

# 38 - MEDICAL REGULATIONS

## PREAMBLE

The safety of Players (and, where applicable, others) is of paramount importance. These Medical Regulations, made in accordance with Rule J, set out in the medical requirements imposed on Clubs that participate in the following leagues:

- (i) the Premier League;
- (ii) the EFL;
- (iii) leagues at Steps 1-6 of the National League System;
- (iv) Women's Super League;
- (v) Women's Championship; and
- (vi) The FA Women's National League.

These Medical Regulations are binding on all such Clubs.

Nothing in these Medical Regulations:

- replaces, reduces or affects in any way the obligations imposed on Clubs or any other Persons by law in the fields of medicine, occupational health and/or health (or any other area); or
- prevents any Club from arranging for medical provision that exceeds any minimum medical requirements prescribed by these Medical Regulations.

Capitalised terms in these Medical Regulations are defined in Rule A, save that "FA Competition" means (as the context requires) (i) The FA Cup, (ii) The FA Community Shield, (iii) The FA Trophy, (iv) The FA Vase, (v) Women's FA Cup, (vi) The FA Women's League Cup, (vii) The FA Youth Cup, and (viii) such other Competitions organised by The Association as The Association may specify from time to time.

While not forming part of these Medical Regulations, from time to time The Association issues guidance in respect of medical matters, which is published on The Association's website and distributed to Participants as appropriate. This guidance includes The FA Concussion Guidelines, which are available at <http://www.thefa.com/learning/coaching/the-fas-concussion-guidelines>.

## A. COMPETITION RULES AND REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO CLUBS

Clubs and Participants should ensure that they check the relevant Competition rules and/or regulations to ensure compliance. These rules and regulations should be referred to directly in order to establish their full force and effect.

COMPETITION / ORGANISER	APPLICABLE MEDICAL RULES / REGULATIONS
UEFA	See relevant competition rules or regulations.
Premier League	See relevant competition rules or regulations.
EFL	See relevant competition rules or regulations.
Leagues in the National League System (Steps 1-6)	See relevant competition rules or regulations.
Women's Super League	See relevant competition rules or regulations.
Women's Championship	See relevant competition rules or regulations.
The FA Women's National League	See relevant competition rules or regulations.

### B. MEDICAL REGULATIONS

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1. Clubs must adhere to the medical rules and regulations set out in section A and all other relevant medical rules and regulations where applicable to them.
2. Save where the rules of the FA Competition state expressly to the contrary, when participating in Matches in an FA Competition, Clubs must comply with the minimum medical standards that apply to the Club's league Matches (subject to making any necessary allowances in order to reflect the different context). For the avoidance of doubt, this means that the home Club must comply with any minimum medical standards that apply to its home league Matches, and the away Club must comply with any minimum medical standards that apply to its away league Matches, i.e., where specific provisions apply to the away Club.

*Explanatory note: For example, where a Club participating at Step 1 of the National League System ("NLS Club") meets a Premier League Club in the third round (proper) of The FA Cup:*

- *If the NLS Club is the home Club, then it must treat the Match as if it were a home league match (adhering to any medical rules or regulations as may be prescribed by its league), and the Premier League Club must treat the Match as if it were an away (Premier League) league match (as prescribed by the Premier League Rules).*
  - *If the Premier League Club is the home Club, then it must treat the Match as if it were a home (Premier League) league match (as prescribed by the Premier League Rules), and the NLS Club must treat the Match as if it were an away league match (adhering to any medical rules or regulations as may be prescribed by its league).*
3. The home and away Clubs participating in Matches in FA Competitions must liaise with each other in advance of their Match to ensure that each is clear and satisfied as to the medical provision that will be available at the Match.
  4. When participating in any competition that is not (i) specified at section A above, or (ii) an FA Competition, or (iii) sanctioned by The Association and/or an Affiliated Association (e.g., pre-season friendly tournaments held abroad), Clubs must comply with any minimum medical standards (or similar) applicable to that competition as determined by the relevant competition organiser. In absence of any such minimum medical standards (or similar), the Clubs must comply with the minimum medical standards that apply to their relevant league Matches.
  5. Any breach of these Medical Regulations will be Misconduct in accordance with Rule E1.2. Any charge for Misconduct will be dealt with in accordance with the Rules and will be determined by a Regulatory Commission of The Association.