



Cerebral Palsy Sport



National CP Football League

Constitution

Season 2017/18

Updated July 2017



Affiliated to and sanctioned by the Football Association

Organising Association

Name: National CP Football League

Contact: Cerebral Palsy Sport

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League Committee

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National CP Football League

1 Name

- 1.0** The League shall be called the 'National CP Football League'

2 Members

- 2.0** The membership shall be made up of a partnership of the League Committee and the competing/participating teams.

3 Objects

- 3.0** The objects of the League shall be to create and develop football opportunities for people who are classified as eligible for CP Football.

4 Rules and Regulations

- 4.0** The League shall be affiliated to and sanctioned by The Football Association.
- 4.1** The League will abide by The Football Association's Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Policies and Procedures, Codes of Conduct and the Equal Opportunities and Anti-Discrimination Policy.
- 4.2** All players taking part in the League shall be classified as CP players in accordance with the regulations of IFCPF.
- 4.3** All teams playing in the League will be affiliated to their respective County Football Association and abide with the Constitution, Laws of the Game and Competition Regulations governing the League.
- 4.4** An appeal to an Appeals Board of The Football Association shall be made and be conducted only in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of The Football Association that relate to appeals to an Appeals Board as are in force at any time (see Appendix 1).
- 4.5** The IFCPF Laws of the Game (January 2017) will be applied (with agreed amendments).
- 4.6** All teams shall adhere to the National CP Football League Competition Regulations.

5 League Membership

- 5.0** The membership of the League shall comprise those members as shown in Members (2) above and must include one representative from each region.

6 Resignation and Expulsion

- 6.0** A team shall cease to be a member of the League if and from the date on which the Team gives notice to the League Committee of their resignation.
- 6.1** The League shall have the power to expel a team, when, in their opinion, it would not be in the interests of the League for them to remain a member. Any team so expelled shall have the right of appeal, which should be made within 14 days in writing to the Chairman of CP Sport.
- 6.2** A team who resigned or is expelled shall not be entitled to claim any or a share on any of the League property or funding

7 League Committee

- 7.0** The League Committee shall consist of the following Officers: Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, League Welfare Officer, CP Sport representative, Player Representative (North & South), FA Talent Officer and one Representative from each region.
- 7.1** Each League Officer shall hold office from the date of appointment until the next Annual General Meeting unless otherwise resolved at a Special General Meeting. One person may hold no more than two positions of League

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Officer at any time. The League Committee shall be responsible for the management of all affairs of the League. Decisions of the League Committee shall be made by a simple majority of those attending the League Meeting. The Chairperson of a League Committee meeting shall have a casting vote in the event of a tie. Meetings of the League Committee shall be chaired by the Chairperson or in their absence another member agreed by the Committee. The quorum for the transaction of business of the League Committee shall be three.

7.2 Decisions of the League Committee shall be recorded by the Secretary.

7.3 Any member of the League Committee may call a meeting of the League Committee by giving not less than 7 days' notice to all members of the League Committee. The League shall meet as determined.

7.4 An outgoing member of the League Committee may be re-elected. Any vacancy on the League Committee which arises between Annual General Meetings shall be filled by a member proposed by one and seconded by another of the remaining League Committee members and approved by a simple majority of the remaining League Committee members.

7.5 The League Committee shall have the power to decide all questions and disputes arising in respect of any issue concerning the Constitution.

8 Annual and Special General Meetings

An Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be held in each year to:

- 8.0**
- (i) Receive a report of the activities of the League over the previous year;
 - (ii) Receive a report of the League's finances over the previous year;
 - (iii) Elect the members of the League Committee;
 - (iv) Consider any proposed changes to the rules.

8.1 Nominations for election of members as League Officers or as members of the League Committee shall be made by a proposer and seconder, both of whom must be existing members of the League. Notice of any resolution to be proposed at the AGM shall be given in writing to the League Secretary not less than 21 days before the Meeting.

8.2 A Special General Meeting (SGM) may be called at any time by the Committee and shall be called within 21 days of the receipt by the Secretary of a requisition in writing signed by not less than 2 members stating the purposes for which the Meeting is required and the resolutions proposed. Business at an SGM may be any business that may be transacted at an AGM.

8.3 The Secretary shall send to each member at their last known address written notice of the date of a General Meeting together with the resolutions to be proposed at least 14 days before the Meeting.

8.4 The quorum for a General Meeting shall be 4.

8.5 The Chairperson, or in their absence a member selected by the League Committee, shall take the Chair. Each member present shall have one vote and resolutions shall be passed by a simple majority. In the event of an equality of votes, the Chairperson of the Meeting shall have a casting vote.

8.6 The Secretary, or in their absence, a member of the League Committee, shall record the minutes of the General Meeting.

9 League Finances

9.0 A bank account shall be opened and maintained in the name of the League. Designated account signatories shall be the League Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. No sum shall be drawn from the League Account except by cheque signed by two of the three signatories. All monies payable to the League shall be received by the Treasurer and deposited in the League Account.

9.1 The income and assets of the League (the League Property) shall be applied only in furtherance of the objects of the League.

9.2 The League Committee shall have power to authorise the payment of remuneration and expenses to any member of the League and to any person or persons for services rendered to the League.

9.3 The League shall prepare an annual Financial Statement.

9.4 The League Property, other than the League Account, shall be vested in not less than two and not more than four custodians (Custodians), one of whom shall be the Treasurer, who shall deal with the League property as directed by the decisions of the League Committee and a record should be made to provide conclusive evidence of such a decision.

9.5 The Custodians shall be appointed by the League in a General Meeting and shall hold office until the death or resignation unless removed by resolution passed at a General Meeting.

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- 9.6** On their removal or resignation a Custodian shall execute a Conveyance in such form as is published by the League from time to time to a newly elected Custodian or the existing Custodians as directed by the League Committee. On the death of a Custodian, any League Property vested in them shall vest automatically in the surviving Custodians. If there is only one surviving Custodian, a Special General Meeting shall be convened as soon as possible to appoint another Custodian.
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- 9.7** The Custodians shall be entitled to an indemnity out of the League Property for all expenses and other liabilities reasonably incurred by them in carrying out their duties.
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League Finances

- 10.0** A resolution to dissolve the League shall only be proposed at a General Meeting and shall be carried by a majority of at least three quarters of the members present.
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- 10.1** The dissolution shall take effect from the date of the resolution and the members of the League Committee shall be responsible for the winding up of the assets and liabilities of the League.
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- 10.2** Any surplus assets remaining after the discharge of the debts and liabilities of the League shall be transferred to The Football Association who shall determine how the assets shall be utilised for the benefit of CP Football. Alternatively, such assets may be disposed of in such other manners as members of the League, with the consent of The Football Association determine.
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Appendices

- 1** **Disciplinary Procedures - Appeals**
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- 2** **National CP Football League – League Constitution**
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- 3** **National CP Football League - Laws of the Game**
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REGULATIONS FOR FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION APPEALS

Commencement of Appeal

- 1.1 An appeal shall be commenced by lodging a notice of appeal ("the Notice of Appeal") with The Association.
- 1.2 The Notice of Appeal shall be lodged within 14 days of the date of notification of the decision appealed against. In the case of an appeal from a decision of a Regulatory Commission, the date of notification of the decision shall be the date of the written decision or, if applicable, the date of the written reasons for the decision. In relation to any other decision, the relevant date shall be the date on which it was first announced.
- 1.3 The Notice of Appeal must:
 - (1) identify the specific decision(s) being appealed;
 - (2) set out the ground(s) of appeal and the reasons why it would be substantially unfair not to alter the original decision;
 - (3) set out a statement of the facts upon which the appeal is based;
 - (4) be accompanied by any deposit prescribed by the relevant Rules of The Association or Regulations. Where an appeal is lodged by fax, the deposit must be received not later than the third day following the day of despatch of the fax (including both the day of despatch and receipt)¹;
 - (5) where appropriate, apply for leave to present new evidence under 2.6 below.
- 1.4 The grounds of appeal, available to Participants and The Association, shall be that the body whose decision is appealed against:
 - (1) misinterpreted or failed to comply with the rules or regulations relevant to its decision; and/or
 - (2) came to a decision to which no reasonable such body could have come;
- 1.5 In addition,
 - (1) Participants only, may appeal on the grounds that the penalty, award, order or sanction imposed is excessive
 - (2) The Association only, may appeal on the grounds that the penalty, award, order or sanction imposed was so unduly lenient as to be unreasonable
- 1.6 Once an appeal has been commenced, it shall not be withdrawn except by leave of the Appeal Board, with such order for costs as the Appeal Board may consider appropriate.

Appeal Proceedings

- 2.1 An Appeal Board shall proceed as set out below.
- 2.2 Reference to a party or parties means:
 - (1) the appellant (the "Appellant"); and
 - (2) The Association in the case of an appeal against a decision of the Regulatory Commission, or the Affiliated Association or Competition whose decision is appealed against (the "Respondent").
- 2.3 The Respondent shall nominate an individual or individuals to represent it before the Appeal Board.
- 2.4 The Respondent shall serve a written reply to the Notice of Appeal (the "Reply") on an Appellant and the Appeal Board within 21 days of the lodging of the Notice of Appeal. Where appropriate, the Reply must include any application for leave to present new evidence under 2.6 below.
- 2.5 The parties shall be entitled to make oral submissions to the Appeal Board but an appeal shall be by way of a review on documents only, without oral evidence, except where the Appeal Board gives leave to present new evidence under 2.6 below.
- 2.6 The Appeal Board shall hear new evidence only where it has given leave that it may be presented. An application for leave to present new evidence must be made in the Notice of