**RULES OF N.E.W.F.A.**

**YOUTH & UNDER 19, 18, 16, 15, 14,13 &12 CUP COMPETITIONS**

**1** (a) The cup shall be called the "N.E.W.F.A. Youth Under'19, 18, 16, 15, 14, 13 & 12 Cup or such name as a Sponsor may require.

(b) The competition shall be held annually and shall be open to all registered Clubs of the Association (with the exception of those Clubs playing solely Sunday Football).

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

**2** (a) By the 1st July each Club desirous of competing in the competition shall give notice to the Secretary of the Association on a form previously supplied and shall, with such notice forward an entrance fee.

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

**3** (a) The competing teams shall number 11 players each.

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

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

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

(e) Failure so to do will render EITHER Club to be dealt with for MISCONDUCT.

(f) ln all ties prior to the Semi-Final if both Clubs have similar colours then the AWAY team must change its colours.

**4**. (a) The members of each team may be changed during the series of matches if considered necessary but:-

(i) No individual shall play for more than one competing team during the season.

(iii) He must not have attained the age of 19, 18, 16, 15, 14, 13 or 12 years on 1st September of each season.

(b) A playing member is one who has actually played in a match for the Club in the current season not less than SEVEN days prior to the Conference date of any particular game in the Competition, or one, who has not less than SEVEN days previous to the said Conference date, intimated to the Secretary of the Association, in writing, that he is a playing member of that Club, or one who has been registered on a League form for that Club SEVEN days prior to the said Conference date, and as such is a properly qualified player.

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

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

(b) Byes shall be drawn as necessary.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(e) All postponed matches shall be played on the following Saturday/ Sundays.
(f) This rearranged date shall be regarded for all purposes as the Conference date for the tie concerned, except for the qualifications of players which shall still be in accordance with Rule 4.

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

**8** (a) The duration of the match shall be as follows:- Youth 90 minutes (being two equal periods of 45 minutes) Under 16 & 15 80 minutes (being two equal periods of 40 minutes) Under 14 & 13 70 minutes (being two equal periods of 35 minutes) Under 12 60 minutes (being two equal periods of 30 minutes)

(b) ln the event of the score being equal at the end of this period a further extra period, 20 minutes (being two equal periods of 10 minutes) must be played.

(c) lf following the completion of the extra time the scores are still level then the game will be decided by a series of PENALTY KICKS in accordance with the Referee's Chart and the NEWFA Handbook.

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

**9** (a) Both competing Clubs will be supplied with TEAM SHEET which will be completed lyn FULL and handed to match Referee in his dressing room 20 MINUTES before kick-off thus ensuring that Referee is in possession of the names of the players and substitutes of both teams before the commencement of match in accordance with Rule 3(d).

(b) HOME Club Secretary will provide Referee with STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE for posting of TEAM SHEET in his dressing room 20 MINUTES before kick-off. It is then the responsibility of the AWAY Club Secretary to ensure that this team sheet is handed to the Referee before the match starts thus ensuring that the Referee is in possession of the names of the players and substitutes of BOTH teams before the commencement of the match in accordance with Rule 3(d).

(c) The Referee will then be responsible for completing this team sheet by adding the match score and any other comments, signing in the appropriate place and posting it in the Stamped Addressed Envelope provided within two days of the match.

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

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

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

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

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

**12** (a) The Referee's Report form must be returned to the Referee’s Officer N.E.W.F.A. within TWO days (Sundays and Bank Holidays accepted).

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**15** (a) The Semi-Final Ties will be played on the ground of the Home Side. Referee's Fees will be shared jointly by both Clubs (b) The Final shall be played on a ground which shall be a neutral venue and will be chosen by the Association who shall appoint the Referee and Assistants and have the management thereof. Should neutral ground be a Council Venue the First Named Team will be responsible for nets and corner flags. The second Named Team will rope off the pitch.

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

(b) The Council may appoint neutral Assistant Referees and their fees and expenses in addition to those of the Referee shall be paid by the Home Club.

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

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

(e) Fees and Expenses in Final tie will be paid by the Association.

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

**17** (a) ln order to achieve maximum publicity for the competition the HOME Club Secretary shall telephone the appointed person by time stated on match day

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**21** lf the Association have any doubts as to the qualification of any player competing in this competition lt shall have the power to call upon such player, or the Club to which he belongs or for which he has played, to prove to the satisfaction of the Association that he is properly qualified in accordance with the rules of the competition, and, failing such satisfactory proof, the Association shall have the power to disqualify such player and remove his Club from the competition or to take such action as is deemed expedient.

**22** (a) The Field of Play for all Cup Ties shall be not less than 100 yards by 50 yards and not more than 120 yards by 80 yards.

(b) GOAL NETS must be used in all Ties.

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

**23** ln addition to the Cup, the Association will present suitable mementos to the Players, Substitutes and Match Officials in the Final Tie.

**24** The Rules governing this competition shall be those of the NORTH EAST WALES FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION and the FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF WALES,

**25** (a) ln the interests of administration the draw for successive rounds of this Competition will be made within SEVEN days of the Conference date of the previous round (Sundays and Bank Holidays excepted).

(b) This draw shall be communicated to the Fixture Secretary as quickly as possible.

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

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

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