

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 Association 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 Association 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 Association reasonably to believe that a person poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children then The Association 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 and conditions as it thinks fit.
4. In reaching its determination as to whether an order under Regulation 3 should be made The Association shall give consideration, inter alia, to the following factors:
 - 4.1 whether a child is 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 Association 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 Association or any Offence is decided or brought to an end.
6. Where an order is imposed on an individual under regulation 3 above. The Association shall bring and conclude any proceedings under the Rules of The Association 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 Association and The Association 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 Association shall act through its Council or any committee or 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 with which he is associated as soon as reasonably practicable.

Stroud & District Youth Association Football League, Nomenclature and Constitution.

1. A This Competition shall be designated the Stroud and District Youth Association Football League and may be preceded by the name of its sponsor, and shall consist of not more than 44 Clubs who shall be Full Member Clubs.

All such Member Clubs must be affiliated to an affiliated County Football Association and their names and particulars shall be returned annually by the appointed date on the Form "D" to the Gloucestershire Football Association Ltd. (Youth). All Clubs shall have grounds or headquarters situated within a 25 mile radius of Stroud.

All new Clubs accepted into the League after March 31st 2000 must have their grounds within a 12 mile radius of Stroud. The Clubs Disciplinary record will be investigated and reported to the Annual General Meeting before their acceptance into the League is finalised.

This Competition shall apply annually for sanction to the Gloucestershire Football Association Ltd (Youth) and the constituent teams of Member Clubs may be grouped in divisions, based on age limits.

This Competition will provide 11- a – side football for players who have attained the age of 10 years at midnight on 31st. August in a playing season.

- 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 constitutions of the divisions at their discretion.

Entry Fee, Subscription, Deposit.

- 2. A Applications by Clubs for admission to this Competition must be made in writing to the Secretary by 30th. April of the current season and must be accompanied by an Entry Fee of £5:00 per team which shall be returned in the event of 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.

When Rule 12(B) is applied and a team seeks a transfer or is compulsorily transferred to another division no Entry Fee shall be payable.

- B The club annual subscription shall be £25 for the first team and £20 for each subsequent team to include entries to League Cup competitions and 1 handbook per team plus 1 for the club secretary. This must be paid by August 24th. of the forthcoming season.
- C Each Club shall pay a Deposit of £30 which shall be returnable to Clubs on leaving the League provided they have fulfilled their fixtures and complied with all orders of the Management Committee.
- D A Club shall not participate in this League until the Entry Fee, Annual Subscription and Deposit have been paid.
- E Clubs must advise annually to the Secretary in writing by 30th. September 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, Officers and any other information required by the Competition.

Officers.

- 3. A The Officers of the Competition shall be the President, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Registration Secretary, Fixture Secretary, Referees Appointments Secretary, 6-a-side Secretary and Child Welfare Officer to be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting.
- B Life Members and Vice-Presidents may be elected at the Annual General Meeting, but all nominations for these positions must be received in writing by the Secretary not later than 15th April. Life-Members and Vice-Presidents shall be entitled to attend all meetings of Council and General Meetings to vote thereat.

Management, Nomination, Election.

- 4. A The Competition shall be governed in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of The Football Association by a

Management Committee comprised of the Officers and up to 7 members 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 be eligible to become candidates for re-election without nomination. All other candidates for election as Officers or Members of the Management Committee shall be nominated to the Secretary in writing, signed by the Secretaries of two Member Clubs, not later than 31st. March in each year. Names of the candidates for election shall be circulated with the notice of the Annual General Meeting. In the event of there being no nomination in accordance with the foregoing for any office, nominations may be received at the Annual General Meeting
- C The Management Committee shall meet monthly during the playing season and as often as is necessary to deal with business as it arises. The Management Committee will normally meet at The Pavilion, Oldends Lane Stonehouse at 7.15pm. Any member of the Management Committee who fails to attend two consecutive meetings, unless excused by the Committee, shall cease to be a member of the Management Committee. On receiving a requisition signed by two-thirds of the Members of the Management Committee the Secretary shall convene a meeting of the Committee.
- D Except where otherwise mentioned all communications shall be addressed to the Secretary who shall conduct the correspondence of the League and keep a record of its proceedings.
- E All communications received from Clubs must be conducted through their nominated Officers.

Powers of Management.

- 5. A The Management Committee may appoint such other sub-committees as they may consider necessary and may delegate such of their powers as they deem necessary to such committees. The decisions of all such committees shall be reported to the Management Committee for ratification. The Management Committee shall have power to deal only 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 Gloucestershire Football Association Ltd. (Youth) having been obtained the Management Committee may order a match or matches to be played each season. The proceeds to be devoted to the funds of the Competition and, if necessary, may call upon each Club (including any Club which may have withdrawn during the season) to contribute equally such sums as may be necessary to meet any deficiency at the end of the season. (See Rule 6(e).
- C Each Member of the Management Committee shall have the right to attend and vote at all Management Committee Meetings and have one vote thereat, but no Member shall be allowed to vote on any matters directly appertaining to such Member or to the Club so represented. (This shall apply to the procedure of any sub-committee). In the event of the voting being equal on any matter, the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.
- D The Management Committee shall have powers to apply, act upon and enforce the Rules of the Competition and shall also have jurisdiction over all matters affecting the League, including any not provided for in the Rules. Except where these Rules provide for the imposition of a set penalty any Club, Club Official (limited to Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer) or Player alleged to be in breach of a League Rule must be formally charged in writing and given the opportunity to present their case before the Management Committee. Financial penalties can only be imposed if included within the set penalties for breaches of Competition Rules. 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.
- E All decisions of the Management Committee shall be binding subject to the right of appeal to the Board of Appeal in accordance with Rule 16. Decisions of the Management Committee must be notified in writing to those concerned within 14 days.
- F Five Members of the Management Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business of the Management Committee. Three Members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business by any sub-

committee of the League.

- G. The Management Committee, as it may deem necessary, shall have power to fill in an acting capacity, any vacancies that may occur amongst their number.
- H A Club having failed to comply with an order or instruction of the Management Committee or failing to satisfactorily attend to the business and / or the correspondence of the competition within 14 days shall be fined £15:00. or otherwise penalised at the discretion of Management Committee.
- I All fines and charges shall be paid within 14 days of the date of posting of the written notification. These fines will normally be taken from the Clubs deposit with the League, but where payment is required; the Treasurer will inform the Club. Clubs Officials or individuals committing a breach of this rule will incur such penalties as the as the Management Committee may impose.
- K The Management Committee shall have the power to fill any vacancy that may occur in the membership of the League between the Annual General or Special General Meeting called to decide the constitution and the commencement of the League season.
- L No participant under the age of 18 can be fined.

Annual General Meeting.

- 6. A The Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than 30th June in 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 there from.
 - (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 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 the date for the commencement and conclusion of playing season.
 - (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, Statement of Accounts and Agenda shall be forwarded to each Club at least fourteen days prior to the meeting, and to the Gloucestershire Football Association Ltd (Youth)
- C A signed copy of the duly audited Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts shall be sent to the Gloucestershire Football Association Ltd (Youth) within fourteen days of its adoption by the Annual General Meeting.
- D Each Full Member Club shall be empowered to send two delegates to an Annual General Meeting. Each Club shall be entitled to one vote only. Not less than seven days' notice shall be given of any Meeting.
- E Clubs who have withdrawn their Membership of the Competition during the season being concluded or who are not continuing Membership shall be entitled to attend but shall vote only on matters relating to the season being concluded.
- F All voting shall be conducted by a show of voting cards unless a ballot be demanded by at least 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 Full Member Club

- H Any continuing Member Club failing to be represented at the Annual General Meeting without satisfactory reason being given shall be fined £20.
- I Officers and Management Committee members shall be entitled to attend and vote at an Annual General Meeting.

Agreement to be Signed.

7. The Chairman and the Secretary of each Club shall complete and sign the following agreement which shall be deposited with the Competition together with 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 _____ 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 of the Chairman and /or Secretary on the above Agreement must be notified to the Gloucestershire Football Association (Youth) Ltd. to which the Club is affiliated and to the Secretary of the Competition.

Qualification of Players.

8. A Contract players as defined in Football Association Rules, are not permitted to play in this Competition. 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. No player under any suspension imposed by any County Football Association shall be allowed to play in this competition during the period of suspension.

- B A registered youth playing member of a Club is one who, being in all other respects eligible, has:

(1) Signed a fully and correctly 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 League Registration Secretary for at least one hour before the commencement of a match and whose completed registration counterfoil has been received by the Club prior to playing. The registration document must incorporate any known serious medical conditions of the player and emergency contact details of the players parents or guardians. These details must be available at matches and training events the player attends within the management of the Club or Competition.

The registration document must incorporate a current passport-size photograph of the player seeking registration, a second photograph, together with proof of the player's date of birth. If a player's age is required for registration purposes a Competition must accept an original Birth certificate or a photocopy. In cases where the birth certificate is not available a Competition is required to accept a photocopy of the players passport or other official document issued by a Government Agency attesting to the player's date of birth.

The qualification dates for the competition shall be as follows:

Youth Football

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.

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

- C The registration card shall be relevant to the players throughout their participation within the league. The registration card shall be retained by the Club during the playing season and shall be readily available for inspection at all times including matches. Clubs will exchange registration cards to allow inspection by their opponents before the start of each match. If a Club cannot produce the players registration card on a match day for inspection by the Referee or their Opponents that player cannot take part in the match. Clubs who fail to comply will incur a fine of £10.00 for each player.
- 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 player's signature without first ascertaining whether such claims have been discharged to the satisfaction of the Club, or Clubs, for which the player last played.
- E A fee of £1:00 shall be paid for each player registered.
- 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 priority of registration shall decide for which Club the player shall be registered. The Registrations Secretary shall notify the Club last applying to register the player of the fact of the previous registration.
- G It shall be deemed a breach of Competition Rules for a player to:
- (i) Play for more than one Club in the Competition in the same season without first being transferred.
 - (ii) Having signed for one Club in the Competition, sign for another Club in the Competition in that season except for the purpose of a transfer.
 - (iii) Submit a signed registration form for registration that the player had wilfully neglected to accurately or fully complete.
- 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 who has been charged and found guilty of registration irregularities. (Subject to Rule 16).
 - (iii) The Management Committee shall have power to refuse or cancel the registration of any player charged and found guilty of undesirable conduct (subject to rule 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 purpose 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 League Registrations Secretary accompanied by a fee of £3.00. (This fee will be charged to the Club's account by the treasurer) Such transfer shall be referred by the League Registrations 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 League Registrations Secretary and to the player concerned within seven days of receipt of the transfer form. Upon receipt of the Club's consent, or upon its failure to give written objection within seven days, the League Registrations 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 or two days after receipt of such transfer. In the event of an objection to a transfer the matter shall be referred to the Management Committee for a decision.

- J A player may not be registered for a Club in the Competition after 31st March of the season except by special permission of the Management Committee. Nor transferred to another Club in the Competition after 28th. February of the season
- K A Club shall keep a list of the players it registers and a record of the games in which they have played, and shall produce such records upon demand by the Management Committee. In the event a Club has more than one team in an age group, each team must be clearly designated "A" and "B" etc. In such cases, players will be registered for one team only. A players so registered will be allowed to play for his Club in a younger or older age group within the provisions of Rule 8 (B).
- L A register containing the names of all players registered for each Club, with the date of registration, shall be kept by the League Registrations Secretary and shall be open to the inspection of any duly appointed Member Club representative at all 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 12(A)) unless the player has played two games for that team in this Competition in the current season.
- N Clubs should note that the CUP COMPETITION RULES printed immediately following these rules include restrictions on the eligibility of players for cup games.
- O (i) Any team playing an unregistered or otherwise ineligible player or players may have the points gained in the match deducted from its total and may be fined and / or otherwise dealt with at the discretion of the Management Committee.
(ii) In addition the team may have 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.
- (The following Clause applies to Competitions involving players in full-time secondary education):-
- P (i) Priority must be given at all times to school and school organisations activities.
(ii) The availability of children must be cleared with the Head Teachers. (except for Sunday Competitions).
(iii) Children under 15 shall not play in a team involving players who are more than 2 years older.

Club Name and Club Colours.

9. A Every Club must register the colour of its shirts and shorts with the Secretary by 21st. July. of the forthcoming season 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. All shirts must be numbered. Players are not allowed to wear items of jewellery, it must be removed, its no longer permissible to apply tape to cover it. Any team not being able to play in its normal colours as registered with the Competition shall notify the colours in which they will play to its opponents at least three days before the match. 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 in accordance with rule 10. The Secretary of the Competition may request shirts to be submitted if complaints are received as to 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 colours must obtain permission from its affiliated County Football Association and from the Management Committee.

Playing Season, Conditions of Play, Times of Kick-Off, Postponements and Substitutes.

10. A The Annual General Meeting shall determine the commencing and concluding dates for the ensuing season which shall be in accordance with Football Association Rules. No Club shall be compelled to play after the concluding date. Original fixtures arranged by the Fixtures Secretary, or at a meeting specially convened for that purpose, to be held no later than 21 days from the Annual General Meeting, must not be arranged for a date later than seven days preceding the concluding date determined by the Annual General Meeting. Clubs must be prepared to start the season promptly to ensure that fixtures are completed and any team not completing three matches in September in the Stroud and District Youth Association Football League may be fined not more than £6.00 at the discretion of the Management Committee.

Any Club failing to be represented at a fixture meeting or otherwise infringing this Rule shall be fined of £20.00 and the Fixtures Secretary shall arrange that Club's fixtures.

- B All matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game as determined by the International Football Association Board.

Clubs must take all reasonable precautions to keep their grounds in a playable condition. All matches shall be played on pitches deemed suitable by the Management Committee. All grounds must have changing facilities, including separate facilities for the referee. If through any fault of the home team a match has to be replayed, the Management Committee shall have power to order the venue to be changed.

The Management Committee shall have power to decide whether a pitch and/or facilities are suitable for matches in the Competition and to order the Club concerned to play its fixtures on another ground.

All matches shall have a duration as set out below unless a shorter time (not less than 50 minutes) is mutually arranged by the two captains in consultation with the referee prior to the commencement of the match, and in any event shall be of equal halves.

For Youth football – The duration of play shall be as follows unless it is mutually agreed by all parties to reduce the time.

Under 11, 12.	30 minutes each half.
Under 13, 14.	35 minutes each half.
Under 15, 16.	40 minutes each half.
Under 17, 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 under the age of 17 as at midnight on 31st. July in any season shall be permitted to play more than one game or, in the event the Competition allows the playing of a double header. e.g. two separate matches, 100 minutes per day in this Competition.

The times of kick-off shall be fixed by the Management Committee. Any Club failing to commence at the appointed time will be fined a sum not exceeding £2.00 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 football to be used: Size 4 for those playing under the age of 14. Size 5 for all other age groups.

Goal nets and Corner Flags must be used.

A First Aid Kit must be provided. Failure to comply will result in a fine of £5:00. and any further Action as deemed necessary by the Management Committee.

- 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 League Fixture Secretary.
- D The Secretary of the home Club must give notice in writing of full particulars of the location of, and access to, the ground and time of kick-off to the Secretary of the opposing Club at least seven clear days prior to the playing of the match. Any Club failing to comply with this Rule shall be liable to a fine of £5:00.
- E Every Club shall play its best available qualified team or teams in all matches in the Competition. In the event of a Club playing in any match with less than 9 players they shall be fined £1:00, for each missing player. A minimum of 7 players will constitute a team for a Competition match.
- F Home and away matches shall be played. In the event of a Club failing to keep its engagement the Management Committee shall have 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. Notwithstanding the foregoing home and away provision, the Management Committee shall have power to order a match to be played on a neutral ground or on the opponent's ground if they are satisfied that such action is warranted by the circumstances.

Any Club with more than one team in the Competition shall always fulfill 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 a sum not exceeding £10.00. or otherwise dealt with by the Management Committee.

Following postponement of fixtures, for whatever reason, clubs must agree new date and time for fixture and subsequently both clubs must notify the League Fixture Secretary of the new date within 14 days of the date of the cancelled fixture. Failure to set new agreed fixture date within 14 days will result in both clubs being fined £10 for each occasion. Failure to notify Fixture Secretary in writing or email of said date within 14 days will result in offending club being dealt with as per rule 5H for failing to satisfactory attend to the business of the league.

Notice of postponement of any match must be given without delay by the postponing Club to the Fixtures Secretary, the Competition Referees Appointments Secretary and the Secretary of the opposing Club. Where the notice of the postponement is less than seven days before the arranged kick off time, the postponing Club will be charged in accordance with Rule 10(f). Postponements prior to seven days must be forwarded in writing on the appropriate form to the Fixtures Secretary. Fixtures must be made within the League playing season, failure to comply will result in the postponing club being charged in accordance with Rule 5 (d). Any team failing or declining to fulfil a fixture, except for reasons of unfit grounds, or players selected for a representative team shall be fined £10.00. Should a team fail to fulfil a second fixture or subsequent fixture, other than for the foregoing reasons the team will be fined £10:00 and shall forfeit 3 points from their record. Should a team fail to give notice of a postponement to the opposing team and the Management Committee the team will be fined £15 and shall forfeit 3 points from their record.

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 Fixtures Secretary within 21 days the Management Committee shall have power to order the match to be played on a named date or on or before a given date.

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.

- G Rolling Substitutes. A Club may at its discretion and in accordance with the Laws of the Game use 3 rolling substitute players who may be selected from 3 players in any match in this Competition. The referee shall be informed of the names of the substitutes before the start of the match. Substitutes not named to the Referee prior to the match shall not be allowed to participate in the match. A player who has been selected, appointed or named as a substitute before the start of the match but does not actually play in the game shall not be considered to have been a player in that game within the meaning of Rule 8 of this Competition.
- H The half time interval shall be of five minutes duration, but it shall not exceed fifteen minutes the half time interval may only be altered with the consent of the referee.

Reporting Results.

11. A The League Registration Secretary must receive within 4 days of the date played, the details of each Competition match in the prescribed manner. This must include the forename(s) and surname of the team players (in block letters). Failure to do so will incur a fine of £5 and/or the Club being dealt with as the Management Committee decide.
- B The Home Club shall telephone the result of each match to the Results Secretary by 5:30pm for Sunday games and 9.00pm for Evening games. Failure to comply, the HOME Club will be fined £10.00.
- C The match result notification, correctly completed, shall be signed by a responsible member of the Club. The Management Committee shall have power to take such action as they deem suitable against a Club which submits an incomplete form or incorrect information.

Determining Championship.

12. A Team rankings within the Competition will be decided by points with three points to be awarded for a win and one point for a drawn match. The teams gaining the highest number of points in their respective Divisions at the conclusion shall be adjudged the winners. Matches must not be played for double points. In the event of two or more teams being equal on points team rankings may be decided in any one or more of the following ways:
- (i) goal difference
 - (ii) goals scored
 - (iii) goal average
 - (iv) Deciding match(es) played under conditions determined by the Management Committee. Any such matches shall be played under conditions laid down by the League Secretary with all receipts going to the League.
- B Positions in any division or section, other than first place (see rule 12A iv) shall be determined on goal difference or failing that goal average should more than one team have the same number of points.
- C In the event of a team not completing all of its fixtures for the season all records obtained by such defaulting team shall be expunged from the Competition table, and such team shall be subject to action under Rule 5. (d).

Referees.

13. A Registered Referees for all matches shall be appointed in a manner approved by the Management Committee and by the sanctioning Association(s).
- B In the event of the non-appearance of the appointed Referee the Clubs shall agree in writing upon a Referee. A Referee thus agreed upon shall, for that game, have the full powers, status and authority of a registered Referee. Failure to comply and return the substitute Referee form to the Referees Secretary within 5 days of the match the HOME club will be fined £5.00

- 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
- D The appointed Referee shall have power to decide as to the fitness of the ground in all matches and the decision shall be final.
- E Match Officials appointed under this Rule shall be entitled to charge fees inclusive of travelling expenses: Referees £20.00. Assistant Referees £17.00
- F The Home Club shall pay the Officials their fees and expenses before the match. In the event of a match not being played because of circumstances over which the Clubs have no control, the Match Officials, if present, shall be entitled to £10.00 including travelling expenses and an Official Assistant £7.00. Where a match is not played owing to one Club being in default, that Club shall be ordered to pay the Officials, if they attend the ground, their full fee which includes expenses.
- G A Referee not keeping his engagement, and failing to give a satisfactory explanation as to his non-appearance, may be reported to the County Football Association with which he is registered.
- J The Referee shall submit a 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. On the same card the Referee shall award Sportsmanship and Efficiency points to each club out of a maximum of 10 and mark each Assistant Referee out of 10 towards the Finning Cup.

Continuation of Membership or Withdrawal of a Club.

- 14. 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 31st March of each Season or be liable to a fine not exceeding £10:00.
- B A Club shall not be allowed to withdraw any or all of its teams from the Competition after the Fixture Meeting for the following Season. Any Club infringing this Rule shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £10.00 per team and shall also be liable for its share of any call which may be made under Rule 5(B).
- 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 un-discharged after a period of 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.

Protests and Appeals.

- 15. A (i) All questions of eligibility, qualifications of players or interpretations of the Rules shall be referred to the Management Committee.
- (ii) Objections relevant to the dimensions of the pitch, goals, flag posts or other facilities of the venue will not be entertained by the Management Committee unless a protest is lodged with the Referee before the commencement of the match. Any Club lodging such protest and not proceeding with it shall be deemed guilty of a breach of this Rule and shall be dealt with by the Management Committee.
- B Except in cases where the Management Committee decide that there are special circumstances, protests and complaints (which must contain full particulars of the grounds upon which they are founded) must be lodged in

duplicate with the Secretary within seven days (excluding Sundays) of the match or occurrence to which they refer. A protest or complaint shall not be withdrawn except by permission of the Management Committee. A Member of the Management Committee who is a member of any Club involved shall not be present (except as a witness or representative of his Club) when such protest or complaint is being determined.

- C Any dispute occurring between Clubs in the Competition shall be referred for determination by the Management Committee whose decision shall be binding upon all parties subject to Rule 16.
- D No protest of whatever kind shall be considered by the Management Committee, unless the complaining Club shall have deposited with the Secretary a sum of £10.00. This may be forfeited in whole or in part in the event of the complaining or protesting Club losing its case. The Competition shall have power to order the defaulting Club or the Club making a losing or frivolous protest or complaint to pay the expenses of the enquiry or to order that the costs to be shared by the parties.
- E All parties to a protest or complaint must be afforded an opportunity to make a statement when the protest or complaint is being heard and must have received ten days notice of the hearing, together with a copy of the submission. When dealing with a protest or complaint the Management Committee shall take into consideration the possession by the protesting or complaining Club of any information which, if properly used, might have avoided the protest or complaint.

Board Of Appeal.

- 16. Within 14 days of the posting of written notification of any decision of the Management Committee or the Competition, a Club, Official or Player against whom action is taken may appeal against such decision by lodging particulars in duplicate with the Secretary of the Gloucestershire Football Association Ltd. (Youth), including a fee of £25. for adjudication of a Board of Appeal. The grounds of appeal shall be in accordance with FA Rules. The Board of Appeal may order the appeal fee to be forfeited and shall decide by whom the costs of the appeal shall be borne. The decision of the Board of Appeal is final and binding on all parties concerned.

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

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

- 17. A At the Annual General Meeting, or 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 of those present and voting. Voting on this point shall be conducted 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 whose conduct has, in their opinion, been undesirable, which must be supported by (more than) two-thirds of those present and voting. Voting on this point shall be conducted by ballot. A Club whose conduct is the subject of the vote being taken shall be excluded from voting.
- C Any official or member of a Club proved guilty of either a breach of Competition Rules 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.

Trophy: Legal Owners, Conditions of Taking Over, Agreement to be Signed. Awards.

18. A If a Competition be discontinued for any cause the Cup or Trophy shall be returned to the Donor, if the conditions attached to it so provide, or otherwise dealt with as the Association may decide.
- B The following agreement shall be signed on behalf of the winners of the Cup or Trophy:
"We (A) _____ and (B) _____, the Chairman and Secretary of _____ FC, members of and representing the Club, having been declared winners of _____ Cup or Trophy, and it having been delivered to us by the Competition, do hereby on behalf of the Club jointly and severally agree to return the Cup or Trophy to the Competition Secretary on or before February Management Meeting. Clubs failure to return the trophy the Club will be fined at the discretion of Management Committee. If the Cup or Trophy is lost or damaged whilst under our care we agree to refund to the Competition the amount of its current value or the cost of its thorough repair."
- C At the close of each Competition awards may/shall be made to the winners and runners-up if the funds of the Competition permit.

Special General Meetings.

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

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

At least seven days notice shall be given of either meeting under this Rule, together with an agenda of the business to be transacted at such meeting. Each Full Member Club shall be empowered to send two delegates to all Special General Meetings. Each Club shall be entitled to one vote only. Not less than Seven days' notice shall be given of any Meeting.

Any continuing Member Club failing to be represented at a Special General Meeting without satisfactory reason shall be fined £20.

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

All amendment of Rules can only be implemented once approved by the appropriate sanctioning authority.

Alteration to Rules.

20. Alterations shall be made to these Rules only at the Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting specially convened for the purpose called in accordance with Rule 19. Any alteration made during the playing season to the Rule relating to the qualification of 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 League Secretary by March 24th in each year. The proposals, together with any proposals by the Management Committee, shall be circulated to the Clubs by April 21st and any amendments thereto shall be submitted to the League Secretary by May 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.

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 Gloucestershire Football Association Ltd. (Youth) by 31st March in each year or 14 days prior to a Special General meeting.

Any alterations or additions decided upon at any meeting shall not become operative until the approval of the Association issuing sanction shall have been obtained.

Rules Binding on Clubs.

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 (Appendix 15.E) as printed in the Gloucestershire Football Association Ltd Handbook.

Finance.

22. A The Management Committee shall determine with which bank or other financial Institution the funds of the Competition will be lodged.
- B All expenditure in excess of £300 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 December.
- D The books, or a certified balance sheet, of a Competition shall be prepared and shall be audited annually by some suitable person(s) who shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting.

Stroud & District Youth League

Red Cross Cup Competition

RULE 1

This competition shall be called the Stroud & District Youth League Red Cross Cup Competition. All clubs competing in the appropriate Division of the League shall enter. The age group for the season shall be determined by the Fixture Secretary. The names and particulars of the entrants shall be returned annually by the appointed date on form 'E' to the GFA Ltd (Youth). Players in this competition must be qualified to play for their Clubs in the League for the age group concerned but see also Rule 8.

RULE 2

Same as for League rules with exception of Clause B.

RULES 3,4,5,6 and 7

Same as League rules.

RULE 8.

Same as League rules EXCEPT;

No player can play in this competition for more than 1 club in any one season. No player signed after the completion of the quarter final round shall be eligible EXCEPT by permission of the Council, Management Committee or Emergency

Committee. Any team playing an ineligible player shall be disqualified from the competition for that season.

RULE 9

Same as League rules.

RULE 10

Same as League rules except;

Cup games to be played on date set by the Fixture Secretary. Kick Off times shall be mutually agreed between Clubs. Where teams cannot mutually agree the Home side will determine the Kick Off time. Postponements of Cup games will only be allowed for reasons of County Cup competitions, unfit pitches or due to factors beyond the control of the club (Subject to rule 12). Postponements for other reasons will be deemed to be a withdrawal from the Cup Competition by the postponing club. The Tie will be awarded to their opponents where the competition is played solely in a knockout format. Where the competition is a mix of league and knockout and the postponement occurs at the knockout stage the Management Committee will decide whether to promote the next best team from the league format or award the tie. Teams withdrawing from League Cup Competitions shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £25.

RULE 11

Same as League rules.

RULE 12

The format of the Competition shall be determined by the Management Committee or Emergency Committee having regard to the number of clubs in the relevant division and may be changed from round to round. The formats will be chosen from (a) a straight one match knockout competition. (b) a two leg knockout competition (c) a first round league competition followed by a knockout competition based on (a) or (b) above. The principles of the competition will be that in a knockout round Clubs will be drawn in pairs for the respective rounds. The first named club being the Home side or will play the first leg at home. Should the ground of the Home team be unfit, the match, if possible, will take place on the ground of the opposing team. If the round is on a league basis, the matches to be played will be set by the Fixtures Secretary. The duration of games will be as stated in the League Rules, but, if after the final game of a knockout round scores are level on aggregate extra time will be played. Under 12/13/14 – 10 mins each way. Under 15/16 – 15 mins each way. If at the end of extra time the aggregate scores are still level the match will be decided by the taking of kicks from the Penalty mark as laid down by the International Board, the rules for which are given in The Football Association Handbook. The Cup Final shall take place on a ground chosen by the Fixtures Secretary.

RULES 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20

Same as League rules.

RULE 21

Any gate collections or other proceeds must be forwarded, without any deductions, to the treasurer.

Rule 22

The Management Committee may change the format of the competition where the constitution of the league makes it desirable to provide more games. Such changes will be notified to Clubs with the draw for the first round.

Mike Sharp Cup Competition

RULE 1

This competition shall normally be open to the bottom 4 clubs in each division of whichever age groups the Management Committee may decide.

K.B. Coaches, Stroud & Swindon B.S., Thomas Moore & Wally Smith Cup Competitions

The rules of the Red Cross Cup shall apply except;

RULE 1

The particulars of the competing Clubs for each Competition shall be returned to the GFA Ltd. (Youth) on form 'D' each year.

Severn Vale Sportsmanship Cup

The Severn Vale Sportsmanship Cup will be awarded annually for sportsmanship and efficiency. Clubs will start each match with 10 points and Referees will deduct points for mis-conduct on and off the field, inadequate ground markings, absence of a Linesman and other faults they may note. At the end of the season the marks for each Club will be averaged and used to assess the winners of the cup.

Finning Cup

The Finning Cup will be awarded annually to the Club with the best Linesman. Clubs will be awarded marks up to a maximum of ten by the Referee. Where no Linesman is provided a nil score will be recorded. At the end of the season the marks will be averaged and used to assess the winners.