

**RULES OF
THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF WALES LIMITED
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DEFINITIONS

The terms given below denote the following:

- FAW:** Football Association of Wales Ltd
- FIFA:** Fédération Internationale de Football Association.
- UEFA:** Union des Association Européennes de Football
- Association:** The FAW recognised by and a Member of FIFA and UEFA.
- League:** an organisation in membership of and subordinate to the Association.
- Area Association:** an organisation in membership of and subordinate to the Association.
- Club:** an organisation in membership of and subordinate to the Association.
- Officials:** all board members, committee members, coaches, referees and attendants as well as other people responsible for technical, medical and administrative matters of the Association, Area Associations, Leagues, Clubs or their Subordinates.
- Player:** a football player registered with the Association, an Area Association, Club or any other league or club.
- Annual General Meeting:** the supreme body of the Association.
- Council:** the executive body of the Association.
- Member:** a Councillor, Area Association, League or Club that has been admitted into membership of the Association by the Council.
- Subordinate:** shall mean any director, member, representative, official, employee, referee or other playing official or player of a Member of the Association together with every spectator and any person purporting to be its supporter or follower together also with all other organisations, clubs, bodies, entities or persons who are members of, or affiliated to, or over whom the Member of the Association exercises, or purports to exercise control.
- Association Football:** the game controlled by FIFA and organised in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

National Level: football played in leagues which are in membership of and directly affiliated to the Association and which currently comprise The Football League of Wales; The Welsh Football League; The Cymru Alliance League; The Welsh Alliance League; The Mid Wales League and The Welsh National League.

Recreational Level: football played in leagues which are not in membership of and are not directly affiliated to the Association.

IFAB: the International Football Association Board.

Juridical Body: the Associations Juridical Bodies comprise the Disciplinary, Appeal and Independent Arbitration Panels.

Ordinary Courts: state courts, which hear public and private legal disputes.

Arbitration Tribunal: private court of justice acting instead of an Ordinary Court.

CAS (TAS): Court of Arbitration for Sport (Tribunal Arbitral du Sport) in Lausanne (Switzerland).

NB: References to natural persons include both genders. The singular case applies to the plural and vice-versa.

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COMPOSITION OF THE ASSOCIATION

- The Association and FIFA and UEFA
1. The name of the Association is THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF WALES LIMITED (“the Association”).
- 1.1 The Rules of this Association shall at all times be read and constructed in conjunction with the Statutes and Regulations of The Federation Internationale de Football Association (“the FIFA Rules”) and the Statutes and Regulations of the Union des Associations Europeennes de Football (“the UEFA Rules”), in each case as published from time to time and in the case of conflict between the Rules of this Association and the FIFA and UEFA Rules, the FIFA and UEFA Rules shall prevail, and in the case of conflict between the FIFA Rules and UEFA Rules, then the FIFA Rules shall prevail.
- Objectives
- 1.2 The objectives of the Association are:
- a) to improve the game of football constantly and promote, regulate and control it throughout the territory of Wales in the light of fair play and its unifying, educational, cultural and humanitarian values, particularly through youth and development programmes;
 - b) to organise and delegate competitions in Association Football in all its forms at all levels, by defining precisely, as required, the areas of authority conceded to the various Area Associations and Leagues of which it is composed;
 - c) to draw up regulations and provisions and ensure their enforcement;
 - d) to protect the interests of its Members;
 - e) to respect and prevent any infringement of the statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, of UEFA and the Association as well as the Laws of the Game and to ensure that these are also respected by its Members;
 - f) to prevent all methods or practices which might jeopardise the integrity of matches or competitions or give rise to abuse of Association Football;
 - g) to control and supervise all friendly football matches of all forms played throughout the territory of Wales;
 - h) to manage international sporting relations connected with Association Football in all its forms

- b) to ensure the election of its decision-making bodies;
- c) to take part in competitions and other sports activities organised by the Association;
- d) to pay their membership subscriptions;
- e) to respect the Laws of the Game as laid down by the IFAB and to ensure that these are also respected by its Subordinates through a statutory provision;
- f) to adopt a statutory clause specifying that any dispute requiring resolution involving itself or one of its members and relating to the Rules, Regulations, directives and decisions of the Association, Area Association or League shall come solely under the jurisdiction of the appropriate Juridical Body of the Association
- g) to communicate to the Association and its members any amendment of its rules and regulations.
- h) not to maintain any relations of a sporting nature with entities that are not recognised or with Members that have been suspended or expelled;
- i) to observe the principles of loyalty, integrity and good sporting behaviour as an expression of fair play through a statutory provision;
- j) to administer a register of members which shall regularly be updated;
- k) to comply fully with all other duties arising from the Statutes and other regulations of FIFA, UEFA and the Association.

1.8.1 Violation of the above-mentioned obligations by any Member may lead to sanctions provided for in these Rules.

Rules of Area
Associations,
Leagues & Clubs

1.9 Clubs, Leagues, Area Associations shall be subordinate to and recognised by the Association. These Rules define the scope of authority and the rights and duties of the Members. Their rules and regulations must be approved by the Council of the Association.

1.9.1 The Members of the Association shall take all decisions on any matters regarding their membership independently of any external body. This obligation applies regardless of their corporate structure.

1.9.2 In any case, no natural or legal person (including holding companies and subsidiaries) shall exercise control over more than one Club or group whenever the integrity of any match or competition could be jeopardised.

2. The Members of the Association shall comprise the following and the phrase “Member” shall be construed accordingly :-

Eligibility for
Membership

2.1 any club in Wales and in those English counties, any part of whose boundaries are contiguous with any part of the boundary of Wales, playing football according to the Laws of the Association in the divisions of the “Leagues” (as defined below) as the Council shall prescribe from time to time; any club which has enjoyed fifteen (15) years continuous membership of the Association whether or not still playing in the relevant divisions of a League and any other club permitted into membership of the Association at the absolute discretion of the Council (“the Qualifying Clubs”);

2.2 any regionally defined football association responsible for fostering and improving the game of Football, promoting and organising competitions and matches and general management of Football, within its defined area under the authority of the Association, whose Headquarters are situate in Wales, which currently comprise the Central Wales Football Association; Gwent County Football Association, North East Wales Football Association; North Wales Coast Football Association; South Wales Football Association and the West Wales Football Association and any other such association permitted into membership of the Association at the absolute discretion of the Council (“the Area Associations”);

2.3 any organisation which arranges and runs a seasonal competition of a league or series of leagues for clubs playing football according to the Laws of the Association which currently comprise The Football League of Wales; The Welsh Football League; The Cymru Alliance League; The Welsh Alliance League; The Mid Wales League and The Welsh National League and any other such organisation permitted into membership of the Association at the absolute discretion of the Council (“the Leagues”); and

2.4 each of the members of Council as defined in Rule 4.

Officers

3. 3.1 The Officers of the Association shall be appointed

annually from and by the Council for a term of one year. They shall consist of a President, two Vice-Presidents (one to represent the North Wales Area and one to represent the South Wales Area as respectively defined in Rule 5), and an Honorary Treasurer. No President shall service more than three terms in office, whether consecutively or otherwise. A person appointed to an Officer post by the Council shall vacate his post as a Councillor elected or nominated by the Members and shall sit on the Council as an Officer. Nominations for the post of Officers must be made at the Council meeting, prior to the election, and the names of those nominated circulated to all Council members. Any such vacancy for the elected or nominated post shall be filled in accordance with Rule 9. Nothing in this Rule shall affect the Life Vice Presidency or Life Membership of any person appointed as an Officer.

- 3.2 The Officers, together with the Secretary of the Association, shall be, by virtue of their respective offices, the legal owners of all cups, property and monies as directed by the Council.

SECTION B

The Council

- Composition of Council
4. The Association shall be governed by a Council. The Council shall consist of the Officers of the Council and nineteen Councillors as elected or nominated triennially (the next such date being 1998) together with such Life Vice-Presidents and Life Councillors as there maybe from time to time. The said members of the Council are referred to as "Councillors" in the Rules. The said nineteen Councillors shall be elected or nominated as appropriate triennially as follows:-
- 4.1 six Councillors shall be, and shall be known as "South Wales Representatives" and shall be nominated and elected by Qualifying Clubs in the "South Wales Area" as defined in Rule 5
- 4.2 six Councillors shall be, and shall be known as "North Wales Representatives" and shall be nominated and elected by Qualifying Clubs in the "North Wales Area" as defined in Rule 5;
- 4.3 one Councillor shall be known as "The Football League of Wales Representative" and shall be nominated and elected by the Qualifying Clubs in The Football League of Wales;
- 4.4 each of the six Area Associations (as set out in Rule 2.2) shall nominate one Councillor;

4.5 the names of the persons nominated under Rules 4.4 shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Association no later than 1st August.

Good
Representation

5. Notwithstanding anything contained in these Rules, the Council, for the purpose of determining the constituency for the election of the six (6) South Wales Representatives and the six (6) North Wales Representatives and in so doing ensuring good representation of the whole of Wales shall be empowered to divide the country into suitable areas and sub-areas and allocate such representation as far as possible suitably between the Qualifying Clubs (“the Areas”). Such Areas of the country are currently “the South Wales Area” and “the North Wales Area” with the North Wales Area currently divided further into the North East Wales, North Wales Coast and Central Wales sub-Areas. Qualifying Clubs in any particular Area or sub-Area shall only vote for those candidates nominated as Representatives from the particular Area or sub-Area concerned. The Council shall have the power to prescribe the number of votes which each Qualifying Club must cast in any election. Failure to cast the said number of votes will render the Qualifying Club’s ballot paper void. Voting papers for any particular Area or sub-Area will state clearly how many votes must be cast by Qualifying Clubs, in the election. Only those Qualifying Clubs which on the 1st of August preceding the occurrence of any election (whether triennial or for a vacancy), were eligible to vote at a Meeting, shall be entitled to nominate a candidate for election and vote in that election.

Nominations for
Election of
Councillors

6. Candidates for the post of the six North Wales and six South Wales Representatives and the single Football League of Wales Representative shall be chosen by a process of nomination and election as follows :-

6.1 candidates shall either be nominated by a Qualifying Club (which in the case of the North and South Representatives shall mean a Qualifying Club from within the relevant Area and in the case of the Football League of Wales Representative shall mean a Qualifying Club in the Football League of Wales) or shall be a retiring Councillor who wishes to stand for re-election to the same post from which he is retiring. Candidates nominated by a Qualifying Club must express their willingness to stand in writing beforehand. The Qualifying Club shall notify the Secretary of the Association of their nomination on the official Form as prescribed by the Secretary from time to time, sent out by the Secretary at least fourteen (14) days prior to the

fourteenth day of June. Such form shall be signed by the Recognised Signatories of the Qualifying Club (as defined in Rule 14.3) and returned to the Secretary on or before the first day of June in any year when the triennial elections are taking place. Any retiring Councillor seeking to be re-appointed, shall notify the Secretary on or before the first day of June and his name shall be added to the list of candidates. No candidate shall be allowed to withdraw his name from the list within three (3) days after the closing date for the receipt of nominations;

- 6.2 in the event that six (6) or less candidates are nominated for the North Wales posts they shall be automatically elected to the Council without the need for a vote amongst the relevant Qualifying Clubs. If the number of candidates exceeds six (6), an election shall be held in accordance with Rules 8.4 to 8.8 inclusive;
- 6.3 in the event that six (6) or less candidates are nominated for the South Wales posts they shall be automatically elected to the Council without the need for a vote amongst the relevant Qualifying Clubs. If the number of candidates exceeds six (6), an election shall be held in accordance with Rules 8.4 to 8.8 inclusive;
- 6.4 in the event that only one candidate is nominated for the Football League of Wales post that person shall be automatically elected to the Council without a vote amongst the relevant Qualifying Clubs. If the number of candidates exceeds one an election shall be held in accordance with Rule 8.4 to 8.8 inclusive;
- 6.5 in the event that less than six (6) candidates are nominated for the North Wales posts Council shall have the power to, and shall, appoint the necessary number of person or persons to make the number of North Wales Representatives up to six (6) and such person or persons so appointed shall be North Wales Representatives as if elected to the post by the relevant Qualifying Clubs;
- 6.6 in the event that less than six (6) candidates are nominated for the South Wales posts Council shall have the power to, and shall, appoint the necessary number of person or persons to make the number of South Wales Representatives up to six (6) and such person or persons so appointed shall be South Wales Representatives as if elected to the post by the relevant Qualifying Clubs;

- 6.7 in the event of no candidate being nominated for the Football League of Wales post Council shall have the power to, and shall, appoint a person as the Football League of Wales Representative and such person so appointed shall be the Football League of Wales Representative as if elected to the post by the relevant Qualifying Clubs;
- 6.8 where there are more than six (6) candidates nominated for the North Wales posts or more than six (6) candidates nominated for the South Wales posts or more than one candidate nominated for the Football League of Wales post, an election shall be held in any such case amongst the relevant Qualifying Clubs to choose the relevant Representatives;and
- 6.9 no Qualifying Club shall be allowed to nominate more than one candidate for election to the Council in any one election.
7. No two Councillors shall be directors or committee members or officers or in any other material way associated with the same Qualifying Club.
8. In the event of an election being held :-
- 8.1 voting papers containing the names of candidates for election to the Council as South Wales Representatives shall be sent by the Association to all Qualifying Clubs eligible to vote within the South Wales Area;
- 8.2 voting papers containing the names of candidates for election to the Council as North Wales Representatives shall be sent by the Association to all Qualifying Clubs eligible to vote within the North Wales Area;
- 8.3 voting papers containing the names of candidates for election to the Council as the Football League of Wales Representative shall be sent by the Association to all Qualifying Clubs in the Football League of Wales;
- 8.4 all completed voting papers, relating to the election of South Wales Representatives shall be dispatched to the Association in special envelopes, which envelopes shall have been supplied by the Association and which shall be printed on their face "Ballot Paper South". All completed voting papers, relating to the election of North Wales Representatives shall be dispatched to the Association in special envelopes, which envelopes shall have been supplied by the Association and
- Number of Nominations Per Qualifying Club
- One Councillor Per Qualifying Club
- Voting Papers

which shall have printed on their face, "Ballot Paper North." All completed voting papers relating to the election of the Football League of Wales Representatives shall be dispatched to the Association in special envelopes which envelopes shall have been supplied by the Association and which shall have printed on their face, "Ballot Paper Football League of Wales". All such voting papers, whether relating to the South Wales Area or North Wales Area or the Football League of Wales, must be dispatched to the Association by Registered Post or Recorded Delivery not later than the 25th of July in the year of triennial elections. The date of the postmark shall determine the day of dispatch;

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| Voting | 8.5 each special envelope, in which any completed voting paper is dispatched to the Association, must be signed on behalf of the Qualifying Club by the Recognised Signatories (as defined in Rule 14.3) of that Qualifying Club and such signatures must be signed personally by the individuals; |
| Counting Procedure | 8.6 voting papers shall be opened only in the presence of an Officer of the Association; |
| | 8.7 in the event of a voting paper being declared void, the identity of the Qualifying Club concerned shall not be disclosed; |
| | 8.8 the six candidates in the South Wales Areas receiving the greatest number of votes shall be declared elected as South Wales Representatives. The six candidates in the North Wales Areas receiving the greatest number of votes shall be declared elected as North Wales representatives. The candidate in the election for the League of Wales Representative receiving the greatest number of votes shall be declared elected as the League of Wales Representative; and |
| Returning Officer | 8.9 the President of the Association, or in his absence, one of the Officers of the Association, shall be the Returning Officer for the purpose of supervising the count of voting papers. The results of the election shall be declared at a meeting which shall be open to the Members. The Secretary of the Association shall notify all Members of the result of the election in writing within fourteen (14) days of the count. |
| Vacancies | 9. Vacancies occurring on the Council shall be filled within three calendar months of such vacancy occurring. If the vacancy is in respect of a nominated Councillor from the Area Associations, the organisation which nominated that |

person shall nominate a replacement and notify the Association in writing accordingly. If the vacancy is in respect of an elected South Wales Representative or North Wales Representative or the Football League of Wales Representative, an election to fill such vacancy shall take place in the same manner as the triennial elections.

Life Vice
Presidents and
Life members

10. The Council shall have power at any time to appoint Life Vice-Presidents and Life Councillors. Councillors entitled to be so appointed shall have served as Officers or Councillors (other than as an Officer) for not less than twenty five years and twenty one years respectively. A Councillor must also have been a previous President of the Association in order to be eligible to be appointed as a Life Vice-President. If an Officer of the Association is not eligible to become a Life Vice-President at the end of his term of office he shall automatically become a Life Councillor.

Councillors as
Shareholders and
Directors

11. Upon taking office the Councillor immediately assumes the position of Shareholder and Director of The Football Association of Wales Limited and shall remain so until replaced by election, appointment or nomination as the case may be under these Rules.

Bribery by
Candidates and
Members

12. A candidate for election to the Council shall not offer any bribe, or consideration, or pay fees, or offer any improper inducement of any kind whatsoever, to any Qualifying Club for the purpose of procuring the vote of the said Qualifying Club in the election of such candidate to the Council. No Area Association, nor any Qualifying Club, nor any League, nor any person whatsoever, shall offer, on behalf of any candidate or at all, any bribe, or consideration, or pay fees, or offer any improper inducement of any kind whatsoever, to any Qualifying Club for the purpose of procuring the vote of any such said Qualifying Club in the election of any such candidate to the Council. Any breach of this Rule shall ipso facto, be deemed serious misconduct. In addition to any other penalty, which the Council may deem fit to impose for any breach of this Rule, any breach whatsoever of this Rule shall, ipso facto, render null and void the election to the Council of any candidates concerned or implicated by any such said breach, if such candidate shall have been elected as a Councillor.

SECTION C

MEMBERS MEETINGS, VOTING AT MEETINGS AND AMENDMENT TO THE RULES

May General
Meeting

13. A General Meeting of the Members shall be held in each month of May for the consideration of any changes to

these Rules.

- Special General Meetings 14. In addition to the May General Meeting the Secretary of the Association shall convene a Special General Meeting of the Members for the consideration of changes to the Rules either :-
- 14.1 when ordered to do so by the Council; or
 - 14.2 upon receipt of a requisition to convene such a Meeting signed by or on behalf of a quorum of at least twenty five Members, such requisition to state the wording of the proposed change or changes to the Rules; and
 - 14.3 such a requisition or any other documents required to be signed on behalf of any Qualifying Club, Area Association or League under the terms of these Rules shall be properly signed when signed by the secretary and three committee members of any such body (“the Recognised Signatories”); and
 - 14.4 in these Rules unless expressly stated to the contrary the word “Meeting” shall mean either the May General Meeting or any Special General Meeting as the context requires and the word “Meetings” shall mean both of the same.
- Notice of Meetings 15. 15.1 The wording of any change to the Rules, proposed by the Members for consideration at the May General Meeting, shall be notified to the Secretary of the Association on or before the first day of April in any year in the form of a written notification signed where appropriate by the Recognised Signatories.
- 15.2 The Secretary of the Association shall notify all Members and the Council of the date time and place of all Meetings ten (10) clear days in advance, such notice to be in writing and to contain details of the proposed Rule changes to be discussed.
- Representation 16. 16.1 All Members being a Qualifying Club, Area Association or League shall be entitled to send one representative to all Meetings. Such representative must produce a written authority signed by the Recognised Signatories authorising him to be such representative at the Meeting. All Members being members of Council shall be entitled to attend Meetings in person. No person shall represent more than one body or person at a Meeting, except that any person may in addition to acting in person or as the representative of a Member body also act as proxy for another Member or Members.
- 16.2 All Members or their representatives shall be entitled to one vote at Meetings. A Rule shall be

changed if two thirds of those voting at the Meeting vote in favour of the proposed change.

16.3 Members shall be entitled to vote at Meetings by proxy. The Member shall complete the proxy form or as prescribed by the Secretary from time to time. The form of proxy shall be lodged with the Secretary a minimum of three (3) days prior to the Meeting.

Chairman at Meetings

16.4 The President of the Association if present, or if absent one of the Vice-Presidents shall preside as Chairman at all May and Special General Meetings unless there be no such Chairman present within 15 minutes of the time appointed for the start of the Meeting in which case the Members present shall choose any other Councillor to be Chairman.

Implementation

17. Amendments to the Rules made at the May General Meeting, shall come into force at the beginning of the following playing season. Amendments made at a Special General Meeting, shall come into force at the beginning of the following playing season, except that amendments made after the May General Meeting but before the commencement of the next playing season shall not come into force until the beginning of the playing season after that unless deemed practicable to implement by the Council.

SECTION D APPLICATION OF THE RULES AND THE POWERS OF THE COUNCIL

Application of the Rules by the Members

18. 18.1 All Members of the Association, whether Qualifying Clubs, Leagues or Area Associations shall draft their internal rules to be consistent with the Rules of the Association. Where a conflict occurs the Rules of the Association shall prevail.

18.2 Wherever required to do so by the Association all Members shall exercise every power at their disposal to ensure that their internal rules and the Rules of the Association, are fully complied with by every officer, member, employee and associated party of the said Member.

18.3 Any changes to the rules of any Members of the Association shall be subject to the approval of the Council.

18.4 For the purposes of this Rule, every Member of the Association, and every representative, official, player or member thereof, is subject to and bound by all Rules, Bye-laws and Orders made by the

Association.

18.5 In any case, where the wording of this Rule is in conflict with any wording in any other Rule, Regulation, Bye-law or Standing Order of this Association, then the wording of this Rule shall prevail.

Council empowered to make such Regulations as deemed necessary.

19. The Council is hereby empowered to make such Regulations and Bye-Laws, which it deems necessary to provide for matters arising from these Rules or to implement these Rules. Any such Regulation or Bye-Law must not conflict with any Rule of the Association, and in the event of any conflict, such Regulation or Bye-Law concerned shall be of no effect to the extent, to which it conflicts with any Rule of the Association. All Members of the Association and all other clubs shall be deemed to have knowledge of and to be bound absolutely by any such said Regulation or Bye-Law, if such said Regulation or Bye-Law shall have been published in the Minutes of the relevant Council meeting. The production of the Minutes of the appropriate Council meeting shall constitute at all times absolute and indisputable proof of the validity of such said Regulation or Bye-Law concerned.

Rules, Regulations, Bye-Laws and Orders relating to competitions.

20. The Council is hereby authorised to make such Rules, Regulations, Bye-Laws and Orders as deemed necessary with reference to and in connection with any competition held within the area of the Association's jurisdiction and specifically but without limitation the Council may make any such rules or laws to regulate the actions of any officers or representatives involved in such competitions.

Council empowered to suspend game.

21. The Council shall have power to suspend the playing of Association Football at all or any club or ground within its jurisdiction at such times and for such duration as the Council shall see fit. Notwithstanding any provision contained in Rule 81, the Council shall have power to extend or diminish the period of the playing season in any year or at any time, when such a course shall seem to it to be necessary or desirable. All contracts or agreements between Clubs, Players or Officials or between any or all of them shall only take effect subject to any decision of the Council, which may be made from time to time under the provisions of this Rule.

Council may prohibit play.

22. The Council is hereby empowered to prohibit any Member of the Association from playing any match or matches with any league or leagues and any club or clubs not belonging to some recognised Football Association, if to the Council such prohibition seems necessary or desirable.

SECTION E

**DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS, DISPUTES,
APPEALS AND INDEPENDENT ARBITRATION**

SECTION E1

**PANEL STRUCTURE, COMPOSITION AND
JURISDICTION**

23. The structure of the Association's Panels for dealing with disciplinary proceedings, disputes, appeals and independent arbitration is as follows:-
- 23.1 the "Disciplinary Panel"
 - 23.2 the "Appeals Panel"; and
 - 23.3 an "Independent Arbitration Panel".
24. For the purpose of Section E of the rules:-
- 24.1 The following expressions have the following meaning:-
 - 24.1.1 "Disciplinary Offence" shall mean any breach of a Rule or any subsisting Regulation, Bye-law or Order made under the Rules;
 - 24.1.2 "Rule" shall mean any subsisting rule of the Association from time to time; and
 - 24.1.3 "Subordinate" shall mean any director, member, representative, official, employee, referee or other playing official or player of a Member of the Association together with every spectator and any person purporting to be its supporter or follower together also with all other organisations, clubs, bodies, entities or persons who are members of, or affiliated to, or over whom the Member of the Association exercises, or purports to exercise control;
 - 24.2 It shall be a breach of the Rules for any Member of the Association or any Subordinate to do or permit or assist in the doing or permitting of any of the following:-
 - 24.2.1 violate the laws of the Game or the Rules or any subsisting Regulation, Bye-law or Order made under the Rules or of FIFA or UEFA;
 - 24.2.2 violate the rules or regulations of any Member of the Association or any competition, sanctioned by a member of the Association or sanctioned by the

- Council;
- 24.2.3 play with or against any suspended club or appointed or allowed to remain in office a director or official who has been suspended;
 - 24.2.4 bet in any betting activity (authorised and registered Football Pools excepted) or accepted any bets in any way related to any match;
 - 24.2.5 offer or attempt to offer, either directly or indirectly, any consideration whatever to a Member of the Association, any other club official, referee or any other footballing body or individual with a view to influencing the result of any match, or to accept any such consideration;
 - 24.2.6 allow a director, official, referee, assistant referee or player under suspension to act as a referee or to perform any duties from the execution of which that person has been suspended, or failed to take all reasonable precautions to prevent such person from entering the ground of any Qualifying Club or any other club;
 - 24.2.7 sell or offer for sale, either directly or indirectly, a ticket for any football match in excess of the face value of the ticket;
 - 24.2.8 play a match with or against a club whose ground has been closed by the Association (“the Offending Club”) on any ground within a radius of twelve (12) miles of the ground closed unless such match is an away fixture for the Offending Club and is played at the ground of the home team which is within a radius of twelve (12) miles of the closed ground;
 - 24.2.9 commit any act or make any statement either verbally or in writing, or be responsible for conduct, continuing misconduct or any matter likely to bring the game into disrepute;
 - 24.2.10 the use by a player of any prohibited substance, or for any Member of the Association to assist, procure, induce, cause, or administer any prohibited substance to a player, or to incite or encourage a player to use any substance in violation of the terms and conditions set out in the Memorandum on Drugs Testing as prescribed by the Association from time

to time;

- 24.2.11 Receive a caution or conviction for any of the offences listed in Schedule 4 Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000, its revisions and amendments; or received any caution or conviction for any offences listed in the Sexual Offences Act 2003, its revisions and amendments; or received any caution or conviction for any of the offences listed in Schedule 1 Children and Young persons Act 1933, its revisions and amendments; or is identified as a person presenting a risk or potential risk to children; or received any caution or conviction for any offences against vulnerable adult; or breach or breaches of the FAW Welfare Policies and Procedures, or any Code of Conduct and Ethics established under them, as prescribed by the Association from time to time.;
 - 24.2.12 fail to conduct themselves in an orderly fashion or fail to refrain from violence, threatening, abusive, obscene or provocative behaviour, conduct or language whilst attending or taking part in a match in which it is involved, whether on its own ground or elsewhere;
 - 24.2.13 encroach on the pitch area, save for authorised persons or for reasons of crowd safety;
 - 24.2.14 throw missiles, bottles or other potentially harmful or dangerous objects at or on the pitch or at any other person on the pitch or elsewhere in the ground; or
 - 24.2.15 fail to ensure that a private way is provided for players and officials from the playing ground to the dressing room whenever this is practicable at every ground within the jurisdiction of that Member of the Association.
- 24.3 every member of the Association will be responsible for the actions of its Subordinates and the Member of the Association will also be in breach of any Rule or any subsisting Regulation, Bye-law or Order made under the Rules, if that Rule or any subsisting regulation, Bye-law or Order is breached by a Subordinate.
- 25 Subject to Rule 26 the jurisdiction of the Panels is as

follows:-

- 25.1 the Disciplinary Panel will hear the following matters:-
- 25.1.1 any charge of an alleged Disciplinary Offence brought by the Association against any Member of the Association or any Subordinate. The Association and the said Member of the Association or Subordinate will be the relevant “Party” or “Parties” to the proceedings for the purpose of Section E of the Rules;
 - 25.1.2 any appeal by a Subordinate or other third party against a decision of a Member of the Association, where the said decision was a decision by the Member of the Association in the first instance. The Member of the Association and the Subordinate or other third party will be the “Party” or “Parties” to the proceedings for the purpose of Section E of the Rules;
 - 25.1.3 any appeal by a Subordinate or other third party against a decision of a Member of the Association, where the said decision was a decision by the Member of the Association acting as an appellant body in hearing an appeal against a decision of a Subordinate. The Subordinates or other third party will be the relevant “Party” or “Parties” to the proceedings for the purpose of Section E of the Rules;
 - 25.1.4 any dispute or difference between two or more Members of the Association (not being an appeal covered by Rule 25.1.2) which one or more of the said Members refers to the Association for resolution. The said Members will be the relevant “Party” or “Parties” to the proceedings for the purpose of Section E of the Rules.
 - 25.1.5 any disputes or differences between a Member of the Association and any Subordinate or other third party (not being covered by Rules 25.1.2 or 25.1.3) which one or more of the Member of the Association or the Subordinate or other third party refers to the Association for resolution. The Member of the Association and the Subordinate or other third party will be relevant “Party” or “Parties” to the proceedings for the purpose of Section E of the Rules.

25.2 The Appeals Panel will hear the following matters:-

25.2.1 an appeal by either of the relevant Parties against a decision of the Disciplinary Panel made under any part of Rule 25.1 except that the Association will only have the right to appeal against the penalty or sanction imposed by the Disciplinary Panel under Rule 25.1.1 and not against a finding of not guilty;

25.2.2 a first instance appeal by any Member of the Association or Subordinate or other third party against a decision of Council and its Committees or Sub-committees (other than decisions of the Disciplinary Panel) but only insofar as such decisions involve the application of the Rules of the Association and any Regulations, Bye-law or Order made under the Rules of the Association. Any decision of the Council relating to the financial, commercial or business affairs of the Association shall be excluded from the scope of appeals under this Rule 25.2.2. The Council and the Member of the Association or Subordinate or other third party will be the “Party” or “Parties” to the proceedings for the purpose of the Section E of the Rules; and

25.2.3 any matters referred to it by the Association under Rule 26 which would otherwise have been heard by the Disciplinary Panel.

25.3 The Independent Arbitration Panel will hear the following matters:-

25.3.1 an appeal by either of the relevant Parties against a decision of the Appeals Panel made under any part of Rule 25 except that the Association will only have the right to appeal against the penalty or sanction imposed by the Appeals Panel under Rule 25.2.1 and not against a finding of not guilty under Rule 25.2.1; and

25.3.2 any matter referred to it by the Association under Rule 26 which would otherwise have been heard by the Disciplinary Panel or Appeals Panel.

25.4 The proceedings of each Panel will be conducted in a private hearing of all the Parties unless there is an election under the Rules by the Relevant Party or

Parties (as the case may be) waiving the right to a private hearing.

26. The Officers Committee may in absolute discretion elect to:-

26.1 refer to the Appeals Panel or the Independent Arbitration Panel any matter which in the absence of such an election would otherwise be under the jurisdiction of the Disciplinary Panel; or

26.2 refer to the Independent Arbitration Panel any matter which in the absence of such an election would otherwise be under the jurisdiction of the Appeals Panel

AND the Association shall give notification of such election to the Parties and the matter shall proceed in accordance with the relevant provisions in the Rules of the Association relating to the relevant Panel save that there shall be no increase in fees as a result of such referral.

27. The composition of the Panels will be as follows:-

27.1 The Disciplinary Panel – Only elected members of the Council will sit on the Disciplinary Panel. Each Disciplinary Panel will consist of three (3) elected members of Council, including one from a list of four(4) chairmen designate nominated by the Council from time to time. On a case by case basis, the Secretary General will appoint the Disciplinary Panel chairman from the said list of chairmen designate and the other two (2) members of the Disciplinary Panel;

27.2 The appeals Panel – Will consist of three (3) persons, two (2) of whom will drawn solely from the Officers of the Association, Life Vice Presidents and Life Councillors and the third person will be an independent chairman (not a Member of the Association) who will be a person of high standing and probity and with a sound knowledge of football matters. On a case by case basis, the Secretary General will select the independent chairman and the two (2) other members of the Appeals Panel.

27.3 Independent Arbitration Panel – On a case by case basis, the Secretary General will select an independent sports arbitration service to act as the Independent Arbitration Panel. The composition of the Independent Arbitration Panel will be in accordance with the organisation's rules or regulations and for the avoidance of doubt, the Independent Arbitration Panel may consist of only one person, if that is permitted by such rules and regulations.

SECTION E2 COMMENCEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS BEFORE A PANEL – NOTICES, FEES AND PROCEDURE

28. The following will apply if a Party wishes to refer a matter to the Disciplinary Panel:-
- 28.1 where the Association brings a charge of an alleged Disciplinary Offence under Rule 25.1.1:-
 - 28.1.1 the Association will give written notice to the other Party of the charge, stipulating the nature of the alleged Disciplinary Offence (“the Disciplinary Notice”);
 - 28.1.2 the Party charged will have ten (10) calendar days after service of the Disciplinary Notice to reply stipulating whether (a) they admit or deny the charge and (b) whether they wish to waive their right to a private hearing before the Disciplinary Panel. If the charge is denied, the reply must state the grounds of denial and the Party charged will not be permitted to raise any other grounds of denial without the leave of the Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel;
 - 28.1.3 if the Party charged fails to reply to the Disciplinary Notice within ten (10) calendar days, they will be deemed to have denied the charge and to have waived their right to a private hearing before the Disciplinary Panel. In such circumstances the Association will, without further notice to the Party charged, convene a Disciplinary Panel who will consider the alleged disciplinary Offence in the absence of the Party charged and the provisions of Rules 28.1.4 to 28.1.11 inclusive shall not apply.
 - 28.1.4 if the Party charged has replied to the Disciplinary Notice and requested a private hearing the Association will give the Party charged no less than ten (10) calendar days written notice of the date, time and place of the hearing and the provisions of Rules 28.1.5 to 28.1.11 inclusive shall apply;
 - 28.1.5 where the Party charged is an individual person, they will be required to attend the hearing in person. Where the Party charged is not an individual person, one or more duly authorized senior representatives of the Party will attend the hearing, whether directors, officers or otherwise;

- 28.1.6 the Association and the Party charged will disclose to each other such documents as they intend to produce in evidence at the hearing. Whenever reasonably possible, the parties will make such disclosures no less than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the hearing;
- 28.1.7 the Association and the Party charged will be entitled to make opening and closing remarks at the hearing and to call a reasonable number of witnesses who will be expected to answer questions in cross-examination. Members of the Disciplinary Panel will be entitled to ask questions of any witness during the hearing. The Party charged will not be obliged to give evidence in person but the Disciplinary Panel will be entitled to draw such inference as may be reasonably appropriate if the Party charged declines to do so. The Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel will warn the Party charged of this fact;
- 28.1.8 the Disciplinary Panel hearing will proceed in the absence of the Party charged, unless the Disciplinary Panel reasonably considers that the Party charged has given an acceptable reason for such non-attendance, in which case the hearing will be adjourned;
- 28.1.9 the Disciplinary Panel will retire to consider its findings *in camera*. A decision may be announced on the day or reserved to a later date in which case, the decision will be delivered in writing;
- 28.1.10 if the Disciplinary Panel finds the party charged guilty of the Disciplinary Offence at a Disciplinary Panel Hearing attended by the party charged, no penalty or sanction will be imposed until:
- 28.1.10.1 the Disciplinary Panel has been informed by the Association of any previous Disciplinary Offences recorded against the guilty Party; and
- 28.1.10.2 the guilty Party has been given the opportunity to make representations in mitigation of the Disciplinary Offence;
- 28.1.11 the Association and the Party charged shall be entitled to legal or other professional

representation at the Disciplinary panel hearing;

- 28.1.12 where the Party charged has waived the right to a private hearing or is deemed to have waived such right, or where the Party charged does not attend the private hearing, the Disciplinary Panel will consider such information as it considers reasonably necessary to decide the matter including, without limitation, any written representations made for or on behalf of the Party charged and representations (whether written or verbal) made for or on behalf of the Association. The Disciplinary Panel will be entitled to seek such further information or evidence as it deems necessary. If the Disciplinary Panel finds the Party charged guilty of the Disciplinary Offence, the Association will inform the Disciplinary Panel of any other Disciplinary Offences recorded against the guilty party but the Disciplinary Panel will not be obliged to invite the guilty Party to make further representations in mitigation of the Disciplinary Offence before imposing a penalty or sanction;
 - 28.1.13 whether or not the hearing takes place, the Disciplinary Panel will have absolute discretion whether to make a cost order for or against the Party charged; and
 - 28.1.14 whether or not a hearing takes place, the Association will send written confirmation of the Disciplinary Panel's findings to the Party charged.
- 28.2 In the case of any other proceedings under the jurisdiction of the Disciplinary Panel pursuant to Rule 25.1:-
- 28.2.1 the Party wishing to commence the proceedings will give written notice to the Association (marked for the attention of the Secretary General) and the other Party or Parties stipulating the nature of the matter complained of and requesting that such matter be referred to the Disciplinary Panel ("the Disciplinary Request Notice");
 - 28.2.2 in an appeal under Rules 25.1.2 and 25.1.3 against a decision of a Member of the Association, the Disciplinary Panel Request Notice will be served on the

Association not more than ten (10) calendar days after the earlier of (a) the Member of the Association announcing its decision at the time of its hearing (if any) or (b) receipt by the Party appealing of written notification of the Member of the Association's decision. Any Disciplinary Panel Request Notice lodged after ten (10) calendar days will be rejected unless the Party lodging the same can demonstrate to the reasonable satisfaction of the Association that it was not reasonably practicable to lodge the Disciplinary Panel Request Notice within the time limit;

- 28.2.3 the following appropriate "Disciplinary Panel Fee" must accompany the Disciplinary Panel Request Notice:-
 - 28.2.3.1 £355.00 if the Party lodging the Notice is a Member of the Association playing in the FA Premiership or the Football League or any Subordinate of such Member of the Association; or
 - 28.2.3.2 £262.00 if the Party lodging the Notice is a Member of the Association playing in the League of Wales, FA Conference, Southern League or Northern League or any Subordinate of such Member of the Association; or
 - 28.2.3.3 £183.00 if the Party lodging the Notice is a Member of the Association which is an Area Association (as defined in Rule 2.2) or League (as defined in Rule 2.3) or Qualifying Club (as defined in Rule 2.1) playing in a League or any Subordinate of such Member of the Association; or
 - 28.2.3.4 £100.00 in any other case.
- 28.2.4 any Disciplinary Panel Request Notice which is not accompanied by the appropriate Disciplinary Panel Fee will be rejected by the Association and any incorrect fee will be returned and, in the case of an appeal under Rules 25.1.2 or 25.1.3, time will continue to run for the service of the Disciplinary Panel Request Notice within the original ten (10) calendar day period stipulated in Rule 28.2.2;
- 28.2.5 the Association will have the right (but not the obligation) to carry out an investigation

before referring the matter to the Disciplinary Panel and the Association will be entitled to reject the Disciplinary Panel Request Notice if it reasonably considers that the Disciplinary Panel Request Notice is frivolous or vexatious;

- 28.2.6 subject to Rule 28.2.5, the Association will within twenty-eight (28) calendar days of actual receipt of the Disciplinary Panel Request Notice send a written notice to the parties confirming the date, time and place of the Disciplinary Panel hearing . In the case of an appeal under Rules 25.1.2 or 25.1.3, the Disciplinary Panel proceedings will be a re-hearing of the case and the Disciplinary Panel will decide the matter on the basis of the evidence produced to them. At any time prior to the Disciplinary Panel hearing any Party will have the right to waive their right to a private hearing but a hearing will take place unless all Parties agree in writing to waive their right to a private hearing;
- 28.2.7 where the Party involved is an individual person, they will be required to attend a hearing in person. Where the Party involved is not an individual person, one or more duly authorised senior representatives of the Party will attend the hearing, whether directors, officers or otherwise;
- 28.2.8 the Parties involved will disclose to each other and to the Association such documents as they intend to produce in evidence at the hearing. Whenever reasonably possible the Parties will make such disclosures no less than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the hearing;
- 28.2.9 the Parties will be entitled to make opening and closing remarks at the hearing and to call a reasonable number of witnesses who will be expected to answer questions in cross examination. Members of the Disciplinary Panel will be entitled to ask questions of any witnesses during the hearing. No Party will be obliged to give evidence in person but the Disciplinary Panel will be entitled to draw such inference as may be reasonably appropriate if the Party declines to do so. The Chairman of the Disciplinary Panel will

- warn the Party concerned of this fact;
- 28.2.10 the Disciplinary Panel hearing will proceed in the absence of either Party, unless the Disciplinary Panel reasonably considers that the absent Party has given an acceptable reason for such non-attendance, in which case the hearing will be adjourned;
 - 28.2.11 the Disciplinary Panel will retire to consider its findings *in camera*. A decision may be announced on the day or reserved to a later date in which case the decision will be delivered in writing;
 - 28.2.12 the Parties will be entitled to legal or other professional representation at the Disciplinary Panel hearing;
 - 28.2.13 where the Parties to the appeal have all waived their rights to a private hearing, the Disciplinary Panel will consider such information as it considers reasonably necessary to decide the matter including, without limitation, any written representations made for or on behalf of the Parties. The Disciplinary Panel will be entitled to seek such further information or evidence as it deems necessary;
 - 28.2.14 whether or not a hearing takes place, the Disciplinary Panel will have absolute discretion whether to make a cost order for or against a Party to the proceeding; and
 - 28.2.15 whether or not a hearing takes place, the Association will send written confirmation of the Disciplinary Panel's findings to the Parties.
29. The following procedures will apply if a Party wishes to refer a matter to the Appeals Panel:-
- 29.1 Where a Party wishes to appeal pursuant to Rule 25.2.1 against a decision of the Disciplinary Panel:-
 - 29.1.1 the notice from the Party wishing to appeal ("the Disciplinary Appeal Notice") must be in writing and served on the Association not more than ten (10) calendar days after the earlier of (a) the Disciplinary Panel announcing its decision at the time of any hearing or (b) receipt by the Party appealing of written notification of the Disciplinary Panel's decision. The

Disciplinary Appeal Notice will be marked for the attention of the Secretary General, except where the Association is the Party appealing, in which case the notice of appeal will be deposited with the Association's disciplinary department. The Disciplinary Appeal Notice must state the grounds of appeal and the Party appealing shall not be permitted to raise any other grounds of appeal without the leave of the Chairman of the Appeals Panel;

- 29.1.2 any Disciplinary Appeal Notice lodged after ten (10) calendar days will be rejected unless the Party lodging the same can demonstrate to the reasonable satisfaction of the Association that it was not reasonably practicable to lodge the Disciplinary Appeal Notice within the time limit;
- 29.1.3 where the Association is the Party appealing, no appeal fee will be payable. Where any other Party is appealing, the appropriate "Appeals Panel Fee" must accompany the Disciplinary Appeal Notice. The Appeals Panel Fee will be determined by the same categorisation of Members of the Association and others as used for determining the Disciplinary Panel Fee under Rule 28.2.3 but the Appeals Panel Fee will be two (2) times that of the Disciplinary Panel Fee;
- 29.1.4 any Disciplinary Appeal Notice which is not accompanied by the appropriate Appeals Panel Fee will be rejected by the Association and any incorrect fee will be returned and time will continue to run for the service of the Disciplinary Appeal Notice within the original ten (10) calendar day period stipulated in Rule 29.1.1;
- 29.1.5 the Association will within fourteen (14) calendar days of actual receipt of the Disciplinary Appeal Notice send a written notice to the Parties confirming the date, time and place of the Appeals Panel hearing. Subject to Rule 29.1.7, the Appeals Panel proceedings will be a re-hearing of the case and the Appeals Panel will decide the matter on the basis of the evidence produced to them. At any time prior to the Appeals Panel hearing any Party will have the right to waive their

right to a private hearing but a hearing will take place unless all Parties agree in writing to waive their right to a private hearing;

- 29.1.6 the Appeals Panel hearing will be a re-hearing of the case originally decided by the Disciplinary Panel. The same rules of attendance, disclosure of documents, presentation of evidence, conduct of the proceedings and rights of representation which applied in the original Disciplinary Panel hearing will apply in the Appeal Panel hearing;
 - 29.1.7 where the appeal is by the Association against the penalty or sanction imposed by the Disciplinary Panel, the Appeals Panel hearing will confine itself to matters relevant to the appropriateness of the said penalty or sanction and not Disciplinary Panel's finding of guilt;
 - 29.1.8 where the Parties to the appeal have all waived their rights to a private hearing or where a Party does not attend the private hearing, the Appeals Panel will consider such information as it considers reasonably necessary to decide the matter including, without limitation, any written representations made for or on behalf of the Parties. The Appeals Panel will be entitled to seek such further information or evidence as it deems necessary;
 - 29.1.9 whether or not a hearing takes place, the appeals panel will have absolute discretion whether to make a costs order for or against a Party to the proceedings; and
 - 29.1.10 whether or not a hearing takes place, the Association will send written confirmation of the Appeals Panel's findings to the Parties.
- 29.2 Where a Party wishes to appeal pursuant to Rule 25.2.2 against a decision of Council or its Committees or Sub-committees:-
- 29.2.1 the Party wishing to appeal will give written notice to the association (marked for the attention of the Secretary General) stipulating the nature of the decision complained of and requesting that such matter be referred to the Appeals Panel ("the Council Appeal Notice"). The Party

appealing must state the grounds of appeal and the Party appealing shall not be permitted to raise any other grounds of appeal without the leave of the Chairman of the Appeals Panel;

- 29.2.2 the Council Appeal Notice will be served on the Association not more than twenty-eight (28) calendar days after the publication of the minutes of the relevant meeting of the Council or its Committees or Sub-committees at which the decision complained of was made. Any Council Appeal Notice lodged after twenty-eight (28) calendar days will be rejected unless the Party lodging the same can demonstrate to the reasonable satisfaction of the Association that it was not reasonably practicable to lodge the Council Appeal Notice within the time limit;
- 29.2.3 the appropriate “Appeals Panel Fee” must accompany the Council Appeal Notice. The Appeals Panel Fee will be determined by the same categorisation of Members of the Association and others as used for determining the Disciplinary Panel Fee under Rule 28.2.3 but the Appeals Panel Fee will be two (2) times that of the Disciplinary Panel fee;
- 29.2.4 any Council Appeal Notice which is not accompanied by the appropriate Appeals Panel Fee will be rejected by the Association and any incorrect fee will be returned and time will continue to run for the service of the Council Appeal Notice within the original twenty-eight (28) calendar day period;
- 29.2.5 the Association will have the right (but not the obligation) to carry out an investigation before referring the matter to the Appeals Panel and the Association will be entitled to reject the Council Appeal Notice if it reasonably considers that the Council Appeal Notice is frivolous or vexatious;
- 29.2.6 subject to Rule 29.2.5, the Association will within twenty-eight (28) calendar days of actual receipt of the Council Appeals Notice send a written notice to the appealing Party and to the Chairman of Council who will accept service on behalf of the Council confirming the date, time

and place of the Appeals Panel hearing but at any time prior to the Appeals Panel hearing any Party will have the right to waive their right to a private hearing but a hearing will take place unless all Parties agree in writing to waive their rights to a private hearing;

- 29.2.7 the Appeals Panel hearing will involve a full consideration of all relevant matters. The rules of attendance, disclosure of documents, presentation of evidence, conduct of proceedings and rights of representation which apply in proceedings before the Disciplinary Panel shall apply to the proceedings before the Appeals Panel;
 - 29.2.8 where the Parties to the appeal have all waived their rights to a private hearing or where a Party does not attend the hearing, the Appeals Panel will consider such information as it considers reasonably necessary to decide the matter including, without limitation, any written representations made for or on behalf of the Parties. The Appeals Panel will be entitled to seek such further information or evidence as it deems necessary;
 - 29.2.9 whether or not a hearing takes place, the Appeals Panel will have absolute discretion whether to make costs order for or against a party to the proceedings; and
 - 29.2.10 whether or not a hearing takes place, the Association will send written confirmation of the Appeals Panel's findings to the Parties.
30. The following procedures will apply if a Party wishes to appeal to the Independent Arbitration Panel against a decision of the Appeals Panel:-
- 30.1 the notice of appeal from the Party ("the Arbitration Notice") must be in writing and served on the Association not more than ten (10) calendar days after the earlier of (a) the Appeals Panel announcing its decision at the time of any hearing or (b) receipt by the Party appealing of written notification of the Appeal Panel's decision. The Arbitration Notice will be marked for the attention of the Secretary General, except where the Association is the Party appealing, in which case the arbitration

- Notice will be deposited with the Association's disciplinary department;
- 30.2 any Arbitration Notice lodged after ten (10) calendar days will be rejected unless the lodging Party the same can demonstrate to the reasonable satisfaction of the Association that it was not reasonably practicable to lodge the Arbitration Notice within the time limit;
- 30.3 where the Association is the Party appealing, no appeal fee will be payable. Where any other Party is appealing, the appropriate "Arbitration Fee" must accompany the Arbitration Notice. The Arbitration Fee will be determined by the same categorisation of Members of the Association and others as used for determining the Disciplinary Panel Fee under Rule 28.2.3 but the Arbitration Fee will be five (5) times that of the Disciplinary Panel Fee;
- 30.4 any Arbitration Notice which is not accompanied by the appropriate Arbitration fee will be rejected by the Association and any incorrect fee will be returned and time will continue to run for the service of the Arbitration Notice within the original ten (10) calendar day period;
- 30.5 the Association will within fourteen (14) calendar days of actual receipt of the Arbitration Notice send a written notice to the Parties (and where the Association is a Party, to the Chairman of Council who will accept service on behalf of the Association) confirming the identity and contact particulars of the independent sports arbitration service selected under Rule 27.3 to act as the Independent Arbitration Panel to decide the matter;
- 30.6 the procedures to be followed by the Independent Arbitration Panel will be in accordance with the rules or regulations of the independent sports arbitration service selected under Rule 27.3 provided that nothing in such rules or regulations will supercede Rule 25.4 (right to a private hearing) or Rule 35 (application of the laws of England and Wales).

SECTION E3 PENALTIES, SANCTIONS AND OTHER POWERS

31. Where:-

- 31.1 under Rule 25.1 the Disciplinary Panel finds the Party charged guilty of a Disciplinary Offence, the Disciplinary Panel will have the the power to order the following penalties or sanctions against the Party charged (or two or more concurrently):-
 - 31.1.1 suspension from, or any involvement in, Football or Football Management either permanently or *sine die* or for a specific and stated period;
 - 31.1.2 a fine;
 - 31.1.3 a censure;
 - 31.1.4 the closure of a football ground either permanently or *sine die* or for a specific and stated period;
 - 31.1.5 such other penalty or sanction as the Disciplinary Panel shall reasonably deem fit including, without limitation, a written undertaking from the Party charged as to their future conduct; or
 - 31.1.6 the offending Party, if a club, to make such publication in its programme as the Disciplinary Panel may direct.
 - 31.2 under Rules 25.1.2 or 25.1.3 the Disciplinary Panel hears an appeal against a decision by a subordinate or other third party against a decision of a Member of the Association, the Disciplinary Panel will have the power to grant or deny the appeal (in whole or in part) and the power to increase or decrease the penalty or sanction (if any) imposed by the Member of the Association or substitute such other penalty or sanction as the Disciplinary Panel shall deem fit; and
 - 31.3 in the case of any other proceedings under the jurisdiction of the Disciplinary Panel pursuant to Rules 25.1.4 or 25.1.5, the Disciplinary Panel will have the power to make such order or ruling as it deems reasonable to resolve the dispute or difference.
32. Where the Appeals Panel hears an appeal against a decision of the Disciplinary Panel, the Appeals Panel will have the power to order:-

- 32.1 where the Association has appealed against the penalty or sanction imposed by the Disciplinary Panel under Rule 31.1, to increase or decrease the penalty or sanction imposed by the Disciplinary Panel or substitute such other penalty or sanction as was available to the original Disciplinary Panel as the Appeals Panel shall deem fit;
 - 32.2 where the Appeals Panel hears an appeal by the Party charged with a Disciplinary Offence against a finding by the Disciplinary Panel under Rule 25.1.1, the Appeals Panel shall have the power to grant or deny the appeal in whole or in part and the power to increase or decrease the penalty or sanction imposed by the Disciplinary Panel or substitute such other penalty or sanction as was available to the original Disciplinary Panel as the Appeals Panel shall deem fit;
 - 32.3 where the Appeals Panel hears an appeal by a Party against a decision of the Disciplinary Panel under Rules 25.1.2, 25.1.3, 25.1.4 or 25.1.5 the Appeals Panel shall have the power to grant or deny the appeal in whole or in part and where the Party appealing appeals against any penalty or sanction imposed by the Disciplinary Panel, the Appeals Panel will have the right to increase or decrease the penalty or sanction imposed by the Disciplinary Panel or substitute such other penalty or sanction as the Appeals Panel shall deem fit;
 - 32.4 where the Appeals Panel hears an appeal under Rule 25.2.2 by any member of the Association or subordinate or other third party against a decision of Council and its Committees or Sub-committees (other than decisions of the Disciplinary Panel), the Appeals Panel will only have the power to confirm or disallow in its entirety the said decision of Council or its Committee or Sub-committee.
33. The Independent Arbitration Panel will have the power to grant or deny any appeal made to it in whole or in part (except an appeal against a decision of the Appeals Panel made under Rule 25.2.2 where the Independent Arbitration Panel will only have the power to confirm or disallow in its entirety the decision of Council or its

Committee or Sub-committee) and to impose such penalty or sanction or other order as the Independent Appeals Panel deems reasonable and where the appeal is against a penalty or sanction imposed by the Appeals Panel, the Independent Arbitration Panel will have the right to increase or decrease the penalty or sanction as the Independent Arbitration Panel shall deem fit.

34. If a Party is in default for twenty-one (21) days in failing to pay or carry out any penalty or sanction or other order made by the Disciplinary Panel, Appeals Panel or Independent Arbitration Panel, the Party will automatically be suspended from Football or Football Management until the penalty or sanction or other order has been paid or complied with in full and the Association shall have the right to refer the non-compliance back to the Panel which made the relevant decision and that Panel shall have the power to impose further penalties or sanctions as a result of a non-compliance.

SECTION E4 MISCELLANEOUS

35. The law governing any proceedings before the Disciplinary Panel, Appeals Panel, or Independent Arbitration Panel shall be the law of England and Wales.
36. The Rules of service set out in Rule 89 shall apply to all notices and any other communications whatsoever sent in connection with any proceedings of a Disciplinary Panel, Appeals Panel or Independent Arbitration Panel.
37. The Rules are sufficient to enable the Association, Members of the Association and Subordinates to resolve all Disciplinary Offences and disputes or differences. The Parties must exhaust all procedures and processes of appeal in the Rules before taking legal proceedings and then only as a last resort.
38. Notwithstanding any rule of any Member of the Association to the contrary, it shall be a condition of the Association sanctioning any competition organised by the Member of the Association or any Subordinate that any appellant may lodge an appeal with the Disciplinary Panel (under Rule 25.1.2) against any decision of the Member of the Association or a subordinate.
39. Any Decision of the Disciplinary Panel, Appeals Panel or Independent Arbitration Panel shall be a decision of the Association and all Members of the Association will comply with the same and will ensure that all Subordinates comply with the same.

SECTION H.

CONTRACTS AND TRANSFERS

Transfer and
Registration

40. Any player not registered who appears for a club in any official match shall be considered to have played illegitimately. Without prejudice to any measure required to rectify the sporting consequences of such an appearance, sanctions may also be imposed on the player and/or the club.

40.1 Subject to an authorised transfer no Player under contract shall be allowed to play for more than one club in any one season, whether any such club is a Qualifying Club or any other club within the jurisdiction of this Association or of any other National Association, unless special written permission for the player so to do has been obtained from the Council. Players under contract may be transferred from one club to another during the playing season, subject to Rule 42.6. Any such transfer will be null and void unless made on a form as prescribed by the Secretary from time to time. All such said forms shall be supplied only by the Secretary of the Association and may not be obtained from another source. Any player thus transferred must be re-registered with this Association by the club to which the said player is transferred.

40.2 If circumstances arise causing it to be urgent that a player shall be registered or transferred with the minimum amount of delay the registration form and the transfer form (if any) must be forwarded to arrive 24 hours prior to the match (Sunday excluded) by Special Delivery to the Registrations Department of this Association and a facsimile dispatched to the Registered office via (029) 2043 5876 at 11 & 12 Neptune Court, Vanguard Way, Cardiff. CF24 5PJ. If such registration form and transfer form (if any) is found to be in order, such form or forms shall be deemed to have been received at the time of arrival of the facsimile.

40.3 A Player under contract may be registered for a maximum of three (3) clubs during the period from 1st July to 30th June of the following year and during such period the Player will only be eligible to play for two (2) clubs. Any exemption is as per the revised FIFA regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players (Article 5 Para. 3).

Approaching
Players under
Contract

41. No Player under contract shall enter into any negotiation or engagement with any other club than the one with which he/she is registered for the time being, whether such other club be within the jurisdiction of this Association or of another National Association, until such time as his/her existing engagement has terminated. No

player, whilst he/she is bound by any existing engagement, may be approached by another club, or by an official of another club, or by any person whatsoever, with a view to inducing such player to leave the club with which he is registered at the time in question, upon the termination of his existing engagement, except as hereinafter provided for in Rule 45.

- Registration of
Non Amateur
42. 42.1 All players under written contract approved by the Council shall be registered with the Association. Such registration in every case must be made on a form as prescribed by the Registrations Department from time to time. All such said forms shall be supplied only by the Registrations Department of the Association and must not be obtained from any other source. Each such form, when once all the information required has been written thereon, must be signed by the player concerned and such said signature must be properly attested by one witness. Each such said form, after such signature and attestation aforesaid has been completed, must be returned to the Registrations Department of this Association to arrive within five days of such said signature and attestation and shall be accompanied by a copy of the agreement entered into between club and player. The minimum weekly payment to players under written contract shall be £15.00, either per match per week, over a period as defined in the player's written contract. The minimum period of a Contract shall be between two (2) Registration Periods. The maximum duration of a Contract shall be five (5) years; however players under the age of 18 years may not sign a contract for a term longer than three (3) years.
- 42.2 The Registrations Department, on behalf of this Association, may refuse to accept any registration which does not comply with the rules of the Football Association of Wales. Once the said agreement is accepted it is binding on both parties.
- 42.3 No player shall be allowed to play until these rules have been complied with strictly and until the Secretary of any club concerned registering any player concerned shall have received an acknowledgement in respect of that player on the official form from the Registrations Department of this Association. Such acknowledgement shall be sent by the Registrations Department of this Association within forty-eight hours (excluding Sunday) of the receipt of the registration concerned in cases where there is no irregularity.
- 42.4 If, following written notification from the Football Association of Wales to the relevant League Board,

a club is determined to be in default of any payment due in accordance with a Player's contract or payment in consequence of termination of such Contract, the League Board may place an embargo on any registration by such Club until payment is made.

42.5 A player registered under written contract with the Football Association of Wales shall play for the club by which the Player is registered unless, in the case of benefit, testimonial and charity matches, the Player obtains special permission of the Football Association of Wales, or has the written permission of the Club, such permission to be copied to the Football Association of Wales, to play up to two trial matches with another Club, provided that such matches are not for the First Team of the club in a Competition match and both are within a period of one month from the date of such permission. Permission shall not be given twice in the same Season for such trials for the same player to the same Club.

42.6 Registration periods will apply to all Players holding a written contract with their club and who participate in adult football. The periods for registration and transfer of Contract Players will be as follows:-

42.6.1 Players registered with a club playing in a league within Wales – 1st June until 31st August inclusive and 1st January until 31st January inclusive; and

42.6.2 Players registered with a club playing in the English pyramid system – as per the rules and regulations applicable to the league in which the club plays.

42.7 All payments made to Players must be made by the Club and fully recorded in the accounting records of the Club.

42.8 All salaried payments must be subject to PAYE and National Insurance, and the appropriate records maintained by the Club.

42.9 Any players paid expenses must be reimbursed via an expense claim form. The Club must retain all expense records in a format acceptable to the Inland Revenue.

Procedures for options in Agreements

43. Any agreement made between a club in membership with The Football Association and a player will include an option exercisable in writing by the club at least sixty (60) calendar days before the expiry of the current

contract to renew the agreement for a further period (such period to be for not longer than the original period) on terms and conditions not less favourable than those which applied during the original period. If the club shall have exercised the option for such further period and it shall have not less than sixty (60) calendar days prior to the expiry of the current contract, by notice in writing to the player indicating that the club requires to offer a further re-engagement to the player after the further period, the following practice shall prevail:-

- 43.1 The notice given by the club to offer a further re-engagement to the player shall specify the terms and conditions which the club is prepared to agree and must be sent by Special Delivery to the player and such notice shall also set out the following subparagraphs 43.2, 43.3 and 43.4 of this Rule. A copy of such notice must be forwarded at the same time to the Registrations Department of this Association.
- 43.2 unless within 28 days of the service of the notice making such an offer the player notifies the club in writing that he/she does not accept such terms and conditions, the agreement shall continue for the further period of re-engagement specified in the club's notice and on the terms and conditions therein set out;
- 43.3 If within such period of 28 calendar days the player notifies the club that the player does not accept such terms and conditions and they are unable to agree alternative terms and conditions and sign any agreement embodying the same within such period of 28 calendar days or, alternatively agree within that period terms for the transfer of the player's registration, either party shall have the right to refer the matter to the relevant League Board for a decision, if either party is dissatisfied with such decision, there shall be a right of appeal to the Registrations Department of the Association, but such appeal must be made within not more than 10 calendar days of the receipt of the decision of the relevant League Board;
- 43.4 If a final decision has not been given in accordance with the procedure set out in rule 43.3 by the date when the agreement with the player would have expired had the offer of re-engagement not been made, the employment of the player shall continue on the like terms and conditions as existed immediately before that date until a final decision has been given.
- 43.5 Any communication given under these rules must be sent by Special Delivery.
- 43.6 Temporary transfers of a Contract player's registration shall be on the prescribed temporary

loan form and shall only be approved for a defined period and subject to the condition of such temporary transfer being known to the Player, and approved by the Registrations Department of the Association, prior to registration with the respective League.

- 43.7 Temporary loan transfers shall be allowed to or from Clubs providing the rules and regulations of the respective Leagues allow.
- 43.8 A Club can have up to 4 players on loan during the Season, but no more than 2 players at any one time. No more than 2 players may be from any one club during the Season.
- 43.9 The temporary transfer of players shall only be allowed during a registration period as set out in the FAW rule 42.6.
- 43.10 The minimum period of a temporary transfer shall be the time between two Registration Periods, subject to Rule 42.6.
- 43.11 Temporary loan transfers which subsequently become permanent transfers shall not count against a Club's quota of temporary loan transfers for that Season.
- 43.12 The temporary loan transfer of a goalkeeper may be subject to a recall clause but this may only be implemented in exceptional circumstances with the consent of the respective League Board.
- 43.13 The temporary loan of transfer of an outfield player may be subject to a recall, but this may only be implemented after twenty-eight (28) days from the original date of the temporary loan transfer.

Cancellation of Agreement with player

- 44. 44.1 Except by mutual consent a club or player shall not be entitled to terminate the agreement between them.
- 44.2 Application for cancellation of an agreement by the player must be made in accordance with the Rules of the Football Association of Wales.
- 44.3 When an agreement has been cancelled by mutual consent notice signed by the club and the player shall at once be sent to the Registrations Department of this Association who will cancel the registration.
- 44.4 Upon cancellation, by mutual consent of both Player and Club, of a Contract agreement, the Player will not be able to regain his Amateur status and therefore register for a further Club until a period of 30 days has elapsed. The period shall start as from the day the Player competed in his last

competitive match with the club with which he was registered as a Non-Amateur.

44.5 The agreement may provide that a player shall only be paid for each match in which the player actually plays or attends as a substitute, but should any player not be selected by the club or play or attend as a substitute for a period of four (4) weeks, the player may apply to the club to cancel the agreement and registration, and if refused, the player shall be at liberty to apply to this Association for the cancellation of the agreement upon such terms as may be deemed reasonable.

44.6 Where conditions, other than payment of wages for playing football, form part of an agreement, this Association in dealing with claims there under will restrict its investigations and decision solely to the question of wages for playing as stipulated in the agreement.

Sanction against
approaching
contracted players

45. No club, or any official or member of any club, shall induce or attempt to induce any player under contract with another club to leave the said other club, for which the player is then registered, until the period of such registration has expired, unless the written sanction of that said other club, for which the player concerned is registered at the time in question, is first obtained. The Association is hereby empowered to deal with any offending club, or any offending official or member of any club, for any breach of this Rule in such manner as to the Association shall seem fit. If the player has not received notice exercising an option or offering a further re-engagement under Rule 43 by the time specified for such notice to be served, or within six months of the relevant expiration date, the player shall be free to make such enquiries or approaches as the player thinks fit to secure employment when the said agreement or renewal thereof expires. (As per Article 18 para. 3 of the current FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players).

Disciplinary
suspension

46.1 Any club shall, in the case of misconduct by a player, or breach of the training or disciplinary rules or orders of the club, have the right to suspend such player for period not exceeding fourteen (14) days or impose a fine not exceeding two (2) weeks wages, any such penalty must commence five (5) days following written notification to the player. The club must notify the Association of such suspension or fine within two (2) days. The player may dispute any penalty, by forwarding an appeal to this Association within three (3) days (excluding Sunday) against such action by the club. Upon lodging an appeal, in accordance with Section E of these Rules, the player must pay the appropriate fee

as per FAW Rule 28.2.3.

- 46.2 Each breach must be addressed individually in writing to the player stating the nature of the breach, the rule or order that has been breached, the penalty to be imposed and the player's full right of appeal.
- 46.3 The notice of an alleged breach by the player must be sent to the player by Special Delivery, a copy of the notice to be forwarded at the same time to the Registrations Department of the Association
- 46.4 The suspension or fine shall not operate as a termination or cancellation of the agreement between the club and player.
- Re-signing suspended players 46.5 A player under suspension may be re-signed by the club or any option by the club may be exercised subject to the terms of the player's suspension.
- Age Limit 47. A player shall not enter into a contract with any club until the player reaches his/her sixteenth (16th) birthday and is no longer in compulsory education. If a player aged under eighteen (18) years wishes to confirm a contract with a club, the agreement must be witnessed and countersigned by a parent or recognised guardian.
- Payment 48. Subject to these Rules, any Qualifying Club or any other club in membership of or affiliated to an Area Association may negotiate whatever financial arrangements with its players as may be mutually acceptable. (Refer to Rule 42.1 for minimum payment).
- Appeal by Player following termination 49. Where an agreement between a club under the jurisdiction of the Association and a player provides for the club terminating an agreement by notice to the player the following practice shall prevail:-
- 49.1 A player shall have the right to appeal to the relevant League and a further right of appeal to the Association;
- 49.2 A club on giving notice to a player to terminate the player's agreement must state in the notice the name and address of the Secretary of the League to which the player may appeal, and must also, at the same time, give notice to the league of which the club is a member, both notices to be forwarded by Special Delivery;
- 49.3 A copy of the notice sent to the player must, at the same time, be forwarded to the Registrations Department of this Association, the copy of the notice to be forwarded by Special Delivery;

- 49.4 The player shall have the right of appeal to the League, but such appeal must be made within ten (10) calendar days of the receipt of the notice from the club;
- 49.5 the notice terminating the agreement must inform the player the reasons or grounds for such notice;
- 49.6 The appeal shall be heard by the relevant League no later than twenty-eight (28) calendar days following receipt of the appeal notice from the player;
- 49.7 If either party is dissatisfied with the appeal decision of the relevant League, there shall be a right of further appeal to the Association but such further appeal must be made within ten (10) calendar days of the receipt of the decision of the relevant League,
- 49.8 The League shall report to the Registrations Department of the Association when the matter is finally determined, and the agreement and registration shall be cancelled by the Registrations Department of the Association where necessary.
- Clause providing for Disputes 50. Agreements between clubs and players shall contain a clause, showing the provision made for dealing with disputes about termination of agreements under Rule 49 and for the cancelling of the agreement and registration by the Association.
- Amateur 51 51.1. In the case of a male Player reaching the age of sixteen (16) and in the case of a female Player on reaching the age of sixteen (16), and in either case before the Player reaches the age of nineteen (19), a Player not holding a written contract with a club shall be permitted to play in both youth and adult football. The said Player must be registered with each club, if he/she plays youth and adult football for different clubs. If the said Player plays youth football for a club playing in a league at National Level he/she shall only be allowed to play adult football for another club if that other club plays only in a league or leagues at Recreational Level. For the avoidance of doubt, this right shall only apply for the remainder of the playing season in which the said Player reaches his/her nineteenth (19) birthday.
- Players without written contracts 51.2 A player who does not hold a written contract with his club shall not be approached, except during the period of 'Close Season' by any club or person attempting to induce such player to play for another club or clubs without at least seven (7) days' notice in writing to the Secretary of the club for which the Player was last known to have played and the negotiations with the player must cease at the expiration of fourteen (14) days from the day of

such notice being given. The notice must be forwarded by recorded delivery, registered post or a written acknowledgement otherwise obtained. A second notice shall not be given by the same club in respect of the same Player during the same football season

51.3 Registration periods will apply to all Players not holding a written contract with their club and who participate in adult football. The periods for registration and transfer of Players will be as follows:-

51.3.1 Players registered with a club playing in the Welsh Premier league – 1st June until 31st August inclusive and 1st January until 31st January inclusive;

51.3.2 Players registered with a club playing in a league below the Welsh Premier League – 1st June until the last Thursday in March inclusive; and

51.3.3 Players registered with a club playing in the English pyramid system – as per the rules and regulations applicable to the league in which the club plays.

51.4.1 Whether registered for a club which plays in a league at National Level or which plays in a league at Recreational Level, a Player not holding a written contract with their club may only be registered for one club at a time PROVIDED THAT this shall not prevent:-

51.4.1.1 a youth Player being registered with separate clubs to play both youth and adult football in the circumstances permitted in Rule 51.1.1; or

51.4.1.2 a Player also being registered with another club which is not a member and which only ever plays Association Football on a Sunday.

51.4.2 Whether registered for a club which is a member of a league playing at National Level or a league playing at Recreational Level a Player may be registered for a maximum of three (3) clubs during the period from 1st July to 30th June of the following year and during such period the Player will only be eligible to play for two (2) clubs PROVIDED THAT if a Player registers for a second club pursuant to the exemptions permitted in Rules 51.4.1.1 or 51.4.1.2 in either case such second

registration shall not count towards the total of three (3) registered clubs and playing for such second club shall not count towards the total of playing for two (2) clubs.

51.5 When a Player is already registered with a club but without a written contract, the following procedure shall apply:-

51.5.1 formal notice of approach by the club must be given to the club to which the Player is already registered;

51.5.2 the approaching club or person shall not give notice of intention to approach more than one (1) Player of a club at the same time and shall not give notice of intention to approach another Player of the same club within twenty-one (21) days of a prior notice;

51.5.3 the seven (7) days formal notice of approach must expire within a recognised Registration Period of the club providing the notice of approach.

51.6 Any dispute as to whether a consent has been unreasonably withheld under Rule 51.5 may be referred to this Association or the Area Association as the case may be. In addition to any other penalty imposed under Rule 31 for a breach of this Rule, the registration of the Player shall be cancelled and he/she shall not be eligible to play for the offending club except with the permission of the Association or the Area Association as the case may be.

51.7 A league playing at Recreational Level shall be entitled (but not obliged) to adopt the following Rule into its own rule book in order to regulate first team Players playing in the reserve team of the same club:-

“Where (i) a club which plays in a league at National Level and also has a reserve team playing in a league at Recreational Level and (ii) the club’s first team (which plays in a league at National Level) does not have a playing fixture on a given day, then on that given day no more than three (3) Players from the club’s first team (which played in the club’s last fixture in a league at National Level) shall be allowed to play in the reserve team fixture played

on that given day.”

The above sanctioned Rule shall be the only Rule permitted by the Association to appear in the rules of any organisation under the jurisdiction of the Association (whether as a Member or Subordinate) in respect of the regulation of first team Players playing in the reserve team of the same club.

51.8 No Player having taken part in matches for a club shall be allowed to participate in a football match for another club without first satisfying the officials of his/her existing club and intended club that he/she has discharged his/her reasonable financial and other liability to the club or clubs for which he/she is, or was, a playing member. It is the responsibility of the existing club to maintain records, mutually confirmed by club and Player, outlining any such liabilities.

51.9 A male Player aged under-16 and below and a female Player aged under-16 and below may register for one club only and with effect from 1st January in each season may only transfer with the approval of his/her Area Association and in accordance with the criteria as currently determined by Council.

51.10 If a player wishes to change his/her status from Amateur to Non-Amateur with his/her current club i.e. register under written contract, then both FAW Rules 42.1 and (unless it is the Player's first contract of that current season) 42.6 will apply.

Female Junior
Players

52 Girls football shall be arranged within the following age bands:-

52.1 There shall be no age grouping Rule for organised team football for players who are of the educational ages of academic years one (1), two (2), three (3), four (4) and five (5) (using current government classifications). For the purpose of this Rule, each academic year has a cycle from 1st September to 31st August and a child enters academic year one(1) in the year of the cycle which they reach their fifth (5th) birthday.

52.2 For girls who are of age in academic year six (6) (being the final year of Primary or Junior School) and girls in Secondary Schools (academic year seven (7) and above), the following rules on age groupings for organised team football and level of competition shall apply and nothing in this Rule

shall prevent matches between players who are all of the same academic year:-

- 52.2.1 Academic year six (6) and seven (7) and referred to as Under 12.
- 52.2.2 Academic year eight (8) and nine (9) and referred to as Under 14.
- 52.2.3 Academic year ten (10) and eleven (11) and referred to as Under 16.

53. 53.1 No player who is under the age of eighteen years and who remains on the roll of a recognised school shall enter into a contract of employment with a club within the jurisdiction of the Association but he may be registered as an Associated Schoolboy (see Rule 54.5).
- Trainee Players with professional Clubs
- 53.2 No player who is under the age of seventeen years shall enter into a contract of employment with a club within the jurisdiction of the Association, except as a Trainee.
- 53.3 Players of sixteen or seventeen years of age who are not receiving full-time education in accordance with the provisions of the Education Acts may be registered as a Trainee with the Association and the Leagues. The period of registration shall be two full years for sixteen-years old school leavers and twelve months for seventeen-year old school leavers. Players who sign for a club after leaving school and taking up employment elsewhere shall be registered for the balance of two years. A registration will be made on the form as prescribed by the Secretary from time to time.
- 53.4 On or after his seventeenth birthday a player may sign as a contract player subject to the Rules and Regulations of the League of which the club is a member, and to the Rules of the Association with reference to contract players, or remain as a Trainee until his eighteenth birthday.
- 53.5 If a player wishes to become a contract player, the club for which he was registered as a Trainee shall be entitled to his registration as a contract player. If the club does not wish to register the player he shall be free to register for any other club.
- 53.6 Each form, after completion of all particulars, including dates and signature, must be signed by the player, attested by his parent or guardian, and returned to the Secretary of the Association within

five days of such signature, accompanied by a copy of the agreement entered into by the club and the player and also a copy of his certificate of birth.

- 53.7 A Trainee does not become a member of a club nor is he allowed to play until the club registering him shall have received acknowledgement of the registration from the Association.
- 53.8 The names of such players shall be published and no club nor any person shall attempt to induce such a player to leave the club for which he is registered.
- 53.9 A player who is registered as a Trainee may apply to his club for the cancellation of his registration during his Traineeship. In such circumstances he may not subsequently sign a contract to play for another club until after a lapse of two years except with the consent of the club for which he was registered as a Trainee.
- 53.10 At the request of the player or his parent, the club shall allow the player to continue his further education or take up suitable vocational training.
- 53.11 If a club fails to fulfil this or any other obligation in accordance with the terms of its agreement, the player shall be entitled to apply to his club for the cancellation of his registration and in the event of the cancellation being effected, he may then sign as a trainee for another club. A player shall have the right of appeal to the Management Committee of the league of which the club is in membership if his application be unreasonably withheld. If either party is dissatisfied with a decision there shall be a further right of appeal to the Association. A club shall not have registered with the Association more than fifteen Trainees at any one time.

School Children 54

- 54.1.1 Players of school age not registered in the Programme for Excellence whilst a boy remains on the roll of a recognised school, priority must at all times be given to school or school organisations' activities, in accordance with the recommendation of the Memorandum Schoolboys and School games published by the Association from time to time.
- 54.1.2 A junior player under the age of 16 years shall only play for a club located within a regional boundary defined by the Area Association within which the junior player resides. Any exemption is to be

considered and granted by the Area Association concerned and whose rules shall include details of their regional boundaries.

- 54.2 All clubs and leagues, excluding those that play their matches on Sundays, shall include in their rules a rule which outlines the need to clear the availability of a pupil with the Head Teacher.
- 54.3 Competitions for young players who are under eleven (11) years of age and more than six (6) years of age on 1st September in any playing season shall be sanctioned by this Association or the Area Associations, subject to the written consent of the players' parents and to the competition being played under the rules of small-sided Football. Such games may be played with mixed teams of boys and girls and shall be played as friendly games only.
- Male Junior
Players
- 54.4 There shall be no age grouping Rule for organised team football for players who are of an age to attend Infant, Junior or Primary School, which (using current government classification) means children in academic years one (1), two (2), three (3), four (4), five (5) and six (6). Provided that no such player shall play organised team football involving players who are of an age to attend Secondary School, which means children in academic years seven (7) or above. For the purpose of this Rule 54.4 (and Rule 54.5) each academic year has a cycle from 1st September to 31st August and a child enters academic year one (1) in the year of the cycle in which they reach their fifth (5th) birthday.
- 54.5 For children who are of an age to attend Secondary School (academic year seven (7) and above), the following Rules on age groupings for organised team football shall apply and nothing in this Rule shall prevent matches between players who are all of the same academic year:-
- (A) Academic years seven (7) and eight (8)
 - (B) Academic years eight (8) and nine (9)
 - (C) Academic years nine (9) and ten (10)
 - (D) Academic years ten (10) and eleven (11)
 - (E) Academic years eleven (11) and twelve (12)
 - (F) Academic years twelve (12) and thirteen (13)
- Players of School
Age Programme
of Excellence
- 54.6 Players who reach the age of nine (9) years during the academic year and who are in full time education may register with a recognised and licensed Centre of Excellence through the procedures established by the Association and set

out in the Regulations current at the time. The following shall apply :-

- 54.6.1 it shall be a breach of the Rule for a Centre without a valid licence to coach and train players of school age who are in full-time education, and registered through the registration scheme or for a licensed Centre of Excellence to play against any Centre which is not licensed apart from a school. The licensing authority for Centres of Excellence shall comprise representatives as determined by the Association and which shall lay down regulations and guidelines by which the Programme for Excellence shall be run; and
- 54.6.2 it shall be deemed to be misconduct for any club or club official to induce any player of school age registered with a separate club or Centre of Excellence to leave school for the purpose of signing a contract of employment.
- 54.7 An official involved with the organisation and operation of junior players must hold the Football Association of Wales' Junior Leader Award Certificate.
- 54.8 All books of the Association containing a record either of the registration or transfer, or of both registration and transfer, of players shall be open to inspection by the duly authorised representative of any club within the jurisdiction of the Association on payment of appropriate fee.

SECTION 1

All Competitions must be sanctioned. Team requires eleven players

Applications to be submitted by 20th July

LEAGUES AND COMPETITIONS

- 55.1 All leagues and competitions must be sanctioned by the Council. No league or competition will be sanctioned by the Council, unless each team taking part in such league or competition fields a side consisting of eleven players, from which number there shall be no deviation, unless it be occasioned through injury or some such other and proper cause during the course of any game in such league or competition.
- 55.2 Application for sanction of a league, charity competition or benefit competition or of any other competition coming within the direct jurisdiction of the Association, shall be made, and thereafter renewed annually, in writing to the Secretary of the Association on or before the twentieth day of July immediately preceding the playing season, during

which playing season the league or competition is intended to be played. Such application must be made in every case on a form as prescribed by the Secretary from time to time. All such said forms shall be supplied only by the Secretary of the Association and may not be obtained from any other source. Every such application must be accompanied by two written copies of the rules of the league, or competition concerned. Every such application must also be accompanied by a written list of the names of all the clubs, which have consented and approved to join and take part in the league or competition (as the case may be). All such leagues and competitions shall observe the Rules, Regulations, Bye-Laws and Orders of this Association. All matches shall be played in accordance with the laws of the game as settled by FIFA and UEFA.

- Six-a-Side and
Five-a-Side
Competitions
56. Notwithstanding anything contained in Rule 55 or in any other Rule, the Council may give permission for Six-a-Side and Five-a-Side competitions to be played, provided that:-
- 56.1 the competition has been sanctioned by the Association or the Area Association concerned in accordance with the requirements of Rule 55. Clubs seeking affiliation to an Area Association in order to participate in a small side competition must be charged an affiliation fee;
- 56.2 in the case of single matches, charity competitions, and one-day competitions, eg. garden fetes, works sports days, they must be sanctioned by the Association or the affiliated Area Association concerned in accordance with the requirements of Rule 55, insofar as they are applicable. The sanctioning of such a match or competition in this case shall automatically accord to the club and/or competition the status of affiliated players for the club for which they play in the match or competition;
- 56.3 the rules governing the eligibility and conduct of the players shall be under the control of the Management Committee of the sanctioned competition subject always to the over-riding authority of the Association or the affiliated Area Association concerned and shall insofar as is practicable be in conformity with the Rules and Regulations of the Association. In the case of individual matches the eligibility and conduct of the players shall be the responsibility of the sanctioning body;

56.4 the playing of matches arranged by private individuals for speculative purposes shall not be permitted;

56.5 for small side games played for charitable objectives a statement of accounts of the event shall be supplied to the sanctioning body concerned within twenty-one days (21). Where two Area Associations cover the same area, permission must be obtained from the appropriate parent Association. There shall be no close season for small side games. The laws applicable to the playing of small side games shall be as set by the Association from time to time.

Competitions 57. 57.1 No Area Association, nor League, nor Qualifying Club or other club under the jurisdiction of the Association, nor player, nor referee or Member of this Association or any other body or individual in any way within the jurisdiction of this Association, shall play in or take part in any league, tournament, charity competition or benefit competition or any other competition within the boundaries of Wales unless such competition has been sanctioned by the Council.

57.2 No Area Association, nor League, nor Qualifying Club or other club under the jurisdiction of the Association, nor player, nor referee or Member of this Association or any other body or individual in any way within the jurisdiction of this Association, shall play, or take part in any league, tournament, charity competition or benefit competition or any other competition outside the boundaries of Wales unless the said applicant shall have first obtained the sanction of this Association to participate in the same. Such application for sanction shall be made, and renewed annually, in writing to the Secretary of this Association on or before the twentieth day of July immediately preceding the playing season in which the said applicant wishes to participate in the said league or tournament or competition. Such application must be made in every case on a form prescribed by the Secretary from time to time.

Co-opted Members 57.3 In all leagues or competitions recognised or sanctioned by this Association, the Council shall have the right, as a condition of such recognition, or sanction, to co-opt one Member of the Council on to the Management Committee of such league or competition.

Approved Area for Matches 58. 58.1 Any cup competition or league of whatever kind within the jurisdiction of this Association shall only be played within an area approved and sanctioned

by this Association, or by an Area Association.

58.2 Clubs, which enter for any or all of the cup competitions, must play off their ties in any round concerned in any such competition concerned on or before the Conference Date fixed by this Association in respect of such round. Clubs may make arrangements mutually to play off their ties in any such round concerned prior to the Conference Date fixed by this Association for that round. Any club, which, in breach of the provisions of this Rule, fails to play off its tie in any such round concerned on or before the Conference Date fixed in respect of that round, ipso facto shall be struck out of the competition concerned. All Conference Dates in any years concerned shall be notified in writing by this Association to all Area Associations and to all competitions concerned and to all clubs concerned well in advance of the playing season in question.

Clubs to fulfil obligations to Welsh Football

59. Any club which is within the jurisdiction of the Association and which has received sanction from this Association to become a member of and to compete in League Football or other competitions outside the jurisdiction of the Association, shall be deemed to have agreed to accept and carry out in full its obligations to those Welsh Football competitions, of which it may be expected reasonably to become a member and in which it may be expected reasonably to take part as defined by Council where each individual club is concerned. This means that, at all times, a club shall field its strongest possible team thus making every effort to stimulate interest and bring credit to any Welsh Football competition in which it competes. In the event of any club or other Football body complaining of hardship or of any other unreasonable conditions, which are alleged to be imposed by or to be the result of the operation of the provisions of this Rule, such aggrieved club or other Football body (as the case may be) shall lay a complaint in writing and in proper form before the Council and the Council shall inquire into and investigate fully such complaint. After such inquiry and investigation, the Council shall determine whether the complaint be well-founded or not. Such determination shall be conclusive and binding on the parties concerned to whom it will be communicated in writing by the Association.

Sponsorship and Advertising

60. 60.1 A competition may be used for trade or advertising purposes and the name of the donor of a cup or trophy or any other person may form part of the title of a Competition only with the prior consent of the Association.

60.2 Restricted advertising will be permitted on the

shirts, shorts and stockings worn by player subject to the written approval of the Association. The depth of the lettering in connection with such advertising shall not exceed 4 inches. A small motif of the manufacturer of the clothing may be worn, subject to the written approval of the Association. The emblem of the club, association or other football body may, of course, be worn on the shirt.

- No extension of Playing Season other than as provided in Rule 63
61. No competition, which has been in existence during the playing season proper, shall be allowed extended time outside the playing season proper, notwithstanding that the competition may be one for charitable purposes. The only matches allowed to be played after the end of the playing season proper must be specially sanctioned games arranged between two distinct clubs, or leagues, or Area Associations or between any two of them. The full gate money received at any such match will be paid in full without any deductions whatsoever to a registered Charity. Provided that charges actually paid for entertainment tax, advertising or Police services at any such match may be deducted from the gate money received at any such match.
- Extensions for Finals
62. Notwithstanding anything contained in these Rules, semi final or final matches of Competitions of the Association or of Area Associations, or of County Cup competitions, may be played not later than Saturday or Sunday following the end of the season in any year as determined by Council.
- Breach of this section
63. Any party in breach of any of the provisions of any Rule or Rules in this section shall be liable to suspension or to such other penalties as the Council shall deem fit.

SECTION J

PRACTICE MATCHES

- Consent of the Area Association
64. Practice Matches between teams of the same club, or between teams from different clubs may be played with the consent of the appropriate Area Association during the 28 days immediately preceding the start of the playing season. The net receipts must be distributed before the 15th September in each season concerned as follows :-
- Distribution of net Receipts
- 64.1 not less than 25% to the Area Association to which the club or clubs are affiliated and the balance shall be used or distributed in any such manner as the club or clubs shall decide. When English and Welsh clubs play each other in public practice matches as provided for in this Rule, the 25% of the gate receipts referred to shall be equally divided, 12½% being given to the English County Football Association concerned and the other 12½% to the relevant Area Association;

- 64.2 the net receipts of each match shall be calculated by deducting from each match receipts the essential ground and travelling expenses concerned with the match which shall not in any case exceed 20% of the gross receipts. A return of the monies received, the expenses, and sums paid together with the necessary receipts must be sent to the Area Association or Associations from whom consent to play the matches was obtained, and each such Area Association shall by the 30th September make a complete return to the Association of the matches played and the monies distributed. Matches between teams of different clubs must be advertised as public practice matches and must be open to the public on payment. Players who have not been engaged for the following season, may play in such practice matches;
- No consent required for internal matches 64.3 consent as referred to in the preceding paragraph is not necessary in the case of private practice matches between teams of the same club at which the public is not admitted and where no charge is made for or in lieu of admission either directly or indirectly; and
- Breach of this section 64.4 any club or player, who is in breach of this Rule in any way whatsoever, shall be liable to any such suspension or other penalty or both as to the Council may seem fit.

SECTION K

ARMED FORCES

- Matches to be approved - no gate money to be taken 65. Members of the Royal Navy or of the Army, or of the Royal Air Force, or of any of the Auxiliary Forces, may play in matches or competitions in the close season, whilst such members are in Barracks or in Camp. Players registered by this Association or by an Area Association may take part in such matches or competitions aforesaid, provided that all such matches or competitions aforesaid shall be strictly confined to the units concerned and provided also that no gate money is taken at any such match or competition aforesaid.
- Member of Forces cannot hold contract 66. A player, whilst serving in any branch of Her Majesty's Regular Forces may not hold a contract of employment with any club under the jurisdiction of this Association.
- Member of Forces - 14 days notice 67. Neither a club nor any person shall attempt to induce any player of a club of any branch of Her Majesty's Regular Forces to play for another club during the current season without at least fourteen days notice - in the case of the Army to the Secretary of the Army Football Association;

in the case of the Royal Navy direct to the Honorary Secretary of the Royal Navy Football Association; in the case of the Royal Air Force to its Commanding Officer. The notice must be forwarded by registered post, or a written acknowledgement otherwise obtained. The rank of service player must be stated in league or other registration forms and service players are required to notify civilian clubs of their Ranks.

SECTION L

REFEREES

- Council to keep list of referees
68. 68.1 The Council shall compile and keep a list of referees for use of its Members and all other bodies within its jurisdiction. The Secretary of each Area Association shall send in writing on or before the first day of October in each year to the Secretary of the Association, a list of all referees affiliated to the Area Association concerned together with their addresses, and telephone numbers. Such list shall show each referee's classification as at the commencement of the current playing season.
- Referee failing to accept or decline appointments
- 68.2 Any decision by the referee in charge of any match on questions of fact connected with the game shall be final and conclusive. On any question of interpretation of the Rules or Laws of the Game, an appeal will lie from the decision of the referee concerned to the Council, provided that the referee's decision has been acted upon on the field, whether a protest against such decision was made or not. If any referee is appointed for any match by any Area Association or by any competition sanctioned by this Association, he shall inform such appointing Association or competition (as the case may be) in writing within three days of receipt by him of the notice of appointment concerned whether he accepts or declines the appointment. Any referee failing to accept or decline an appointment by an Area Association or by a competition sanctioned by this Association in accordance with the provisions of this Rule shall be liable to a fine of £53 for each such offence. Any referee who cancels any engagement to referee a match, in order that he may officiate in some other match, shall be dealt with by the Council and shall be deemed by the Council to be in breach of contract.
- Referees failing to report cases of misconduct
- 68.3 If any referee fails to report any instance of misconduct, which comes under his notice, and if it is proved to the satisfaction of the Council that such instance of misconduct was of a nature that required investigation, he shall either be suspended or dealt

with in such other manner as to the Council shall seem fit.

68.4 No referee may take any part in the management of any league or other competition of whatever kind, if he officiates as a referee within the jurisdiction of such league or competition concerned.

68.5 “The promotion and demotion of referees and assistant referees to and from the Directly Affiliated Leagues together with the nomination of referees and assistant referees to the annual FIFA International Referee and FIFA International Assistant Referee lists shall be at the sole discretion of Council.”

SECTION M

SUBSCRIPTIONS

- Subscriptions 69. The Membership subscription shall be :-
- Qualifying Clubs 69.1 fifty-three pounds sterling per annum plus Valued Added Tax for each Qualifying Club;
- Area Associations 69.2 three hundred and fifty five pounds sterling per annum plus Value Added Tax for each Area Association; and
- Leagues 69.3 three hundred and fifty five pounds sterling per annum plus Value Added Tax for each Directly Affiliated League.
- 69.4 Certain clubs and leagues not coming under the jurisdiction of an Area Football Association shall be eligible for election as Associate Members of the Association subject to the approval of the Council, and on payment of the appropriate fee which shall be half that for a club or league identified in 69.1 or 69.3 above. Associate Members shall not be entitled or permitted to attend or vote at General Meetings nor take part in Elections.
- 69.5 Such fee shall be paid on or before the first day of August in each year; failure to do so will result in the automatic suspension of all Membership rights. Resumption of rights shall be at the Council’s discretion following payment.

SECTION N

INFORMATION

- Club details to Secretary 70. 70.1 Each Qualifying Club shall forward by 1st August in each year to the Secretary of the Association on a form to be supplied by the said Secretary the following information :-
- 70.1.1 the name and address of the Secretary of the Qualifying Club concerned; No person can be Secretary of two or more clubs at the same time.

- 70.1.2 a full and accurate description of the Club's distinguishing colours or costume;
 - 70.1.3 the situation and address of the Club's ground;
 - 70.1.4 whether the said ground is public or private; and
 - 70.1.5 such further or other information as the Council at any time may require.
- 70.2 The Secretary of each Qualifying Club shall also inform the Secretary of the Association in writing, whenever any change in any of the matters set out in Rule 70.1 occurs.
- Affiliated Football Associations
- 70.3 The Secretary of each Area Association shall send in writing on or before the first day of October in each year to the Secretary of The Association, a list of all clubs affiliated to the said Area Association concerned together with the names and addresses of the Secretaries of the aforesaid clubs. All clubs affiliated to an Area Association may take part in competitions sanctioned by the Association.
- Club Balance Sheets
71. Each Qualifying Club, shall be required to send annually to this Association a Balance Sheet showing the working of the season immediately past. Such Balance Sheet shall be sent to this Association not later than the first day of August in any year concerned. Such Balance Sheet must be signed by the Chairman and by the Honorary Treasurer or Treasurer and by the Secretary of, and on behalf of, each such Club concerned. Each Club in default of any provision of this Rule in any way whatsoever shall be liable to a penalty of the sum on a scale as per Rule 28.2.3 in respect of each such default.
- Leagues and Competitions to submit Balance Sheets and list of Clubs taking part
- 72 The Secretary of every league, charity competition or benefit competition or of any other competition coming within the direct jurisdiction of the Association shall send to the Secretary of the Association at the close of such league or competition concerned a Balance Sheet which shall have been duly audited, and a list of all the clubs which have competed in the said league or competition. Each league or competition in default of any provision of this Rule in any way whatsoever shall be liable to a penalty on a scale as per Rule 28.2.3 in respect of each such default.

SECTION O

MISCELLANEOUS

- Councillors' Interests and Chairman's Consent
73. 73.1 At any meeting held by the Council or any sub-committee of the Council to discuss issues relating to any Club, League or Area Association, Councillors having an interest in such Club, League or Area Association shall not:-

- 73.1.1 vote at said meeting;
 - 73.1.2 in any way influence any decision of the Council or sub-committee other than insofar as such influence is permitted by Rule 73.1.3 below; and
 - 73.1.3 act in any such matter or contribute to such discussion without the prior consent of the Chairman, which consent the Chairman may in his absolute discretion withdraw if he feels that a Councillor has breached parts 73.1.1 and 73.1.2 of this Rule.
- 73.2 Any Councillor who is in breach of any of the provisions of this Rule, shall forfeit immediately his seat on the Council.
- Selection for Representative Matches
74. 74.1 In all matches in which the Association is represented, the players representing the Association shall be selected by the appropriate team manager at that time appointed.
- 74.2 No Councillor being a director or official of any particular club may attempt to influence the selection of a player to play in any International or Representative Match.
- Failure to comply with agreements for representative Matches is Misconduct
75. Any player selected to attend any International or other match arranged by this Association, who refuses to comply with the arrangements of the Council for the playing of such said match or who fails to attend such said match without good and sufficient cause, shall be guilty of misconduct. What shall or shall not constitute “good and sufficient cause” in any particular case shall be determined by the Council in its absolute discretion. Any club or official, who shall be deemed to have encouraged or instigated or induced or connived at any breach by any player of any of the provisions of this or any Rule or of any other order of the Association, shall be guilty of misconduct.
76. 76.1 No Councillor, Area Association, League, Qualifying Club, any other club, any body, or any person whatsoever, shall be allowed to take players on tour to England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, or to any foreign country under a designation, or purported or colourable designation, that such players are connected with the Association in any way.
- Tours in United Kingdom and Foreign Countries
- 76.2 All intended tours outside Wales must first receive the written permission of the Council.
- 76.3 If the Council give permission for a tour under Rule 77.2, it will be an implied term of such permission that it is only given subject to the promoters of any

such tour rendering to the Council a full, accurate and complete statement of all accounts of all moneys received and disbursed in connection with such said tour, such said statement of accounts to be delivered to the Council within twenty-one days of completion of the tour. In default of rendering such account or accounts in accordance with the conditions required by this Rule, the Council shall impose upon any parties in default a fine as per the scale set out in Rule 28.2.3. The Council is hereby empowered to exact any additional penalty upon any parties in default under this Rule as to the Council shall seem just.

Admission of 77 Each Councillor shall, ex officio, be furnished with a special ticket, which shall not be transferable. All clubs Members of the Council to Grounds shall admit the holder of such special ticket to their grounds and stands upon production by the holder of such special ticket without requiring any other or further authority, except on any other specified occasions, which shall be determined by the Council if such course shall seem expedient to the Council.

Receipts from 78 From each International Match staged in Wales, the club International Matches on whose ground the match is played shall pay to the Association the gross receipts. No deduction from the gross receipts shall be allowed, other than permitted ground expenses. A detailed statement of accounts of the gross receipts and any deductions shall be supplied to the Association. This statement and payment must be sent within 21 days of the match. If this instruction is not observed, the Association shall have the power to impose a fine for each week or part of a week that the statement and/or payment is late. The above regulations do not apply in respect of any match played at the National Stadium or venue not coming under the control of the Association where such matter will be determined by agreement.

79. Any Qualifying Club, or any other club which is adjudged by the Council to have taken the place of and to have succeeded a Qualifying Club or any other club, whether by change of name, purchase or takeover, shall take over without delay all the liabilities whatsoever of the replaced club, all of which liabilities the replacing club shall discharge fully and within a reasonable time.

Publication in 80. The Association shall be entitled to publish in the public Press reports of its proceedings, act or resolutions or any part thereof, without having any regard as to whether such publication shall or shall not reflect upon the character or conduct of any Member or any other party involved at the time in question within the jurisdiction of the Association. Every such party shall be deemed hereby to

- have assented to any such said publication.
- Playing season 81. 81.1 A playing season commences in the month of August in one year (or as Council decides) and ends on a date to be determined by the Council. No matches are permitted to be played during the remainder of the year, which period shall be known as the close season.
- 81.2 Six-a-side and Five-a-side competitions as specified in Rule No.56 shall be exempt from the provisions of this Rule.
- 81.3 Notwithstanding anything contained in this Rule, matches may be played for charity or some other object approved by the Association not later than the Saturday or Sunday following the end of the season in any year. Application for permission to play any such said match must be in writing and must be forwarded to reach the Secretary of the Association not later than the first day of April in the year concerned.
- Breaking Fixtures 82. Any Qualifying Club or any club within the jurisdiction of the Association which wilfully breaks any fixture with another club belonging to any Area Association, shall be fined by the Council or the appropriate Area Association to which the club is affiliated or dealt with by such a body in any other manner which that body shall deem fit. Such decision by a body other than the Association shall be subject to Rule 25.1 "Appeals". Until such offending club has complied with any order, which the Council may see fit to make in the circumstances, that club's representative shall be disbarred from voting at any General Meeting held under the Rules of this Association. Any club lodging any complaint about broken fixtures shall deposit with the Association the sum on a scale as per Rule 28.2.3 in respect of each complaint. If it is found on inquiry that a complaint is frivolous the club laying the complaint shall forfeit the complaint fee and in addition to any other penalty may be condemned in the costs of or incidental to the Commission or Inquiry which may be held, if such course seems fit to the Council or any Commission or Inquiry appointed by the Council all of which shall have an absolute discretion in the matter.
- Mixed Gender Matches 83. 83.1 Except in small sided matches involving players under the age of twelve years, no football match in which player of the opposite sex are involved shall be permitted to be played on any football ground within the jurisdiction of the Association, except that in those Area Associations, where there is no junior league available for girls, (the area referred to is identified as the geographical area of the local boys' League or Area Association Girls' League as appropriate) the age limit will increase to Under

Sixteen. Clubs, officials, players and referees are not permitted to associate themselves in any way whatsoever with mixed football matches that fall outside the aforementioned criteria.

- 83.2 Activities carried out at a recognised Coaching Centre, or Centre of Excellence, shall not be deemed to be matches for the purpose of Rule 84.
- Football on Holidays 84. No Club, player, official, referee or assistant referee shall be compelled to participate in football on Sundays, Good Friday or Christmas Day.
- FAW claim to ground 85. The Association shall have first claim to the use of all football grounds, offices and facilities of clubs within the jurisdiction of the Association. On such occasions, the Council shall retain the sole rights in respect of television and broadcasting, ground advertising and programme sales. The Council alone shall determine whether any payment shall be made for the use of such grounds by the Association and the amount of any payment in any particular instance.
- Person Ineligible to serve on Council and management Committees 86.1 No player nor registered referee nor any paid official of any Area Association, League or Qualifying Club shall be allowed to serve on the Council of this Association.
- 86.2 No player, or paid official of an Association, League or Club within the jurisdiction of the Association shall be allowed to serve on the Committee of any such association or league. No registered referee shall be allowed to serve on the Committee of any association or league within whose area he is so registered.
- Definition of Official 87. What constitutes a paid official of an association, league or club within the meaning of Rule 87 shall be decided by the Council in its absolute discretion.
- Value added tax 88. Throughout these Rules the amounts payable as entrance fees and subscriptions or as otherwise required by Law shall be the amounts stated plus the appropriate amount required in respect of Value Added Tax as determined at that time.
- Notice 89. 89.1 Any notice or other communication given under these Rules shall be in writing and signed by or on behalf of the party giving it and shall be served by delivering it personally or sending it by pre-paid first class post or facsimile transmission to the address and for the attention of the relevant party set out in Rule 89.2 and such notice or communication shall be deemed to have been received:-

- 89.1.1 is delivered personally, at the time of delivery;
- 89.1.2 in the case of pre-paid first class post twenty-four (24) hours from the date of posting; and
- 89.1.3 in the case of facsimile transmission; at the time of transmission PROVIDED THAT if deemed receipt occurs before 9.00am on a Business Day the notice or communication shall be deemed to have been received at 9.00am on that day and if deemed receipt occurs after 4.30pm on a Business Day, or on a day which is not a Business Day, the notice shall be deemed to have been received at 9.00am on the next Business Day. For the purpose of this Rule, "Business Day" means any day which is not a Saturday, Sunday or a public holiday.

89.2 Any notice or other communication to be served on the Association shall be addressed to the Association at 11/12 Neptune Court, Vanguard Way, Cardiff CF24 5PJ or by facsimile on 029 2049 6953. In either case, the notice or communication shall be marked for the attention of the Secretary General. Any notice or other communication served by the Association on a Member or other party shall be served on the address or facsimile number of that Member or other party last known to the Association. The Association shall notify Members in writing from time to time of any change to its address or facsimile number and each Member shall notify the Association in writing of any change in the Member's address or facsimile number.

89.3 In proving such service it shall be sufficient to prove that the envelope containing such notice or other communication was addressed to the address of the relevant party set out or referred to in Rule 89.2 and delivered either to that address or into the custody of the postal authorities as a pre-paid first class letter or that the notice or other communication was transmitted by facsimile to the facsimile number of the relevant party set out or referred to in Rule 89.2.

89.4 For the avoidance of doubt, any notice or other communication given under these Rules shall not be validly served if sent by e-mail.

Charity Match 90. The practice of kicking-off matches by persons other than

the players competing in the match is prohibited except in charity matches.

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| Arbitration | 91 | The Association shall create an Arbitration Panel, which shall deal with all internal national disputes between the Association, its Members, Players, Officials and match and players' agents that do not fall under the jurisdiction of its Judicial Bodies. The Council shall draw up special regulation regarding the composition, jurisdiction and procedural rules of this Arbitration Panel. |
| Jurisdiction | 92 | <p>92.1 The Association, its Members, Players, Officials and match and player agents will not take any dispute to Ordinary Courts unless specifically provided for in these Rules and Regulations and FIFA Statutes. Any disagreement shall be submitted to the jurisdiction of FIFA, UEFA or the Association.</p> <p>92.2 The Association shall have jurisdiction on internal national disputes. i.e. disputes between parties belonging to the Association. FIFA shall have jurisdiction on international disputes, i.e. disputes between parties belonging to different Associations and/or Confederations.</p> |
| Court of Arbitration for Sport | 93 | <p>93.1 The Association, its Members, Players, Officials and match and player agent's members will recognise the jurisdiction of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne (Switzerland), as specified in the relevant provisions of the FIFA and UEFA Statutes.</p> <p>93.2 The Association shall ensure its full compliance and that of its Members, Players, Officials and match and players' agents with any final decision passed by a FIFA body or CAS.</p> |
| Club Licensing | 94 | The Council of the Association will set up regulations regarding a club licensing system governing the participation of Clubs in competitions of FIFA, UEFA and the Association |
| Interim | 95 | <p>95.1 The authority for organising international matches and competitions between Association teams and between Leagues and/or Club teams lies solely with FIFA. No match or competition shall take place without the prior permission of the FIFA Executive Committee. In addition, permission from the relevant Confederation may be required in accordance with the FIFA regulations.</p> <p>95.2 The Association is bound to comply with the international match calendar compiled by FIFA.</p> |

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| Contacts | 96 The Association shall not play matches or make sporting contacts with Associations that are not members of FIFA or with provisional members a Confederation without the approval of FIFA. |
| Approval | 97 Clubs, Leagues or any other group of Clubs that are affiliated to the Association cannot belong to another Association or participate in competitions on the territory of another Association without the authorisation of the Association and the other Association and of FIFA, except in exceptional circumstances. |
| Rule Restriction | 98 No Area Association or League (except in cup competition) shall have a more stringent rule than any Rule of the Association. |
| Disability | 99 Competitions for Disabled Players who are over the age Football of 8 years on the 1st September in any playing season shall be governed, sanctioned and controlled as set out in the Regulations for Disability Football in Wales. |

