

East Gwent Association Football League



Affiliated to The Gwent County Football Association

Junior/Youth Handbook and Official Rules Season 2015-16

East Gwent Association Football League

Officers & Committee 2015-2016

PRESIDENT:

Mr M Harbinson

VICE PRESIDENTS:

Mr P Aston

Mrs P Scrivens

LIFE MEMBERS:

Mr H Wills, Mr M Knight, Mr M Harbinson, Mr B Reed, Mr J Gates

CHAIRMAN:

Mr R Morley, 31 Longcroft Road, Caldicot, NP26 4EX - Tel: 01291 424655

VICE CHAIRMAN:

Mr S Matthews, 28 Plover Crescent, Caldicot, NP26 5EX - Tel: 01291 420733

TREASURER:

Mr H Wills – 30 Hollins Close, Chepstow NP16 5HY - Tel: 01291 622105

JUNIOR SECRETARY AND JUNIOR REGISTRATION SECRETARY

Mr D Harris, 25 Victoria Road, Chepstow, NP16 5QW – Tel: 01291 625650

JUNIOR FIXTURE SECRETARY:

Mr L Parsley, 5 Victoria Road, Chepstow, NP16 5QN - Tel: 01291 627804

GENERAL SECRETARY & SAFEGUARDING OFFICER:

Mr B Reed, 20 Station Road, Caldicot, NP26 4BU - Tel: 01291 420816

Council

Mr M Harbinson
Mr H Wills
Mr A Lloyd
Mr M Jenkins
Mr S Jordan

Mr B Reed
Mr S Matthews
Mr D Harris
Mr R Murdin
Mr C Curry

Mr S Morgan
Mr R Morley
Mr L Parsley
Mr D Barlow
Mr K Nurden

JUNIOR SECRETARIES 2015-16

Abergavenny Rhinos: Simon Mansfield, 10 Riverside Drive, Llanfoist, Abergavenny, NP7 9PX Mobile: 07899 890509

Abergavenny Town: Martin Stark, 36 Holywell Crescent, Abergavenny, NP7 5LH
Tel: 01873 850867 Mobile: 07930 395670

Caerwent: Karen Dally, 3 Llanvair Road, Caerwent, Caldicot, NP26 5NY
Tel: 01291 425096

Caldicot Town: Gary Foster, 11 Heol Glaslyn, Caldicot, NP26 4PG
Tel: 01291 425 607 Mobile: 07812 583099

Chepstow Town: Rachel Smith, 7 Swains Field, Woolaston, Lydney, GL15 6SU
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Clydach: Simon Howarth, Duffryn Clydach Farm, Gilwern, Abergavenny NP7 0EG
Tel: 01873 831003 Mobile: 07860 928531

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Llanfoist: Russell Greeves, Endeavour , Bryn-y-Gwenin, Abergavenny, NP7 8AB
Tel: 01873 561115 Mobile: 07974 443338

Mardy: Louise Hawkins, 4 The Paddock, Llanellen, Abergavenny, NP7 9HJ
Tel: 01873 857423

Monmouth Town: Mark Morris, 61 Dixon Close, Monmouth, NP25 3P - (New address)
Tel: 01600 716168 Mobile: 07977 677415

Raglan: Donna Parker, Fairfax View, Raglan, NP15 2DR
Mobile: 07912 509442

Sudbrook CC: Dave Pinnell, 32 Plover Crescent, Caldicot, NP26 5ET
Tel: 01291 421721 Mobile: 07787 318576

Thornwell: Theresa Beard, 2 James Stephens Way, Chepstow, NP16 5GE
Mobile: 07825 165312

Undy Athletic: Michelle Anderson, 8 Langley Close, Magor, Caldicot, NP26 3HW
Mobile: 07810 540419

Usk Juniors: Phil Holland, 10 The Chase, Ton Road, Llangybi, NP15 1TY
Tel: 01633 450358 Mobile: 07867 781249

Wyesham Wanderers: Amanda Jones, 52 Tudor Road, Wyesham, Monmouth, NP25 3LF
Mobile: 07707 766615

Section A: CONSTITUTION

1. TITLE

The league shall be known as The East Gwent Junior Youth Association Football League.

2. AREA

League area will be the area of the current Monmouthshire County Council.

3. OFFICERS AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

For the purposes of this rule the League Management Committee is known as The Executive Committee.

i. MANAGEMENT

The league shall be managed by the Executive Committee to consist of Life Members, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer, Fixture Secretary, Registration Secretary, General Secretary, Safeguarding Officer, President, Vice-President, and eight Executive Members.

ii. ELECTION

All officers and Executive Members shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting. Members of the Council, who have served 15 years on the Council, not necessarily continuous, shall be eligible for election as Life Member of the League with full voting powers. At no time shall the number of Life Members exceed 5.

4. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The league will hold an Annual General Meeting during June of each year. The League Secretary will give a minimum of 21-days notice of the date of the Annual General Meeting to member clubs.

The financial report and balance sheet, duly audited, should be forwarded to clubs at least seven days prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting.

5. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

The League Secretary shall convene a Special Meeting at any time by order of the League Management Committee and/or by requisition of two thirds of the clubs in membership of the league. Such requisition to be given in writing to the League Secretary. Special General Meetings shall take place as directed by the League Management Committee.

6. REPRESENTATIVES AT ANNUAL AND SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

Each club in membership of the league may send two representatives to the Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting but each club will only be entitled to one vote on any issue. Clubs not represented at their Annual or Special General Meeting will be fined as per the League Management Committee decides.

Clubs who owe fees or fines to the league or to the Gwent County Football Association or clubs under suspension for any reason shall be allowed to attend the Annual or Special General Meeting but shall not be eligible to vote.

7. AFFILIATION

All Clubs must be affiliated to the Gwent County Football Association.

8. LEAGUE ENTRANCE FEES AND DEPOSITS

The League will charge an entrance fee and a deposit for each team accepted into the league. The entrance fee and deposit to be fixed by the League Management Committee and published to clubs prior the 31st July each year.

Clubs must pay such entrance fees and deposits to the league before 1st August, failure to comply may render the club liable to immediate suspension.

The deposit of a team may be forfeited if that team fails to complete all its commitments to the league by the end of the season as determined by the League Management Committee. This also applies to teams withdrawing during the season. Teams completing all commitments will have their deposit returned to them at the end of each season although, with the permission of the clubs concerned, deposits may be held by the league and used against the clubs commitment next season.

Section B: LEAGUE RULES

1. COMPETITION

The League will operate divisions, based upon demand, as follows:

- a. Competitive Football (11-a-side) - Under 13, Under 14, Under 15 and Under 16.
- b. Competitive Football (9-a-side) - Under 12.
- c. Where the Leagues decide to play at two-year age groups then divisions shall be Under 12, Under 14 and Under 16.
- d. Non-Competitive (Mini) Football - Up to Under 11.

The number of clubs accepted into each division shall be at the discretion of the League Management Committee. All players must be under the age as defined by the division on the 31 August at the commencement of the season.

In normal circumstances the league will run 1 division at each group with teams playing each other twice on a home and away basis, with championship points awarded as below. The League has the discretion to vary this where circumstances require it. That is where there is a very high or very low demand for entry into a particular division. In such cases the league will notify member clubs of how the competition winners and runners up are to be determined before the commencement of the season.

For competitive matches championship points will be awarded as follows:

- i. Win - Three (3) points to the winning team
- ii. Drawn Matches - One (1) point to each team

The team having the most number of points in a division shall be declared winners of that division and the team with the next greatest number of points shall be declared runners-up. In the event of two, or more, teams in the same division having the same number of points then the league shall arrange play off games to determine the division winners and runners up. Goal difference shall not be counted.

2. CLUBS APPLYING TO JOIN LEAGUE

The League will only accept applications from clubs based within the area of the league as defined in Section A: Constitution.

Clubs from outside of a league area applying to join that league will not normally be allowed to do so except in special circumstances. The Gwent County Football Association may only approve such applications.

Clubs must apply before 31st July each year and will be accepted into the league at the discretion of the League Management Committee and must be notified of their acceptance or otherwise by 1 September each season. Clubs must provide a current Gwent County Football Association Affiliation number.

The League may accept late applications from clubs but clubs applying to join a league after the commencement of the current playing season will only be allowed to join if there is a vacancy, i.e. an odd number of teams in a division. Clubs making false statements in support of their application to join a league will be fined as directed by the Management Committee.

3. CLUB DETAILS

Within 14 days of their acceptance into the league each club shall forward to the League Secretary full details, including name, address and telephone number and Email address of club officials.

4. CLUB COLOURS

Each club shall forward to the League Secretary a statement of its distinguishing colours. Registered colours are only to be used. No variations will be allowed and no one will be allowed onto the field until properly dressed. No club will be allowed to play in black or navy shirts. If there is a clash of colours, the away team must change.

Goalkeepers shall play in colours distinct from members of both teams.

5. CLUB GROUNDS

Each club in the League shall register its ground with the League and shall not use another ground for home matches unless by agreement of the League Secretary.

The League will not be responsible for the safe custody of the club, players or officials' property. When in any dressing accommodation whether hired to the club or the League, it is the responsibility of the club, person or official concerned.

6. WITHDRAWALS

Teams withdrawing from the league must pay all league and cup fees and, at the discretion of the Executive Committee will lose their deposit. In addition they will be liable to a withdrawal fee not exceeding £50.00. The withdrawal fee apply to all age groups including mini-football.

7. FIXTURES

All league fixtures will be arranged by the league and reported to the League Management Committee before the commencement of the season. Matches played without the consent of the league will be declared void and the League Management Committee will deal with the offending clubs.

In all cases league and cup matches shall take precedence over friendly games.

8. PLAYER REGISTRATION

All players must hold an East Gwent Player Licence and be registered with the league before they can play in the East Gwent League

Player registrations for clubs must be renewed each season. The registration period is the 1st June to the last Thursday in March inclusive. Players must reside within the area of the Gwent County Football Association subject to the FIFA rules concerning players living within 50kms of a Country's external border i.e. Wales/England.

Each player will be registered with the Central Registration System. Appropriate forms are available from the League Secretary. Completed registration forms, which must include the East Gwent Football Association Licence number, must be submitted to League Secretary/League Registration Officer. The player is not deemed registered until the Club receives confirmation from the League Secretary/Registration Officer.

In competitive age groups, where a club enters two, or more, teams in one division then, for the purposes of player registration, the teams will be treated as separate clubs and players may register and play for one team only. Any player wishing to move from one club's team to another within the same division must apply for a transfer. Transfer Forms are available from the League Secretary. Incomplete registration forms and forms not accompanied by the East Gwent F A Players Licence number shall be returned to the secretary of the club concerned without being processed. Clubs are responsible for ensuring that a player is free to register for them and is not under suspension. All registration forms submitted by post must have a stamped addressed envelope enclosed for the return of forms.

Clubs playing a player prior to receipt of the registration confirmation being received from the League Secretary/League Registration Officer will be charged with playing an ineligible player.

In competitive age groups, where a League has divisions at every age group a player may only register for one age group.

The only academy players allowed to sign for a junior team are the players registered with a club that has FAW Academy status.

9. REGULATIONS AFFECTING PLAYERS UNDER THE AGE OF 16 ON 31st AUGUST AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF EACH SEASON

No player may play senior football until their sixteenth birthday. Note that rule applies until the end of the season in which the player is 16.

When a player reaches the age of 16 he/she may register for a jointly affiliated senior team in the pyramid system and continue to play for his junior team. This will apply until the end of the season in which the player reaches 16. Any player wishing to play senior football for any other club will not be able to continue playing junior football

Players wishing to play senior football must register in accordance with the rules of the senior league in which the player wishes to play.

10. TRANSFER OF PLAYERS

Players wishing to transfer shall complete a transfer form. Transfer forms are available from the League Secretary at a cost of £5.00. No transfer applications will be considered after the 31st December. Players are only allowed one transfer per season.

Note: Where a player holds kit belonging to, or owes monies to, or is in any way in dispute with the existing club, then the club secretary of the existing club must enter such details on the transfer form. The Gwent County Football Association will take such comments into account when determining whether the transfer is to be allowed or refused.

11. DURATION OF SEASON

The League shall determine the start and end of the season within the period laid down by the Football Association of Wales and The Gwent County Football Association.

12. DAYS AND TIMES OF KICK OFF

The Leagues will notify clubs before the commencement of each season notifying days and times of kick offs.

Clubs wishing to kick off a league fixture at a different time (or earlier date) must apply to the League Secretary in writing, with a copy to their opponents, 7 days prior to the date of the match concerned. In case of one club objecting then the fixture will be played at the time notified by the league as above.

13. REFEREE & ASSISTANT REFEREES

Referees in all matches for all divisions when available will be appointed by the League. Referees appointed by the League must accept or reject within 48 hours. The Gwent County Football Association will determine the referee's fee and expenses. The home club shall pay the referee's fee and expenses; however leagues may, at their discretion, order the home and away club to equally share the payment of the referee's fee and expenses.

Where the League has not appointed a referee, or the appointed referee fails to turn up for the game, the **home club** will appoint a suitable person to referee the game. No game to be postponed because of the lack of a referee. If a game is not played because no referee is available then the league, at its discretion, may charge the home club with breaking a fixture.

If the league does not appoint assistant referees, then both the home and away clubs will each supply a suitable person to act as assistant referee. The home club shall be responsible for supplying flags for both assistant referees.

Match Day Procedure Club Referees and Assistant Referees

To get the most effective use of club referees and assistant referees, the following procedure should be adopted:

- a) Home team must appoint a suitable person to act as referee
- b) Both teams must appoint a suitable person to act as assistant referee who must not be changed without informing the referee
- c) These three persons are then acting on behalf of the Gwent County Football Association
- d) The referee must acquaint himself/herself with the assistants
- e) The referee must not start the game until he/she has satisfied him/herself that the assistants are in position
- f) The officials must take a zero tolerance to foul and/or abusive language.**
- g) Any player using foul and/or abusive language must be sent from the field of play immediately and reported to the Gwent County Football Associations**
- h) Any manager that uses foul and/or abusive language must be removed from the field of play and the game must not restart until the said person is back in the changing rooms or well away from the pitch. The person must be reported to the Gwent County Football Association
- i) All reports from referees must be sent to Mr P W Aston, Disciplinary Secretary, Brook Farm, Bishton, Newport, NP18 2DZ**
- j) Any official not adhering to the above will not be allowed to officiate in any further games and clubs will be charged with misconduct
- k) The only reports that will be accepted are from the referee and/or the club
- l) No reports will be accepted from parents or spectators
- m) If any other reports are required these will be requested by Mr Aston
- n) Players licence must be available for inspection at each match otherwise clubs may be fined as directed by the Executive Committee

The role allotted to Assistant Referees is to **signal WHEN the ball is ENTIRELY over the touchline, and to indicate WHICH side is entitled to the throw-in**, subject always to the decision of the Referee.

14. NOTIFYING OF HOME GROUND

The Home Club must notify the visitors and referee (if appointed) by first class post or by telephone at least 72 hours preceding the match, with details of the arrangements. Clubs failing to confirm will be fined the sum of £10.00 for the first offence and at the discretion of the League Management Committee for subsequent offences.

In the event of non-receipt of notification, the opposing club and referee to obtain the information and submit a report to the League Secretary. **Non-receipt of notification will not be accepted as an excuse for not playing the match.**

15. COLOURS

Teams must not play in black. The Away club to change in the event of a clash of colours, except where the home club intends to play in colours not registered with the league. In such cases the home club shall change. Teams may only play in colours approved by the League.

16. DURATION OF MATCHES

UNDER 15 and UNDER 16: - 40 minutes in each half.

UNDER 12, UNDER 13 and UNDER 14: - 35 minutes in each half.

The time played in each half must be equal.

17. THE BALL

The home team will be responsible for supplying the match ball which should be in good condition, the size should be as follows:

UNDER 12 - Size 4

UNDER 13, UNDER 14, UNDER 15 & UNDER 16 - Size 5

Failure to provide a ball of the size required will result in a fine the sum of £5.00.

18. CORNER FLAGS & NETS

These must be provided and erected by the home club. Nets and corner flags to be in accordance with the laws of the game. Clubs not providing or erecting nets and corner flags will be fined the sum of £5.00.

19. SUBSTITUTES

A Club may, at its discretion, use a substitute player at any time in a match for any reason except to replace a player who has been suspended from the game by the Referee. The substitution can only be made when play has stopped for any reason, and only after the referee has given permission.

Up to FIVE named substitutes are allowed in 11v11 games and up to SEVEN named substitutes for 9v9 games. Substitutes must be named prior to kick-off. A player who has been substituted himself/herself 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.

20. LATE STARTS

The referee is to report clubs responsible for delaying the start of the game to the League Management Committee. Clubs deemed responsible for the late start will be fined the sum of £10.00 for the first offence, £15.00 for the second offence and up to £25.00 for subsequent offences.

21. RESULTS

The League will require a written match report to be submitted for each competitive game played. Except for the results, such match reports to be completed before the start of the game and must include the date of the game, the names of the home and away clubs, the venue, the name of the referee, the final score and the names and East Gwent Licence Numbers of all players taking part in the game or nominated as a substitute. Match reports to be signed by a team official of both the home and away club.

Both Clubs are responsible for providing and submitting a written match reports to the league. **Written match reports to arrive with the league within three days of the date of the game (excluding Sundays).** Clubs not submitting a written match report within the 3-day period will be fined the sum of £10.00.

Clubs not fully completing the match report to be fined the sum of £10.00. Clubs falsifying information on a match report will be fined the sum of £20.00.

Home Clubs must telephone the result of the game to the Designated League Officer within 2 hours of the termination of the game. Clubs not complying will be fined the sum of £10.00.

22. CAUTIONS AND SENDINGS OFF

All Cautions and Sending off must be reported to the Gwent County FA Disciplinary Secretary in writing on official form. (Visit the Gwent County FA Website). The home club shall be responsible for ensuring that any club referee appointed reports the matter as above. Full details of the above must also be entered on to the rear of the match report form.

23. POSTPONEMENT OF FIXTURES

If a postponement of any league fixture is required, application must be made in writing and be in possession of the League Secretary, at least 7 days before the match is to be played. A fee of £15.00 will be charged for competitive fixtures and £7.50 for Mini postponement. **The unavailability of a qualified person is not classed as a reason to postpone a fixture.**

The League Secretary will then notify both teams of the postponement, if agreed to. This rule will not apply when pitches are declared unfit for play.

24. POSTPONEMENTS DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER

In the event of a postponement of a league fixture due to inclement weather the Home club to notify visitors, referee, and the League on the day of the match. **Both Clubs must telephone the League Secretary/Fixture Secretary as soon as a decision is made.**

25. BREAKING A FIXTURE

Clubs charged with breaking a fixture shall be dealt with by the League Management Committee. The offending club shall have up to three (3) points deducted from their total of points and fined as directed by the Management Committee. They will also be liable for any costs incurred by their opponents.

The offending club shall be fined the sum of £20.00 for the first offence and £25.00 for the second offence. A Club committing a third offence will be liable to such disciplinary action the Management Committee may determine, including expulsion from the League.

In all cases the game will be either rescheduled or awarded to the non-offending club as determined by the League Management Committee.

Where only one team turns up for a scheduled fixture that team and the referee (if appointed), shall wait at the ground until 30 minutes after the scheduled kick off time. If the opponents do not turn up during this period, the team may then accept that the fixture will not be played and they may leave the ground. They must immediately report the matter to the league by telephone and confirm all details in writing within three days. Non-receipt of such reports not to prevent the league taking action if it deems the fixture has been broken.

26. TEAMS LEAVING THE FIELD

This is covered under the rule for Abandoned Games. Refer to Rule 31.4

27. INELIGIBLE PLAYERS

Any club playing an ineligible player shall be dealt with as follows:

- a. **When the winning team plays an ineligible player:** The match shall be awarded to the non-offending club and the result will be recorded as 5-0.
- b. **When the losing team plays an ineligible player:** The result of the game will stand and the goals scored by the losers shall be disallowed.
- c. **In drawn matches where one club plays an ineligible player:** The match shall be awarded to the non-offending club and the result will be recorded as 5-0.
- d. **When both teams play an ineligible player:** The match shall be declared a 0-0 draw and no points shall be awarded.

In all cases clubs will be liable to fines and expenses as the Executive direct.

The defaulting club shall pay such expenses of opponents as the league direct and shall be fined a sum not exceeding £50.00.

Any player taking part in a match in which he/she is not eligible, shall be reported to the Gwent County FA. He/she is also liable to have his registration cancelled at the discretion of the League Executive Committee.

28. SEARCH OF REGISTER

Should doubt arise as to the eligibility of any player, the League Secretary will give

such registered information as necessary, or required, on payment of a fee of £5.00 per player. All applications will be made in writing and must be accompanied by the fee. This will not constitute a protest, which should be made in the usual way. Frivolous requests being proved, fee will be retained.

29. PROTESTS

Protests must be lodged with the League Secretary by first class post within 10 days of the match to which they refer, and an exact copy of such protests shall in addition be forwarded by recorded delivery post, by the club protesting, to the secretary of the club against which the protest is directed, within such time limits as aforesaid. To prevent frivolous protests, a fee of £25.00 must accompany the protest or they will be rendered void, if the Committee deem the protests frivolous, the fee will be forfeited.

The protest must be confined to the infringement of rules contained here in. The club protesting must provide all necessary evidence to support their protest – this to include all statements which must be in writing. Such statements must bear the name and address of the person making the statement and must be signed. Such persons must be prepared to attend any hearing as required. If individuals are referred to in the protest their full names must be given.

30. CONDUCT

The League Management Committee shall have powers to deal with any offending club or clubs on infringing the rules contained here in. **The Gwent County FA will deal with all cases of misconduct by clubs, players, officials or spectators.** All offending clubs will be invited to attend disciplinary hearings.

31. ABANDONED GAMES

31.1 CAUSED BY LATE START:

In the event that a late start is the cause of a match being left unfinished, the League Management Committee shall determine if the result at the time the match finished shall stand.

31.2 CAUSED BY INCLEMENT WEATHER:

When a match is abandoned due to inclement weather, the League Management Committee shall determine if the result at the time the match finished shall stand.

31.3 CAUSED BY MISCONDUCT OF A CLUB/S:

Any match abandoned by the Match Official due to indiscipline of a Club or Clubs must be reported by the match Official to the Gwent County Football Association with a copy of the report sent to the League Secretary. A charge of misconduct shall be issued to the offending club/s by the Gwent County Football Association. The Gwent County Football Association shall inform the League of the outcome of the Disciplinary Hearing. Any Club found guilty by the Area Football Association of having caused the abandonment of a match may have up to three (3) points deducted from its League record by the League Management Committee. Furthermore, the League Management Committee shall determine the result of the match as they deem fit or have the match replayed. In the event that both Clubs are found guilty by the Area Association, the League Management Committee may at its absolute discretion declare the match VOID and order that it be replayed.

31.4 CAUSED BY TEAM LEAVING THE FIELD OF PLAY:

In the event of any club leaving the field of play, without the permission of the referee, the Match Official must send a report to the Gwent County Football Association with a copy of the report sent to the League Secretary. A charge of misconduct shall be issued to the offending club/s by the Gwent County Football Association. The Gwent County Football Association will inform the League of the outcome of the Disciplinary Hearing and the result of the match shall be decided at the discretion of the League Management Committee, irrespective of the time played. The offending club may have up to three (3) points deducted from its League record.

31.5 CAUSED BY AN INJURY TO A PLAYER IN THE FIELD OF PLAY:

When a match is abandoned due to an injury to a player, the League Management Committee shall determine if the result at the time the match finished shall stand or the game is replayed.

32. FINES

All fines must be paid within 10 days of receiving notice from the League (such notification to be given within 10 days of the fine being imposed) or the offending club will be placed under suspension until such time as the fine is paid, the only exception being, when the offending club has given notice in writing of an appeal. All payments are to be sent to the League Secretary, with cheques payable to the East Gwent League.

33. APPEALS

Any club being dissatisfied with the decision of the League Management Committee may appeal to the Gwent County FA enclosing their fee. Appeals to be made within time limits laid down by the Gwent County FA in their Constitution Handbook.

34. TROPHIES AND MEDALS

For competitive divisions, and where funds permit, the League to present 16 medals to the winners and 16 medals to the runners up in each division. Additional medals may be provided for each club if requested. The league may require the cost of additional medals to be borne by the requesting club.

35. CUSTODY OF SHIELDS AND CUPS

Clubs who hold League Trophies are required to insure the trophy or trophies they hold for their full value. Clubs to furnish to the league the names of two responsible persons who will act as trustees for the league trophies held by the club. The club shall pay the repair costs for any trophy damaged whilst in possession of the club, or if repair is not possible, shall provide a new replacement trophy as directed by the league.

All trophies are to be returned to the league by the 28th February following or earlier if directed. Clubs failing to comply will be fined as directed in Appendix E.

36. REPRESENTATIVE AND INTER LEAGUE MATCHES

The league shall enter any inter-league competition arranged by the Gwent County FA.

The League Management Committee shall have the power to arrange special matches, the proceeds of which shall be devoted to the General Funds of the League.

Any player selected to play under the auspices of the League in Inter-League games or otherwise, and failing or refusing to do so, shall, in the absence of good and sufficient cause, be dealt with at the discretion of the League Management Committee. Any club which shall be found to have encouraged or instigated such conduct on the part of a player shall be deemed guilty of misconduct and shall be dealt with at the discretion of the League Management Committee.

Leagues may decide their own criteria for the selection of their representative squads and the recruitment of representative team managers and coaches.

37. TOURNAMENTS and FESTIVALS

Before any Competition/Tournament/Festival can take place the organising Club must apply to the Secretary of the Gwent County Football Association for permission to stage the Competition/Tournament/Festival or Event giving 14 days' notice. Form 'E' must be completed and the appropriate fee paid. A list of clubs playing in the Competition/Tournament/Event must be provided. All teams that enter the Competition must have a current affiliation number and any team from outside of Wales must also produce a letter of authority to enter from their respective National Association. Copy of such letters must accompany the Form "E".

Any Club wishing to play in a Competition/Tournament/Festival outside the area of Gwent must apply for permission to the Secretary of the Gwent County Football Association giving 14 days' notice. Competitions outside of Wales will also require sanction from the Football Association of Wales. The Gwent County Football Association Secretary will obtain this sanction for the club.

Any Club failing to observe the above procedure will be liable to be fined and sanctions on the Club may be imposed. Competitions/Tournaments/Events must not interfere with League/Cup commitments

38. DISBANDED CLUBS

The players of any disbanded team which has discharged its liabilities to the League, shall be eligible to register for any other club in the League immediately withdrawal of such team is accepted by the League Management Committee. The results of matches for disbanded teams to be completely eliminated from the League records. Once all outstanding fees and fines (both League & County FA) have been paid the League Secretary must forward a list of the players to the Football Association of Wales to enable the registrations to be deactivated.

39. RULEBOOKS

Rulebooks will be supplied to all Clubs and the League Management Committee reserves the right to make a charge. A plea of not having a rulebook or not having knowledge of the rules, shall not be accepted as a plea of clemency if any charge be made against the team.

40. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATION WITH THE LEAGUE

All communications with the League must be in writing from the club secretary, the league reserves the right not to act on correspondence received from any person other than the club secretary.

Any correspondence, which requires an answer should be accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope (S.A.E). Clubs failing to answer correspondence from the league

within 10 days will be liable to a fine of £10.00.

Email will only be accepted in the following circumstances:

The email address must have been lodged with the League Secretary at the start of the season. The email must have a signed letter on the clubs Letterhead attached, or should be followed up with a signed letter on club letterhead within 3 days

All telephone communications with the league must be confirmed in writing, by the club secretary, within three days. The league reserves the right not to act on telephone communications until such confirmation is received.

No telephone calls to be made to League Officials, Club Secretaries or Team Managers after 9:00pm unless by prior arrangement.

41. FRIENDLY MATCHES

A friendly match may only be arranged when the team concerned has no prior commitment in the league or league cup competitions.

For friendly matches against:

- a. Teams within the same league area - Permission from the League Secretary and Gwent County Football Association.
- b. Teams outside the league area, but within Gwent - Permission from the League Secretary and Gwent County Football Association.
- c. Teams outside of Gwent but within Wales - as (b)
- d. Teams outside Wales - as (c) plus the Football Association of Wales

In all cases initial requests must be submitted to the League Secretary/Gwent County FA Secretary at least 14 days prior to the date of the match. Failure to give sufficient notice may result in permission being refused. A club guilty of playing matches without permission will be reported to the Gwent County Football Association.

42. UNDER 12 – COMPETITIVE 9 v 9

Follow all rules in the East Gwent Junior/Youth Handbook for competitive 11v11 except:

- a) Size of goals: 16 ft (width) x 7 ft (height)
- b) Size of pitch:
 1. Width: 44 yards - this is the width of the 11v11 penalty area
 2. Length: Penalty box to penalty box if played on an 11v11 pitch or 70 yards if played on a dedicated 9v9 pitch
 3. Penalty area: 28 yards wide and 12 yards from goal line
 4. Penalty spot: 9 yards from goal line
 5. Goal area: A goal area is not necessary, but goal kicks are to be taken approximately 4 yards from goal line
 - i. A painted marker 4 yards from each post is sufficient for guidance
 - ii. For dedicated 9v9 pitches a goal area can be marked out. This is to be 4 yards from goal line and 4 yards from each goal post towards the corner.
- c) Maximum squad size for match is 16 players – 9 players plus 7 substitutes (roll-on roll-off with the referees permission)

Please note that off-side and penalty rules apply as normal. Playing time is 35mins

each way as normal and ball size 4. Anything not covered above then League and FAW rules apply.

43. BEHIND THE LINE – BUFFER ZONES

Buffer zones alongside all Junior football pitches both mini football and competitive football **are mandatory for all games.** Clubs failing to provide a buffer zone are liable to a fine of £10 for first offence, £20 for second offence, £25 for third offence.

- a) The buffer zone runs parallel to touchline of the pitch, ideally 2 metres from both sides. A smaller buffer zone can be used where space does not allow 2 metres.
- b) The buffer zone should be marked by cones, or additional marked line, or a rope based respect barrier with plastic posts
- c) Only players, designated coaches and First Aider are allowed within the buffer zone.
- d) All parents and other spectators must watch from behind the buffer zone lines.
- e) Where a senior pitch is used with metal barriers, the metal barrier forms the buffer zone and all spectators must watch from behind these barriers.
- f) NO spectators are allowed to stand on the goal line or behind the goal.

44. ALTERATION TO RULES

No alteration shall be made to these rules except by the Gwent County Football Association. Clubs wishing to propose rule changes must do so in writing to the League Secretary prior to 1st February each season. Leagues to hold a Rules Revision Meeting specially convened for that purpose in March of each season when proposals from Clubs and those, if any, proposed by the League Management Committee will be voted upon.

Proposals receiving the assent of at least two thirds of the members present at the Rules Revision Meeting shall then be forwarded by the League Secretary to the Secretary of the Gwent County FA. These will may then be approved or rejected by the Gwent County FA in May of each year. Rule changes made by the Gwent County FA shall become operative at the commencement of the following season.

45. MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

Any matter arising, which is not provided for in these rules shall be dealt with at the discretion of the League Management Committee and shall be reported to the Gwent County Football Association.

Section C: CUP RULES

1. PARTICIPANTS

All teams registered with the league must enter the respective cup competition(s) as directed by the league and pay a fee to be determined by the league.

2. CHOICE OF GROUND

Each round will be drawn by the League Management Committee. First team drawn will be the home team. In the event that a ground is unavailable or unfit, the tie will be reversed. In ties that are reversed the second drawn team becomes the home club.

Semi-Finals to be played on pitches as directed by the League Management Committee.

In semi-final matches, the first drawn team will be the home team but the league will supply a referee. The first drawn club (or the host club if the tie is reversed due to an unfit ground) shall supply and erect nets and corner flags. In all rounds and semi-finals both clubs shall supply a suitable match ball.

3. DATE OF ROUNDS

Date of rounds to be decided by League Management Committee, conference dates may be set. All cup matches will take precedence over league matches.

4. DURATION OF GAMES

The duration of the game will be as League Rule 15. In the event of a draw at full time, extra time of 10 minutes each way will be played. Should a draw still result, penalties will be taken as per the rules laid down by the Football Association of Wales Penalty Procedure.

Any match not completed may be ordered to stand as a completed match or to be replayed for the full period as the Management Committee may direct.

The Management Committee to have the power to decide that an abandoned match result may stand.

5. REGISTRATIONS

A player must be registered 7 days immediately previous to the match. All players must have a East Gwent Football Association Licence. A player may only play for one team in one age group in the cup competition.

No player shall be registered after the last Thursday in March each year. Any club that plays an ineligible player will be struck out of the competition and the tie may be awarded to the opponents and fined as directed by the League Management Committee.

6. NETS AND CORNER FLAGS

Nets and corner flags must be provided in all rounds.

7. REFEREES

In all rounds and semi-finals referees will be appointed by the league. In all rounds, but not semi-finals or finals, if the appointed referee is not available then league rule 11 applies.

Referees fee and expenses to be paid by the home club in rounds and by the league in semi- final and final.

9. **COLOURS**
As in League Rule 13.
10. **BROKEN FIXTURES**
Any club who fails to play an arranged cup match on the appointed date without a suitable reason will be struck out of the competition and fined as directed by the League Management Committee.
11. **NOTIFICATION**
In all rounds league rules 12 shall apply.

In Semi-Finals the league secretary shall confirm all details with the referee.
12. **SUBSTITUTES**
As League Rule 18.
13. **SEARCH OF REGISTER**
As per League Rule 26.
14. **RESULTS**
The Secretary of each Club shall forward a report giving the result of each game, and a list of the players taking part to the League Secretary not later than three days after the date of the game (excluding Sundays). Clubs will be fined the sum of £10.00 for failing to comply. Clubs falsifying a match report form will be fined the sum of £20.00

Home Club Secretaries must phone in the result of the game to the League Secretary immediately after the completion of the game. Failure to comply will result in a fine of £10.00.
15. **MEMENTOES**
Winners and Runners Up will receive sixteen mementoes. Extras may be purchased through the League, but payment for such must be made before order can be placed.
16. **MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR**
Matters not provided for in these rules shall be dealt with by the League Management Committee.

Where not stated in Cup Rules, League Rules shall apply.

Section D: MINI – FOOTBALL RULES

League Rules apply unless specified in the following:

1. GENERAL

There will be no league or cup competitions. No club to organise a competitive league or cup competition.

Mini-football is a modified version of the 11 a-side game. It gives children the chance to play real football, for a real team, whilst experiencing an enjoyable and fun introduction to football through small-sided games. Mini-football is for all children, irrespective of ability, under 11 on 31 August at the start of each season. It is also intended for boys and girls and young footballers with disabilities and learning difficulties.

2. AGES, DIVISIONS AND SESSIONS (FIXTURES)

- a. The League will organise mini-football sessions for players up to and including Under 11.
- b. All sessions organised by the league shall take precedence over club-arranged matches.

3. TEAM SIZE AND SUBSTITUTES

- a. Team size to be:-
 - Under 7: 4 v 4 (no goalkeeper)
 - Under 8: 5 v 5 (goalkeeper introduced)
 - Under 9: 6 v 6
 - Under 10: 7 v 7
 - Under 11: 8 v 8 maximum
- b. Teams must be of equal numbers at all times. If one team does not have the required number of players present then the other team must reduce the number of players in its team until the teams are equal.
- c. Any number of substitutes may be used at any time with the permission of the game leader. Players substituted may re-enter the game at any time.
- d. All players in the squad must be given an equal playing time during the session.
- e. **In the Under 7s it is not allowed for one player to stand in front of the PUGG goal acting as a goalkeeper and leaving just 3 outfield players for the game.** Any game leader or coach allowing this to happen must be reported to the league.

4. PITCH, EQUIPMENT AND PLAYING SURFACE

- a. **The playing area to be of a maximum of:**
 - Under 7 & Under 8 - 30yds x 20yds
 - Under 9 - 40yds x 30yds
 - Under 10 and Under 11 - 60yds x 40yds

- b. **Goal Area. Area to be marked across the field, from touchline to touchline:**
 Under 7 - No goal area
 Under 8 - 5 yards from goal line
 Under 9 - 8 yards from goal line
 Under 10 and Under 11 - 10 yards from goal line
- c. **Size of Ball:**
 Under 7, Under 8 and Under 9 - Size 3
 Under 10 & Under 11 - Size 4
- d. **Goal Posts:**
The goal size to be used by all Mini Football age groups is 12ft x 6ft. For Under 8 matches it is recommended that the dimensions of the goal is reduced by placing a 12ft x 6ft Mini Goal face down **to reduce the height of the crossbar**
 Under 7s should use smaller goals such as 6ft Pop up Goals (PUG).
 If portable goal posts are used these must be securely fixed to the ground.
- e. **Playing area:**
 Ideally games should be played on dedicated mini-football pitches but any level surface, which is suitable for football may be used. **THERE MUST BE NO DEBRIS OR DANGEROUS HAZARDS EITHER ON THE FIELD OF PLAY OR IN THE IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING AREA.** The game should not be played on sections of full size pitches where full size fixed goal posts form part of the touchline or goal lines or are within three (3) yards of these lines.
- f. **Pitch Marking:**
 Cones and marker discs may be used for pitch marking. Corners must be marked. The general aim is to provide a safe, supervised environment for the players and their families.

g. Buffer zones are mandatory for mini football as per league rule #42

5. **DURATION OF SESSIONS AND GAMES**

A mini player can only play a maximum of 60 minutes sanctioned match time in one 24 hour period. **This should be broken down into 15-minute quarters for Under 7 & Under 8, and either 15 or 20-minute sections for Under 9, Under 10 & Under 11.**

6. **KICK OFF**

The kick off is to be taken in the centre of the field. The normal football rules apply to the kick off.

7. **THROW INS**

Law 15 applies and the throw in should be taken in the normal way, game leaders can, and should, show flexibility. For example, in the case of a foul throw in, the game leader should allow the throw to be retaken by the same team; if necessary the game leader should advise the player concerned of the correct way to take the throw in.

8. **CORNER KICKS, FREE KICKS AND PENALTIES**

These are to be taken in the normal way except:

- a. Opponents must be three yards from the ball when the kick is taken.
- b. All free kicks are indirect.

- c. No penalties are to be awarded. Offences in the goal area are penalised with an indirect free kick.

9. GOAL KICKS

- a. To be taken anywhere in the goal area.
- b. For Under 10 and Under 11 players must kick the ball off the ground as normal Goalkeepers in younger age groups may kick the ball from their hands anywhere in the goal area.
- c. **For Under 8s, Under 9s and Under 10s opponents must retreat to the half way line.**
- d. For Under 11s opponents must be at least three yards away when the kick is taken.

10. GOALKEEPERS

- a. May handle the ball in the goal area and there are no restrictions on the number of steps they may take when holding the ball.
- b. Cannot handle the ball outside of the goal area.
- c. May play the ball outside or inside the goal area with their feet but may then be challenged by an opponent.
- d. Under 10 and Under 11 may only throw the ball after it is picked up. Goalkeepers in younger age groups may kick the ball out of their hands.
- e. May handle the ball if it is passed to them by a team mate.

11. GOAL AREA

There are no restrictions on the number of players allowed in the goal area.

12. GAME LEADERS

- a. A game leader is appointed to supervise each game. The club hosting the mini-football session is to appoint the game leader.
- b. The role of the game leader is to supervise the game, awarding free kicks, throw ins etc. as a normal referee would and, in addition, he/she should explain the rules as the game proceeds, if necessary demonstrating certain points as to how the game is restarted, e.g. a throw in.
- c. Game leaders shall perform their duties from the side of the playing area.
- d. The game leader is urged to be extremely flexible in the way the game is supervised, especially with the younger children.

13. RESULTS AND MATCH REPORTS

- a. League will require match reports to be submitted each month to the mini football registration officer. Match reports must list player names and licence numbers, but should not show the match result. Clubs not submitting a written monthly match report within the 3 day period following the last game each month will be fined the maximum sum of £15.00
- b. Leagues must not request match results to be telephoned to a league officer or any other person.

- c. Leagues to report any person, team or club attempting to collate results of various teams to the Gwent County FA.

14. PLAYER REGISTRATION

- a. Note rules 8 apply
- b. All players playing in teams from under 8s to under 11s must hold a green players Licence before they take part in any East Gwent fixtures. Under 7 players playing for an under 8 team require a licence.
- c. Each player to register on a simple registration form provided by the league.
- d. Players to register for a club only. Players may play for any team run by the club subject to age restrictions. This gives clubs the opportunity to select equal size squads for each team if they run more than one team at each age group.
- e. No player to play for more than one team on the same day.
- f. Transfer of players as per League rule #10.

15. MATCH REGULATIONS

The club hosting the mini-football session shall be classed as the home club.

- a. The home club shall contact the visitors by telephone, or in writing, at least 72 hours prior to the date of the session to confirm all details.
- b. The home club shall provide the pitch and all required equipment.
- c. In the event of colour clashes the away team(s) shall change, except where the home club wishes to play in colours not registered with the league in which case the home club shall change.
- d. If a postponement/cancellation of any league fixture is required, application must be made in writing and be in possession of the League Secretary, at least 7 days before the match is to played. A fee of £7.50 will be charged for a postponement.

16. BROKEN FIXTURES, TEAMS NOT ARRIVING,

In the event of one team not turning up for a league fixture the Club will be charged with breaking the fixture and shall be dealt with by the League Management Committee.

- a) **If a fixture is deemed to be broken, then the offending club will be fined, and the league management committee will decide if the game is to be rescheduled**
- b) The offending club shall be fined the sum of £20.00 for the first offence and £25.00 for the second offence.
- c) Teams committing a third offence in the same season will be liable to a fine of £35.00 and expelled from the league.

17. INELIGIBLE PLAYERS AND TEAMS LEAVING THE FIELD

If a team plays an ineligible player or if a team leaves the field without the permission of the game leader. The matter shall be dealt with as follows:-

- a. The League may impose fines as per directed by the Management Committee.
- b. For a second offence the League may instruct such teams to appear before the

League Management and/or disciplinary committee.

- c. Teams committing a third offense may be expelled from the League.

17. FESTIVALS, TOURNAMENTS and FRIENDLIES

For Festivals and Tournaments League Rule #37 applies.

For Friendly games League Rule #41 applies.

18. TROPHIES/MEDALS/AWARDS

No trophies, medals or awards of any kind indicating winners, runners up, finalists, most improved team, most sporting team etc., shall be presented to any team or the individual players of any team.

The exception to this is where a league or club wishes to recognise the involvement of players in a particular session, e.g. a festival. In such cases exactly the same award must be presented to each and every player taking part, or in the case of one award per team, to each and every team taking part.

19. EXPLANATORY NOTES

The mini-football rules contained in this handbook are based on the football Association of Wales requirements for mini football.

Mini-football is non-competitive and therefore it is not important that clubs play each other on a home and away basis.

However each team that makes a commitment to entering into the organisation of mini-football must recognise that it has certain responsibilities towards the league and other member clubs.

Clubs may well end up hosting sessions on a home and away basis but this is mainly to ensure that the work required in preparing the pitch and pitch hire costs are spread equally across all teams.

Clubs/Teams that persistently break the rules may be expelled from membership of the league subject to the usual disciplinary procedures.

20. OTHER

- a. Club and team officials must ensure that every player in the team gets an equal opportunity. Winning is not important.
- b. Officials and spectators are asked to encourage the players at all times.
- c. Club and team officials must consider weather and ground conditions very carefully before games commence.

Section E: STANDING ORDERS FOR LEAGUE MEETINGS

1. CONTROL OF MEETINGS

The Chairman of the League shall have control of the meeting, and in case of a tie on voting for any motion or amendment, he shall have power to give a second or casting vote.

2. MOVING OF RESOLUTIONS

Every motion or amendment shall be moved and seconded (and if so required shall be reduced to writing) before it is discussed or put to the meeting.

3. MEMBERS SPEAKING

A member shall address the Chair, only the Chairman shall have power to check or call to order a speaker. When the Chairman rises no one else shall continue, nor shall anyone else until the Chairman has finished.

4. MATTERS NOT BEFORE THE MEETING

No member shall speak on any matter, not before the meeting.

5. MEMBERS TO SPEAK ONCE ONLY.

No member shall speak twice on any motion, unless permission be given to explain, except the mover of the original resolution, or of an amendment that displaces an original resolution.

6. RESOLUTIONS ETC. NOT TO BE WITHDRAWN

A motion or amendment once made and seconded, shall not be withdrawn without the consent of the meeting.

7. AMENDMENTS TO BE RELEVANT

Any amendment must be relevant to the motion on which it is moved.

8. REJECTED AMENDMENTS

If any amendment be rejected, other amendments may be moved on the original motion, providing notice has been given.

9. AMENDMENTS CARRIED

If any amendment is carried, the original amendment as thereby amended, shall become the question upon which any further amendments may be moved.

10. NOTICE TO RESCIND RESOLUTION

Notice of motion must be given and appear on the agenda before any decision arrived at can be varied or rescinded. Any motion having been passed by the Executive Committee Meeting shall not be rescinded without the consent of at least two thirds of those present. No motion to alter or rescind any resolution passed within the preceding 6 months, and no motion or amendment to the same effect as one which has been rejected within the preceding 6 months, shall be proposed. When any such motion or amendment has been disposed of by any Executive Committee it shall not be open to any member to propose a similar motion within a further period of 6 months.

11. URGENT MATTERS

Any matter of pressing importance not on the agenda, may be dealt with at once upon

a motion of 'urgency' being duly moved, seconded and carried by a two thirds majority of the members present.

12. INTEREST

If a member of member(s) has any interest in any matter put before the meeting then the member(s) shall withdraw from the meeting whilst the matter is discussed and resolved.

13. TIME LIMIT FOR SPEECHES

No member shall address the Executive Committee for a longer period than 5 minutes on any one question, except the mover of the resolution, who may speak on bringing forward his proposition for a period not exceeding 10 minutes.

14. PRIORITY OF SPEAKER

When two or more members rise at one time, the Chairman shall decide who shall have priority of speaking.

15. OBJECTIONABLE MATTERS

If the Chairman shall be of the opinion that any motion proposed to be made is of an objectionable character, he may at once put it to the vote (on which there shall be no discussion) whether it shall be entertained or not, and if two thirds of the members present decide not to entertain such motion the matter is disposed for that meeting.

16. QUORUM

Five members shall form a quorum of the Executive Committee, and without a quorum no business shall be transacted. This does not refer to sub-committees.

17. CONDUCT OF MEMBERS

Should there be any dispute which involves the conduct or otherwise of any member, or members of the Executive Committee, the said member shall retire during its consideration.

18. RESOLVING INTO COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee may, by vote, resolve itself into a Committee, and whilst in Committee there shall be no restriction as to the number of times a member may speak.

19. PRIVILEGE

The evidence of witnesses, statements of members, general discussion and other matters within and before the Executive Committee and Sub-Committees shall be deemed to be privileged and private. The Executive Committee shall have the power to censure or suspend from service on the Executive Committee any member proved to be guilty of a breach of this rule.

20. DURATION OF MEETINGS

All Executive Committee meetings will terminate no later than 2 hours after the Chairman declared the meeting open.

East Gwent Association Football League

Junior Youth Honours Season 2015 - 2016

League Winners

U12s: Monmouth Town

U14s: Undy Colts

U16s: Garden City

Cup Winners

U12s: Monmouth Town

U13s: Mardy

U14s: Undy Colts

U16s: Abergavenny Town

Become a Referee

CAN YOU HELP: If you have played the game at any level you will know how important it is to have a qualified referee.

Are you physically fit, with good eyesight and willing to attend a local course of instruction, in preparation for a straightforward examination.

Courses are run over 8 weeks, for two hours on a weekday evening.

Everyone who has passed and started refereeing wish they started earlier, so why not come along and give it a go!

If you are interested please visit East Gwent Referees association at:

www.egrareferees.com/become-a-referee.html



**Junior football should be a fun, safe and a positive experience
for every young person involved.**

Buffer zones are mandatory for both mini-football and competitive games.

**All parents, relatives and other spectators are to stay behind the buffer zone.
Stay off the touchline and off the pitch!**

Goalpost Safety

Safety is paramount and it is vital that clubs ensure the goals they are responsible for are manufactured to current safety standards and properly anchored down.

Please refer to goalpost safety guidelines from the FAW.

Further Information

Juniors League Website: www.eastgwentfl.co.uk

Senior League Website: www.eastgwentfl.org.uk