

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE AMATEUR FOOTBALL LEAGUE



KNOCK-OUT CUP COMPETITION RULES

RULES WHICH APPLY TO ALL CUPS

1. Each Club will pay the Entry Fee per team to the Competition.
2. The control of this cup competition will be by the League Management Committee, using the standard League Rules, except for additional requirements provided by these rules.
3. The competition will be with knock-out rounds in the first of which all byes will occur, unless in special circumstances a group competition is organised. If it is, specific rules will be issued.
4. No player may play in this competition who was not registered (see Competition Rule 18) on the last day of March of the current season, nor for more than one Club in the same L&C cup competition, in the same season.
5. All rounds will be drawn in pairs and except for the semi-finals and final, the first drawn Club of each pair will use and pay for their home ground and be responsible for all arrangements. If the teams wear similar colours, the away team will change.
6. The clubs will share the referee's fee.
7. Should a match be postponed, the fixture will be rescheduled on the original ground, at a 3G/4G venue, or at the away club's ground at the discretion of the fixture's secretary. The home club will arrange a new date which is mutually acceptable. When the fixtures secretary arranges an alternate venue, it will be paid for by the competition.
8. Matches will begin at times appointed by the Competition. The half time interval shall be of a maximum ten-minute duration.
9. Should a match have equal goals result after NINETY (90) minutes and added time (not extra time), the winner shall be decided by penalty kicks in the manner prescribed by the International Board. In special circumstances alternative arrangements for deciding the tie may be made by the Competition Management Committee. The Cup Final will have extra time (two fifteen-minute halves), then penalties if necessary.
10. Should a match be not completed because of either Club's breach of rules, any replay scheduled will be at the discretion of the management committee. Failures to fulfil Cup matches will result in punishment of the offending team by expulsion from the competition, and exclusion from the following season's cup.
11. The Semi-Finals and Final will be arranged by the Competition, which will take all the receipts and pay the expenses. Clubs provide match footballs for the Semi-Finals; the League provide match balls for the Finals.
12. Prior to the Semi-Finals, League Rule 18 (O) (i, ii and iii) will determine player eligibility.
13. No player may play in the Semi-Finals or Final of this competition who has played in less than FIVE (5) matches for the Club concerned in this Competition's league or cups during the current season.
14. Any Club playing an unregistered or otherwise ineligible player will be disqualified and may be liable to a fine for each offence and required to pay any match expenses and/or otherwise dealt with at the discretion of the Competition Management Committee. They may also be excluded from the following season's cup.
15. The financial credit or debit of this competition will be transferred annually to this Competition's General Account.
16. A list of up to **SEVENTEEN (17)** outfield players plus **THREE (3)** goalkeepers (maximum total **20 (TWENTY)**) qualified players from which its team will be selected, with the number of matches they have played, must be notified to the League, the Registrations, Match Stats and Match Reports Secretaries by each competing Club **TEN (10)** days before the Semi-Finals. No change requests to the Semi-Final squad will be accepted by the management committee after it has been checked and agreed.

The squad in the Final will be the same as the Semi-Final, unless over a month has elapsed, or the clubs have extenuating circumstances warranting a potential change.

17. Referees and Assistants for Semi-Finals and Finals will be paid a flat rate of £40 and £30 respectively.

18. Host clubs for Semi-Finals and Finals will be paid an amount negotiated by the Fixture Secretary/Chairman, and only allowed to claim additional expenses which are supported by an invoice.

THE RHODES CUP

1. The member's teams in the Premier and First divisions will all compete annually for the Rhodes Cup

THE WRAY CUP

The teams of all Clubs in the third and fourth tier divisions of this Competition will compete annually for the Wray Cup

In the semi-final and final of this competition, players (i) must have played at least **5 (FIVE)** matches for their Club's team(s) in the relevant divisions during the current season and also (ii) must have played in no more than **THREE (3)** of the immediately preceding **SIX (6)** matches for their Club's first team, unless special permission is given by the Competition Management Committee. Rule 2 (ii) will not apply to single team clubs.

THE WHITEHEAD CUP

The teams of all Clubs in the fifth and sixth tier divisions in the Competition will compete annually for the Whitehead Cup.

In the semi-final and final of this competition, players (i) must have played at least **5 (FIVE)** matches for their Club's team(s) in the relevant divisions during the current season and also (ii) must have played in no more than **THREE (3)** of the immediately preceding **SIX (6)** matches for their Club's first team, unless special permission is given by the Competition Management Committee. Rule 2 (ii) will not apply to single team clubs.

As an alternative to knockout rounds, this cup may be played on a home and away basis, including the semi-final. The first drawn club will have home advantage in the second match. The first match will be of 90 minutes, and the second match will reach a conclusion by penalties if goals after 180 minutes are equal. A third alternative is to run as mini leagues through to a semi-final.

THE HELLAWELL SHIELD

The teams of all Clubs in the seventh and eighth tier divisions of the Competition will compete annually for the Hellowell Shield.

In the semi-final and final of this competition, players (i) must have played at least **5 (FIVE)** matches for their Club's team(s) in the relevant divisions during the current season and also (ii) must have played in no more than **THREE (3)** of the immediately preceding **SIX (6)** matches for their Club's first team, unless special permission is given by the Competition Management Committee. Rule 2 (ii) will not apply to single team clubs.

As an alternative to knockout rounds, this cup may be played on a home and away basis, including the Semi-Final. The first drawn club will have home advantage in the second match. The first match will be of 90 minutes, and the second match will reach a conclusion by penalties if goals after 180 minutes are equal. A third alternative is to run as mini leagues through to a semi-final. This rule will be of particular relevance if there is no eighth-tier division.

THE VETERANS CUP and Under 21's CUP

Rules will be issued prior to invitation to compete.