Registration Forms shall be obtained from the Registration Secretary or club secretary.

(f) 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 in the same Division*, priority of registration shall decide for which Club the player shall be registered. The Registration Secretary shall notify the Club last applying to register the player of the fact of the previous registration.

(g) It shall be deemed misconduct for a player to:-

(i) Play for more than one Club in the Competition in the same Division* without first having been transferred, or had the previous registration(s) cancelled.

(ii) Having signed for one Club in the Competition, sign for another Club in the same Division* of the Competition in that season, except for the purpose of a transfer, or unless the previous registration(s) has /have been cancelled.

(iii) Submit a signed registration Form for Registration that the player had wilfully neglected to accurately or fully complete.

(iv) Play for more than one team in one Club in a Division* without first being transferred, except to play in a team of a higher age group. A player registered in one age group cannot play in an age group lower than that registered.

(v) Play for any team for which they are not registered/eligible.

(h) (i) The Management Committee shall have power to accept the registration of any player.

(ii) The Management Committee shall have power to refuse, cancel or suspend the registration of any player, at their discretion, who has been charged and found guilty of registration irregularities. (Subject to Rule 16).

(iii) The Management Committee shall have power to make application to refuse or cancel the registration of any player charged and found guilty of undesirable conduct (subject to Rule 16) subject to the right of appeal to the FA or the relevant County Football Association.

Undesirable conduct shall mean an incident of repeated conduct, which may deter a participant from being involved in this Competition. Application should be made to the parent County of the Club the player is registered with.

(Note: Action under Clause (iii) shall not be taken against a player for misconduct until the matter has been dealt with by the appropriate Association, and then only in cases of the player bringing the Competition into disrepute and will in any case be subject to an Appeal to the Football Association. For the purposes of this Rule, bringing the Competition into disrepute can only be considered where the player has received in excess of 112 days suspension, or 10 matches in match based discipline, in a period of two years or less from the date of the first offence)

(i) Subject to the Football Association Rules dealing with players without a written contract when a player desires a transfer, the Club the player wishes to transfer to shall submit a transfer form to the relevant Registration Secretary. Such transfer shall be referred by the relevant Registration Secretary to the Club for which the player is registered. Should this Club object to the transfer it should state its objections in writing to the relevant Registration Secretary and to the player concerned within seven days of the receipt of the transfer form. Upon receipt of the clubs consent, or upon its failure to give written objection within seven days, the relevant Registration Secretary may, on behalf of the Management Committee, transfer the player who shall be deemed eligible to play for the new Club from such date. The appropriate transfer fee as per Rule 25Q.

In the event of an objection to a transfer the matter shall be referred to the Management Committee for a decision.

(j) A player wishing to play for a team playing for points and/or a cup may not be registered for a Club nor transferred to another Club team in the Competition after the last day of February, last day of March for all others, except by special permission of the Management Committee. No player shall be registered for the same team more than twice during any playing season.

(k) A Club shall keep a list of players it registers and a record of the games in which they have played and shall produce such records upon demand by the Management Committee.

In the event a club has more than one team in an age group, each team must be clearly identifiable, but not designated 'A' or B' or 1st or 2nd. In such cases players will be registered for one team only.

(l) A register containing the names of all players registered for each Club, with the date of registration, shall be kept by the relevant Registration Secretary and shall be open to the inspection of any duly appointed Member Club representative at all League Council and Management Committee meetings, or at other times mutually arranged.

Registrations are valid for one season only.

(m) A player shall not be eligible to play for a team in any Special Championship, Promotion or Relegation deciding match (as specified in rule 12a), or any cup final unless the player has played in four games for that team in this Competition in the current season.

(Note:- rule (n) does not apply to this Competition)

(o) (i) Any team playing an unregistered or otherwise ineligible player or players shall have the points gained in the match deducted from its total and may be fined as per Rule 25F and/or otherwise dealt with at the discretion of the Management Committee . The result of any such match will stand unless the defaulting team wins or draws, whereupon no goals shall be accredited to either team.

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

(iii) The Management Committee may, at its discretion, award the points available in the match in question to the opponents, subject to the match not being ordered to be replayed.

(p) (i) Priority must be given at all times to school and school organisations activities. This is not applicable for under 17/18 football.

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

(iii) children under 15 shall not play in a team involving players who are more than two years older.

(q) In the event of an Official query of the date of birth, the players must furnish valid proof within fourteen days. Failure to do so will be taken as the allegation proved. Random requests for proof of dates of birth may be undertaken throughout the season as ordered by the Management Committee.

(r) Every player registered to play in the Competition shall be allocated a registration number for the duration of the season. The number shall be notified to the Club Secretary on the return of the I.D. Card by the relevant Registration Secretary.

(s) A Club may de-register a player by writing to the relevant Registration Secretary requesting cancellation of the registration and returning the registration card. It is the Club's responsibility to confirm with the relevant Registration Secretary the date of such cancellation.

(t) (i) Failure to have eleven players per team (seven for Mini Soccer) registered by the 1st August, the Club will be fined as per Rule25U. A maximum of eighteen (fifteen for Mini Soccer) registered players at any one time shall be deemed to constitute a member team. Teams registering more than eighteen (fifteen for Mini Soccer) in a season will be charged in accordance with Rule25R.

(ii) Teams transgressing Rule 8(t)(i) and who do not have the minimum number of eligible players registered to constitute a team (8 in 11 a side & 6 in Mini Soccer) by the 1st September will be deducted 3 points.

(u) A player's registration will automatically be cancelled if either the player or the team the player is registered with are expelled from the Competition, or if his Club withdraws the team for which he is registered from the Competition. All outstanding fees must be paid within fourteen days of acceptance by the Competition of the intention to withdraw a team or teams from the Competition.

(v) A player who has played a game, or part of a game, either within or outside of this Competition cannot play a further game or part of a game within this Competition on the same day except as detailed in Rule 10 (c) (6).

* Division refers throughout Rule 8 to Saturday or Sunday Division and not to the Competition constitution.

9. Club Colours. Club Name

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

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 its opponents at least five days before the match of the colours in which it will play.

If, in the opinion of the referee, two clubs have the same or similar colours, the Home Team shall make the change. Any team not having a change of colours or delaying the kick off by not having a change shall be fined as per Rule 25G.

The Secretary of the Competition may request shirts to be submitted if complaints are received as to the lack of distinguishing colours and the Management Committee may refuse to permit any shirts or shorts as they think fit.

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

10. Playing Season. Conditions of Play. Times of Kick off.

Postponements. Substitutes.

(a) The Annual General Meeting shall determine the commencing and concluding dates of the season in accordance with Football Association Rules. No club shall be compelled to play after the concluding date. Original fixtures arranged by the Fixture Secretary, or at a meeting specially convened for that purpose, to be held no later than 31st August, must not be arranged for a date later than seven days preceding the concluding date.

(b) All matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game as determined by the International Football Association Board or, for Mini Soccer, the Laws of Mini Soccer as set down by the Football Association.

Clubs must take all reasonable precautions to keep their grounds in playable condition. All matches shall be played on pitches deemed suitable by the Management Committee, and where possible, an extra line to be marked one metre from the touch line. This line should be either dotted or a different colour. If a pitch is so marked with an extra line, then no spectators may encroach over it for the duration of the game, unless invited to by the referee. If through any fault of the home team a match has to be replayed, the Management Committee shall have the 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 as set out below unless a shorter time (not less than the minimum allowed) is mutually arranged by the two clubs in consultation with the referee prior to the commencement of the match, and in any event shall be of two equal halves.

For Mini Soccer – The maximum duration of play shall be two halves of 20 minutes each way. The maximum playing time in any one day for under 7 and under 8 age groups is 40 minutes and for under 9 and under 10 age groups is 60 minutes.

For Youth Football - The duration of play shall be as follows, unless it is mutually agreed by all parties to reduce the time. For under 11 and under 12, 30 minutes each half; for under 13, 14, 35 minutes each half and under 15 and under 16, 40 minutes each half; under 17 and under 18, 45 minutes each half.

The minimum time for any game will not be less than 20 minutes each half for players in the under 14 age group and below and 25 minutes each half for all other age groups.

No player participating in an U17 division or lower age group shall be permitted to play more than one game or, in the event the Competition allows the playing of a double header, i.e. two separate matches, 100 minutes per day, in this Competition.

The times of kick off shall be fixed by the A.G.M. At present these are between 9.30am and 12.30pm on Saturdays and 9.45am and 2.00pm on Sundays. Any Club failing to kick off at the appointed time may be fined as per Rule 25I, or be otherwise dealt with as the Management Committee may determine.

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

The home team must provide at least two footballs fit for play and the referee shall make a report to the Competition if the footballs are unsuitable. The size of footballs to be used: For Mini Soccer, size 3 for players in the under 7 and 8 age categories; size 4 for under 9's and 10's. For youth football - size 4 for those playing under 11,12,13 and 14 age groups; size 5 for all other age groups. Goal nets must be used.

(c) 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 Fixture Secretary.

In the case of a revised fixture date, the Clubs must be given by the Competition 5 clear days notice of the match (unless otherwise mutually agreed).

Every Saturday for Saturday Divisions and every Sunday for Sunday Divisions are deemed to be normal playing days during the playing season with the exception of Christmas Day, Boxing Day, Easter Saturday, Easter Sunday and any day, or any Saturday prior to a Sunday, on which a team is bound by County Youth Football commitments.

No Club shall play on any day other than their normal playing day with the exception that:-

(i) provided that two months notice is given by the Management Committee, Saturday Divisions may have their cup finals arranged on a Sunday.

(ii) where two Clubs have mutually agreed and both Clubs have submitted a bona-fide request to the Fixture Secretary, and the Fixture Secretary has agreed to the request, then the said fixture will be treated as a normal playing day.

(iii) Clubs mutually agreeing to play on Christmas Day, Boxing Day, Easter Saturday, Easter Sunday, or any other day other than their normal playing day may do so as above.

(iv) the Fixture Secretary may order fixtures to be played on any day after 1st April each year (except Easter Saturday, Easter Sunday), providing that 14 days notice is given.

The Fixture Secretary:-

(1) shall solely arrange all fixtures, excepting Cup Finals and Representative Matches, and is empowered to arrange, cancel, postpone, rearrange or enforce any fixture considered necessary to the benefit of the Competition/Cup programme.

(2) shall arrange the dates for the rounds of the Cup programme up to and including the semi final round.

(3) shall arrange for the cup draws for all rounds up to and including the semi final.

(4) shall, prior to the commencement of the playing season, publish and circularise an initial Fixture List, which shall be deemed to have been accepted by all Clubs, unless objections are received by the Fixture Secretary, in writing, within fourteen days of their issue.

(5) is empowered to order that a game, if unable to be played on the Home team's ground, be switched to that of their opponents, if available, or a venue provided by the Competition, provided that at least twenty four hours notice is given to both Clubs.

(6) May, where there are no free normal playing days and Home and Away fixtures between two teams are outstanding, order two games of equal length to be played on the same day. Each game will last for the minimum duration allowed for a match in this Competition as laid down in Rule 10(b).

(d) The Home Club must give notice in writing (1) Full address, location and postcode of the ground (if known) (2) Time of K.O (3) Managers name and contact number (in case of problems on match day) (4) Club colours, to the match officials (Referee) and the opposition Club by 6.00pm on Tuesday for a Saturday fixture or 6.00pm on Wednesday for a Sunday fixture.

Any Club failing to comply with this Rule shall be liable to a fine as per Rule 25S.

The Away Club must advise the Home Club if no fixture details have been received by 6.00pm Wednesday for a Saturday fixture, or 6.00pm on Thursday for a Sunday fixture.

When Rule 10(c)(5) is invoked, the original Away Club must inform the Home Club Secretary and the match appointed referee of the re-arranged venue details as soon as possible. When a neutral venue is arranged by the Competition then the Fixture Secretary shall notify such details.

(e) In the event of a Club playing in any match with less than nine players they may be fined for each missing player. A minimum of eight players will constitute a team for a Competition match. Where a team fails to meet the minimum number of players by twenty five minutes after the scheduled kick off time, the team shall be deemed to be absent and the matter referred to the Management Committee via the Fixture Secretary in accordance with Rule 10(f) Unplayed Fixtures (i), (ii).

(f) (i) Home and away matches shall be played. In the event of a Club failing to keep its engagement the Management Committee shall have the power to inflict a fine, deduct points from the defaulting Club, award the points to the opponents, order the defaulting Club to pay any expenses incurred by the opponents or otherwise deal with them, except the award of goals.

(ii) Any Club with more than one team in the Competition shall always fulfil its fixture, within the Competition, in the following order of precedence:- First Team, Reserve Team, A Team. Clubs in breach of this requirement shall be fined as per Rule 25E, or otherwise dealt with by the Management Committee.

(iii) Any Club unable to fulfil a fixture must, without delay, give notice to the Fixture Secretary, the Secretary of the opposing Club, the Match Officials (if appointed) and the Results Secretary. Any Club failing to comply shall be dealt with by the Management Committee who may inflict a fine.

(iv) In the event of a match not being played or abandoned owing to causes over which neither Club has control, it shall be played in its entirety on a date to be mutually agreed by the two Clubs and approved by the Management Committee. Failing such agreement and notification to the Fixture Secretary within 24 hours the Management Committee shall have the power to order that the match be played on a named date or on or before a given date.

(v) The Management Committee shall review all matches abandoned in cases where it is consequent upon the conduct of either or both Teams. Where it is to the advantage of the Competition and does no injustice to either Club, the Management Committee shall be empowered to order the score at the time of the abandonment to stand. In all cases where the Management Committee are satisfied that a match was abandoned owing to the conduct of one team or its Club member(s) they shall be empowered to award the points for the match to the opponent. In cases where a match has been abandoned owing to the conduct of both teams or their Club member(s), the Management Committee shall rule all points for the match as void. No fine(s) can be applied by the Management Committee for an abandoned match.

Unplayed Fixtures:-

(i) A fixture ordered to be played by the Fixture Secretary, which is not played by reasons other than those described in Rule 10(f) Unplayed Fixtures (iii), (iv) shall be referred to the Management Committee who shall decide what action should be taken.

(ii) Where an unplayed fixture is referred to the Management Committee for a decision as per Rule 10(f) Unplayed Fixtures (i), both Clubs in the fixture must give full reasons in writing to the Fixture Secretary, to be sent by first class mail, fax or email by not later than the Monday following the date of the fixture concerned. The Fixture Secretary shall then refer the matter to the Management Committee. Clubs subjected to a Management Committee decision in this context, shall be advised of the reason for the decision in written form. Clubs failing to comply shall be fined as per Rule 25H.

(iii) Where a fixture has not been played because:-

(1) The Referee appointed to the match determined that the ground was unplayable;

(2) The governing body who control the use of the ground would not allow play owing to conditions causing the ground to be unfit for play;

and providing that Rule 10(c)(5) had not been invoked by the Fixture Secretary or that it had been invoked and that the Away team's ground was also unplayable, or unavailable, or a neutral ground was not arranged, the Fixture Secretary shall rearrange the fixture providing sufficient time remains in the playing season.

(iv) Any team or Club who advises the relevant Fixture Secretary later than 10.00pm on the Wednesday preceding the fixture of their inability to fulfil the said fixture will be fined £10, or otherwise dealt with, and the game shall be awarded to their opponents.

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

For Mini-Soccer – any number of substitutions may be used at any time with the permission of the Referee. Entry onto the field of play will only be allowed during a stoppage in play. A player who has been replaced may return to play as a substitute for another player. A team must not have a squad greater than double the size of its team in an age group.

For Youth Football – for teams in the Under 16 age group and below, a player who has been substituted, himself becomes a substitute and may replace another player at any time subject to the substitution being carried out in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of Association Football. A team may nominate and use a maximum of sixteen players in any match. All nominations must be made before the commencement of the match.

The referee shall be informed of the names of the substitutes before the start of any such game.

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. However, all players nominated to play in games up to and including Under 16 will be deemed to have played.

(h) The halftime interval shall be of at least 5 minutes duration, but it shall not exceed fifteen minutes. The half time interval may only be altered with the consent of the referee.

(i) Not adopted

(j) Each team will provide adequate first aid equipment at every match. Any team not complying may be fined as per Rule 25E.

(k) Representative Matches:

(i) All Clubs in membership of the Competition shall agree to place their players at the disposal of the Competition for squad training, coaching and Representative Matches.

(ii) Any team which has two or more of its players or the goalkeeper selected for a Representative Match may apply to the Fixture Secretary for postponement of a Competition fixture.

(iii) Clubs found guilty of failing to release their players for Representative Matches without acceptable grounds for doing so shall be liable to a fine as per Rule 25E

11. Reporting Results, Identity Cards

(a) The Results Secretary must receive by 6.00pm Thursday, the details of each Competition match played the previous weekend in the prescribed manner. This must include the forenames(s) and surname of the team players (in block letters) and also the referee markings required by Rule 13 or any other information required by the Competition. Failure to do so will incur a fine as per Rule 25T and/or the Club being dealt with as the Management Committee decide.

(b) The Home Club shall notify the result including any unplayed fixture to the Results Secretary by 6.00pm on the day of the match. Clubs failing to comply may be fined as per Rule 25J.

(c) The match result notification, correctly completed, shall be signed by a responsible member of the Club. Failure to do so will result in a fine as per Rule 25T.

NB. If the fixed penalty exceeds £20 the Club must be charged as detailed in Rule 5(d)

(d) Leagues are permitted to collect but not to publish results for fixtures they organise for U7 and U8 Mini Soccer. They may require a Club to confirm that a set fixture has been played. A maximum fine of £5 may be imposed for a breach of this Rule.

(e) Before each game the players are called to the centre circle prior to kick off where the Club Representatives shall exchange I.D. Cards and check the card against the player, returning them within 30 minutes of the end of the game. Clubs are also required to supply the names of all players, including the substitutes, if requested by the opponents

representative, Referee or any Competition official. The Referee or Competition official also have the right to inspect the I.D.Cards. Failure to comply with any part of this rule may result in a fine as per Rule 25V.

(f) Players must be considered unregistered if they are unable to produce their Identity Card and will not be allowed to enter the field of play during the game until they produce their card.

(g) Each Club shall be responsible for the safe keeping of their Identity Cards. Should any card be lost or destroyed a fee of £2 shall be charged for a replacement and a player deemed to be unregistered until a replacement card has been issued and received by the Club.

(h) All Identity Cards and covers shall remain the property of the Competition and must be returned to the Competition Secretary within 7 days if requested by the Competition.

12. Determining Championship

(a) Team rankings within the Competition will be decided by points with 3 points being awarded for a win and 1 point for a drawn match. The teams gaining the highest number of points in their respective divisions shall be adjudged the winners. Matches must not be played for double points. In Mini Soccer points can only be awarded for Under 9 Competitions and above.

In the event of two or more clubs being equal on points for any position in any of the league tables at the close of the competition, goal difference shall decide. If the teams are still level the team scoring the most goals shall be deemed the winner. In the event of two or more clubs being level on points and goal difference and goals scored for any important position at the close of the Competition, deciding matches shall be played under conditions arranged by the Management Committee.

(b) Not adopted

(c) In the event of a team not completing its fixtures for the season its record to date will be expunged from the Competition table

13. Referees

(a) Registered Referees (and Assistant Referees where approved by the FA or County FA) for all matches shall be appointed in a manner approved by the Management Committee and by the sanctioning Association(s). The Referee Secretary shall have the power to appoint referees to any league or cup match, any such appointment will always take precedence.

(b) In the event of the non appearance of the appointed referee the Appointed Senior Referee shall take charge. In cases where there are no officially appointed Assistant Referees, or where the Competition has been unable to appoint a referee, the Clubs shall agree upon a referee. A referee thus agreed upon shall, for that game, have the full powers, status, authority of a registered referee. If a friendly match is played between the teams failing to agree on a referee, then the result of the match will count as if the teams had agreed on a 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. Where assistant referees are not appointed each team shall provide a Club assistant referee, who must be over the age of sixteen, unless a qualified referee, or be liable to a fine as per Rule 25P.

(d) The appointed referee shall have the power to decide as to the fitness of the ground in all matches and the decision shall be final subject to Rule 10(f)Unplayed Fixtures (iii) (2).

(e) Match officials appointed under this rule shall be entitled to match fees as per Rule 25K (inclusive of travel expenses) and any other permitted expenses actually incurred, subject to any limits laid down by the sanctioning Association(s).

For league matches the Home Club shall pay the Officials their fees and expenses immediately after the match, for cup matches see Rule 23(7).

(f) In the event of a match not being played because of circumstances over which the Club have no control, the Match Officials, if present, shall be entitled to half their fee plus expenses. Where a match is not played owing to one Club being in default, that Club shall pay the Officials, if they attend the ground, their full fee and expenses.

(g) A Referee not keeping his or her engagement and failing to give a satisfactory explanation as to their non-appearance may be reported to the County Football Association with which he or she are registered.

(h) Each Club shall, in a manner prescribed from time to time by the Football Association, award marks to the Referee for each match and the name of the Referee (obligatory for home side) and the marks awarded shall be submitted to the Competition on the prescribed form provided. Clubs failing to comply with this rule shall be liable to be fined or dealt with as the Management Committee shall determine.

(i) The Competition shall keep a record of markings and on the form provided by the prescribed date each season shall submit a summary to The Football Association/County Football Association. In the event of a Club marking the Referee 50 or under a letter of explanation must be sent, within 7 days of the game being played, to the league Referees Secretary. Failure to do so will result in a fine under 25T.

(j) The Referee shall, as required by the Competition submit a suitable Report Form supplied by the Competition, giving the result of the match, the number of players in each team and the time of kick off to the Referees Secretary within two days of the match.

(k) Referees and assistant referees shall be supplied, each season, with a copy of the Competition Rules free of charge.

(l) Not adopted

(m) Where the Competition is unable to appoint a referee, the Home Club must arrange for a suitable referee to be available and inform the Away Club as to the appointment. The Away Club shall inform the Home Club at the earliest opportunity if the nomination is unacceptable so that an alternative can be mutually agreed. A Club may not, however,

reject the nomination of a Referee currently registered with his/her County Association also, a club may not reject any unaffiliated qualified referee unless a complaint has been received by the Competition in the last three years.

(n) Appointment of a Referee for double headers. The home team should make all possible arrangements to appoint a neutral referee for two games, preferably via the League, to avoid any possibility of perceived home advantage for both games.

14. Continuation of Membership or Withdrawal of a Club

(a) After 31st December in the current season a Club intending, or having a provisional intention, to withdraw a team from the Competition on completion of its fixtures and fulfilment of all other obligations to the Competition must notify the Secretary in writing by 30th April each season or be liable to a fine not exceeding £10 as per Rule 25L.

Any Club failing to notify the Competition Secretary of its intention to continue in the Competition by the 30th April shall be deemed to have withdrawn and will be treated as new Club should it wish to re-apply for admittance to the Competition.

(b) A Club shall not be allowed to withdraw any or all of its teams from the Competition after the arrangement of fixtures for the following season. Any Club infringing this rule shall be liable to a fine as per Rule 25M and shall also be liable for its share of any call which may be made under Rule 5(B).

Any Club withdrawing its team after 30th April, but prior to the arrangement of fixtures, shall be liable to a fine as per Rule 25N and shall also be liable to its share of any calls which may be made under Rule 5(B).

(c) The membership for the coming season having been decided at a Special General Meeting held for that purpose, or at the AGM, the Competition shall have the right, irrespective of other provisions in this rule, to refuse to permit a Club to withdraw its team(s) in order to join another competition and may hold the Club to its engagements.

(d) In the event of a member Club which is an un-incorporated Association withdrawing and/or disbanding it shall be immediately liable to discharge all its financial and other obligations to the Competition.

In the event that any such obligation remains undischarged after a period of twenty-one (21) days then such obligation shall be met by the then current Club Members, excluding those under the statutory school leaving age. Until a Member's pro rata obligation is discharged in full the Member shall not be allowed to participate in the Competition, which may apply to the Club's Parent County Association for a suspension order.

15. Protests and Complaints

(a) (i) All questions of eligibility, qualification 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 a 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 on the grounds upon which they are founded) must be lodged in duplicate with the Secretary within five days (Sundays excluded) of the match or occurrence to which they refer. A protest or complaint may not be withdrawn except by permission of the Management Committee. A member of 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 a 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 on 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 fee as per Rule 25O. 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 the 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 receive a copy of the submission and must be afforded an opportunity to make a statement at least 7 days prior to a protest or complaint being heard.

(i) All parties must have received 7 days notice of the Hearing should they be instructed to attend.

(ii) Should a Club wish to state its case in person then they should forward a deposit of £20 and indicate such when forwarding the written response.

(f) When dealing with the 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.

16. Board of Appeal

Within 14 days of the posting of written notification of any decision of the Management Committee, 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 Surrey Football Association including a fee as stated in the Surrey County Football Association Rules for the adjudication of the Board of Appeal. The grounds of appeal shall be in accordance with FA Rules. The Board of Appeal may order the appeal fee to be forfeited and shall decide by whom the costs of the appeal shall be borne. The decision of the Board of Appeal is final and binding on all parties concerned.

No appeal can be lodged against a decision taken at an Annual or Special General Meeting unless it is on the grounds of unconstitutional conduct.

A copy of the Appeal must be sent to the Competition Secretary.

17. Exclusion of Club or Teams. Misconduct, Clubs, Officials, Players.

(a) At the Annual General Meeting, or a Special General Meeting called for the purpose in accordance with the provisions of Rule 19, Notice of Motion having been duly circulated on the Agenda, the accredited delegates present shall have the power to exclude any Club or Team from further membership which must be supported by (more than) two-thirds (2/3) of those present and voting. Voting on this point shall be by ballot.

(b) At the Annual General Meeting, or at a Special General Meeting called for the purpose, in accordance with the provisions of Rule 19, the accredited delegates present shall have the power to exclude from further participation in the Competition any Club or team of a Club whose conduct has, in their opinion, been undesirable, which must be supported by (more than) two thirds (2/3) of those present and voting. Voting on this point shall be conducted by ballot. A Club whose conduct is subject of the vote being taken shall be excluded from voting.

(c) Any Official or Member of a Club proved guilty of either a breach of rule, other than field offences, or of inducing or attempting to induce a player or players of another club in the Competition to join them shall be liable to expulsion or such penalty as a General Meeting or Management Committee may decide, and their Club shall also be liable to expulsion in accordance with the provisions of clauses (a) and (b) of this Rule.

18. Trophy:- Legal Owners, Conditions of taking over. Agreement to be signed. Awards.

(a) If a Competition is discontinued for any reason a trophy or any other presentation shall be returned to the Donor if the conditions attached to it so provide or, if not, dealt with as the sanctioning Association may decide.

(b) The following agreement shall be signed 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 the _____ 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 the last day of January in accordance with the Rules of the Competition. 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 the thorough repair.

Failure to comply will result in a fine as per Rule 25X. All Clubs will receive one e-mail reminder on or around 1st January reminding them of trophy returns.

If a trophy is not returned by the last day in January and is still not returned to the League Trophies Secretary within 14 days of that date, the trophy will be assumed lost and the club at fault will be fined as per Rule 25X and be charged with the cost of the replacement trophy.

(c) At the close of each Competition, awards shall be made to the winners and runners up if the funds of the Competition permit.

(d) League Representation

Any team due to be presented with a trophy not represented shall be fined as per Rule 25W.

All League Challenge Cups shall be returned in the condition that they were presented. Failing this the Club will be fined as per Rule 25E.

19. Special General Meetings

Upon receiving a requisition signed by at least two-thirds of the Clubs in membership the Secretary shall call a Special General Meeting.

The Management Committee may call a Special General Meeting at any time.

At least seven days notice shall be given of either meeting under this Rule together with an agenda of the business to be transacted at such a meeting.

Each member Club shall be empowered to send two delegates to all Special General Meetings. Each Club will be entitled to one vote only, as will members of the Management Committee.

Any continuing Member Club failing to be represented at a Special General Meeting without satisfactory reason being given may be fined as per Rule 25D.

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

20. Alteration to Rules

Alterations, for which consent has been given by the sanctioning Association, 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 players 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 the last day of February each year. The proposals, together with any proposals by the Management Committee shall be circulated to the Clubs by March 21st

and any amendments thereto shall be submitted to the Secretary by April 7th. 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.

No amendments to proposals or proposed amendments shall be accepted at the Meeting for consideration unless 70% of those present and entitled to vote agree.

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 twenty one days prior to the date of the Meeting.

21. Finance

(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 £750 shall be approved by the Management Committee. Cheques shall be signed by at least two officers nominated by the Management Committee.

(c) The Financial Year of the Competition will end on 31st March.

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

22. Rules Binding on Clubs

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.

22a Child Protection

1. Any act, statement, conduct or other matter which harms a child or children, or poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children, shall constitute behaviour which is improper and brings the game into disrepute.

2. In these regulations the expression “offence” shall mean any one or more of the offences contained in schedule 1 to the Children and Young Persons Act 1933 and any other criminal offence which reasonably causes the Competition to believe that the person accused of the offence poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children.

3. Upon receipt by the Competition of:

3.1 Notification that an individual has been charged with an offence; or

3.2 Notification that an individual is the subject of an investigation by the Police, Social Services or any other authority relating to an offence; or

3.3 Any other information which causes the Competition reasonably to believe that a person poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children then the Competition shall have the power to order that the individual be suspended from all or any specific football activity for such period and on such terms as it thinks fit.

4. In reaching its determination as to whether an order under Regulation 3 should be made the Competition shall give consideration, Inter Alia, to the following factors:

4.1 Whether a child or children are or may be at risk of harm;

4.2 Whether the matters are of a serious nature;

4.3 Whether an order is necessary or desirable to allow the conduct of any investigation by the Competition or any other authority or body to proceed unimpeded.

5. The period of an order referred to in 3 above shall not be capable of lasting beyond the date upon which any charge under the rules of the Competition or any offence is decided or brought to an end.

6. Where an order is imposed on an individual under regulation 3 above, the Competition shall bring and conclude any proceedings under the Rules of the Competition against the person relating to the matters as soon as reasonably practicable.

7. Where a person is convicted, or is made the subject of a caution in respect of an offence, that shall constitute a breach of the rules of the Competition and the Competition shall have the power to order the suspension of the person from all or any specific football activity for such a period (including indefinitely) and on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit.

8. For the purposes of these regulations, the Competition shall act through its council or any sub committee thereof, including the board.

9. Notification in writing of an order referred to above shall be given to the person concerned and/or any Club which he is associated as soon as reasonably practicable.

23. The Epsom & Ewell Youth Football League, Challenge Cup Knock-out Competition

(1) With the following amendments and additions, the Rules of the Epsom & Ewell Youth Football League shall apply to this Competition.

(2) This Competition shall be called the Epsom & Ewell Youth League Challenge Knock-out Competition and shall be open to all Clubs in membership with the League and shall be run in one or more sections.

(3) The Competition shall be conducted on a knock-out basis and extra time shall be played if necessary in all rounds of the competition including the semi final and final ties. Extra time shall be seven (7) minutes each way for Under 11, 12, and ten (10) minutes each way for Under 13, 14, 15 and 16 and fifteen (15) minutes each way for Under 17.

(4) Any player who is eligible and registered to play in the Epsom & Ewell Youth Football League shall be allowed to play in the competition for the club with whom he is registered except that no player shall play in more than one team or section in one season in this Competition, (see Rule 8(m) for eligibility of players for Cup Finals). Any team playing an ineligible player shall be ruled out of this Competition and the tie shall be awarded to its opponents and the Club will be fined as per Rule 25F.

(5) The Management Committee shall make arrangements for the final tie. The League shall take all receipts at these matches. Awards will be made to those players taking part in the finals together with the substitutes.

(6) The first named team in the draw shall be the Home Club, except that the Management Committee may order the semi final ties to be played on neutral grounds where these are available. The Management Committee may appoint neutral Assistant Referees. In the event of such orders being given or appointments made, expenses shall be borne equally by the Clubs engaged. Should the Home ground not be available the game shall be played on the opponents ground or as arranged by the Management Committee.

(7) Referees shall be entitled to a fee as per Rule 25K, as shall Assistant Referees where appointed. Fees shall be paid by the Away Club in all rounds prior to the final tie, except in the case of a semi final tie which is played on neutral ground.

(8) In the event of a tie being postponed the tie shall be played the following Saturday (Saturday Divisions) or Sunday (Sunday Divisions), unless advised to the contrary by the League Fixture Secretary. Where a tie is drawn after extra time the match will be decided by the taking of penalties in accordance with the Laws of Association Football, i.e. the best of five and then sudden death

24 Mini Soccer

THE LAWS OF THE GAME AND THE RULES OF THE EPSOM & EWELL YOUTH LEAGUE APPLY TO MINI SOCCER, UNLESS SPECIFICALLY DETAILED WITHIN THIS SECTION. COMPETITIONS

1. Leagues at U9 & U10 age groups
2. League Cup competitions at U9 & U10 age groups

ELIGIBILITY

1. Both boys and girls may participate.
2. All transfers between teams in the same Club will be charged at £1 per player. All other transfers will be charged as per Rule 25Q.

Players can play up in their registered age group, but cannot play down, except for teams playing in the same division, when normal transfer procedures will apply.

FIXTURES

Saturday/Sunday morning will be the normal playing day.

OFFSIDE RULE

The offside rule will not apply in any of the League/Cup competitions.

THE PITCH

For Under 9's and below, the pitch shall be no greater than 60 yds x 40 yds and no smaller than 50 yds x 30 yds. For other age groups the pitch shall be no greater than 70 yds x 50 yds and no smaller than 60 yds x 40 yds.

The pitch will be divided into two halves with a centre spot on the halfway line. The penalty area will consist of a line, ten yards from the goal line, returning to the goal line making a conventional penalty area in width, i.e. 18 yards. The recommended goals are those supplied in the Coca-Cola 'Red Bag' or their equivalent and will be 12ft in width x 6ft high.

THE BALL

(See Rule 10(b) (last paragraph). Size 3 for Under 7's & 8's and size 4 for Under 9's & 10's.

THE PLAYERS

A team will consist of 7 (seven) players. The minimum number of players to constitute a team will be 6 (six) players.

Any number of substitutions may be used at any time with the permission of the Referee. Entry onto the field of play will only be allowed during a stoppage in play. A player who has been replaced may return to play as a substitute for another player. A team must not have a squad greater than double the size of its team in an age group.

THE PLAYERS EQUIPMENT

Numbers on shirts are not essential. Players will wear shinguards at all times whilst on the field of play.

START OF PLAY

The start of play will be by a standard kick off at the centre spot, the opposing players will retreat 5 (five) yards from the ball, as they will at a restart following a goal being scored.

DURATION OF PLAY

(See Rule 10(b) (paragraph five))

In a Cup Match extra time of five minutes each way will be played in the event of a draw after normal time.

FREE KICKS

These will be awarded as covered by the standard Laws of the Game except that all free kicks will be direct. For technical free kicks (*i.e pass back to keeper and keeper picks up*) awarded in the penalty area line at the closest point to where the offence was committed. Opposing players will retreat 5 (five) yards from the ball.

PENALTY KICKS

Penalties will be awarded anywhere within the penalty box and be taken 8 (eight) yards from the centre of the opposition's goal.

THROW INS

The normal Laws of the Game apply to Under 10's, for Under 9's and below, the Referee will allow the thrower two attempts to comply with the law covering this aspect of the game.

GOAL KICKS

Goal kicks will be taken from anywhere along the 10 (ten) yard penalty line, and the opposing players must retreat 5 (five) yards.

GOALKEEPERS

The standard law relating to the back pass to the keeper applies, therefore the keeper will not be permitted to pick up the ball in such circumstances.

CORNER KICKS

Corners will be taken in the standard way, with the opposition retreating a maximum of 5 (five) yards.

RESULTS

Results must be notified to the Results Secretary, if played, or the reason if not, by 6pm on the day of the game.

GENERAL

Any changes to the fixtures must be agreed with the Fixture Secretary and the opposing team as detailed in the main League Rules.

All teams must be fully equipped with a First Aid box at all matches and are encouraged to have a trained First Aider present.

Cautions and/or sending off players at these age groups is discouraged, except in exceptional Circumstances.

A representative from the Mini Soccer divisions will be elected onto the Management Committee. NO PARENTS are to enter the field of play and Clubs are responsible for the conduct of their parents/ supporters.

25. Schedule of Fees and Fines

A	ENTRY Fee	£5.00
B	Annual Subscription: Club Membership.....	£15.00
	Annual Subscription, per team (15 for Mini Soccer, 18 for 11 a side)	
	(1) Mini Soccer payable in two parts: £30 on or before 30th June and	
	£30 payable on or before 31 st October	£60.00*
	(2) 11 a side, payable in two parts: £35 on or before 30th June and	
	£40 payable on or before 31 st October.....	£75.00*.
	Additional Registration Fees over an above those included in the	
	Annual Subscription as per Rule 25R.	
C	Deposit per Club.....	£10.00
D	Failure to attend League Council, Special or Annual General	
	Meeting.....	£20.00
E	Failure to attend to League business.....	£20.00
F	Ineligible player(s) - per game, per player.....	£20.00
	Ineligible player(s) - maximum per game.....	£50.00
G	Not having a change of colours..	£10.00

H	Failure to give details of unplayed fixtures.....	£10.00
I	Late Kick-Off	£10.00
J	Failure to telephone result	£10.00
K	Officials appointed under this rule shall be entitled to charge the following inclusive fee for all matches:-	
	Mini soccer.....	£15.00
	11-13 age groups.....	£20.00
	14-16 age groups.....	£25.00
	17-18 age groups	£30.00
	Double Header.....	£35.00
	Qualified Referees appointed by the Management Committee as	
	Assistant Referees U11 – U13 age group	£15.00
	U14 - U16 age groups	£18.00
	U17 - U18 age groups.....	£20.00
L	Not informing League of intention to withdraw	£10.00
M	Withdrawal of team after arrangement of fixtures - max.....	£50.00
N	Withdrawal of team after 30th April, but before arrangement of fixtures.....	£20.00
O	Protest fee.....	£10.00
P	Failing to provide Assistant Referee.....	£10.00
Q	Transfer fee - per player, payable after last date of registration in the season	£5.00
R	Registration fee- Per player payable after last date of registration in the season	£5.00
S	Failure to notify opponents and/or referee.....	£20.00

T	Submission of inaccurate or incomplete result form.	£5.00
	Failure to submit letter of explanation for referee mark 4 or Under.....	£10.00
	Failure to submit a Result Form.....	£10.00
U	Failure to have eleven players for 11 a side and seven for Mini Soccer per team, registered by 1st August (per player short of the required number)	£3.00
	Maximum	£25.00
V	Failure to provide Identity Cards, failure to exchange I.D.Cards.....	£10.00
	Failure to provide names of players.....	£10.00
W	Failure to attend Presentation of Trophy (per team)	£50.00
X	Late return of Cup/Trophy plus engraving costs if Applicable.....	£25.00
*	inc. Directory & Rule Book/Club Secretary and Team Manager.....	£5.00