



CRAVEN MINOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE

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CRAVEN MINOR LEAGUE – MINI SOCCER RULES

APPENDIX TO RULES OF THE CRAVEN MINOR LEAGUE RELATING TO THE COMPETITION FOR SEVEN-A-SIDE FOOTBALL

This section must be read in conjunction with the Standard Code of Rules of the Football Association, as amended by the Craven Minor League. It should be noted that the Football Association does not permit the playing of knock-out cup competitions at Under 8.

The Rules for the games will be in accordance with guidelines issued by the Football Association in relation to Mini-Soccer, as notified to clubs by the Management Committee. In the event of any dispute over the application of the Rules of play, the Management Committee will determine the procedure to be followed.

Where there is no reference to any particular issue within this section, then the Standard Code of Rules issued by the Football Association, as amended by the Craven Minor League, including the General Rules for Cup Competitions organised by the Craven Minor League will apply. Any matter which is not clearly covered within the Rules or this section will be subject to consideration by and be at the discretion of the Management Committee.

SS1 Team Members

A team may have a squad of up to 12 players for each game and any number of substitutes from this squad may be used with the permission of the referee. A player who has been replaced may return to the playing area as a substitute for another player. A player who has been suspended from the game may not be replaced and may not take any further part in the match. Any number of substitutions may be used at any time with the permission of the Referee. Entry onto the field of play will only be allowed during a stoppage in play. A player who has been replaced may return to the play as a substitute for another player. **(See also Rule 8(N))**

SS2 Registered Players

Up to **15** players may be registered in respect of each team, where competitions are run on an individual team basis,

SS3 Duration

A game shall not count as part of a match unless a minimum of thirty minutes play has taken place in two equal periods of time. Normal playing time will be 20 minutes each half.

N.B. This will be subject to the requirements of 10B:-

“For Mini-Soccer – The duration of play shall be as follows: for under 7 and under 8 age groups, 15 minutes each way and for under 9 and under 10, 20 minutes each way.”

SS4 Kick-off

Games will kick-off at times agreed by the Management Committee.

SS5 Marking of Grounds

Each club will be responsible for providing pitches marked out in accordance with the guidelines produced by the Football Association.

SS6 Footballs, Goals, Nets, Water & First Aid Kits

The home team will be responsible for providing all the equipment, including any cones or markers which may be required.

The size of football to be used shall be: For Mini-Soccer, size 3 for players in the under 7 and 8 age categories; size 4 for under 9's and 10s.

SS7 Averages: In the event of two or more clubs having equal points and tying for the League Championship at Under 8, Under 9 or Under 10, then the trophy will be shared in a manner prescribed by the Management Committee and there will be no runners-up. In the event of two or more teams having equal points and tying for the runners-up position, then all those teams involved will be regarded as runners-up.

SS8 Teams of Less than Seven

A match may not start if either team fields fewer than six players and may not continue if less than five players are able to take part. **(See also Rule 10(F) Abandoned Games & Rule 8(N) re: sufficient players registered).**

SS9 Small Sided Competition

The League will organise league competitions for all age groups and may organise knock-out cup competitions where permitted to do so by the Football Association.

SS10 Referees

Each team involved in mini-soccer will be required to nominate two persons to undergo training to become Authorised Referees for Mini Soccer matches. Such training to be paid for by the League Management Committee. Teams not nominating the necessary Referees will be refused entry into the League.

Authorised Referees will be included on the League's Panel of Referees and may be appointed by the League to officiate in any mini soccer age group. Referees having received mini soccer training only will not be appointed by the League to officiate in 11-a-side matches.

ANNEX TO ABOVE RULES

Extract from Rule 8(N)

All players and substitutes must be present prior to the commencement of the game and will not be regarded as eligible unless they are named on the card (Match Record Book) handed to the referee before the start of the match All players including substitutes must be named on the Team Sheet. Players who start the game must be listed before those who are substitutes. If a player's name is deleted from the Team Sheet, and no other name is to replace him on that line on the Team Sheet, then it must be clearly noted that the name has been deleted. Any player named twice, in any position on the card, or not named at all, will be classed as an ineligible player and the club will be fined £25. Any violation of this part of the Rule will be dealt with in accordance with Rule 8(P). Nominated substitutes will not be deemed to have played unless their involvement has been recorded by the referee in the Match Record Book. SEE ALSO APPENDIX FOR SMALL SIDED FOOTBALL (SS1)

Any Club found guilty of playing an ineligible player or returning to the League a team card with the name of a player who did not take part in the match, may be fined a sum of not exceeding £25.

Extract from Rule 8(P)

The Management Committee shall review all cases of abuse of match officials by club members, which are reported to Liverpool County FA, and shall be empowered to deduct up to three points from their team and/or take what other action they may deem necessary. Such action is subject to any disciplinary action taken by the County Association. For the purpose of this Rule Players, Club Officials and spectators/supporters may be regarded as club members.

Extract from Rule 10(B)

Clubs may be fined a sum not exceeding £15 if their ground is not properly marked out or equipped, the equipment to include corner flags not less than 5ft high. The Referee shall report any infringement to an official of the Club responsible prior to the commencement of the game if possible, and to the Referees Secretary. SEE ALSO APPENDIX FOR SMALL SIDED FOOTBALL (SS5)

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.

A judgement on the state of a pitch for play on the day of the match is the responsibility of the referee, who may require the home team to take appropriate steps to remedy minor problems. Games not being played through the failure of clubs to comply with a referee's request may be considered to be non-fulfilment by the Management Committee. The referee's decision is final in this matter.

Pitches must be roped-off, or have a row of suitable cones, to provide a space of 2 metres (or however much is practicable) between the pitch and supporters, subject to any requirements imposed or facilities which may be provided by the owners/providers of the ground. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in a fine of £15

All Clubs must provide suitable dressing accommodation for their opponents and referees in all 11-a-side fixtures, and exhibit in a prominent position in the dressing room a notice in large type to the effect that no responsibility will be held for goods belonging to any Club or player. With regard to mini-soccer fixtures, clubs must inform their opponents if changing facilities will not be available in sufficient time for alternative arrangements to be made, and ensure that a supply of clean water is available at the game.

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

All matches shall have a duration as set out below unless a shorter time (not less than 60 minutes) is mutually arranged by the two captains (or team managers) in consultation with the referee prior to the commencement of the match, and in any event shall be of equal halves.

For Mini-Soccer – The duration of play shall be as follows: for under 7 and under 8 age groups, 15 minutes each way and for under 9 and under 10, 20 minutes each way.

Extract from Rule 10(B) (cont)

The times of kick off shall be fixed by the A.G.M. or the Management Committee. Any Club failing to commence at the appointed time may be fined a sum not exceeding £15 or be otherwise dealt with as the Management Committee may determine.

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

In addition, the referee shall report any game which has kicked-off earlier than the appointed time, for any reason, which has not had the prior approval of the League.

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: For Mini-Soccer, size 3 for players in the under 7 and 8 age categories; size 4 for under 9's and 10s. For youth football – size 4 for those playing under 11, 12, 13 and 14 age groups; size 5 for all other age groups. Goal nets must be used. **Any club or team not complying with any part of this Rule will be fined the sum of £15. Every team must carry an adequate First Aid kit. Any team not complying with this part of the Rule will be fined the sum of £25. SEE ALSO APPENDIX FOR SMALL SIDED FOOTBALL (SS6)**

All Saturday fixtures shall commence at 10.30 a.m. except that the kick-off time for the Under 16 Division may be brought forward by 30 minutes to 10.00 am providing the two Managers and Referee are in agreement, all Sunday fixtures shall commence at 2.30 p.m. except Mini-Soccer (see Rule SS4) and all evening fixtures shall commence at 6.15 p.m. or 6.30 p.m. unless otherwise advised by the Management Committee. Teams must kick off within five minutes of the appointed time or may be fined a sum not exceeding £15 unless a satisfactory explanation be sent to the Secretary. Except in exceptional circumstances, which must be agreed by the Management Committee after the event, all games must commence within fifteen minutes of the appointed time and any club which it is considered has caused a delay exceeding this may be regarded as not having fulfilled the fixture, irrespective of whether the game is played. Any game which is arranged to kick-off outside of the times referred to, without the permission of the Management Committee will be regarded as invalid and both teams will be charged with non-fulfilment under Rule 10(F) and subject to a maximum fine of £50.

Extract from Rule 10(F)

A Club having more than one Craven Minor fixture on the same day must, in all circumstances, fulfil the senior game (e.g. cup games). In default points for the game played will be awarded to the opposition and/or a fine imposed, and the game which has not been played may be regarded as a non-fulfilment, at the Management Committee's discretion. In the case of games which are late kicking-off or not played, as a result of previous games on the same pitches not being finished, irrespective of which league, club or competition is involved, then Rule 10(B) may be applied if it is considered that the home club could have reasonably foreseen such circumstances. SEE ALSO APPENDIX FOR SMALL SIDED FOOTBALL (SS4)

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 £25 or otherwise dealt with by the Management Committee.

Notice of postponement of any match must be given without delay by the postponing Club (or notice of a Club being unable to fulfil any match must be given 48 hours prior to the match by the Club) to the Fixture Secretary, the Competition Referees 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.