



DERBYSHIRE FA



DERBYSHIRE COUNTY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

COUNTY CUP RULES 2024/25

Table of Contents

1 – NAME OF COMPETITIONS	2
2 – OWNERSHIP OF TROPHIES (ALL CUPS).....	2
3 – MEDALS	2
4 – CONTROL OF COMPETITION (ALL CUPS)	2
5 – DATE OF ENTRY (ALL CUPS).....	3
6 – ELIGIBILITY OF CLUBS	3
7 – PROVISIONS CONCERNING THE QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS.....	4
8 – VALIDITY OF PLAYER’S QUALIFICATIONS.....	6
9 – SUBSTITUTES	6
10 – NOTIFICATION OF DRAW	6
11 – TIME	7
12 – VENUES FOR MATCHES	7
13 – COLOURS.....	9
14 – DURATION OF MATCHES.....	9
15 – PROVISIONS RELATING TO MATCHES PRECEDING THE FINALS	9
16 – REPORTING RESULTS.....	10
17 – PROVISIONS CONCERNING REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES.....	11
18 – PROVISIONS FOR FINAL TIES	11
19 – PROVISIONS CONCERNING PROTESTS AND OBJECTIONS	12
20 – PROVISIONS CONCERNING APPEALS	12
21 – PROCEEDS OF MATCHES	12
22 – PROGRAMME	13
23 – FIRST AID	14
24 – TEAM BENCHES/TECHNICAL AREA.....	14
APPENDIX A – ENTRY FEES	14
APPENDIX B – ADMISSION CHARGES	14
APPENDIX C – REFEREE FEES.....	15

1 – NAME OF COMPETITIONS

The Cup Competitions shall be called:

“The Derbyshire FA Senior Challenge Cup”, “The Derbyshire FA Divisional Cup North”, “The Derbyshire FA Divisional Cup North”, “The Derbyshire FA Divisional Cup South”, “The Derbyshire FA Junior Cup North”, “The Derbyshire FA Junior Cup South”, “The Derbyshire FA Sunday Senior Cup”, “The Derbyshire FA Sunday Junior Cup”, “The Derbyshire FA Women’s Cup”, “The Derbyshire FA Women’s Plate”

All Cup Competitions shall be competed for annually.

The following terms may be used throughout these rules. The definitions of these rules are below.

“All Cups” – These rules apply to all Cup Competitions individually

“Divisional Cups” – These rules apply to both The Derbyshire FA Divisional Cup North and The Derbyshire FA Divisional Cup South

“Junior Cups” – These rules apply to both The Derbyshire FA Junior Cup North and The Derbyshire FA Junior Cup South

“Saturday Cups” – These rules apply to The Derbyshire FA Senior Challenge Cup, the Divisional Cups and the Junior Cups

“Sunday Cups” – These rules apply to both The Derbyshire FA Sunday Senior Cup and The Derbyshire FA Sunday Junior Cups

“Women’s Cups” – These rules apply to both The Derbyshire FA Women’s Cup and The Derbyshire FA Women’s Plate

Any rule which does not have one of the above terms in shall be applicable to all competitions

2 – OWNERSHIP OF TROPHIES (ALL CUPS)

The Legal Owners of the Trophies shall be the Limited Company and they shall be held in trust on behalf of donors. The Cups shall be Challenge Cups and can never become the property of any Club and in the event of dissolution of the Company they shall become the property of the donors. All cups must be returned to the Association by the last working day of February the following year.

3 – MEDALS

In addition to the Cup, the Association shall present sixteen medals to participating players.

When a player taking part in the Final Tie of the Competition is ordered to leave the field of play for misconduct the medal to which he may be entitled shall be withheld at the discretion of the Competition Management Committee.

4 – CONTROL OF COMPETITION (ALL CUPS) (rule regarding comp management makeup)

- (a) The Association shall have entire control and management of the Competition and have the power to disqualify, impose fines or other such penalties and may order the payment of costs and expenses against any competing Team, or the players of any competing Team, in breach of any of the Rules of the Competition.
- (b) The Association shall decide upon the interpretation of the Rules of the Competition, adjudicate upon any dispute, claims, protest and Appeals, and their decision shall be final and binding.

- (c) The Association shall have power to formulate the Rules of the Competitions, and to alter or add to the Rules as they, from time to time, deem expedient.
- (d) The organisation of the Competition shall be delegated to and be at the discretion of the Competition Management Committee.
- (e) A Club failing to comply with an order or instruction of the Competition Management Committee or failing to satisfactorily attend to business and/or correspondence of the Competition shall be liable to be fined up to a maximum of £250.00 or otherwise penalised at the discretion of the Council of the Association.
- (f) The Competition Management Committee reserves the right to issue charges against any Club with 'Bringing the Competition into Disrepute' in cases of serious misconduct. Any fine imposed shall not exceed £250.00.

5 – DATE OF ENTRY (ALL CUPS)

All clubs are auto enrolled into County Cup competitions in the 24/25 season, Derbyshire County Football Association must be informed by 12pm on Monday 26th August 2024 of any team's intention to withdraw. Anyone who wishes to withdraw after this date is subject to fine by Derbyshire County Football Association. All clubs must pay the relevant entry fee by a date specified by Derbyshire County Football Association.

6 – ELIGIBILITY OF CLUBS

General – All Clubs

All Clubs must be affiliated to the DCFA in accordance with the area as designated within the Memorandum of Association 3 (3).

A Club having membership with the Association as their Parent Association must, if mandated, enter the appropriate DCFA Competition and give precedence to this competition as in accord with Regulation 21 of the FA Regulations for the Sanction and Control of Leagues.

A Club having membership with the Association is not permitted to enter any other County Association Cup Competition without first entering the appropriate DCFA Cup Competition. Approval from the Association will be required for a Club to participate in another County FA 's competition – in accordance with Regulation 21.

The Derbyshire FA Senior Challenge Cup

The competing Clubs shall consist of all Clubs affiliated to the Association who play in a NLS Feeder League or higher in the National League Structure (NLS), the English Football League or The Football Association Premier League (Premier League) and meet or exceed Ground Grading H.

Clubs which participate at Step 1 of the NLS, the EFL or the Premier League may, by no later than the 9th September in the current season, apply for total exemption in writing to the Competition Management Committee. This is to be submitted along with an agreement to pay an exemption fee to the Association.

Clubs that play at Step 4 or higher in the NLS, the EFL or Premier League will enter at a round as decided by the Competition Management Committee.

Clubs in Step 1, the EFL and Premier League may enter a reserve team or equivalent in lieu of the first team.

Divisional Cups

The competing Clubs shall consist of those Saturday Clubs playing in the recognised leagues relevant to the Competitions, Clubs which participate in approved NLS Feeder leagues who do not meet the criteria for The Derbyshire FA Senior Challenge Cup and the reserve teams of those Clubs in The Derbyshire FA Senior Challenge Cup.

Clubs shall be separated into the North and South competitions at the discretion of the Competition Management Committee.

Junior Cups

The competing Clubs shall be those competing in the recognised leagues relevant to the competition and the reserve teams of those Clubs in the Divisional Cups.

Clubs shall be separated into the North and South competitions at the discretion of the Competition Management Committee.

Women's Cups

The competing Clubs shall be those competing in any league in the female game. Clubs whose first team plays in Tier 3 or higher may enter a reserve team or equivalent in lieu of their first team.

Clubs at Tier 4 or higher shall enter The Derbyshire FA Women's Cup at a Round determined by Competition Management Committee. All other Clubs shall enter The Derbyshire FA Women's Cup at Round 1. Losing teams from Round 1 shall enter The Derbyshire FA Women's Plate. Should a team not fulfil their fixture in Round 1 or Round 2 of The Derbyshire FA Women's Cup, they shall not participate in The Derbyshire FA Women's Plate.

Sunday Cups

The competing Clubs shall consist of those competing in the recognised leagues relevant to the competition.

Teams shall be separated into the Senior and Junior competitions at the discretion of the Competition Management Committee.

It is optional for Clubs to enter the Sunday Cups.

7 – PROVISIONS CONCERNING THE QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS

Saturday Cups

A player may only play for one Club per season in Derbyshire FA Saturday Cups.

The Derbyshire FA Senior Challenge Cup

A registered player is one who has either, in the case of a player under written contract, registered with The Football Association or, in the case of a player without a written contract, be registered with a League in which the Club competes in for the current playing season. All such registrations must have been received and accepted by Leagues and/or The Football Association by 12 noon the day before the fixture is played.

Should a fixture be postponed, the above shall apply to the re-arranged fixture.

Any players on a loan agreement may only play in the competition providing a written agreement has been provided by the players Parent Club and that they have not represented another Club in any of the Saturday Cups in the current playing season.

A player recalled at any time prior to the date of the fixture may play for their original Club unless they have played for the Club he was loaned to in any of the Saturday Cups.

A player who returns to their parent Club after the semi-final but prior to the final will be eligible to play in the final.

Divisional Cups

A registered player is one who has registered with a League in which the Club competes in for the current playing season. All such registrations must have been received and approved by Leagues via their primary league registration system (usually the Club Portal/Competition Portal) no later than 5pm Wednesday before the fixtures original scheduled date.

A player who has played in The Derbyshire FA Senior Challenge Cup in the current playing season shall be ineligible to play in the Divisional Cups.

Junior Cups

A registered player is one who has registered with a League in which the Club competes in for the current playing season. All such registrations must have been received and approved by Leagues via their primary league registration system (usually the Club Portal/Competition Portal) no later than 5pm Wednesday before the fixtures original scheduled date.

A player who has played in The Derbyshire FA Senior Challenge Cup or Divisional Cups shall be ineligible to play in the Junior Cups.

Sunday Cups

A registered player is one who has registered with a League in which the Club competes in for the current playing season. All such registrations must have been received and approved by Leagues via their primary league registration system (usually the Club Portal/Competition Portal) no later than 5pm Wednesday before the fixtures original scheduled date.

A player who has played in The Derbyshire FA Sunday Senior Cup shall be ineligible to play in The Derbyshire FA Sunday Junior Cup.

A player may only play for one Team per season in the Sunday Cups.

Women's Cups

A registered player is one who has registered with a League in which the Club competes in for the current playing season. All such registrations must have been received and approved by Leagues via their primary league registration system (usually the Club Portal/Competition Portal) no later than 5pm Wednesday before the fixtures original scheduled date.

A player who has played in Round 2 or any subsequent round in The Derbyshire FA Women's Cup shall be ineligible to play in The Derbyshire FA Women's Plate.

A player may only play for one Club per season in the Women's Cups.

A team shall not include more than 5 players who have taken part in three or more senior competition matches. For the purpose of this competition, a senior competition is one at Tier 3 or higher in the Women's Pyramid. Any league cup competitions and SSE FA Women's Cup matches do not count as senior competition matches.

Cup Final Eligibility – All Cups

For Final Ties, every participating team shall submit, no later than 7 days before the date of the final, a squad list from which their players shall be selected from. This squad list is to be submitted to Derbyshire County Football Association and their opponents.

A player must have been registered with a League in which the Club competes in for the current playing season 28 days before the date of the Final Tie.

8 – VALIDITY OF PLAYER’S QUALIFICATIONS

- (a) The Competition Management Committee shall have the power to call upon a Player and/or Club to which they are registered, or for which they played, to prove that the Player is/was qualified according to the Competition Rules.
- (b) Failing satisfactory proof, the Competition Management Committee may disqualify such player, and may remove the Club from the Competition, and impose such other penalty as it deems appropriate. Following such decision, the Competition Management Committee may reinstate the opposition Club.
The Competition Management Committee shall also have the power to impose penalties against Clubs already knocked out of the Competition.

9 – SUBSTITUTES

The Derbyshire FA Senior Challenge Cup, Divisional Cups, Junior Cups and The Derbyshire County FA Women’s Cup

- (a) A Club may at its discretion use five substitutes, nominated from five, 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. A club has a maximum of three opportunities during a game to make substitutions, excluding half time in line with the Laws of the Game.
- (b) A maximum of five substitutes may be nominated and they must be named to the Referee before kick-off otherwise they will not be permitted to take part.

Sunday Cups and The Derbyshire FA Women’s Plate – Repeated Substitutions

- (c) A Club may at its discretion use five substitutes, nominated from five and who have been nominated to the Referee before kick-off at any time, except to replace a player who has been suspended from the game by the Referee after play has commenced.
- (d) A player who has been substituted during the match themselves become a substitute and may, in turn, replace another player at any time subject to the substitution being in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of the Game.
- (e) Only substitutes used must be clearly named on the Match Result Sheet. An unused substitute should not be placed on the Match Result Sheet and is not cup tied in accordance with Rule 7.

10 – NOTIFICATION OF DRAW

All Cups

- (a) The Clubs competing in each round shall be drawn out in pairs to play matches subject to the conditions as determined by the Competition Management Committee. These pairs shall compete subject to the Laws of the Game and the winners compete in the next round and be drawn in the same manner. This shall continue until the Final of the Competition when the winning Club shall hold the Cup under the conditions provided in these Rules.
- (b) After the Draw for each Round is made, notice shall be given to each Club of the name of its opponent Club, and the date and suggested time(s) when the Match shall be played. All matches in each Round shall be played on such date and at such time as the Competition Management Committee determine – please refer to the applicable Conference Dates
The Competition Management Committee shall have the power to order that a kick off time is changed, as deemed appropriate.

11 – TIME

- (a) The home team must notify opponents and match officials of the kick-off time and any changes to the kick-off time.
- (b) Any late starts must be reported by the Referee. Should a team be responsible for a late start, they shall be fined £20. If both teams are responsible for a late start, both teams shall be fined £20.
- (c) Match officials must allow thirty minutes after the stated kick-off time before calling the match due to the non-arrival of team(s) at the ground.
- (d) Unless written consent is provided by the Competition Management Committee, kick off times shall be no later than those stipulated in the table below.

Competition	Latest KO Time (Before Sunday 27 th October)	Latest KO Time (Sunday 27 th October onwards)	Teams with floodlights
Senior Challenge Cup	7:45pm KO	7:45pm KO	7:45pm KO
Divisional Cups	2:00pm KO	1:30pm KO	3pm KO
Junior Cups	2:00pm KO	1:30pm KO	3pm KO
Sunday Cups	11:00am KO (Morning Game) 2:00pm KO (Afternoon Game)	11:00am KO (Morning Game) 1:30pm KO (Afternoon Game)	2pm KO
Women's Cups	2:00pm KO	1:30pm KO	2pm KO (Sundays) 7:45pm KO (Midweek)

Sunday Cups

The kick-off time of all fixtures shall be the normal league kick-off time of the home team however shall not be later than the times given in these rules.

12 – VENUES FOR MATCHES

All Cups (except The Derbyshire FA Senior Challenge Cup)

The Club first drawn in each tie, except in the Final shall be entitled to have the match played at its chosen venue, providing that it is a venue nominated to the league in which that team participates in and that it meets the requirements of the competition rules.

An alternative venue may be used with the consent of the Competition Management Committee.

When the home ground or alternative is unavailable, the tie shall be reversed and the match be played on the oppositions ground. If the tie is played on the ground of the second drawn team in a tie, they shall be recognised as the home team and the first drawn team recognised as the away team.

Where a club's reserve side has been drawn at home and the club's first team is also scheduled to play at home on the same date, the following will apply.

- (a) Where a reserve side is drawn at home and the clubs have no floodlights then the match will be brought forward to a mutually agreed date.
- (b) Where a reserve side is drawn at home and the home club have approved floodlights then the match will be brought forward.
- (c) Where a reserve side is drawn at home and the home club have no floodlights then the Draw may be reversed.
- (d) Home Clubs with approved floodlights may play their matches prior to the scheduled date with the agreement of the opposition.

Each venue must have separate changing facilities for each team and the match officials and a toilet that is accessible for players, match officials and spectators.

The Derbyshire FA Senior Challenge Cup

The Club first drawn in each tie, except in the Final shall be entitled to have the match played at its chosen venue, providing that it is a venue nominated to the league in which that team participates in and that it meets the requirements of the competition rules.

If the team first drawn has another team in the same Club participating in either the EFL or Premier League, the tie shall be reversed and be played at the ground of the second drawn team. The second drawn team shall then be recognised as the home team.

Dimensions of the Field of Play

The dimensions of the field of play must conform to The Laws of the Game as well as conform to the stipulated dimensions of the League in which the Club participates in and entry is based upon.

Protests regarding the suitability of the ground

- i. All objections to the suitability of the ground must be lodged in accordance with Rule 19
- ii. If the ground of the home Club is considered unsuitable for a cup tie, their opponents may appeal to the Competition Management Committee, who may order the match to be played on the ground of the appealing Club, or on a neutral ground. Such appeal must be made within seven days of the receipt of the draw from FA Full-Time.

3G football turf may be used in the Competition provided the pitch is listed on The Associations register of 3G football turf pitches and with the prior consent of The Association. This should be requested at the time of entry to the Competition in each Season, provided that the artificial turf meets the following conditions:-

The pitch shall be surfaced with an 3G football turf that has laboratory type approval according to the FIFA Quality Concept for Football Turf (2009 edition) – FIFA Recommended One Star quality level or the International Artificial Turf Standard (2009 edition) and have satisfied the performance and construction requirements at the time of its last annual assessment. Where an artificial surface is installed, the FIFA Performance Test must be completed by no later than 28 February each year and the result and details submitted to The FA and League by 31 March. Any remedial work must be carried out once the season ends and the pass Performance Test Certificate submitted to The FA and League by 31 May.

The 3G football turf, including run-offs, shall be one continuous playing surface and shall be green in colour. All line markings shall be in accordance with the Laws of Association Football.

All users of the 3g pitch should wear appropriate footwear.

It is recommended that football boots with a moulded sole and round studs are used.

Boots with blade type studs are allowed but not recommended.

Boots with metal studs and flat soled footwear (ie trainers) are not allowed.

13 – COLOURS

- (a) Where the colours of two competing Clubs are similar, the visiting team must change.

In the Semi-Final and Final Ties, the Competition Management Committee may order both Clubs to change unless a mutual agreement is reached by the Clubs.

- (b) No player, including the goalkeeper, shall be permitted to wear black or very dark shirts. Any team failing to comply with this Rule shall be fined £20.00
- (c) Any objection to the colours must be lodged before the match commences with the Referee who shall have the power to order any necessary changes.
- (d) Player's shirts must be clearly numbered on the back in accordance with the official team sheet.
Any team failing to comply with this Rule shall be fined £20.00
No change of numbers during the match shall be permitted except where a player replaces the goalkeeper or following a required change due to a blood injury.
- (e) Advertising may be worn on players' clothing in accordance with the Rules of the Association.

Respect Initiative: The participating Clubs taking part in the fixture shall identify a team captain designated with a captain's armband who has a responsibility in accordance with the Respect programme to offer support in the management of the on-field discipline of his/her team mates.

14 – DURATION OF MATCHES

The duration of each tie shall be ninety minutes, played in two equal halves.

In the event of the scores being tied after ninety minutes, the winner will be decided by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with FIFA Rules and Regulations.

The half time interval shall be 15 minutes.

15 – PROVISIONS RELATING TO MATCHES PRECEDING THE FINALS

- (a) All matches shall be played under the "Laws of the Game" as approved by the International Football Association Board and in accordance with Rules, Regulations and Bye-Laws of the Football Association.
- (b) The Club having choice of ground, shall within seven days following receipt of the draw, send in writing/email if requested or otherwise telephone or text to the Secretary of the opposing Club, the Referee and Assistant Referees (where appointed) all particulars necessary for the playing of the tie.
Clubs failing to do this will be fined up to a maximum of £25.00.

- (c) Clubs shall not mutually agree to play a match in lieu of a Cup Tie. If a match is played to a conclusion it must be a cup tie.
- (d) In all Ties in these Competitions any Club refusing or failing to play, without sufficient reason, will be guilty of serious misconduct and shall be dealt with as determined by the Competition Management Committee. Any Club intending to withdraw, in consequence of the foregoing, must give notice of their intention to do so to the DCFA Football Services Officer – Player Registration / Competitions / Discipline Support, Match Officials and the opposing Club Secretary without delay.

The Competition Management Committee will consider the matter and have the power to impose a fine up to a maximum of £100.00 and may order any offending Club to pay such expenses as may be decided, in addition to any other penalty imposed. Any Club withdrawing from a County Cup Competition shall not be allowed to compete in any other Competition on that day.

- (e) The Competition Management Committee shall review all abandoned matches and in a case where it is to the advantage of the Competition and does no injustice to either Club, shall be empowered to order the score at the time of the abandonment to stand.

In all cases where the Competition Management Committee is satisfied that a match was abandoned owing to the conduct of one team or its members they shall take such action as they consider appropriate. Such action is subject to any disciplinary action taken by the Disciplinary Department of this Association.

In the event of a match not being played or abandoned owing to causes over which neither Club has control, it shall be played on its entirety on a date fixed by the Competition Management Committee.

- (f) Any match may be played on a mid-week date, provided such date is mutually agreed upon by both Clubs and at once notified to the Association. Where a mid-week match is postponed, it must take place within the next 14 days and the date fixed notified to The Association.

(g) Team Sheets

- i. **The Derbyshire FA Senior Challenge Cup**

Each team must present no later than 45 minutes before the scheduled kick-off time a list of those participating in the match including any substitutes. The Referee must report all Clubs who fail to comply with this rule and they will be fined £20.00.

- ii. **All Other Cups**

Each team must present no later than 30 minutes before the scheduled kick-off time a list of those participating in the match including any substitutes. The Referee must report all Clubs who fail to comply with this rule and they will be fined £20.00

(h) Postponed Matches

- i. Postponed ties shall be played within seven days of the original date. In the case of further postponements the tie shall continue to be played within a seven day period until a result is obtained. After the second postponement of a tie, the tie will be reversed and the ground of the second drawn team will be used. Should the game have a further postponement, the tie shall be re-arranged and be played at either ground. If the ground of the first drawn team is available, the tie will be played at that ground.
- ii. Clubs may mutually agree to reverse a tie on either the first or second attempt to play the fixture should one ground be fit and available.
- iii. If a Club is unable to play on a conference date due to ground share arrangements, the tie must be played 7 days before or after the conference date.

(i) Closed Dates

- i. Should a club have a closed date approved by their respective league, they must inform DCFA within 3 working days of receipt of the draw/notification of fixture. The closed date must be approved in writing at least 4 weeks prior to the date of the fixture with written confirmation being provided to DCFA upon notification of the closed date.

16 – REPORTING RESULTS

- (a) The home team must immediately after the match has finished confirm the result to the Association by following Full-Time SMS instructions. Failure to do so will result in the Club being fined £10.

- (b) The secretaries of both Clubs shall send the Association a fully completed Match Return via FA Matchday App/Full-Time, no later than three working days after the match. Failure to do so will result in the Club being fined £10. The Senior Challenge Cup requires a paper match result sheet to be completed as per previous years.
- (c) Referee marks are required and should be inserted onto the Match Return as indicated. Any Club failing to submit a Referee's mark shall be fined £10. A mark of sixty (60) or less must be accompanied by a letter giving the reasons for the low mark.

17 – PROVISIONS CONCERNING REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES

- (a) The DCFA shall appoint Referees and Assistant Referees for all matches in The Derbyshire FA Senior Challenge Cup.
- (b) The DCFA shall appoint Referees to all matches in the Divisional Cups, Junior Cups, Sunday Cups and Women's Cups up to and including the quarter-finals.
 - i. Should a Club want assistant Referees in any tie prior to the semi-finals, a request shall be made to the Referee Development Officer no later than 7 days after notification of the draw has been sent. Any sent after the 7 days has passed will not be granted. There shall be no guarantee of a request being fulfilled.
 - ii. In the absence of assistant Referees being appointed, each Club shall appoint an individual to act as an assistant Referee.
- (c) The Referee and Assistant Referees (where appointed) in all matches shall be neither past nor present members of the competing Clubs and their duties shall be defined in the Laws of the Game.
- (d) In the event of the non-appearance of the appointed Referee the Clubs shall agree upon a Referee.
- (e) The Home Club shall pay the Officials their fees, (and expenses if applicable) immediately after the match.
- (f) Where no play is possible owing to causes over which neither Club has control, the Official(s), if present, shall be entitled to half fees, (plus expenses if applicable) as per Rule.
- (g) The Referee's, Assistant Referees fees and expenses shall be periodically determined by the Competitions Committee (See Appendix C).
- (h) The Referee, Assistant Referees and Fourth Official (where appointed) in all Final Ties shall receive a suitably inscribed memento alongside a match fee.
- (i) All Match Officials officiating must arrive at the Ground on which the Tie is to be played at least one hour before the scheduled kick off time.
- (j) Match Officials appointed to matches in any County Cup match, shall wear the traditional black Referee's Kit. All officials must wear the County Badge – officials appointed to matches in the Senior Cup only can request to wear an alternate colour should this be required
- (k) The appointed Referee shall have power to decide as to the fitness of the ground in all matches and the decision shall be final.
- (l) Each Club must take every precaution to keep the Ground in playing condition and if necessary either Club may require the Referee to visit the Ground at least two hours before the advertised time of kick off to conduct a pitch inspection.

18 – PROVISIONS FOR FINAL TIES

- (a) In Final Ties the Competition Management Committee shall arrange a ground, which may be that of one of the participating Clubs, and take sole management and arrangement of all dressing rooms and, where appropriate, car parking facility to be included in the hire charges.
- (b) In the Final Ties, Clubs failing to play may be adjudged by the Competition Management Committee to have been guilty of serious misconduct and shall be liable to be dealt with in accordance with these rules. The maximum fine imposed shall be £250.00. Any club
- (c) Each Club shall, no later than 7 days before the date of the Final Tie, submit a list of players from whom the team for such match shall be selected to the Association and their opponents. Eligibility is in accordance with Rule 7.
- (d) The winning Club shall receive its Trophy and shall be responsible for maintaining the Trophy in good order and condition. The Trophy shall be returned to the Association by the last working day in February in the ensuing year.
- (e) Should the Trophy be lost or destroyed, or damaged by fire or other accident, whilst in the care or custody of the Club, the Club shall refund to the Association the amount of its value or the cost of thorough repair.

- (f) In the Final Ties, each team must present no later than 60 minutes before the scheduled kick-off time a completed team sheet with those participating in the match including any substitutes.
- (g) Upon reaching the final, all teams must cooperate with the Derbyshire FA Marketing and Communications Officer to ensure all requests are made within a timely manner

19 – PROVISIONS CONCERNING PROTESTS AND OBJECTIONS

- (a) Where a Club wishes to protest that there has been a breach of the Competition Rules, such protest must be made in writing and must contain full particulars of the grounds upon which it is being made within two working days of the match being played together with a fee of £25.00, which may be forfeited in the event of the protest not being upheld.
The Competition Management Committee will consider receipt of any information relating to breaches of rule and in these circumstances may adopt such procedures from time to time as it deems fit.
Any protest received outside of this time may be considered dependent on the merits of the circumstances that it refers to.
No protest or objection may be withdrawn except by permission of the Competitions Committee.
- (b) The Association shall send a copy of any protest to the Club protested against, which must lodge a response as required.
- (c) Any protest relating to the ground, goal posts or other appurtenances of the game must be lodged with the Referee before the game who, if possible, shall require the Home Club to correct the cause of the objection without unduly delaying the match. Details of such protest should be made by both Club and Referee to the Association within two days of the match.
- (d) The Competitions Committee may make such orders as it considers appropriate in relation to any issue or protest referred to it and may make such orders as it considers appropriate as to any costs incurred.
- (e) Members of Staff/Council directly connected with a Club and or League concerned in a protest shall not have any involvement in the consideration of the matter.

20 – PROVISIONS CONCERNING APPEALS

- (a) A Club that is dismissed from the Competition may appeal against the decision to Council within seven days of receipt of the written notification.
A Fee of £ 25.00 must accompany the full written reasons for such appeal.
- (b) For the avoidance of doubt, a Club may not appeal against any penalty imposed on it other than dismissal from the Competition
- (c) Any such appeal shall only be permitted on one or more of the following grounds
 - (i) The Competitions Committee misinterpreted/failed to comply with the procedures relevant to the determination of the charge
 - (ii) The Competitions Committee came to a decision on the facts of the case which no reasonable body could have reached: or
 - (iii) The Competitions Committee imposed a sanction that is excessive

21 – PROCEEDS OF MATCHES

The Derbyshire FA Senior Challenge Cup – all rounds up to and including the Quarter-Final

- (a) The gross gate receipts shall be equally divided between the two Clubs after allowable expenses have been met as set out below:
 - (i) The travelling expenses of the visiting team based on either a) Five cars at 40p per mile or b) One coach at £4.00 per mile. If a coach is used, an invoice from the coach company must be provided.
 - (ii) The match officials fees and expenses
 - (iii) Allowance for advertising up to £20.00

- (iv) Allowance for floodlights at £50.00
- (v) Allowance for a maximum of three gatemen at £10.00 per person
- (vi) Allowance of £20.00 per steward up to a maximum of 4 stewards where actually used. There is to be 1 steward on site per 250 people.
- (vii) Allowance for first aid up to £20.00
- (a) A completed expense form is to be submitted, and outstanding balance settled with the away Club, no later than 14 days after the match by the home Club. Failure to do so will result in a fine of £10.00.
- (b) All spectators must pay an admission charge including season ticket holders.
- (c) Any matches where the gate receipts are not sufficient to pay the expenses described above, the deficit shall be shared by the two competing Clubs.

The Derbyshire FA Senior Challenge Cup – Semi-Final – DCFA receive no cash

- (a) The gross gate receipts shall be equally divided between the two Clubs after allowable expenses have been met as set out below:
 - (i) The travelling expenses of the visiting team based on either a) Five cars at 40p per mile or b) One coach at £4.00 per mile. If a coach is used, an invoice from the coach company must be provided.
 - (ii) The match officials fees and expenses
 - (iii) Allowance for advertising up to £20.00
 - (iv) Allowance for floodlights at £50.00
 - (v) Allowance for a maximum of three gatemen at £10.00 per person
 - (vi) Allowance of £20.00 per steward up to a maximum of 4 stewards where actually used. There is to be 1 steward on site per 250 people.
 - (vii) Allowance for first aid up to £20.00
- (b) A completed expense form is to be submitted, and outstanding balance settled with the away Club, no later than 14 days after the match by the home Club. Failure to do so will result in a fine of £10.00.
- (c) All spectators must pay an admission charge including season ticket holders.
- (d) Any matches where the gate receipts are not sufficient to pay the expenses described above, the deficit shall be shared by the two competing Clubs.

The Derbyshire FA Senior Challenge Cup – Final – County FA keep some of final

- (a) The Association shall bear all costs associated to the hosting of the final.
- (b) Both participating clubs shall cover their own travel expenses for travelling to the final.
- (c) Any profit remaining after all costs have been deducted from gate receipts shall be split as follows
 - (i) 50% to The Association
 - (ii) 25 % to each Club
- (d) Admission prices shall be set in agreement with both competing Clubs and the Association.

Other Cups

- (e) In all matches except Final Ties and replayed matches due to a breach of rules, the home Club shall be responsible for meeting the costs of staging the game – except for match officials fees and expenses.
- (f) The fees and expenses for match officials shall be split equally between both Clubs. The home Club shall pay the match officials in full and claim half of the amount paid to match officials from the away team.
- (g) If assistant Referees are requested, the Club requesting them shall cover their fee and expenses in full.
- (h) In the Final Tie, the Association shall bear all costs relating to the hire of the venue and match officials, teams shall be responsible for their own travel expenses. Entrance fees for the final tie shall be set by The Association.

22 – PROGRAMME

The Derbyshire FA Senior Challenge Cup Only

A Programme or team sheet must be produced for spectators with details of both teams.

23 – FIRST AID

It shall be the responsibility of each team to ensure that a suitably qualified person is in attendance at each match and a medical kit is available. This shall be notified to the Association through the Whole Game System by listing the individual as Team First Aider.

24 – TEAM BENCHES/TECHNICAL AREA

- (a) In all rounds the number of Club players and officials seated on the team benches (if one is available) shall not exceed 11 people unless the team bench facility provides more than 11 individual seats.
- (b) Only one person at a time has the authority to convey tactical instructions to the players during the match from within the technical area. This person shall be the team manager or team coach.
- (c) All players and Club officials seated on the bench or in the technical area shall be listed on the official team sheet handed to the Referee prior to the game as per these rules.
- (d) All occupants in the technical area must behave responsibly at all times. Misconduct by occupants shall be reported to the Association by the Referee, who shall have the power to impose sanctions as they deem suitable.
- (e) With the exception of the team manager, team coach and named substitutes, all other personnel are to remain seated on the team bench (if available). Substitutes may warm up along the touchline to the left of the team benches (not behind the assistant Referee)

APPENDIX A – ENTRY FEES

The Derbyshire FA Senior Challenge Cup	£38.50
All Other Cup Competitions	£22

APPENDIX B – ADMISSION CHARGES

The Derbyshire FA Senior Challenge Cup Only

All Rounds – Minimum Admission Prices £3 Adults £1.50 Concessions

APPENDIX C – REFEREE FEES

Competition	All rounds prior to the Semi-Final	Semi-Final	Final
Senior Challenge	Referee: £65 Assistant Referee: £45	Referee: £100 Assistant Referee: £75	Inscribed Referee: £110 Momento Referee: £85 4th Official: £60
Divisional Cups	Referee: £45 Assistant Referees (If Requested): £30	Referee: £50 Assistant Referees: £35	Inscribed Referee: £60 Momento Referee & 4th Official: £40
Junior Cups	Referee: £45 Assistant Referees (If Requested): £30	Referee: £50 Assistant Referees: £35	Inscribed Referee: £60 Momento Referee & 4th Official: £40
Sunday Cups	Referee: £40	Referee: £45 Assistant Referees: £30	Inscribed Referee: £50 Momento Referee & 4th Official: £35
Women's Cups	Referee: £40	Referee: £45 Assistant Referees: £30	Inscribed Referee: £50 Momento Referee & 4th Official: £35