



**North Bury  
Junior Football League  
Rules 2022-23 Season**

## LEAGUE RULE 1

### Qualification of Players

In the North Bury Junior Football League player identification is managed through the WGS Player Registration System and as such the following applies in the North Bury Junior Football League. The WGS Player Squad List must be available for the opposition team to inspect at the start of any match arranged under the auspice of the North Bury Junior Football League.

- Rule 1.1: If a Team fails to produce a "WGS Player Squad List" before the start of the match, this will be classed as a failure to fulfil the match resulting in the points being awarded to the opposition and the relevant fine being sent.
- Failure to comply with this rule will result in the offending team being fined £40 on the first offence. Further breaches of this rule will result in the offending team being fined a further £10 on top of the original £40 fine.
- Rule 1.2: If the Opposition Team is found not to have checked the above, then a £30 fine will be applied.
- Rule 1.3: All Players cease to be members of this competition on 31st May in each Year or until the season is completed (exceptional circumstances).
- Rule 1.4: The Management Committee of this competition reserves the right to refuse or accept the registration of any player for the forthcoming season.
- Rule 1.5 When a player signs for an academy that players' registration with the club becomes null and void and should be deregistered by the club. Therefore, once a player is released from an Academy or Centre of Excellence prior to the February 28th player registration deadline with a signed release letter from the Academy or COE they will then become a 'free agent' eligible to reregister with their previous club or any new club within the league. Final registration/transfer of players will be Midnight 28<sup>th</sup> February except for Under 7's & Under 8's who can continue to sign on during remainder of season.
- Rule 1.6 A player who has played for a team within the same club in a higher division in that season will not be eligible to play in the lower division team (after the Christmas Break) except by permission of the Management Committee to a maximum of 2 players.
- Rule 1.7 A player who has played for a team in the same age group will not be allowed to transfer to another team once their initial team has completed their league fixtures.
- Rule 1.8 Spot checks on Player Registrations may take place at the half time interval by members of the Management Committee. Referees will extend the half time interval accordingly to allow this to take place.
- Rule 1.9 Failure to de-register players who have left the team may result in postponements not being granted and further players NOT being signed.
- Rule 1.10 Players photographs must be updated prior to each season for Under 7, 10, 13 and 16s, to clarify they must be photographs taken within 30 days of registration.

## LEAGUE RULE 2

Playing season, conditions of play, times of kick off, postponements, substitutes

Rule 2.1 The minimum number of players required to constitute a team, and the maximum number of players a team can register is as follows:

<b>FORMAT</b>	<b>MINIMUM PLAYERS TO CONSTITUTE A TEAM</b>	<b>MAXIMUM PLAYER REGISTRATION NUMBERS</b>
<b>5v5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>7v7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>9v9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>11v11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>22</b>

Rule 2.2 Midweek league and cup fixtures will be given a specific date by the League and will be on a Tuesday unless another midweek night is mutually agreed by teams and signed off by the relevant Age Group Representative. See Rule 2.3

Rule 2.3 Teams will be allowed one standard postponement only for the full season. This postponement request must be sent to the relevant Age Group Representative at the latest by 10pm on Monday for the following Saturday fixture and 3 days prior (10pm) for a midweek fixture i.e. 10pm on Saturday for the following Tuesday Fixture. This postponement will need to be approved by the relevant Age Group Representative.

Postponements can be used for League and Cup matches. Where a postponement request is refused, the fixture must go ahead, or the game will be considered as failure to fulfil.

Postponements can only be used for League and Cup matches up to and including the 30<sup>th</sup> of April in each season. Where a postponement request is refused, the fixture must go ahead, or the game will be considered as failure to fulfil.

When an ad-hoc postponement is requested due to attendance on a school trip or school activity, a statement from head or teacher will be required for all school related activities within five (5) days. When an application for a postponement is granted then the Age Group Representative shall notify both the manager and manager of the opposing Club.

Ad-Hoc Postponements may be requested ONLY if the team have the number of players missing which would take the team below the number that constitutes a team.

The following areas for ad-hoc postponements will be considered:

- School Team.
- Attendance at substantiated school activities.
- Town Team Fixtures

Rule 2.4 Teams will be permitted a maximum of TWO wildcard postponement for the full season up to and including the 30<sup>th</sup> of April. Each wildcard postponement request must be received by the relevant Age Group Representative by 7pm on Friday for a Saturday fixture and by 10pm the night before a midweek fixture i.e. Monday 7pm for a Tuesday midweek fixture. These postponements will need to be approved by the relevant Age Group Representative. Failure to comply may result in the postponement request being rejected. Wildcard postponements can be used for League and Cup matches. Where a postponement request is refused, the fixture must go ahead, or the game will be considered as failure to fulfil.

Rule 2.5 During the playing season, if any Club/Team changes their home ground venue and team colours they must inform the League Secretary immediately. Failure to comply with this rule may result in Standard Code Rule (19) being implemented.

- Rule 2.6 All games to be played using goals, netting, throw ins, goal kicks and corners regardless of where you play your game.
- Rule 2.7 All clubs wishing to gain entry to the North Bury Junior Football League MUST apply via the League Secretary and be sanctioned by the Management Committee. Any team that bypasses this route and apply direct through County FA will not have their league registration request approved.
- Rule 2.8 Teams that fold within the North Bury Junior Football League, during the course of the season may be fined £50.00.
- Rule 2.9 Any Team that fails to fulfil three games consecutively may be fined and deemed to be folded.
- Rule 2.10 The Manager of the home team must give notice of full particulars of the location of, and access to the time of kick-off, kit colours to the Match Officials and the Manager of the opposing team at least 3 clear days prior (Wednesday Evening for Saturday fixtures) to the playing of the match. If not so provided, the away team and Match Officials shall seek such details and report the circumstances to the relevant Age Group Representative. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).
- Rule 2.11 Unless agreed by both teams, and the committee being notified, earliest kick-off will be 09:00 and latest kick-off will be 12:00pm for weekend games. All teams MUST supply a kick off time 2 weeks prior to the start of the season, failure to do so may mean no fixtures are given. (This may be a default time in the event of any conflicts).
- Rule 2.12 All pitches must be booked to accommodate the appropriate playing time for age groups (including half time provision) as stated within the league rules.
- Rule 2.13 If your next Saturday fixture is removed, postponed or unable to proceed for any reason, you should not stand your squad down prior to 9pm on Wednesday evening as the League may be able to provide an alternative fixture.
- Rule 2.14 In the event of 2 or more teams finishing level on points then the results between the teams concerned will decide the final positions, if required this will include goals scored in the relevant head-to-head matches. If this does not resolve the situation, then a one-off game will be arranged and played to a finish on the day to decide the final position.
- Rule 2.15 A total of 2 officials per team will be allowed on the touchline opposite the spectators (Opposite the Respect Barrier). No club/team official shall stand in front of the Respect Barrier on the side of the spectators (except when acting as an assistant to the referee), or on the pitch-side next to the goals.
- Rule 2.16 Under 12's. As this is their first season in competitive, we operate a "split season". After the first half of the fixtures have been completed (i.e. all teams have played each other once), there will be a relegation and promotion. Division winners receiving medals. This will allow a 'settling' of divisions to make an evenly competitive second half of season Trophies will then be awarded at the end of the second part of season.
- Rule 2.17 Teams are requested to wait for their opponents up to 15 minutes after the confirmed kick-off time before assuming a Fail to Fulfil.
- Rule 2.18 Where a game has been abandoned, including where there is no fault attached to either team, if 75% or more of the game has been played, the result will stand. In all other circumstances, the Management Committee will decide the outcome.

## LEAGUE RULE 3

### Referees

- Rule 3.1 Where a League Official Referee is not appointed or fails to turn up then an Ad Hoc Official must be agreed on and they shall officiate for the entire match, through to its conclusion and not just 1 half. This ad-hoc official has full responsibility for the game, including, but not limited to, the issuing and reporting of any disciplinary action.
- Rule 3.2 If a Team provides their own referee due to a League Official Referee not being allocated to the fixture, then they must inform the opposition before the fixture commences and obtain their agreement for the substitute referee, failure to do this may result in the Management Committee ordering the fixture to be replayed at the expenses of the offending Team and any other penalties the Management Committee deem suitable.
- Rule 3.3 The Management Committee may, if they consider it desirable, or upon application by the two competing clubs, appoint Assistant Referees, if available, to any match. Where Assistant Referees are not appointed each Team shall provide a Club Assistant Referees.
- Rule 3.4 Referee Mini-Soccer £22, 9 a-side £24, 11 a-side up to Under 15's £30, Under 15's and older £35. The Home Team shall pay the match official at the end of the game. If payment is to be made to the referee by bank transfer this must be agreed with the official prior to match day.
- Rule 3.5 Referee's appointed by the Management Committee as Assistant Referee's is £15 subject to any limits laid down by the sanctioning association.
- Rule 3.6 Each team can award marks to the referee for each match played, these marks can be submitted to the Competition via FA Fulltime.
- Rule 3.7 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. Where a match is not played owing to one Club being in default, that Club shall be ordered to pay the Match Officials, if they attend the Ground, their full fee. Failure to comply with the Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).
- Rule 3.8 Match Officials shall be supplied, each Playing Season, with a copy of the Competition Rules on the NBJFL website

## LEAGUE RULE 4

### North Bury JFL Main Knockout and Supplementary Cup Rules.

- Rule 4.1 All matches will be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game and in accordance with both the League Rules and Competition rules as set down below.
- Rule 4.2 The Management Committee will arrange the format of Cup Competitions for each age group based upon the teams and structure of that age group.
- Rule 4.3 Any Team that infringes any Cup Competition Rules mentioned before or after this rule may be removed from that Competition. If this is the case, then their opponents who were offended against will progress to the next round. If no team has been offended against (e.g. a team folds), then the competition continues as planned without the removed team, this may result in a team receiving a 'bye' in the next round.
- Rule 4.4 To compete in a Cup Competition, Teams may be required to play midweek fixtures (See League Rule 2.2) to complete a particular round. See Rule 2.11
- Rule 4.5 Only players who have been registered with their respective teams in accordance Rule 18 will be eligible to play in that round of the Cup.

- Rule 4.6 Cup Competitions require a result on the day, then in the event of the scores being level at the end of normal time then the winner will be decided by the taking of penalty kicks from the players on the pitch at the final whistle in accordance with the laws of the game.
- Rule 4.7 Any player having played for another team in the competition (cup-tied) will not be eligible to play for any other team in the same competition irrespective of age group. Club failing to comply with this rule shall be liable to a fine (in accordance with the fines tariff) or dealt with, as the Management Committee shall determine.
- Rule 4.8 Any team failing to fulfil its Cup fixture on the designated date except for weather or events that it has no control over may be expelled from the Competition.
- Rule 4.9 In accordance with pitch availability (pitch share or pitch conditions) if the home teams pitch is not available, the fixture MUST be reversed regardless of which team is drawn first.
- Rule 4:10 In the event of a match not being completed in accordance with above Rules the teams will meet again to replay the game in its entirety at the same venue.
- Rule 4.11 Referees fees will be split equally between both teams. Including, if appointed, assistant referees. The away team must give the home team their share of the costs of the match on arrival at the ground. The Home Team shall pay the match official at the end of the game. The exception to this will be the final when fees are paid by the League.
- Rule 4.12 Notification of the result or any postponement of the match must be reported to the relevant Age Group Representative in the prescribed manner as that of a League Match.
- Rule 4.13 Any team causing the abandonment of the match through the actions of their players, spectators, or officials (caused by undisciplined behaviour or actions contrary to the laws of the game), will be expelled from that Cup Competition and their opponents will progress to the next round. They may also be barred from any other Cup Competition run by the League for the remainder of the season. If this happens in a Final Tie the offending Team will not receive any mementoes of that competition. The offending team will be liable for expenses incurred by the opposition and League. If both Teams are found guilty, they will be charged an administration fee of £10 each and may also be barred from any other Cup Competition run by this Competition for the remainder of the Season.
- Rule 4.14 The Management Committee shall make the final decision concerning anything not covered for or under the Competition or League Rules and their decision shall be Final.
- Rule 4.15 Any player not having been eligible to play 5 League games in the competition will not be allowed to play in a Final tie of any Cup Competition without prior permission of the Management Committee.
- Rule 4.16 Postponements for Cup Semi-Finals may or may not be granted and the final decision will sit with the Management Committee. Postponements of Cup Finals will not be granted by the Management Committee.

## **LEAGUE RULE 5**

### **Additional Rules for Cup Competitions Played on a League Basis – (in addition to League Rule 4)**

- Rule 5.1 Teams will be split into Leagues, which for the purpose of this competition will be called groups containing where possible equal number of teams.
- Rule 5.2 Fixtures will be played on a round robin basis with each team in the League playing each other at least once. Where possible an equal number of home and away fixtures will be arranged for teams in the groups.
- Rule 5.3 Any Team unable to fulfil any of its group fixtures for any reason other than the weather will have FTF and the points awarded to the opponents
- Rule 5.4 Format for this competition will be decided by the Management Committee.
- Rule 5.5 If the early rounds of the Competition are played on a group/league basis then the match official's fees shall be split between the two competing teams. The away team must give the home team their share of the costs of the match on arrival at the ground.
- Rule 5.6 The winners of the group will be the team with the most points and the runners up the team with the next best points total and so on.
- Rule 5.7 In the event of 2 or more teams finishing level in a qualifying position then the results between the teams concerned will decide final positions, this if required will include goals scored in the relevant head-to-head matches. If this does not resolve the situation, then a one-off game will be arranged and played to a finish on the day to decide the final group positions.
- Rule 5.8 After the group stages have been completed the competition will progress to its Final Tie as per Knockout Competition rules.
- Rule 5.9 The Management Committee shall make the final decision concerning anything not covered by the Competition or League Rules and their decision shall be Final.
- Rule 5.10 The 'cup tied' rule comes into force at the end of the 'round robin' stage of the competition i.e. a player transferring between clubs is eligible to play for their new club as long as the league-based stages of the competition is still being played by their team. A transferred player must have played in at least on round robin match to be eligible to play in the knock-out stages.

## **LEAGUE RULE 6**

### **Administration**

- Rule 6.1 Officers of the League can only be contacted at the times they stipulate via methods agreed by each individual representative with their relevant club representatives. Clubs will be informed of these times and communication methods prior to the start of the season. Failure to follow this rule may result in the offending Team/Club being fined £20.00.

## LEAGUE RULE 7

### Discipline

The Management Committee reserves the right to withdraw the registration of any team or player found guilty of serious misconduct or continued contravention of these rules. See also Appendix 1.

### DISCIPLINE – (APPENDIX 1)

#### Appendix 1

##### *Player Conduct – Points Procedure*

A suspension by a County Association counts as 5 North Bury discipline points.

10 North Bury points accumulated (in one season) - a warning letter is issued.

15 North Bury points accumulated (in 12 months) - registration is withdrawn

25 North Bury points accumulated (in two seasons) - registration withdrawn.

Any player found guilty of abuse, classed as discrimination or prejudice, relating to, for example, but not exclusive to gender, race/ethnicity, or sexual orientation – registration is withdrawn.

##### *Violent physical conduct (assault & serious injury)*

A player registered with the North Bury Junior Football League who is found guilty by a county association of this offence (whether committed in the North Bury Junior Football League or in any other competition), or one which the North Bury Junior Football League Disciplinary Committee deem to be detrimental to the League's code of conduct may have his registration withdrawn indefinitely.

##### *Misconduct by Spectators or Club Officials*

Any team found guilty of misconduct will be called to appear before the League Disciplinary Committee.

Any team found guilty of assault, attempted assault or threatening behaviour towards players, spectators or match officials may be expelled from the league.

Any official or spectator found guilty of misconduct may be suspended by the League.

If a spectator or club official wishes to video or take photos of the fixture, permission must be sort from the participating team's managers.

### RULES BINDING ON CLUBS

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