

## **1. NOMENCLATURE & CONSTITUTION**

(A) This Combination of Clubs shall be designated the Cypriot Football League and shall consist of no more than 45 Clubs who shall be full member clubs.

The area covered by the Competition membership shall be Greater London and the Home Counties.

All such Clubs shall be duly affiliated to a recognised County Football Association and shall have grounds or headquarters situated in the London area, and their names and particulars shall be returned annually by the appointed date on Form 'D' to the London Football Association.

The League must receive the sanction of the London Football Association and the constituent teams must be grouped in divisions, each not exceeding 15 in number.

Clubs who have accepted membership of this competition may not be members of any other League normally playing on the same day of the week (except a Youth League) nor may they enter (with the exception of F.A. and County F.A. Competitions) more than one Cup Competition without the consent of the Management Committee of the League.

(B) The Management Committee shall have the power to decide or adjust the Constitution of the divisions and to increase or decrease the number of teams promoted, or relegated if circumstances necessitate such action. When necessary, this rule shall take precedence over any other rule in the Constitution.

(C) No Club shall be permitted to enter more than one team in the League, unless such team is in the Junior Division.

## **2. ENTRANCE FEE, SUBSCRIPTION, DEPOSIT**

(A) Applications by Clubs for admission to the League must be made in writing to the Secretary not later than the 31<sup>st</sup> of March and must be accompanied by an Application and Entrance fee of £100 per team, which shall be returned in the event of non-election.

When Rule 1 (B) is applied and a team is compulsorily transferred to another division, no Application Fee shall be payable.

(B) The Annual Subscription shall be £85 payable on or before the end of May in each year. Clubs failing to pay by the due date will be fined the sum of £20 or otherwise dealt with by the Management Committee.

(C) Each Club shall within 14 days of election pay a deposit of £100, which shall be returnable to Clubs on withdrawing from the League, provided they have fulfilled their fixtures and complied with all orders of the Council.

(D) A Club shall not participate in a League match until the Entrance Fee, Annual Subscription and Deposit have been paid. Proof of club insurance not expiring for at least nine months must also be furnished. Clubs will not be allowed to participate in the League once their insurance expires.

(E) All Clubs upon application for admission and at any time thereafter when so required shall satisfy the Management Committee that they are properly constituted and also play football in accordance with the laws of the game.

(F) All Clubs must lodge with the Management Committee, together with their annual membership application, and annual subscription fee of £85.00 the following:

- i. A copy of their duly audited or certified annual accounts.
- ii. A full list of the Clubs Management Committee and contact details to include addresses, telephone and e-mail addresses.
- iii. A copy of their Constitution if one has not already been lodged with the General Secretary.
- iv. A copy of Clubs Insurance Policy.

### **3. PRESIDENT, OFFICERS & HONORARY MEMBERS**

(A) The Officers of the League shall be the Chairperson, Vice Chair, General Secretary, Treasurer, Registration Secretary, Fixtures Secretary, Results' Secretary, Referees' Secretary, Press Secretary, Youth Secretary and Fines Secretary.

(B) The League Council shall have power to appoint annually an Honorary President and Honorary Members of the League. Those so appointed may attend League Council meetings, Annual and Special General meetings but shall have no voting rights. They may by invitation also attend Management Committee meetings.

### **4. MANAGEMENT, NOMINATION, ELECTION**

(A) The League shall be governed in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Football Association by a Council to be called the League Council and consisting of one delegate from each constituent member Club and Management Committee comprised of the Officers and five members who shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

(B) At the Annual General Meeting, Clubs will be called upon to elect a Chairperson, the General Secretary and sufficient members to serve on the Management Committee.

No more than one member of any particular Club shall be nominated for election to the Management Committee.

(C) Retiring Officers and Management Committee members shall be eligible to become candidates for re-election without nomination. All other candidates for election as Chair, General Secretary or Management Committee members shall be nominated in writing by two member Clubs to the Secretary not later than the 30<sup>th</sup> May in each election year. The names of those nominated shall be circulated with the Notice of the Annual General Meeting. Candidates failing to be elected as Chair or General Secretary may stand for election as Management Committee members. In the event of there being no nominations in accordance with the foregoing, nominations may be received at the Annual General Meeting to fill vacancies only.

(D) The Council shall meet at least once every three months. 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 Management Committee.

(E) Within 14 days of election, each Club shall nominate in writing its delegate and its deputy of the Council for the ensuing season.

(F) Except with the sanction of the Management Committee, a Club shall not be allowed to change its elected delegate during the season but may appoint a deputy to act in the unavoidable absence of the elected delegate.

(G) Except where otherwise mentioned, all communications shall be addressed to the Secretary who shall conduct the correspondence of the League and keep a record of its proceedings.

(H) All communications received from Clubs must be conducted through their nominated officers.

### **5. POWERS OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

(A) At the first Management Committee Meeting after the Annual General Meeting, the elected Members shall proceed to elect the remaining officers of the League.

(B) The Management Committee may appoint an Emergency Committee and/or such other sub-committees as they may consider necessary and may delegate all or any of their powers to such committees. The decisions of all such committees shall be reported to the Management Committee.

(C) The Management Committee may (subject to permission from the London Football Association) order a match or matches to be played each season, the proceeds to be devoted to the funds of the League 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.

(D) 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 himself or to the Club he represents. This principle shall apply to the procedure of any committee. In the event of the voting being equal on any matter, the Chairperson shall have the casting vote.

(E) The Management Committee shall have powers to apply, act upon and enforce the Rules of the League and shall also have jurisdiction over all matters affecting the League, including any not provided for by 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.

(F) All decisions of the Management Committee shall be binding subject to the right of appeal to the Board of Appeal (in accordance with Rule 15).

(G) Five members of the Management Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and three members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business by any sub-committee of the League.

(H) If any member of the Management Committee be absent systematically from three consecutive Committee meetings without reasonable excuse, the Management Committee shall have power to declare the seat vacant in which case the Management Committee shall refer the vacancy to the Council which will proceed to fill the vacancy.

(J) All monies due to the League shall be forwarded by post to the Treasurer within two weeks following notification. Clubs failing to comply with this rule shall be liable to immediate suspension and Rule 17 (E) will apply.

(K) The Management Committee shall have the power to refuse admission to the League of any new Club and refuse the registration of any player and in both cases need not give a reason for such refusal.

(L) A Club failing to be represented at a General Meeting may be fined £10.00 and failing to be represented at three consecutive meetings without satisfactory reasons being given shall be further dealt with as the Management Committee may determine.

Not less than three days' notice shall be given of any meeting.

(M) A Club having failed to comply with an order or instruction of the Management Committee, within fourteen days of an operative date specified in that order, shall not be allowed to play or take part in the business of the League until the order has been complied with and a reason for the delay has been furnished to the Secretary, who shall submit it to the Management Committee for their adjudication.

(N) A Club failing to satisfactorily attend to the business and/or the correspondence of the League shall be liable to be fined or otherwise penalised at the discretion of the Management Committee (subject to Rule 17).

(O) A member appointed by the League to attend a meeting or match may have his expenses refunded by the League.

(P) The Management Committee may organise functions for the benefit of the League. Each Club shall be responsible for a number of tickets and raffles allocated to them by the Management Committee.

(Q) The Management Committee may arrange midweek matches if such fixtures are considered necessary for the completion of the Competition. The Fixtures Secretary will give at least 21 days written notice of any fixture required to be played mid-week. Teams required to play such a fixture must provide details of the pitch, date and kick-off time at least 7 days before the fixture is due to take place. The

Management Committee will have the right to deal with any club failing to fulfil such a fixture in accordance with the Rules of the Constitution.

**6. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

(A) The Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than 30<sup>th</sup> June in each year. At this meeting the following business shall be transacted provided that at least two-thirds of the 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 (Separate elections to be held for the Chair and General Secretary).
- vii) Appointment of Auditors.
- viii) Alteration to Rules, if any (of which notice has been given).
- ix) Fix the date and commencement and conclusion of playing season.
- x) Other business of which due notice shall have been given and accepted as being relevant to an Annual General Meeting.

(B) A copy of the duly audited Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts and Agenda shall be forwarded to each Club at least fourteen days prior to the meeting.

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

(D) Each full Member Club shall be empowered to send two delegates to all General Meetings. Each Club shall be entitled to one vote only. No Club shall be allowed to participate at the Annual General Meeting unless all monies due to the League have been paid.

Not less than fourteen days' notice shall be given of any Meeting.

(E) Clubs who have withdrawn their membership of the League during the season being concluded or who are not continuing membership shall be entitled to attend, but shall vote only on matters relating to the season being concluded.

(F) All voting shall be conducted by a show of hands, unless a ballot be demanded by at least one third of the delegates present save that voting for the election of Clubs, Chairman, General Secretary and Management Committee members shall be by ballot.

(G) Any continuing member-Club failing to be represented at the Annual General Meeting shall be fined £30.00.

(H) Officers and Management Committee members shall be entitled to attend but not vote at General Meetings.

**7. AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED**

The Chair and Secretary of each Club shall complete and sign the following agreement which shall be deposited with the League, together with the Application for Membership for the coming season or upon indicating that the Club intends to compete.

“We, A.....Chair, and  
B.....Secretary  
of .....Football Club, have been provided with the copy of the Rules and Regulations of the Cypriot Football League and do hereby agree for and on behalf of the said Club to, if elected or accepted into membership, conform to those Rules and Regulations and to accept, abide by and implement the decisions of the Management of the League, subject to the right of appeal in accordance with Rule 16.

## 8. QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

(A) Contract players, as defined in Football Association Rules, are not permitted in this League.

B) Each Club is only entitled to register a maximum number of 28, bona-fide playing members in each season (hereinafter referred to as the Club Squad). Each Club wishing to add to the Club Squad once the maximum number has been reached must first release one of its existing registered players, prior to registering another. A player shall be released by a club giving the relevant player and the Registration Secretary written notice of the relevant players' release. Any player released in this way will be given his registration/identity card by the Club releasing him. The player may then register for another club in the normal way. For the avoidance of any doubt the released player will not require a formal transfer document.

(C) Any bona-fide member of a Club shall be eligible to play for that Club in this League (subject to other relevant clauses in these Rules) provided he has not, in the current season, played for another Club in the League, or previously signed for, or been registered for another Club in the League. If he has so played or remains on the League register of players, permission for his transfer must be obtained from the Club to which he is attached (see clause L) save if the bona-fide playing member of the Club has been released in accordance with the paragraph 8(B) herein.

(D) For the purposes of this competition a bona-fide playing member of a Club is one who, being in all other respects eligible, has signed a fully and correctly completed League registration form, in ink, witnessed by a second person and who has been registered with the League Registration Secretary three days prior to playing and whose completed registration counterfoil and identity card has been received by the Club prior to his playing.

(E) A player is not eligible to play for this League who receives any form of payment for playing, other than expenses as per clauses 2, 3 and 4 of Article 1 of FIFA Regulations. Clubs upon election must sign a declaration that they will conform to the said clauses and players of such Clubs are required to sign a declaration upon Registration that they are eligible under and will abide by FIFA clauses which are as follows:

1. Players who have taken part in a football match or training session and who have been refunded:-
  - (a) their actual expenses for travel, necessary maintenance and hotel charges and who,
  - (b) in special cases, have been specially authorised by their National Association to receive expenses for equipment, physical preparation and insurance against accidents during play and whilst travelling are considered to be amateur players.
2. Those who take part in matches under the jurisdiction of their National Association and receive an allowance for wages lost may also be considered to be amateur players. Such an allowance must be an equitable proportion of the actual wages of the player which have been lost.
3. Each player must sign a receipt for all monies received as allowed by clauses 1 and 3 of this Article.
4. Clubs shall submit to the League at the end of each season a list of players to whom payments have been made in excess of actual out-of-pocket expenses.

(F) A player having taken part in matches for any Club affiliated to any County Association shall not be allowed to be transferred to, or sign for, a Club in the League without first proving to the officials of his intended Club that he has discharged his reasonable financial liabilities to his 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 he has played.

(G) A fee of £3 shall be paid for each player registered.

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

(I) 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 he shall be registered and the League Registration Secretary shall notify the Club last applying to register the player of the fact of the previous registration.

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

- I. Play for more than one Club in the League without first being transferred or released in accordance with Paragraph 8 (B) hereof.
- II. Having signed for one Club in the League, sign for another Club in the League in that season, except for the purpose of transfer.
- III. Submit a signed registration form for registration that he has wilfully neglected to accurately or fully complete.

(K) i) The Management Committee shall have the power to accept the registration of any player

ii) The Management Committee shall have power to refuse, cancel or suspend the registration of any player, except those under 18 years of age, at their discretion who has been charged and found guilty of registration irregularities

iii) The Management Committee shall have power to make application to refuse or cancel the registration of any player charged and found guilty of undesirable conduct subject to the right of appeal to the FA or the relevant County Football Association. Undesirable conduct shall mean an incident of repeated conduct, which may deter a participant from being involved in the Competition. Application should be made to the parent County of the Club the player is registered with.

(Note: Action under Clause (iii) shall not be taken against a player for misconduct until the matter has been dealt with by the appropriate Association, and then only in cases of the player bringing the Competition into disrepute and will in any case be subject to an Appeal to the Football Association.) For the purpose of this Rule, bringing the Competition into disrepute can only be considered where the player has received in excess of 112 days' suspension, or 10 matches in match based discipline, in a period of two years or less from the date of the first offence.

(L) A player desiring to transfer from one Club to another shall submit an application to the Registration Secretary with the registration fee of £10.00. Such application shall be referred by the Registration Secretary to the Club for which the player is registered. Should the Club object to the transfer it should state its objections, in writing, to the Registration Secretary and to the player concerned, within seven days of receipt of application. Upon receipt of the Club's consent, or upon its failure to give written objection within seven days, the Registration Secretary may on behalf of the Management Committee transfer the player, and he shall be deemed eligible to play for his new Club three days after the receipt of such transfer. No player will be allowed to apply for more than one transfer during the season.

A period of 21 days must elapse between the transfer of a player from team (A) to team (B) and the transfer of a subsequent player again from said team (A) to said team (B). No player will be allowed a transfer from any Club unless such player has been a member of that Club for at least 21 days.

In the event of an objection to a transfer, the matter shall be referred to the Management Committee for a decision.

(M) The closing date for the registration of new players by a club and the transfer of players between Clubs in the League shall be the 1<sup>st</sup> March. A player whose registration card has been withdrawn by the Management Committee will not be allowed to register in the following season without obtaining clearance by the Management Committee.

(N) 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 on demand by the Management Committee.

(O) A register containing the names of all members 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 meetings or at other times mutually arranged with the Registration Secretary.

(P) a) Players registered with this League will have their registration cancelled once they registered with a foreign Association.

b) Players coming from abroad will be entitled to play in this League if they obtain a

Clearance Certificate from their Association of origin or FA and have resided in this country for 28 days after their registration with this League.

(Q) Any club playing an unregistered or otherwise ineligible player or players shall have three points deducted from its score and may be fined and/or otherwise dealt with at the discretion of the Management Committee. In the event of points being deducted from a teams score

as a result of the outcome of a report or protest, only such points as are associated with the match under report or protest shall be deducted. The Management Committee may at its discretion award any points deducted from a Club under this rule to the opponent Club in the match in question.

A Player shall not be eligible to play for a team in any special championship, promotion or relegation deciding match as specified in Rule 12(A) unless the player has played at least 3 (three) games for that team in this Competition in the current season.

(R) Each Club should field wherever possible no more than three non-Cypriot Players in any competitive match. (See Guidance Schedule as to which players may qualify as Cypriot players). Clubs which offend this Rule shall have 3 points deducted in respect of that game (assuming the relevant game is a League match) or will be disqualified from any Cup Competition and may be liable to a fine and to a warning by the Management Committee that their election for the following season may be opposed. For the sake of clarity and interpretation of this Rule, the three points would be deducted from the offending club after the points have been allocated following the playing of the relevant game. In other words if the club won the game, it would be deducted 3 points after being allocated the 3 points for initially winning the game; if the game was drawn, the offending Club would be deducted three points after being initially allocated 1 point for drawing the game; if the offending club lost the game, the offending club would be deducted three points in any event. The opponent club will NOT be awarded the points deducted from the offending club. Where, subsequent to its entry, changes take place within a Club which no longer enables it to conform with this Rule, the Club Management shall immediately advise the facts to the Management Committee, which will have the power to order a dispensation from this Rule if it is satisfied that this action best serves the interests of the League, otherwise it shall take the necessary steps to suspend such Club from membership.

(S) Should a player be selected to represent the League in a representative game, his Club must automatically release him from all Club commitments. Failure to observe this rule may cause the player to have his registration withdrawn and/or his Club liable to a fine not exceeding £20. The Management Committee may upon request permit a Club to postpone any League or Cup fixtures they are due to play on the day of a League representative game should they have one or more players selected for the League game

## **9. CLUB COLOURS**

(A) Every Club must register its Colours with the League who shall decide as to their suitability.

Goalkeepers must wear colours which distinguish them from other players and the referee.

No player, including the goalkeeper, shall be permitted to wear black or very dark shirts or jerseys. Any team not playing in its normal registered colours shall notify its opponents at least 7 days before the match of the colours in which they will play.

In the event of two clubs, in the opinion of the Referee, having the same or similar colours the away team shall make the change. Any team not having a change of colours or delaying the kick-off by not having a change of colours shall be fined £10.00 .

The Secretary of the League may request jerseys or shirts to be submitted to him if complaints are received as to lack of distinguishing colours. The Management Committee may condemn any jerseys or shirts as they think fit.

(B) Any Club wishing to change its colours, whilst a member of this Competition, must seek the permission from the Management Committee.

## **10. PLAYING SEASON, CONDITIONS OF PLAY, TIMES OF KICK-OFF, POSTPONEMENT SUBSTITUTES**

(A) The Annual General Meeting shall fix the date in the following season on which the normal playing season of the competition shall terminate and no Club shall be compelled to play after that date.

Original fixtures, which shall be arranged by the League Fixtures Secretary, must not be arranged for a date later than seven days preceding the closing date named by the Annual General Meeting. (The Management Committee may extend the playing season in order to assist in finalising the competition).

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

Clubs must take necessary precautions to keep their grounds in a playable condition. All matches shall be played on grounds deemed suitable by the Management Committee. If through the fault of the home team a match has to be replayed, the Management Committee shall have the power to order the venue to be changed.

The Management Committee shall have power to decide whether a ground is suitable for matches in the League and to order the Club concerned to play its fixtures on other grounds.

The maximum time to be played in League matches shall be 90 minutes (45 minutes each way) and the minimum shall be 80 minutes (40 minutes each way).

The times of kick-off shall be approved by the Management Committee. Both teams should be on the field of play and ready to kick off no later than fifteen minutes from the approved kick off time. Any Club failing to commence at the appointed time may be fined a sum not exceeding £10.00 or be otherwise dealt with by the Management Committee.

Referees must order matches to commence at the appointed time if possible and must report all late starts and advise the captain of the offending team(s) of his intention to do so.

The home team must provide at least two balls fit for play, corner flags and nets and the referee shall notify the captain if he intends to make a report as to the balls being unsuitable. The away team must also provide two balls which will be used if the home team ones are lost or damaged. A team failing to comply with these requirements shall be fined £2 for the first of each offence and subsequent offences will be dealt with by the Management Committee at its discretion.

(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 County Association Competitions. All other matches must be considered subservient.

Clubs may bring forward a match with the consent of all interested parties and the Management Committee.

(D) [i] All teams should notify the Fixtures Secretary in writing of their home pitches at least two weeks before the start of the season. Once a team has notified its home pitch it will not be allowed to change it except in exceptional circumstances and after the approval of the Management Committee. Defaulting teams will be dealt with by the Management Committee at its discretion.

[ii] With regard to re-arranged Fixtures, the home team is to notify the Fixtures Secretary, in writing, of their pitch by Monday before the match and in default such team will be deemed to have failed to provide a pitch and shall lose the points to the opponents.

[iii] Clubs should notify the Fixtures Secretary and their opponents of their Country or FA fixtures. Failure to do so will render them liable for all the expenses that their would-be opponents may incur.

(E) Any Club wishing to postpone any of the matches must give at least six clear days written notice to the Fixture Secretary stating the reasons for such postponement. The Management Committee will then consider the application and give its decision at least four days before the date of the match and will notify all parties concerned of such decision. The Fixtures will stand until the Management Committee will decide to the contrary. Any Club failing to comply strictly with this rule shall be dealt with by the Management Committee who may inflict any penalties that they deem suitable.

(F) The Fixture Secretary shall inform all Clubs in writing on the second week of each month of the fixtures for the forthcoming month, thus allowing two weeks overlap. This will be done in a printed circular. Fixtures having been published or circulated shall be deemed to have been accepted unless objections are received by the Fixtures Secretary within seven days of their issue. No alterations in the fixtures will be permitted after the 7 days have elapsed. All objections shall be considered by the Management Committee and its decision will be final.

(G) Every Club shall play its best available qualified team or teams in all matches in the League. (The intention of the Rule is not to interfere with normal team selection by clubs but to prevent clubs deliberately fielding a weakened side in order to unreasonably reserve players for another game or to boost the strength of another or lower team. It is not intended that Clubs must field higher team players in lower teams

when the higher team has no engagement). If in the opinion of the Management Committee the substance or spirit of this 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 decision as the Management Committee may determine, despite the fact that Rule 8 has not been infringed.

Eight players shall be deemed to constitute a team but in the event of a Club playing in any match with less than eleven players they may be fined for each player deficient.

(H) Home and Away matches shall be played. In the event of a Club failing to keep its engagement, the Management Committee shall have power to inflict a fine, award the points to opponents, order the defaulting Club to pay any expenses incurred by opponents or otherwise deal with them at their discretion.

Notwithstanding the foregoing Home and Away provision, the Management Committee shall have the power to order a match to be played on a neutral ground or on the opponents ground if they are satisfied that such action is warranted by the circumstances.

(I) In the event of a match not being played or abandoned owing to causes over which neither Club has control, it shall (subject to Clause K) be replayed in its entirety on a date to be mutually agreed by the two Clubs and approved by the Management Committee, but failing such agreement and notification to the Fixtures Secretary within fourteen days, the matter shall be dealt with by the Management Committee who shall have power to order the match to be played on a named date or on or before a given date or to deal with the matter as they may determine, subject to the provision of Clause (C).

(K) The Management Committee shall review all matches abandoned in cases where it is consequent upon the conduct of either or both Teams. Where it is to the advantage of the Competition and does no injustice to either Club, the Management Committee shall be empowered to order the score at the time of the abandonment to stand. In all cases where the Management Committee are satisfied that a match was abandoned owing to the conduct of one team or its Club member(s) they shall be empowered to award the points for the match to the opponent. In cases where a match has been abandoned owing to the conduct of both teams or their Club member(s), the Management Committee shall rule all points for the match as void. No fine(s) can be applied by the Management Committee for any abandoned match.

(L) A Club may at its discretion and in accordance with the Laws of the Game and the permission granted by the Football Association use three substitutes who may be selected from 5 (five) players in any match in this Competition.

The referee shall be informed of the name(s) of the substitute(s) not later than 5 (five) minutes before the start of the match.

A player who has been selected, appointed or named as a substitute before the start of or during a match, but does not actually play in a game, shall not be considered to have been a player in that game within the meaning of Rule 8 of the Competition.

(M) Each Club shall produce for inspection before the commencement of each game the Identity Card for each player. Any club failing to produce the Identity card of any participating player prior to the commencement of the game will be ineligible to play in that particular game. Any irregularities should be reported to the referee prior to the commencement of the game who will record such irregularities upon the Match Report.

(N) The half time interval shall be 10 (ten) minutes duration, but it shall not exceed 15 (fifteen) minutes. The half time interval may only be altered with the consent of the referee.

## **11. RESULT/REPORT FORMS, FINES**

(A) The Results Secretary must receive (from the Secretary of the Home Club) the result of each Competition match in the prescribed manner, namely by telephone, text or e-mail no later than 24 hours of the conclusion of the match. Postponed and/or abandoned matches must also be reported. In the event of a neutral match e.g. Cup or Play-Off matches, both Club Secretaries shall telephone, text or e-mail the result. Defaulting Clubs shall be fined the sum of £5.00.

(B) It shall be the duty of each Club Secretary to complete a Match Sheet. This must include the forename(s), the surname, the registration number of the players (including the substitutes): see Rule 10 (L), the Referee markings required by Rule 13 (H) or any other information by the Competition (i.e. goal scorers, players cautioned or sent off, the availability of corner flags, goal nets, etc.).

The match sheet must be sign by each of the players club managers/coach and by the Referee.

(C) The Match Sheet, correctly completed, shall be signed by a responsible member of the Club and returned to the Results Secretary to arrive no later than 3 days following the match (Sunday not included).

(D) In the event of a Match Sheet arriving incomplete or inaccurate, the defaulting Club shall be fined £10.00.

(E) In the event of a Match Sheet arriving 7 or more days after the match, the defaulting Club shall be fined £10.00.

(F) For every 3 breaches of Rule 11 (E) the defaulting Club shall be fined the sum of £10.00 and asked to appear before the Management Committee.

## **12. DETERMINING CHAMPIONSHIP, PROMOTION, RELEGATION**

(A) The Competition shall be decided by points. Clubs gaining the highest number of points in their respective divisions at the conclusion shall be adjudged the winners. Three points to be given for a win and one for a draw.

In the event of two or more Clubs being equal on points for any position in any of the League tables at the close of the Competition, goal difference shall decide. In the event of two or more Clubs being level on points and goal difference, for any important position at the close of the Competition, a deciding match shall be played under conditions arranged by the Management Committee.

(B) Promotion and relegation shall be applied according to the relevant standing order stated prior to the start of the season by the Management Committee, except as provided for hereunder. Should a team withdraw from any one Division after the fixtures have commenced and the vacancy not filled during the season, then one team less than the normal number shall be relegated and the normal number of teams from the lower Division shall be promoted.

Should two teams withdraw from any one Division after the fixtures have commenced and two vacancies not being filled during the season, then two teams less than the normal number in that Division shall be automatically relegated. Additional vacancies, caused by the retirement of a team or by the withdrawal of a Club from the Competition, shall be filled by election.

The last two teams in the lowest Division shall retire, but be eligible for re-election at the discretion of the Management Committee.

In the event of a Club not completing 75 per cent of its fixtures for the season, all points obtained by or recorded against such a defaulting Club shall be expunged from the League Table

Where a Club has completed 75 per cent of its fixtures, the points for any remaining games shall be awarded to the defaulting Club's opponents.

## **13. REFEREES**

(A) Registered Referees and assistant 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 the senior appointed Assistant Referee shall take charge and a suitable Ass.Referee appointed. In cases where there are no officially appointed Assistant Referees, the Clubs may mutually agree on a referee. A referee thus agreed shall for that game have the full powers, status and authority of a registered Referee.

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

(D) The appointed Referee shall have the power to decide as to the fitness of the ground in all matches and his decision shall be final.

(E) Officials appointed under this rule shall be entitled to charge, in addition to standard class transport expenses: Referee £30.00, qualified Referees appointed as Assistant Referees by the Management Committee £20.00 or any other approved by the Management Committee from time to time. The Home Club shall pay the officials their fees and expenses before 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 only, but where a match is not played owing to one Club being in default, that Club shall pay the officials, if they reasonably attend at the ground, their full fee and expenses.

(G) A Referee not keeping his engagement and failing to give satisfactory explanation as to his non-appearance, may have his name removed from the list of Referees and the fact reported to the 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. The marks awarded shall be submitted to the League on the Result Report Form provided. Clubs failing to comply with this Rule shall be liable to be fined or deal with as the Management Committee may decide.

The League shall keep a record of all the markings and on the form provided and by the prescribed date each season shall submit a summary to the London Football Association.

(J) The Referee shall submit a Report Form giving the result of the match, the number of players in each team and the time of kick-off to the League Registration Secretary within two days of the match.

(K) Referees and Assistant Referees shall be supplied, each Season, with a copy of the Competition rules, free of charge.

(L) The Referee will examine the Registration cards and the Match Sheet of both Clubs prior to the commencement of the game and note any discrepancies on the Match Sheet

#### **14. WITHDRAWAL OF CLUB**

(A) Every Club must notify the Secretary of the League by the Annual General Meeting of its intention to continue in or withdraw from the League its team and/or teams for the next season or be liable to a fine not exceeding £25.

(B) A Club shall not be allowed to withdraw any or all its teams from the League after the Annual General Meeting. Any Club infringing this Rule shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £30 and shall also be liable for its share of any call which may be made under Rule 5 (B).

(C) The Constitution for the coming season having been decided at a Special General Meeting held for that purpose not earlier than April 30<sup>th</sup> nor later than June 30<sup>th</sup> or at the Annual General Meeting held not later than June 30<sup>th</sup>, the League shall have the right, irrespective of other provisions in this Rule, to refuse to permit a Club to withdraw its team(s) in order to join another Competition and may hold the Club to its engagements.

(D) If a Club withdraws from the League after the Annual General Meeting, it shall forfeit any fees already paid to the League. If such Club shall decide to join the League in the future, it shall be treated as a new Club.

In the event that any financial obligation to the League by such Club (i.e. unincorporated association) remains undercharged after a period of twenty-one days then such obligation shall be met by the then current Club Members, excluding those under 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 League, which may apply to the Club's parent County Association for a suspension order.

#### **15. PROTESTS, APPEAL AND DEPOSITS**

(A) All questions of eligibility, qualifications of players, or interpretations of the rules shall be referred to the Management Committee, but not objection relative to the dimensions of the ground goal posts, bars, or other appurtenances of the game shall 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 with the Referee and not proceeding with it shall be deemed guilty of serious misconduct and shall be dealt with by the Management Committee.

(B) Protests and complaints which must contain full particulars of the grounds upon which they are founded must be lodged in duplicate with the League Secretary within (except in cases where the Management Committee decide that there are special circumstances) seven days of the match or occurrence to which they refer (Sunday not included). No objection or protest shall be withdrawn except by permission of the Management Committee. Any member of the Management Committee being a member of either Club shall not be present (except as a witness or representative of his Club) when such objection or protest is being considered and decided.

(C) Any dispute occurring between Clubs in the League shall be referred to the arbitration of 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 League Secretary a sum of £10.00 which may be forfeited in whole or in part to the funds of the League in the event of the Club losing its case and the League shall have the power to order the defaulting Club or a 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 two parties.

(E) Parties that protest or complain shall be afforded an opportunity of making a statement when the protest is being heard and, where possible, shall receive three days' notice of the meeting, together with a copy of the protest. The Management Committee shall take into consideration when dealing with the protest, the possession by the protesting Club of any information which if properly used might have avoided the protest.

## **16. APPEAL**

A Club, within seven days of receipt by them of written notification of any decision of the Management Committee, may appeal against such decision by lodging particulars in duplicate, accompanied by a fee of £35.00, such appeal being addressed to the Secretary of the London Football Association for the adjudication of the Board of Appeal whose decision shall be final and binding on all concerned. In the event of the appeal being unsuccessful, the fee shall be forfeited or returned to the Club in whole or in part at the discretion of the Board of Appeal who shall also decide by whom the cost of appeal shall be borne.

A Copy of the appeal must be sent to the League Secretary and the operation of the decision made by the League shall not be suspended pending the result of the appeal, unless the Board of Appeal or the Council of the London Football Association, through its Officers, orders such suspension.

## **17. EXCLUSION OF CLUBS, MISCONDUCT, CLUBS, OFFICIALS, PLAYERS**

(A) At the Annual General Meeting, Notice of Motion having been duly circulated on the Agenda, a two-thirds majority of the accredited delegates present shall have power to exclude any further membership.

(B) At the Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting called for the purpose, in accordance with the provisions of Rule 9, a two-thirds majority of the accredited delegates present shall have power to exclude from further participation in the League any Club whose conduct has in their opinion been undesirable. Voting on the point shall be conducted by ballot. A Club whose conduct is subject of the vote being taken shall be debarred from voting.

(C) Any Club official or member proved guilty of misconduct, other than field offences, or of inducing or attempting to induce a player or players of another Club to join them shall be liable to expulsion or such penalty as a General Meeting, or Management Committee Meeting may decide and their Club shall also be liable to expulsion in accordance with the provision of Clause (A) and (B) of this Rule. Misconduct includes the persistent failure of a Club to comply with the Rules of the League.

(D) Any Club or team failing to complete 75 per cent of its fixtures in any season shall (unless the conditions are beyond their control, or the majority of the accredited delegates present at the Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting decide otherwise) be debarred from membership of the following season.

(E) If a Club is suspended by the Management Committee or by the London Football Association for any reason during such suspension the Club's fixtures shall be treated as having been played and the points will be awarded to the opponents with a score 0-0. Such suspended Club

shall be liable to pay all reasonable expenses incurred by their would be opponents and shall resume playing on fulfilling its obligation on the Tuesday before it is due to play.

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

(A) A Cup or Trophy presented to a Competition shall be vested in the Association sanctioning the Competition as Trustees. If a Competition be discontinued from any cause, the Cup or Trophy shall be returned to the Donor if the conditions attached to it so provide, held in trust, or otherwise dealt with as the Association may decide. At the close of each Competition awards shall be made to the winners (and runners up) if the funds of the League permit.

The following agreement shall be signed on behalf of the winners of the Trophy:-

“We, A, .....Chair, and  
B,.....Secretary,  
of .....Football Club, having been declared winners of the Cypriot Football League Trophy, and the same having been delivered to us by the said League, do hereby on behalf of the said Club jointly and severally agree to return the same to the League Secretary on or before the 30<sup>th</sup> April of the following year in accordance with the Rules of the League and providing the said trophy is lost or damaged whilst under our care we agree to refund to the League the amount of its current value or the cost of its repair”.

(B)

(i) Sportsmanship Trophy

This Cup shall be awarded annually to the Club with the highest Referees’ average markings for sportsmanship throughout the season, subject to ratification by the Management Committee.

(ii) Merit Trophy

The Management Committee shall award this Cup annually to the Club Secretary displaying the highest degree of efficiency and competence throughout the season.

**19. SPECIAL MEETINGS**

Upon receiving a requisition signed by two thirds of the Clubs, the Secretary shall call a General Meeting. The Management Committee may call a General Meeting at any time when it shall consider the same is necessary. At least seven days’ notice shall be given of all meetings under this rule, together with an agenda of the business to be transacted at such meetings.

**20. ALTERATIONS OF RULES**

Alterations shall only be made to these Rules at the Annual General meeting or at a Special General Meeting specially convened for the purpose called in conformity with Rule 19. Any alterations made during the playing season to the Rule relating to the qualification of players shall not take effect until the following season.

Notice of proposed alterations to be considered at the Annual General Meeting shall be submitted to the League Secretary by May 15<sup>th</sup> in each. The proposals together with any proposals by the Management Committee shall be circulated to the Clubs by May 31<sup>st</sup> and any amendments thereto shall be submitted to the League Secretary by June 7<sup>th</sup>. The proposals and proposed amendments thereto shall be circulated to the Clubs with the notice of the Annual General Meeting at least seven days prior to the meeting. No amendments to proposals or to proposed amendments shall be accepted at the meeting for consideration unless a majority of those present and entitled to vote agree. 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 fourteen 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**

- I. Each 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 15 (F).
- II. The Seven-a-side Competition shall be compulsory to all member Clubs and entry shall be free. The League shall award the winners with a major trophy only which shall remain the property of the League and shall be returnable to the League at the end of the season.
- III. The League or its Officers will not be responsible for any loss incurred by a Club or Official during the period of play nor for any accident occurring before, during or after play.

## **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 in excess of £100 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 shall end on 31<sup>st</sup> March.
- (D) The books, or a certified balance sheet, of the Competition shall be prepared and shall be audited annually by some suitable persons who shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting.

## **23. CHALLENGE CUP RULES**

1. This competition shall be called the "Cypriot Football League Challenge Cup".
2. This competition shall be competed for annually at the discretion of the Management Committee by teams in all Divisions. Entry of these teams shall be by invitation to all teams.
3. Control of competition.
  - a) The entire management and control of the competition shall be vested in the Management Committee who will have powers to deal with any matter for which no specific provision or clause is made.
  - b) Except where specifically provided for within these Rules, the Rules of the Cypriot Football League apply.
4. Subscriptions.

Entrance fee for this competition shall be decided by the Management Committee and advised to invited Clubs with the entry form.
5. Cup Draws.
  - a) Teams shall be drawn as pairs and the first team shall be deemed the Home team.

b) No team shall be permitted to withdraw from the competition without the permission of the Management Committee. A Club intending to withdraw must give written notice to the League Secretary no later than the Monday preceding the date of the Tie. In default of this Rule, the said Club may be subject to further penalty as the Management Committee may reasonably impose.

6. Dates of the Ties.

a) The Fixtures Secretary shall arrange all Cup Tie dates except for the Semi-Final and Final Ties, which will be arranged by the Management Committee. The Management Committee with the Clubs concerned will meet on dates determined by the General Secretary for the purpose of making the draw for each round.

b) No postponement of a Cup Tie will be allowed except in exceptional circumstances and only subject to the approval of the Management Committee.

7. (A) Matches

In all matches preceding the Final Tie the following provisions shall apply:

(i) In the event of any match in the Competition, including the Final, resulting in a draw extra time of 15 minutes each way shall be played.

(ii) If the scores are still level at the end of extra time, then the result shall be determined by penalties. The taking of penalties shall be governed by International Board Regulations.

(iii) Matches which are postponed or abandoned owing to ground or weather conditions shall be played on a date to be fixed by the Management Committee.

(B) Provisions for Final Tie

The Management Committee shall fix the ground for the Final Tie and shall have direct control over the arrangements.

8. Qualification of Players

Each competing Team must comprise players registered in accordance with the League Rules.

A player shall not in the same season play for more than one competing Club in this Competition but the members of each representative team may be changed during the series of matches.

In the case of postponed, drawn or replayed matches only those players shall be allowed to play who were eligible on the day fixed for the playing of the round.

A Club may at its discretion use three substitute players at any time in a Cup Tie, except to replace a player who has been suspended from the game by the referee after play has commenced. The substitute players shall be nominated to the Referee prior to the commencement of the match.

A Club may use no more than three non-Cypriot players in a Cup Tie.

Any Club proved to have played an ineligible player shall lose the game to the opponent team.

9. Protests

All questions of eligibility or qualifications of competitors or any other protest or complaint shall be made to the General Secretary in writing within three days after the match has been played and accompanied by a fee of £5. The General Secretary shall notify the Club protested against stating the nature of the case and date of hearing. Should a Club fail to appear in support of

its protest, the protest will be considered lost and the fee forfeited and the Management Committee may at its discretion deal with the defaulting Club as it may think fit.

10. Laws of the Game.

The Laws of the Game shall apply to all Ties in this Competition.

11. Match Expenses.

a) Competing Clubs shall equally share expenses, i.e. the pitch hire and match officials' fees for all rounds up to and including the semi-final.

The cost of the pitch hire should not exceed the sum of £80.00 for each . team.

b) The League shall be responsible for all expenses of the Final Tie.

12. Colours.

In the event of a colour clash in the Final Tie, the competing teams will toss for colours. In all other rounds, the away team must change.

13. Trophies.

a) The Cups and Trophies of the Competition shall for all intents and purposes be the sole property of the League. The Cups and Trophies shall never become the property of any Club or team.

b) In addition to the Cups and Trophies, the League may provide medals or other suitable mementoes for the players competing in the Final Tie.

14. Conditions of Entry.

Clubs competing in this Competition shall be deemed to have given their consent to the foregoing Rules and to such Rules that are governed by Rule 3 (b) and to abide by the decisions of the Management Committee.

**24. DIVISIONAL CUP RULES**

1. This Competition shall be called the "Cypriot Football League Divisional Challenge Cup".

2. The Cup Rules of the League shall apply to this Competition, except that in the event of a drawn match at the end of 90 minutes, no extra time shall be played and the result shall be determined by penalties. The taking of such penalties shall be governed by International Board Regulations. Extra time of 15 minutes each way will only be played in a Final Tie, if necessary, and then in the event of a draw penalties will decide the result.

3. Competing Clubs shall share expenses for all rounds, including the Final Tie.

**25. SEVEN-A-SIDE COMPETITION RULES**

1. The Competition shall be called the Cypriot Seven-a-side Football Competition.

2. The Competition will be compulsory to all teams of the Cypriot Football League and open to any other teams invited by the Management Committee. Any team not appearing will be dealt with by the Management Committee as per the Constitution.

3. The Competition will be organised by and be under the control of the Management Committee of the League or any sub-Committee appointed for the purpose.
4. The Management Committee shall have the power to implement the Rules of the Competition and to decide on any matters not covered by the Rules.
5. Any protest or complaint made to the Secretary of the Competition will be considered by a Disciplinary Committee appointed by the Management Committee and its decision shall be final.
6. The Rules of the Competition are binding on all the teams taking part.
7. The Management Committee will arrange all the participating teams into groups. The groupings will be circulated to all the teams, prior to the commencement of the Competition. The Management Committee reserves the right to rearrange the grouping of the teams without prior notice. The draw will take place on a date to be decided by the Management Committee.
8. All players registered are eligible to play in the Competition. Only two substitutes may be used at any time during the game.
9. Any team not ready to play in a match within FIVE minutes of the specified time shall lose that match concerned.
10. A team will be allowed to use two non-Cypriot players during any game.
11. Any player sent off from the field of play will not be allowed to participate in any other game. The offence will be reported to the Disciplinary Committee which will take such action as it may think fit.
12. The duration of the game shall be two equal periods of Seven and a half minutes each.
13. The teams in each group will play each other once only to decide the winners and runners-up in each group. Winners and runners-up in Phase I will be declared on the following priorities:
  - a. Points gained.
  - b. Goal difference
  - c. Most goals scored
  - d. Corners difference
  - e. Most corners gained

Depending on the number of teams participating the Management Committee (or Sub-Committee) will announce the teams that will proceed to Phase II of the Competition.

14. Phase II of the Competition will be played on a knock-out basis.

In the event of a goal draw in Phase II of the Competition, the number of corners which will not be taken but counted will be the deciding factor. If the result is still a draw, then the game will be decided on penalties as per International Board Regulations.

15. The Final will be played after a fifteen minutes rest period. It will be of the same duration as the other games. In the event of a draw, extra time of four (4) minutes each half will be played. If the result is still a draw, then the penalties procedure will be followed.
16. The winning team will receive a trophy to keep and ten medals. The runners-up will also receive a trophy to keep and ten medals.

## **26. JUNIOR DIVISION**

1. The teams entering this Competition shall be the Junior teams of the existing member Clubs.

2. Depending on the number of teams in this Division, the Management Committee shall have the right to adjust the method of the Competition accordingly.

3. All Rules in the Constitution shall apply with the following exceptions:

(a) Players Qualification:

- i) All players must be over 14 years of age and under 18 years of age on the 1<sup>st</sup> of August in the year of the Competition.
- ii) For players under the age of 18 the provisions contained in Football Association Rules shall apply.

## **27. CHAIRMAN'S CUP RULES**

1. The Competition shall be called the 'Cypriot Football League Chairman's Cup'.

2. The participants shall be the previous season's champions of the 1<sup>st</sup> Division and the winners of the previous season's Challenge Cup. If the same club has won both the 1<sup>st</sup> Division and the Challenge Cup they will play last season's 1<sup>st</sup> Division runners-up.

3. Control of competition.

- a) The entire management and control of the competition shall be vested in the Management Committee who will have powers to deal with any matter for which no specific provision or clause is made.
- b) Except where specifically provided for within these Rules, the Rules of the Cypriot Football League apply.

4. In the event of the match resulting in a draw, extra time of 15 minutes each way shall be played.

If scores are still level at the end of extra time, then the result shall be determined by penalties. The taking of penalties shall be governed by International Board Regulations.