

2020-21 LEAGUE AND CUP COMPETITION RULEBOOK

RULE 4: COMPETITION SYSTEM (LEAGUES)

- 4.1 The competition will be organised and administered by the Competition Administration Officer in accordance with these rules along with the regulations, rules and policies of the National Governing Bodies responsible for specific sports.
- 4.2 Only institutions that have completed the online entry form will be eligible to be included in any competition.
- 4.3 All entries received by Friday 5 June 2020 will be considered for inclusion in the 2020-21 league and cup competitions.
- 4.4 Applications received after Friday 5 June 2020 and before the start of the playing season will only be considered if there is a space in the league or cup competition.
- 4.5 Where there is no place in the competition, the institution will be placed on a waiting list in the order of the receipt of their online entry.
- 4.6 The format of the leagues will be determined using the quality aspiration in which teams are, as far as possible, evenly matched, the number of fixtures played is maximised and travelling for regional leagues does not exceed 100 miles or 2 hours each way for each fixture.
- 4.7 Applications from teams who wish to play out of region will normally only be accepted if playing out of region does not compromise the league quality aspirations. If the league quality aspirations would be compromised, a unanimous positive decision from all the other teams in the league is required for the team to be accepted.
- 4.8 Premier leagues are based around an 'elite standard' and as such travelling will be greater than in other leagues.
- 4.9 Institutions will be invoiced for the number of teams that are showing on the Naqoda competition management system on the first day of the playing season.

4.10 Teams that are withdrawn from a league competition after the first day of the playing season will incur the following fines: -

0-14 days after the first day of the season – No fine

14-28 days after first day of the season - £100

29-42 days of the start of the season - £200

more than 42 days after the first day of the season - £400

4.11 This rule will not apply to leagues that do not attract sufficient entries to be viable (less than 4), newly created leagues, development leagues, futsal regional festivals cup competitions or **withdrawals that are the result of COVID-related issues**

4.12 All fixtures are scheduled in accordance with the AoC Sport competition calendar which has been available on the resources page of the AoC Sport website since April.

4.13 In entering AoC Sport competitions, all institutions have committed to prioritising AoC Sport matches over those in other external competitions.

4.14 All fixtures will be created and circulated to participating teams by Friday 3 July.

4.15 Matches will be played on the Wednesday afternoon designated by AoC Sport in the competition calendar available since April on the AoC Sport website.

4.16 Games will commence between 1:30pm and 3:00pm unless otherwise agreed by both teams.

4.17 Where both teams agree, league, cup and play-off matches can be played on other days of the week and matches can commence at other times.

4.18 Teams competing in the championships or regional leagues may reschedule cancelled matches up to 12 May 2021 as long as: -

a) both teams agree to the change

b) the new date for the fixture has been amended on Full Time or Naqoda by Friday 26 March 2021.

- 4.19 Any match for which a new date has not been agreed will be recorded as a 0-0 draw and no league points will be awarded.
- 4.20 Where a team is unable to complete a fixture on the designated date due to extenuating circumstances, they must contact AoC Sport at least seven days in advance of the fixture to obtain permission to agree an alternative date with the opposition. The fixture must be rescheduled within seven days and the new date for the match updated on FA Full Time or Naqoda.