



The overarching governing documents of football within Northumberland Clubs for Young People including the Pin Point Recruitment NABC Football League

Including



**The Incorporated FA Guidelines' and Rules
NABC League Rules
NABC Cup Rules
NACYP Cup Rules
NABC Fair play Charter
NABC Safeguarding Statement
Fines and Sanction**

Published for the 2009-2010 Season



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1. NOMENCLATURE AND CONSTITUTION

(A) This Competition shall be designated the Pin Point Recruitment League/Cup and shall consist of no more than 105 Clubs who shall be Full Member Clubs. All such Member Clubs must be affiliated to the relevant area Football Association and their names and particulars shall be returned annually by the appointed date on the Form "D" to the relevant Football Association. The area covered by the Competition Membership shall be the Counties of Northumberland and Durham.

(B) This Competition shall apply annually for sanction to the Northumberland Football Association and the constituent teams of Member Clubs may be grouped in divisions, each not exceeding 14 in number.

(C) Member Clubs shall not enter any of their teams playing in the Competition in any other Competitions (with the exception of their relevant local FA or Youth Division Cup Competitions) except with the written consent of the Management Committee of the Competition.

2. ENTRY FEE, SUBSCRIPTION, DEPOSIT

In order for teams to participate in the NABC football league participating Clubs must affiliate to Northumberland Clubs for Young People, this affiliation must reach the NACYF office no later than 1st April each year. (Exceptions occur where participating clubs are outside the area of service delivery of Northumberland Clubs for Young People

(A) Applications by Clubs for admission to this Competition must be made on the NABC football League application form and be received prior to 20th April each season. At the discretion of a majority of the accredited voting members present, applications of which due notice has been given, may be received at the Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting. The Entry Fee shall apply.

(B) The Annual Subscription shall be £40 per Team payable on or before 1st July in each year.

(C) A Club shall not participate in this Competition until the Entry Fee, Annual Subscription and Deposit have been paid.

(E) Clubs must advise annually to the Secretary in writing by 31st July of its Northumberland County Football Association affiliation number for the forthcoming Season. Clubs must advise the Secretary in writing, or on the prescribed form, of details of its Headquarters, Officers and any other information required by the Competition.

3. OFFICERS

The Officers of the Competition shall be the President, two Vice-Presidents, Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary, Fixtures Secretaries, appointed advisors (up to 10 made) up from affiliated clubs. The management have the right to delegate responsibilities' to appointed staff and co-opted people.

4. MANAGEMENT, NOMINATION, ELECTION

- (A)** The Competition shall be governed in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of The Football Association by a Management Committee comprised of the Officers.
- (B)** Retiring Officers shall be eligible to become candidates for re-election without nomination. All other candidates for election as Officers or Members of the Management Committee shall be nominated to the Secretary in writing, signed by the Secretaries of two Member Clubs, not later than two weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting in each year. In the event of there being no nomination in accordance with the foregoing for any office, nominations may be received at the Annual General Meeting
- (C)** The Management Committee shall meet as often as is necessary to deal with business as it arises. On receiving a requisition signed by two-thirds of the Members of the Management Committee the Secretary shall convene a meeting of the Committee.
- (D)** Except where otherwise mentioned all communications shall be addressed to the Secretary who shall conduct the correspondence of the Competition and keep a record of its proceedings.
- (E)** All communications received from Clubs must be conducted through their nominated Officers.

5. POWERS OF MANAGEMENT

- (A)** The Management Committee may appoint sub-committees and delegate such of their powers as they deem necessary.
- (B)** Subject to the permission of the Northumberland County Football Association having been obtained the Management Committee may order a match or matches to be played each season, the proceeds to be devoted to the funds of the Competition and, if necessary, may call upon each Club (including any Club which may have withdrawn during the season) to contribute equally such sums as may be necessary to meet any deficiency at the end of the season. (See Rule 6(e)).
- (C)** Each Member of the Management Committee shall have the right to attend and vote at all Management Committee Meetings and have one vote thereat, but no Member shall be allowed to vote on any matters directly appertaining to such Member or to the Club so represented. (This shall apply to the procedure of any sub-committee). In the event of the voting being equal on any matter, the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.
- (D)** The Management Committee shall have powers to apply, act upon and enforce the Rules of the Competition and shall also have jurisdiction over all matters affecting the Competition, including any not provided for in the Rules. Except where these Rules provide for the imposition of a set penalty any Club, Official or Player alleged to be in breach of a Competition Rule must be formally charged in writing and given the opportunity to present their case before the Management Committee. All breaches of the Laws of the Game, Rules and Regulations of The Football Association shall be dealt with in accordance with F.A. Rules.
- (E)** All decisions of the Management Committee shall be binding subject to the right of appeal to the Board of Appeal in accordance with Rule 16. Decisions of the Management Committee must be notified in writing to those concerned within seven days.
- (F)** Five Members of the Management Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business of the Management Committee and five Members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business by any sub-committee of the Competition.
- (G)** The Management Committee, as it may deem necessary, shall have power to fill in an acting capacity, any vacancies that may occur amongst their number.
- (H)** A Club having failed to comply with an order or instruction of the Management Committee, or failing to satisfactorily attend to the business and/or the correspondence of

the Competition, shall be liable to be fined or otherwise penalised at the discretion of the Management Committee.

(I) All fines and charges shall be paid within 14 days of the date of posting of the written notification. Clubs, Officials or individuals committing a breach of this Rule will incur such penalties as the Management Committee may impose.

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

6. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

(A) The Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than 1st June in each year. At this meeting the following business shall be transacted provided that at least five Members are present and entitled to vote: -

- (i) To receive and confirm the Minutes of the preceding Annual General Meeting.
- (ii) To consider any business arising there from.
- (iii) To receive and adopt the Annual Report, Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts.
- (iv) Election of Clubs to fill vacancies (as recommended by the Management Committee).
- (v) Constitution of the Competition for ensuing season.
- (vi) Election of Officers and Management Committee.
- (vii) Appointment of Auditors.
- (viii) Alteration of Rules, if any (of which 14 days notice has been given).
- (ix) Fix the date for the commencement and conclusion of playing season.
- (x) Other business of which due notice shall have been given and accepted as being relevant to an Annual General Meeting.

(B) A copy of the duly verified Balance Sheet, Statement of Accounts and Agenda shall be forwarded to each Club at least fourteen days prior to the meeting, and to the Northumberland County Football Association.

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

(D) Each Member Club shall be empowered to send two delegates to an Annual General Meeting. Each Club shall be entitled to one vote only. Not less than seven days' notice shall be given of any Meeting.

(E) Clubs who have withdrawn their Membership of the Competition during the season being concluded or who are not continuing Membership shall be entitled to attend but shall vote only on matters relating to the season being concluded. This provision will not apply to Clubs expelled in accordance with Rule 17.

(F) All voting shall be conducted by a show of voting cards unless a ballot be demanded by at least 75% of the delegates qualified to vote or the Chairman so decides.

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

(H) Any continuing Member Club failing to be represented at the Annual General Meeting without satisfactory reason being given shall be fined £25.

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

7. AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED

Declaration

I have read and understand the following documents.

League Regulations, The Incorporated FA rules for Youth Competitions, League Cup Rules & Regulations, NACYP Cup Rules & Regulations, The NABC Fair Play Charter, Safeguarding statement, The Sanctions & Protest Procedures

All documents are available from the NABC or www.thenabc.co.uk

I accept that in registering my team to participate in the league and cups. I am willing to comply with the above rules, recommended good practice and accept the sanctions outlined.

Signed Manager

Date:

Signed Club Official

Date:

8. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

(A) Contract players, as defined in Football Association Rules, are not permitted in this Competition. No player registered with a F.A. Premier League or Football League Academy will be permitted to play in this competition. A Player registered with a Centre of Excellence may only play in this Competition subject to the Regulations of the Programme for Excellence.

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

Signed a fully and correctly completed Competition registration form in ink, countersigned by his parent or guardian and by an Officer of the Club, and who has been registered with the Registrations Secretary 48 hours prior to playing and whose completed registration counterfoil has been received by the Club prior to playing. The registration document must incorporate any known serious medical conditions of the player and emergency contact details of the player's parents or guardians. These details must be available at matches and training events the player attends within the management of the Club or Competition.

(C) The qualification dates for the competition shall be as follows:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

In accordance with the foregoing qualifications a player under the age of 14 as at midnight on 31st August in the playing season must not play in a match where any other player is older or younger by two years or more.

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

(D) A player having taken part in matches for any Club affiliated to any County Football Association shall not be allowed to join, be transferred to, or sign for a Club in the Competition without first proving to the officials of the intended Club that the player has discharged all reasonable financial liabilities to the previous Club or Clubs, and a Club official may not accept such player's signature without first ascertaining whether such claims have been discharged to the satisfaction of the Club, or Clubs, for which the player last played.

(E) Further Registration forms shall be obtained from the Registration Secretary.

(F) The Management Committee shall decide all registration disputes.

In the event of a player signing a registration form or having a registration submitted for more than one Club priority of registration shall decide for which Club the player shall be registered. The Registration Secretary shall notify the Club last applying to register the player of the fact of the previous registration.

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

- (i) Play for more than one Club in the Competition in the same season without first being transferred/ registered
- (ii) Having signed for one Club in the Competition, sign for another Club in the Competition in that season except for the purpose of a transfer/ re-registration at the cost of £10.00. This is limited to once per season
- (iii) Submit a signed registration form for registration that the player had wilfully neglected to accurately or fully complete.

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

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

(ii) The Management Committee shall have power to refuse or cancel the registration of any player charged and found guilty of undesirable conduct (subject to Rule 16). Undesirable conduct shall mean an incident of repeated conduct, which may deter a participant from being involved in this competition.

(Note: Action under Clause (iii) shall not be taken against a player for misconduct until the matter has been dealt with by the appropriate Association, and then only in cases of the player bringing the Competition into disrepute.)

(I) Subject to The Football Association Rules dealing with players without a written contract when a player desires a transfer, the Club the player wishes to transfer to shall submit a transfer form to the Secretary accompanied by a fee of £10. Such transfer shall be referred by the Secretary to the Club for which the player is registered. Should this Club object to the transfer it should state its objections in writing to the Secretary and to the player concerned within seven days of receipt of the transfer form. Upon receipt of the Club's consent, or upon its failure to give written objection within seven days, the Secretary may, on behalf of the Management Committee, transfer the player who shall be deemed eligible to play for the new Club from such date or seven days after receipt of such transfer. In the event of an objection to a transfer the matter shall be referred to the Management Committee for a decision.

(J) A player may not be registered for a Club nor transferred to another Club in the Competition after the last Friday in March.

(K) A Club shall keep a list of the players it registers and a record of the games in which they have played, and shall produce such records upon demand by the Management Committee. In the event a Club has more than one team in an age group, each team must be clearly designated "A" and "B" etc. In such cases, players will be registered for one

team only. A player so registered will be allowed to play for his Club in a younger or older age group within the provisions of Rule 8 (B).

(L) A register containing the names of all players registered for each Club, with the date of registration, shall be kept by the Registration Secretary and shall be open to the inspection of any duly appointed Member Club representative at all Management Committee meetings or at other times mutually arranged. Registrations are valid for one season only.

(M) A player shall not be eligible to play for a team in any special championship match (as specified in Rule 12(A)) unless the player has played three games for that team in this Competition in the current season.

(N) Any team playing an unregistered or otherwise ineligible player or players shall have the points gained in the match deducted from its total and may be fined and/or otherwise dealt with at the discretion of the Management Committee.

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

(ii) The Management Committee in exceptional circumstances may, at its discretion, award any points deducted from a Club under this Rule to the opponents in the match in question, subject to the match not being ordered to be replayed.

(O) Priority must be given at all times to school and school organisations activities. (except for Sunday Competitions).

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

(ii) Children under 14 shall not play in a team involving players who are more than 2 years older.

9. CLUB COLOURS. CLUB NAME

(A) Every Club must register the colour of its shirts and shorts with the Secretary by the date specified by the Secretary who shall decide as to their suitability.

- Goalkeepers must wear colours that distinguish them from other players and the referee.
- No player, including the goalkeeper, shall be permitted to wear black or very dark shirts.
- Any team not being able to play in its normal colours as registered with the Competition shall notify the colours in which they will play to its opponents at least five days before the match.
- If, in the opinion of the referee, two Clubs have the same or similar colours, the *home* team shall make the change. Any team not having a change of colours or delaying the kick-off by not having a change shall be fined £20.
- The Secretary of the Competition may request shirts to be submitted if complaints are received as to lack of distinguishing colours, and the Management Committee may refuse to permit any shirts or shorts as they think fit.

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

**10. PLAYING SEASON - CONDITIONS OF PLAY - TIMES OF KICK-OFF –
POSTPONEMENTS - SUBSTITUTES**

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

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

- (i)** Clubs must take all reasonable precautions to keep their grounds in a playable condition. All matches shall be played on pitches deemed suitable by the Management Committee. If through any fault of the home team a match has to be replayed, the Management Committee shall have power to order the venue to be changed.
- (ii)** The Management Committee shall have power to decide whether a pitch and/or facilities are suitable for matches in the Competition and to order the Club concerned to play its fixtures on another ground.
- (iii)** All matches shall have a duration as set out below unless a shorter time is mutually arranged by the two captains in consultation with the referee prior to the commencement of the match, and in any event shall be of equal halves.
- (iv)** The duration of play shall be as follows unless it is mutually agreed by all parties to reduce the time. For under 11 and under 12 - 30 minutes each half; for under 13 and 14 - 35 minutes each half, for under 15 and under 16, - 40 minutes each half; under 17 - 40 minutes each half.
- (v)** The minimum time for any game will not be less than 20 minutes each half for players in the under 14 age group and below and **25** minutes each half for all other age groups. (Applicable where weather conditions dictate)
- (vi)** No player under the age of 17 as at midnight on 31st August in any season shall be permitted to play more than one game or, in the event the competition allows the playing of a double-header, i.e.: two separate matches, 100 minutes per day in this Competition.
- (vii)** The times of kick-off shall be 2.00pm Sundays and 6.30pm weekdays if an alternative can not be mutually agreed by the participating teams. Any Club failing to commence at the appointed time shall be fined a sum not exceeding £10 or be otherwise dealt with as the Management Committee may determine.
- (viii)** Referees must order matches to commence at the appointed time and must report all late starts to the Competition.
- (ix)** The home team must provide at least two footballs fit for play and the referee shall make a report to the Competition if the footballs are unsuitable. The size of football to be used shall be size 4 for those playing under 11, 12 and 13 age groups; size 5 for all other age groups. Goal nets must be used where available.

(C) Except by permission of the Management Committee all matches must be played on the dates originally fixed but priority shall be given to The Football Association and all relevant County Association Cup Competitions. All other matches must be considered secondary. Clubs may mutually agree to bring forward a match with the consent of the Secretary.

(D) The Secretary of the home Club must give notice in writing or by telephone of full particulars of the location of, and access to, the ground and time of kick-off to the match officials and the Secretary of the opposing Club at least five clear days prior to the playing of the match. (Inclusive of midweek fixtures) The away Club shall seek and acknowledge

receipt of such particulars. Once a match has been confirmed by **BOTH** teams to the relevant fixture secretary the game becomes official and the league rule will apply. Any Club failing to comply with this Rule shall be liable to a fine of £10.

(E) Every Club shall play its best available qualified team or teams in all matches in the Competition.

(Note: The intention of this Rule is not to interfere with normal team selection by Clubs, but to prevent Clubs deliberately fielding a weakened team in order to unreasonably reserve players for another game or to boost the strength of another or lower team. If, in the opinion of the Management Committee, the substance or spirit of the Rule is obviously being disregarded, the Club or Clubs concerned may be called to account for its/their actions and shall be subject to such decisions as the Management Committee may determine, despite the fact that Rule 8 has not been infringed.)

In the event of a Club playing in any match with less than eleven players they may be fined £5 for each missing player. A minimum of seven players will constitute a team for a Competition match.

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

- I. Any Club with more than one team in the Competition shall always fulfil its fixture, within the Competition, in the following order of precedence: - First Team, Reserve Team, A Team. Clubs in breach of this requirement shall be fined a sum not exceeding £10 or otherwise dealt with by the Management Committee. **Any club unable to fulfil a fixture must, without delay, give notice to the Competition Secretary, the Secretary of the opposing club and the match officials.** Any club failing to comply shall be dealt with by the Management Committee who may inflict any penalty it may deem suitable.
- II. In the event of a match not being played or abandoned owing to causes over which neither Club has control, it shall be played in its entirety on a date to be mutually agreed by the two Clubs and approved by the Management Committee. Failing such agreement and notification to the Secretary within seven days the Management Committee shall have power to order the match to be played on a named date or on or before a given date.
- III. The Management Committee shall review all matches abandoned in cases where it is consequent upon the conduct of either or both Teams. Where it is to the advantage of the Competition and does no injustice to either Club, the Management Committee shall be empowered to order the score at the time of the abandonment to stand. In all cases where the Management Committee are satisfied that a match was abandoned owing to the conduct of one team or its Club member(s) they shall be empowered to award the points for the match to the opponents and/or take what other action they may deem necessary. In cases where a match is abandoned owing to the conduct of both teams or their Club members, the Management Committee shall take such action as they consider appropriate. Such action is subject to any disciplinary action taken by the appropriate Affiliated Association.

(G) A Club may at its discretion and in accordance with the Laws of the Game use seven substitute players in any match in this Competition who may be selected from seven players. For matches at Under 17 level, three substitute players may be used who may be selected from five players.

- I. For teams in the under 16 age group and below, a player who has been substituted himself becomes a substitute and may replace another player at any time subject to the substitution being carried out in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of Association Football.

- II. The referee shall be informed of the names of the substitutes not later than five minutes before the start of the match.
 - III. A player who has been selected, appointed or named as a substitute before the start of the match but does not actually play in the game shall not be considered to have been a player in that game within the meaning of Rule 8 of this Competition.
- (H)** The half time interval shall be of five minutes duration, but it shall not exceed fifteen minutes. The half time interval may only be altered with the consent of the referee.

11. REPORTING RESULTS

(A) The Secretary must receive within four days of the date played, the result of each Competition match in the prescribed manner. This must include the forename(s) and surname of the team players (in block letters) and also the Referee markings required by Rule 13, or any other information required by the Competition. Failure to do so will incur a fine of £10 and/or the Club being dealt with as the Management Committee decide.

(B) The Home Club shall telephone the result of each match to the Results Secretary within timescales specified within the league regulations

(C) The match result notification correctly completed shall be signed by a responsible member of the Club. The Management Committee shall have power to take such action as they deem suitable against a Club that submits an incomplete form or incorrect information.

12. DETERMINING CHAMPIONSHIP

(A) Team rankings within the Competition will be decided by points with three points to be awarded for a win and one point for a drawn match. The teams gaining the highest number of points in their respective Divisions at the conclusion shall be adjudged the winners. Matches must not be played for double points.

The league championship and runners-up will only be decided on points. In the event of two or more teams being equal on points the head-to-head record between the teams will decide the winners. In the event of teams still being level a deciding match (s) will be played under conditions determined by the Management Committee. All other league places will be decided in the following manner if two or more sides shall be level on points.

- Goal difference
- Goal's scored

For deciding matches, in the event of the scores in a special championship match played under conditions determined by the management committee being level at the end of the game,

- 20 minutes extra time shall be played in two equal periods of 10 minutes
- (Extra time at Under 11 and 12 levels shall be 10 minutes in equal periods of 5 minutes and at
- Under 17 level shall be 20 minutes in equal periods of 10 minutes). If the game is still drawn after extra time, the winners will be determined by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the International Board Decision contained in the Laws of Association Football.

(B) In the event of a team not completing any of its fixtures for the season all points obtained by or recorded against such defaulting team shall be expunged from the Competition table.

13. REFEREES

(A) Referees for all matches shall be appointed in a manner approved by the Management Committee and by the sanctioning Association.

(B) In the event of the non-appearance of the appointed Referee or in cases where there are no officially appointed Assistant Referees, or where the competition has been unable to appoint a Referee, the Clubs shall agree upon a Referee. A Referee thus agreed upon shall, for that game, have the full powers, status and authority of a registered Referee. This appointment must be verified on the team sheet prior to the commencement of the match that a coin has been flipped.

(C) The Management Committee may, if they consider it desirable, or upon application by the two competing Clubs, appoint Assistant Referees, if available, to any match.

(D) The appointed Referee shall have power to decide as to the fitness of the ground in all matches and the decision shall be final subject to either in the case of a ground of a Local Authority or the owners of a ground, the Representative of that body is the sole arbiter and whose decision must be accepted unless the ground is declared fit for play.

(E) Match Officials, howsoever appointed under this Rule shall be entitled to charge standard class public transport expenses or private car expenses of 25p per mile and any other permitted expenses actually incurred together with the following match fees: -

Referee £10, Registered Referees appointed by the Management Committee as Assistant Referees £6.

The Home Club shall pay the Officials their fees and expenses immediately after the match.

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

(G) A Referee not keeping his engagement, and failing to give a satisfactory explanation as to his non-appearance, may be reported to the County Football Association with which he is registered.

(H) Each Club shall, in a manner prescribed from time to time by The Football Association, award marks to the Referee for each match and the name of the Referee and the marks awarded shall be submitted to the Competition on the prescribed Form provided. Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be liable to be fined or dealt with as the Management Committee shall determine. The Competition shall keep a record of the markings and, on the Form provided by the prescribed date each season, shall submit a summary to The County Football Association.

14. CONTINUATION OF MEMBERSHIP OR WITHDRAWAL OF A CLUB

(A) After 31st December in the current Season a Club intending, or having a provisional intention, to withdraw a team from the Competition on completion of its fixtures and fulfilment of all other obligations to the Competition must notify the Secretary in writing no later than 14 days prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting each Season or be liable to a fine not exceeding £50 and loss of Guarantee Fees.

(B) A Club shall not be allowed to withdraw any or all of its teams from the Competition after the Annual General Meeting for the following Season. Any Club infringing this Rule shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £50 per team and shall also be liable for its share of any call, which may be made under Rule 5(B).

(C) In the event of a Member Club which is an un-incorporated association withdrawing and/or disbanding it shall be immediately liable to discharge all its financial and other obligations to the Competition. In the event that any such obligation remains undischarged after a period of twenty-one (21) days then such obligation shall be met by the then current Club Members, excluding those under the statutory school leaving age. Until a Member's

pro rata obligation is discharged in full the Member shall not be allowed to participate in the Competition, which may apply to the Club's Parent County Association for a suspension order.

15. PROTESTS AND APPEALS

(A) All questions of eligibility, qualifications of players or interpretations of the Rules shall be referred to the Management Committee.

(i) Objections relevant to the dimensions of the pitch, goals, flag posts or other facilities of the venue will not be entertained by the Management Committee unless a protest is lodged with the Referee before the commencement of the match. Any Club lodging such protest and not proceeding with it shall be deemed guilty of a breach of this Rule and shall be dealt with by the Management Committee.

(B) Except in cases where the Management Committee decide that there are special circumstances, protests and complaints (which must contain full particulars of the grounds upon which they are founded) must be lodged in line with the NABC protest procedure with the Secretary within seven days (excluding Sundays) of the match or occurrence to which they refer, signed by a club official and accompanied with the £10.00 protest fee and the alleged broken. A protest or complaint shall not be withdrawn except by permission of the Management Committee. A Member of the Management Committee who is a member of any Club involved shall not be present (except as a witness or representative of his Club) when such protest or complaint is being determined.

(C) Any dispute occurring between Clubs in the Competition shall be referred for determination by the Management Committee whose decision shall be binding upon all parties subject to Rule 16.

(D) No protest of whatever kind shall be considered by the Management Committee unless the complaining Club shall have deposited with the Secretary a sum of £10. This may be forfeited in whole or in part in the event of the complaining or protesting Club losing its case. The Competition shall have power to order the defaulting Club or the Club making a losing or frivolous protest or complaint to pay the expenses of the enquiry or to order that the costs to be shared by the parties.

(E) All parties to a protest or complaint must be afforded an opportunity to make a statement when the protest or complaint is being heard as outlined within the protest procedure. When dealing with a protest or complaint the Management Committee shall take into consideration the possession by the protesting or complaining Club of any information which, if properly used, might have avoided the protest or complaint.

16. BOARD OF APPEAL

(A) Within 14 days of the posting of written notification of any decision of the Management Committee or the Competition, a Club, Official or Player against whom action is taken may appeal against such decision by lodging particulars in duplicate with the Secretary of the appropriate Football association division, in line with their appeals procedure. The grounds of appeal shall be in accordance with FA Rules. The Board of Appeal may order the appeal fee to be forfeited and shall decide by whom the costs of the appeal shall be borne. The decision of the Board of Appeal is final and binding on all parties concerned.

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

17. EXCLUSION OF CLUBS OR TEAMS, MISCONDUCT, CLUBS, OFFICIALS, PLAYERS

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

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

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

18. TROPHY: - LEGAL OWNERS, CONDITIONS OF TAKING OVER, AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED AND AWARDS

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

(B) All participants are required to return trophies as specified within the League cup/NACYP cup regulations

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

19. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

Upon receiving a requisition signed by two-thirds of the Clubs in membership the Secretary shall call a Special General Meeting. The Management Committee may call a Special General Meeting at any time.

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

Each Full Member Club shall be empowered to send two delegates to all Special General Meetings. Each Club shall be entitled to one vote only. Not less than seven days' notice shall be given of any Meeting.

Any continuing Member Club failing to be represented at a Special General Meeting without satisfactory reason being given shall be fined £25.

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

20. ALTERATION TO RULES

Alterations shall be made to these Rules only at the Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting specially convened for the purpose called in accordance with

Rule 19. Any alteration made during the playing season to the Rule relating to the qualification of players shall not take effect until the following season.

Notice of proposed alterations to be considered at the Annual General Meeting shall be submitted to the Secretary by 14 days prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting in each year. The proposals, together with any proposals by the Management Committee, shall be circulated to the Clubs by 7 days prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting. A proposal to change a Rule shall be carried if a majority of those present and entitled to vote are in favour.

A copy of the proposed alterations to Rules to be considered at the Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting shall be submitted to the sanctioning Football Association seven days prior to the date of the meeting.

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

21. RULES BINDING ON CLUBS

Each Member Club shall be deemed to have given its assent to the foregoing Rules and agreed to abide by the decisions of the Management Committee subject to Rule 16. Each Member Club must abide by any issued Football Association Code of Conduct.

22. FINANCE

(A) The Management Committee shall determine with which bank or other financial institution the funds of the Competition will be lodged.

(B) All expenditure shall be approved by the Management Committee. Cheques shall be signed by at least two Officers nominated by the Management Committee.

(C) The financial year of the Competition will end on 31st July

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

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

- 1) Any act, statement, conduct or other matter which harms a child or children, or poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children, shall constitute behaviour which is improper and brings the game into disrepute.
- 2) In these Regulations the expression "Offence" shall mean any one or more of the offences **outlined under the definitions of abuse** .These definitions are based on those from Working Together to Safeguard Children (Department of Health, Home office, Department for Education and Employment, 1999)
- 3) Upon receipt by The Association of:
 - (a) notification that an individual has been charged with an Offence; or
 - (b) notification that an individual is the subject of an investigation by the Police, Social Services or any other authority relating to an Offence; or
 - (c) any other information which causes The Association or the NABC reasonably to believe that a person poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children then. The Association/ NABC shall have the power to order that the individual be suspended from any specific football activity until concerns have been investigated by the appropriate / suitably qualified authority that can confirm that individual concerned is not a risk to children / young people
- 4) In reaching its determination as to whether an order under Regulation 3 should be made The Association/ NABC football league will seek guidance from the FA NSPCC child protection unit who shall give consideration, inter alia, to the following factors:
 - (a) whether a child is or children are or may be at risk of harm;
 - (b) whether the matters are of a serious nature;
 - (c) whether an order is necessary or desirable to allow the conduct of any investigation by the Association or any other authority or body to proceed unimpeded.
- 5) The period of an order referred to in 3 above shall not be capable of lasting beyond the date upon which any charge under the Rules of The Association or any Offence is decided or brought to an end.
- 6) Where an order is imposed on an individual under regulation 3 above, The Association shall bring and conclude any proceedings under the Rules of The Association against the person relating to the matters as soon as reasonably practicable.
- 7) Where a person is convicted, or is made the subject of a caution in respect of an Offence, that shall constitute a breach of the Rules of The Association and The Association shall have the power to order the suspension of the person from all or any specific football activity for such a period (including indefinitely) and on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit.
- 8) For the purposes of these Regulations, The Association shall act through its Council or any committee or sub-committee thereof, including the Board.
- 9) Notification in writing of an order referred to above shall be given to the person concerned and/or any club with which he is associated as soon as reasonably practicable.
- 10) The NABC football League recognises that the welfare of the child is paramount and may at anytime suspend a manager from involvement in the league should they feel that their involvement may place a child or young person at risk
- 11) The NABC will report all allegations and take advice from qualified bodies
- 12) The NABC will only liaise with designated club welfare offices relating to safeguarding/ Child protection issues
- 13) The NABC has adopted the Northumberland Clubs for Young people Child Protection on confidentiality policy.

LEAGUE REGULATIONS 2009/2010

1. The League is called **The Pin Point Recruitment NABC Football League** and is open to clubs affiliated to the Northumberland Association of Clubs for Young People. There will be seven age groups – Under 17, Under 16, Under 15, Under 14, Under 13, Under 12 and Under 11. The League welcomes all operating in the remit of service and willing to adopt the rules, regulations, baseline standards and other regulations imposed by the league.

(A) The League is managed by The Football Committee of the Northumberland Association of Clubs for Young People plus elected club representatives (hereafter known as 'The Committee') The Football Sub Committee will appoint the following Officers – Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Fixture Secretaries.

2. The League Fee will be £40.00 (including league cup) and must be paid on or before 1ST July otherwise a fine of £20.00 will be imposed. All registrations are free. **New clubs** must also pay a bond fee of £50.00 in their first season that will be returned when all obligations have been fulfilled.

3. Clubs must complete the registration of players before the League commences. Such registrations must reach the League Secretary two days before a player takes part in a League game and the club must receive the counterfoil back from the Secretary 48 hours before the player can take part in a League game. Clubs may register up to 18 players at any one time excepting Under17's who are able to register 20 players.

(A) Number of transfers and re-registrations will be limited to TWO per player per season and will cost £10. The number of teams a player may be registered for is restricted to a maximum of THREE at any one age group.

(B) When a club cancels a player's registration they must return the registration card to the NABC prior to a new registration card being issued. Only players registered for the league and the league cup competitions may play in a trophy or subsidiary competition organised by the league.

(C) Movement of players will be restricted to the period between 1st October and the 31ST March.

(D) Under 17 players must not have passed their 17th birthday on 1st September of the current season. Under 16 players must not have passed their 16th birthday on 1st September of the current Season. Under 15 players must not have passed their 15th birthday on 1st September of the current Season. Under 14 players must not have passed their 14th birthday on 1st September of the current Season. Under 13 players must not have passed their 13th birthday on 1st September of the current Season. Under 12 players must not have passed their 12th birthday on 1st September of the current League Season. All players in the Under 11 League must not have passed their 11th birthday on 1st September of the current Season. All players in the Under 11 Section must be in Year SIX (6) at School before they can play in the Pin Point Recruitment NABC Under 11 Football Competitions.

**All registrations and transfers must be processed during Office hours
10.00am to 2.00pm (Monday to Friday)**

4. If the Secretary/Committee have any concerns as to the qualification(s) of any player taking part in the League they shall have power to call upon such player, or the club to which the player belongs, or for which he played previously to prove that he is qualified according to the rules. Failing satisfactory proof being obtained the Committee may disqualify such player and remove the club from the Competition, or impose such other penalty as they think fit.

(A) Clubs playing unregistered/in-eligible players will be fined £50.00 per game and the game(s) will be awarded to their opponents if the opposing team did not win the game(s) or be in default of the rules.

5. Once the fixture list has been compiled, the League Secretary shall have the authority to alter fixtures at short notice to accommodate a Cup tie.

(A) The fixture list is official notice of the match to both clubs. The Home Team must confirm the match with their opponents **at least 5 days (inclusive of midweek fixtures) before the date of the game**, also confirming venue and colours. Once a match has been confirmed by **both** teams to the relevant fixture secretary, the game becomes official and the league rule will apply.

(B) When two teams have still to play each other twice, and the pitch of the home team is not available for any reason, the match **MUST** be reversed to the ground of their opponents even at short notice. A decision to reverse the fixture on the day of the match must be made by mutual consent.

(C) Clubs wishing to be free on a certain occasion should submit an application, in writing to the the League secretary at least four weeks (28 days) before the fixture list is compiled. **Please note: Club secretaries should NOT assume that the league committee will automatically grant any requests**

(D) Clash of Colours – The Home Team must change strips.

(E) All clubs playing in the Leagues should wear numbered shirts (both main and alternative strips).

(F) Any team failing to fulfill a League match will be fined £50.00 and the points for the un played game will be automatically awarded to their opponents (if the opponents were not at fault). Teams cannot mutually agree to postpone a game, or both will have the above rule applied against them and no points will be awarded.

(G) As with the fixture lists, any matches re-arranged by the Secretary and notified to the clubs concerned will be confirmation of such fixtures and will kick off 2.00 pm on Sundays and 6.30pm weekdays

(H) Result sheets must be completed and signed by the Secretary/Manager of both teams and countersigned by the Referee.

6. The fully completed result sheet must reach the NABC League **WITHIN FOUR WORKING DAYS of the match having been played** failure to fully complete (all Sections) a correct result sheet within the allotted timescale will result in a £10.00 fine. The result of the match must be telephoned by an official of the home team to the person appointed by the League to receive the scores. Failure to comply will incur a fine of £10.00.

(A) Clubs failing to answer correspondence by stipulated dates will be fined £10.00

(B) Clubs failing to pay fines within 14 days will be subject to a £10.00 administration fee.

7. Should a team wish to lodge a protest relating to any game this must reach the NABC on the official "protest form" not later than seven days following the match together with a fee of £10.00 and be counter signed by the club secretary and be specific regarding the allegedly broken rule. Please do not attach additional sheets these will not be considered the protest is invalid without the fee, which will be refunded if the protest is upheld.

(A) The NABC will accept concerns regarding "safeguarding issues" without an official protest form. However, please be aware that this is not to be abused and understand that we must at all time act within the law. We advise contacting the NSPCC and/or the police if you believe a child or young person has been or is at risk of abuse due to the behavior of an adult.

(B) **Any complaints pertaining to Official referees must be addressed to the Northumberland FA not the League.**

8. Home teams must provide match balls – A **size 4** ball is used at Under 11, 12 and 13 ages, a **size 5** ball is used at Under 14, 15, 16 and 17 ages.

9. No player may transfer from one team to another without the Managers of both teams having completed a League Transfer Form. The player must be registered two days before playing and the transfer fee will be £10.00.

No transfers, or cancellation of registrations (without exception) will be allowed until 1st October. No player may then be registered or transferred after 31st March

10. A League meeting will be held at regular intervals. All clubs must be represented or a £25.00 fine **PER TEAM** will be imposed.

11. The Management Committee will deal with all offences.

12. Referees - Every effort should be made at all times to appoint a fully qualified neutral Referee for matches in these Leagues but under no circumstances should a qualified referee be appointed if he/she is in any way associated with either of the **Teams** taking part in the match, i.e., Parent, Club Official, Management Committee, etc. If the person in charge of the Home Team does not inform their visitors that a person has some connection with their **Team**, and he/she referees the game, the League Committee will impose a fine of £25.00 and the game will be awarded to the non-defaulting team.

(A) When the services of a qualified Referee cannot be obtained club officials will spin for the choice of Referee. Such Referees are official and any decisions of theirs are as binding as those of a qualified Referee which includes the sending of Reports to Divisional Secretaries. When teams spin for the choice of Referee the person appointed must officiate for the full match.

(B) Team Secretaries and Managers are reminded that when a 'Club Official' is appointed to be the Referee he/she must act as a completely 'neutral' official and should not under any circumstances 'coach' his/her team whilst the match is in progress

(C) The Referees Fee will be £10.00 plus full traveling expenses. This only applies to qualified 'neutral' referees.

13. All games are to be played on Sundays with a 2.00 p.m. kick off (an earlier kick off time can be mutually agreed). Under 11 and Under 12 games will be 30 minutes each way, Under 13 & Under 14 games will be 35 minutes each way, Under 15,16 & Under 17 games will be 40 minutes each way. All games must have a 5 minute interval at half-time.

14. Players' Counterfoils **MUST** be carried to **ALL** games and **MUST** be exchanged with the opponent counterfoils **before the game and/or immediately after if requested** otherwise a **£20 fine** will be imposed and the **points awarded to the non-defaulting team**. No protests will be heard regarding the eligibility of players from teams that have failed to check counterfoils.

15. The points for the Championship and Runner-up position shall be taken from wins and draws to be counted as follows: Three points for a win and one point for a draw. In the event of a tie for the Championship and Runner-Up positions, the final positions will be decided by the head-to-head record between the two teams. In the event of teams still being level a deciding match (s) will be organised under conditions determined by the Management Committee. Goal difference will decide all other positions in the League Table.

16. All team Cups, Shields and Trophies must be returned to the League Secretary by **31st March each year**. It is the responsibility of the winners of the Cups, Shields, or Trophies to have their name suitably engraved on such trophies and to return them in a clean and undamaged condition. Any club failing to carry out this rule will be fined £20.00 per Trophy and the cost of any engraving required or repairs to damage will be added to the fine.

1. Failure to collect League Trophies on the specified date will incur a fine of £20

17. All correspondence should be sent to the League Secretary at The NABC, West 15, Whickham View, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE15 6UN

For clarification of the rules please refer to the NABC league rules and the NABC incorporated rules respectively Misconduct fines and sanctions apply as stipulated in the Overarching documents of football within Northumberland Clubs for Young People document.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. All clubs will be required to have a nominated Club Welfare Officer to act as liaison regarding Safeguarding and child protection issues. The details of the CWO must be completed on each team registration form.
2. The Fair Play Charter must be adhered to.
3. 'Divisions' to be referred to as 'Leagues', eg Under 11 League 2
4. Any correspondence sent to the NABC Office requiring a reply must be accompanied with a Stamped Addressed Envelope.
5. Downloadable dispensation and transfer forms, and downloadable result sheets for all age groups are available online.
6. The NABC Football League will be a Charter Standard League for the 2008-2009 season. This will mean the baseline standard for acceptance into the league is Charter Standard Club. All existing clubs must have attained charter status by the first game of the season.

NABC Football League Cup Rules 2009-2010

(To be read in Conjunction with the League Rules)

- 1) The competition shall be known as the Pin Point Recruitment NABC Football League Cup Competition. Those entering the Pin Point NABC Football league will receive automatic entry
- 2) Duration of games
 - Under 11 and Under 12 - All matches to be 30 minutes each way
 - Under 13 and Under 14 - All matches to be 35 minutes each way
 - Under 15,16 & 17 - All matches to be 40 minutes each way
- 3) In the event of scores being equal after full time, a further 5 minutes each way will be played (Extra Time) in under 11 and Under 12. In all other age groups 10minutes each way will be played. If after extra time the scores are still level the match will be decided by a penalty shoot-out. Both teams will take 5 penalties, each penalty to be taken by a different player. In the event of the scores still being level, teams will take alternate penalties until a result is obtained after an equal number of penalties. Only players on the field at the conclusion of the game may take part in a penalty shoot-out.
- 4) All clubs in active membership of the league must join the competition, which will be conducted by the league management committee
- 5) Players eligible to play in the competition must be registered with the league in accordance with the league rules
- 6) No player can play for more than one team in the competition in the same season and any player who has played for another club- even as a substitute for a few minutes- is Cup Tied and not eligible to play
- 7) To play in the semi final and final ties, a player must have played in two games before the date of the semi final
- 8) Any team fielding a cup tied/unregistered/ineligible player will be disqualified from the cup competition
- 9) Results sheets must be completed by both teams and forwarded to the league no later than four days following the match.
- 10) The result of the match must be telephoned to the person appointed by the league within the allotted timescale as specified in the league rules
- 11) Clubs wishing to postpone a tie must give at least 4 weeks notice (28 days) in writing to the NABC and opponents. Such requests will be considered but not necessarily granted.
- 12) Should a team wish to lodge a protest they should follow the protest procedure as outlined in the League rules
- 13) Teams reaching the final will guarantee the sale of £35.00 worth of programme tickets which must be paid for prior to the cup final.
- 14) Rolling substitutes apply except for under seventeen's who may use five out of seven named substitutes'. The referee should be informed of the names of substitutes' no later than ten minutes before the start of the match
- 15) Teams can only register 18 players. Under 17s teams can register 20 players.
- 16) Any club which does not fulfil a cup tie will forfeit the tie and a fine of £50.00 will be imposed. The club will also be responsible for any expenses incurred by the opponents and match officials
- 17) All communication will be undertaken via the NABC football League

For clarification of the rules please refer to the NABC league rules and the NABC incorporated rules respectively. Misconduct fines and sanctions apply as stipulated in the Overarching documents of football within Northumberland Clubs for Young People document

The NABC Football League 2009-2010
NACYP Cup rules 2009-2010

The Cup is will be known as the NACYP cup and the Entry Fee is £10.00 per team.
Entry Requirement: To be an affiliated club of Northumberland Clubs For young People

Failure to comply with the Following Rules will result in financial penalties or where appropriate disqualification as outlined in the overall rules within the below document.

1. All Players must be registered with the competition 48 hours before they are eligible to play in any round
 - (A) Each Participating Club is entitled to register no more than 18 players except in the under 17's age group where 20 players may be registered.
 - (B) Players whose clubs are participating in the Pin Point Recruitment NABC Football Leagues are not required to complete a registration form as their records are held within the NACYP county office
 - (C) Clubs not registered with the Pin Point Recruitment NABC Football League must provide documentation to prove that their players are registered with their respective league.
 - (D) Clubs found to be fielding an ineligible player will be fined £50.00 and be disqualified.
2. Players participating in this competition may be required to produce proof of age in the form of a passport or Birth Certificate
3. Eligibility to play in cup competitions: (cases regarding ineligible players will not be heard where counterfoils have not been checked prior to the match)
 - (A) A registered player may only compete at one age group and for one club only.
 - (B) A registered player will be classed as cup tied even if they only briefly play during a match.
 - (C) To play in a semi final and final ties a player must have played in two games before the date of the semi final.
 - (D) Any club playing a cup tied or ineligible player will be fined £50.00 and will be disqualified
4. Players must be in the relevant age group at midnight on 31st August of the current season. Under 10s are not eligible to play eleven aside football under the Football Associations' rules.
5. Every effort should be made at all times to appoint a fully qualified **neutral** referee for matches in this competition but **under no circumstances** should a referee be appointed if they are in any way associated with either of the **TEAMS** taking part in the match (ie. Parent, Club Official, Management Committee, etc. **If the person in charge of the Home Team does not inform their opposition that the referee has a connection with their TEAM then NACYP will impose a fine of £25.00 and the game will be awarded to the non-defaulting team.**
 - (A) When the services of a qualified Referee cannot be obtained club officials will flip a coin for the choice of referee. This must be agreed and recorded on the team sheet prior to the kick off. Any such referees are official and decisions are as binding as those of a qualified referee, which includes sending reports to divisional secretaries. When the teams spin a coin for the choice of the referee the person appointed must officiate the whole match.
 - (B) Team Secretaries and Managers are reminded that when a 'Club Official' is appointed to be the Referee he/she must act as a completely 'neutral' official and should not under any circumstances 'coach' his/her team whilst the match is in progress

(C) The Referees Fee will be £10.00 plus full traveling expenses. This only applies to qualified 'neutral' referees.

6. Under 11 and Under 12 - All matches to be 30 minutes each way + 5 Minutes extra time each way. Under 13 and Under 14 - All matches to be 35 minutes each way + 10 Minutes extra time each way. Under 15,16 & 17 - All matches to be 40 minutes each way + 10 minutes extra time each way.

(A) In the event of scores being equal after full time, a further 5 minutes each way will be played (extra time) for Under 11 and Under 12 with 10 minutes each way for Under 13 to Under 17. If after extra time the scores are still level the match will be decided by a penalty shoot-out. Both teams will take 5 penalties, each penalty to be taken by a different player. In the event of the scores still being level, teams will take alternate penalties until a result is obtained after an equal number of penalties. Only players on the field at the conclusion of the game may take part in a penalty shoot-out.

7. All sections of **results sheets** must be completed correctly by both teams prior to kick off. The results must be added at the end of the match and signed by the referee. The home team is ultimately responsible for this and for forwarding these to the NACYF office within four working days following the match; failure to comply with this will result in a £10.00 fine.

(A) It is also the responsibility of the home team to ensure that the results are communicated to the allocated fixtures secretary within the allotted time frame. Failure to do so will result in a £10.00 fine

8. Balls Sizes - Under 11, 12 and 13s size 4 / Under 14, 15, 16 and 17 size 5

9. Protests regarding this cup must be submitted within seven days of the match being played, accompanied by a £10.00 protest fee and signed by a club official. The NABC protest form must be used. (The £10.00 fee will be returned if the protest is upheld)

10. All matches will be 2.00pm kick-off. Matches can be played earlier by mutual consent. However, if a time can not be agreed matches must kick off at 2.00pm and 6.30pm weekdays.

11. Clubs wishing to postpone a tie must give at least 28 days notice submitted on an official dispensation form obtained from the NACYF Office or website. The request for dispensation is not guaranteed if a postponement is not granted and the match is not played it will be classed as an unfulfilled fixture.

12. Unfulfilled fixtures will result in the match being awarded to the opposing team and a £50.00 will be imposed

13. Substitutions - Under 11's-Under 16's the rolling substitute rule applies, Under 17's may use only three of five named substitutes (rolling substitute does not apply). The referee shall be informed of the names of all substitutes at least 10 minutes prior to kick off

14. Counterfoils must be taken to all games and must be exchanged with opponents' counterfoils before each game. Failure to do this will result in a £20.00 fine and the game awarded to the non-defaulting team.

15. If, in the opinion of the referee, there is a clash of colours then the home team must change strips.

(A) Numbered strips must be worn at all times

(B) Goal keepers must wear colours that distinguish them from other players and the referee

(C) No Player including the goalkeeper shall be permitted to wear Black or very dark shirts

(D) Any team without a change of colours and resulting in a delay of kick off shall be fined £10.00.

16. Teams reaching the final will guarantee the sale of £35.00 worth of programme tickets, which must be paid prior to the final.

17. Winners of Cups & Trophies must ensure they are engraved, in a clean and undamaged condition and returned to NACYP prior to 31st March. Failure to do so will result in £20.00 fine per trophy plus any costs of engraving, cleaning and/or repairs.

18. All communication must be undertaken via: NACYP Units 15 & 16, Whickham View, Newcastle, NE15 6UN. Email: nacyp@btconnect.com.

For clarification of the rules please refer to the NABC league rules and the NABC incorporated rules respectively.

Misconduct fines and sanctions apply as stipulated in the Overarching documents of football within Northumberland Clubs for Young People document

Fair Play Charter

Players

- ✓ Play by the rules.
- ✓ Never argue or use foul language towards an official. If you disagree discuss your concerns with your coach or manager during a break.
- ✓ Control your temper. Do not use verbal abuse, provoke or deliberately distract opponents.
- ✓ Be a good sport. Applaud all good players whether in your team or opposition. Treat others as you would like to be treated, do not interfere, bully or take unfair advantage of other players.
- ✓ Co-operate with your coach team mates and opponents. Without them there is no competition.
- ✓ Don't let isolated incidents of unsporting behaviour become a focus point. Try to stay positive.

Parents/ Guardians

- ✓ Encourage young people to participate.
- ✓ Focus on young peoples' efforts rather than the outcome.
- ✓ Encourage young people to play by the rules.
- ✓ Never ridicule or berate a young person for making a mistake or losing a game.
- ✓ Remember that young people learn from adults– applaud good behaviour and sportsmanship from all teams.
- ✓ If you have a concern challenge this in an appropriate manner.
- ✓ Support all efforts to remove physical and verbal abuse from sporting activities.
- ✓ Please recognise the value and importance of all volunteer coaches, managers and referees. They give their time and effort in providing recreational activities for young people and deserve your support.

Spectators

- ✓ Young people play football for fun, not primarily for the entertainment of spectators, nor are they mini professionals.
- ✓ Applaud good performance from each team regardless of the outcome of the match.
- ✓ Respect the officials' decision. If there is a disagreement, raise your concerns at an appropriate time following procedures in a polite manner. Encourage young people to do likewise.
- ✓ Never ridicule or scold a young person for making a mistake.
- ✓ Do not be involved with violence of any kind, be it by spectators, coaches' officials or players. Remember you provide a role model for young people
- ✓ Show respect for your teams' opponents. Without them there would be no game.
- ✓ Encourage players to follow the rules and the officials' decisions.
- ✓ Behave appropriately. Do not use foul language.

Coaches/Trainers

- ✓ Be reasonable in your demands on young players.
- ✓ Teach your team to play by the rules.
- ✓ Set your team realistic targets so they feel they are achieving.
- ✓ Try to promote good sportsmanship and the importance of teamwork and having fun rather than the need to win.
- ✓ Never ridicule yell or treat a young person in a way that you would not like to be treated.
- ✓ Ensure that you consider the welfare of young people to be paramount in all circumstances.

- ✓ Ensure that your environment, equipment and facilities are safe and fit for purpose.
- ✓ Develop respect for opponents and the judgment of any official and opposing coaches—raise any concerns in line with protest procedures.
- ✓ Follow advice from appointed medical persons when determining if a player is match ready.
- ✓ Make a personal commitment to update knowledge about sound coaching principles.

Any Coach or Trainer found to be in breach of the Fair Play Charter could face a fine, suspension or expulsion from operating in the League

Playing Fair

We are committed to ensuring a positive experience for all involved in the NABC Football League. All Clubs entering the league will be bound by this charter. Clubs found to be in Breach of the Fair Play Charter will be considered to have brought the league into Disrepute, will be reported to the Northumberland Football Association.

The Management Committee have the right to apply the following charges for any misconduct charges against clubs:

- Fine
- Suspension
- Points deducted
- Fixtures suspended
- Withdrawn from competition
- Expelled from League

Discriminatory Behaviour

The NABC Football league operates a Zero tolerance policy in relation to discriminatory behaviour. Any Incidents will be taken very seriously by the NABC and may result in disqualification.

Safeguarding Children & Young people

- ✓ The NABC recognise that the Childs' welfare is paramount and recommend that all clubs adopt a safeguarding/child protection Policy.
- ✓ The NABC Recommend that all clubs appoint a Child Welfare office and that appointed person is the key liaison for all child protection issues and attend the appropriate FA training. The NABC will only speak with the named child welfare officer regarding any welfare issues.
- ✓ The NABC Recommend that all people in contact with young people in a position of trust obtain an Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.
- ✓ The NABC are committed to operating safe working practices and will report any allegations to the appropriate authorities.
- ✓ Should you need any guidance on dealing with child protection issues it is recommended that you contact the:

FA– NSPCC Child protection Line: 0808 800 500

Misconduct, Sanction, Fines & Fees

1)	Failure of a team to be represented at a league meeting	£25.00
2)	Failure to provide a fully complete and correct result sheet	£10.00
3)	Failure to report results to fixtures secretary within allotted timescale	£10.00
4)	Failure to respond to correspondence within an allotted timescale	£10.00
5)	Failure to appoint a neutral referee as defined in the league regulations	£25.00
	<i>(Plus the points awarded to non-defaulting team)</i>	
6)	Playing an unregistered player	£50.00
	<i>(Plus the points awarded to non-defaulting team)</i>	
7)	Failure to abide by Fair Play Charter	£50.00
8)	Bringing the league into disrepute	£levied by committee
9)	Failure to return Cups on time + any engraving/cleaning/repair/replacements	£25.00
10)	Failure to fulfill a fixture points awarded to defaulting team	£50.00
	<i>(Plus the points awarded to non-defaulting team)</i>	
11)	Refusal to exchange player's counterfoils	£20.00
	<i>(Plus the points awarded to non-defaulting team)</i>	
12)	Failure to pay fine within allotted timescale administration fee	£10.00
13)	Playing an unregistered player in a League Cup Match	£50.00
	<i>(Plus the game awarded to non-defaulting team)</i>	
14)	Playing an unregistered player in an NACYP Cup Match	£50.00
	<i>(Plus the game awarded to non-defaulting team)</i>	
15)	Failing to fulfil a fixture in EITHER League Cup OR NACYP Cup	£50.00
	<i>(Plus the game awarded to non-defaulting team)</i>	