



**CONSTITUTION, RULES
and
CUP COMPETITION RULES
2023-2024**

SCOTTISH JUNIOR F.A.
Hampden Park,
Glasgow G42 9DD
Telephone: 0141 620 4560

www.scottishjuniorfa.com
email: scottishjuniorfa@scottish-football.com

INDEX

	Page
Hon. Presidents	3
Office bearers/Officials	4
Committee	5
Regional Secretaries	6
Constitution and Rules.....	7
General	7
Membership	8
Management – Office Bearers.....	10
Committee	11
Life Members.....	13
Meetings.....	13
Cup Competition Rules	14
Finance – General.....	19
Cup Competition.....	20
Referees.....	23
Permits	23
Internationals.....	25
Clubs, Players	26
Registrations	27
Discipline	30
Protests	31
Appeals.....	33
Registration Procedures	35
Young Players’ Wellbeing in Scottish Junior Football..	58
Public Liability Insurance Summary	59
Useful Dates.....	60
Guidance Notes.....	61

SCOTTISH JUNIOR FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

HON. PRESIDENTS

Peter Gardiner, Ex-President, S.F.A.

Thomas Johnston, Ex-Secretary, SJFA

HON. VICE-PRESIDENTS

David Roy, Past President

J. Gordon Law, Past President

Jack Whitehead, North Region

John Reilly, Past President

Joseph P. Black, Former Assistant Secretary

Robert Smith, Past President

J.Scott Robertson, Secretary, West Region

George Rose, Past President

George Morton, Past President

Harry Lawrie, Past President

Iain McQueen, Former Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

Felix McKenna, Past President

SJFA AMBASSADORS

Felix McKenna

George Rose

OFFICE BEARERS

PRESIDENT

Bobby Macnamara

Tel: (H) 01294 604697 (M) 07969 241895

email: wintonrovers@hotmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Clark Nicol

Tel: (H) 01294 604697 (M) 07583 002828

email: clark@hurlfordunited.com

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

Alex McDowall

Tel: (M) 07760 995912

email: alex.mcdowall@scottish-football.com

ASST. SECRETARY

Paul Davies

Tel: (B) 0141 620 4561 (M) 07557 518647

email: scottishjuniorfa@scottish-football.com

TREASURER / DISCIPLINE SECRETARY

John Fyfe

Tel: (B) 0141 620 4560 (M) 07400 610192

email: John.Fyfe@scottish-football.com

S.J.F.A. OFFICES

HAMPDEN PARK, GLASGOW G42 9DD

TELEPHONE: 0141 620 4560

email: scottishjuniorfa@scottish-football.com

AUDITORS

PETER DEANS CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

42 STIRLING STREET, DENNY FK6 6DJ

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

NORTH REGION

Chris Auton (Secretary)

Tel: (M) 07835172312

email: nrjfasecretary@hotmail.com

Gordon Thomson (Culter)

Tel: (H) (01224) 735692 (M) 07787 540206

email: gogs.thomson@btinternet.com

John V Carroll (Hall Russell United)

Tel: (H) (01224) 641694

email: john@jvcarroll.co.uk

EAST REGION

Neil Hardie (Arbroath Victoria)

Tel: (H) 01241 876326 (M) 07774030028

email: neilhardiepics@btinternet.com

Brian Coutts (Dundee Violet)

Tel: (H) 01334 476779 (M) 07825 883608

email: briancouttsdvfc@btinternet.com

John Reilly (General Secretary)

Tel: (H) 01382 533982 (M) 07753 689382

email: rjohnreilly18@yahoo.co.uk

EAST OF SCOTLAND FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Scott Watson (Armadale)

Tel: (M) 07980730178

email: armadalethistle@gmail.com

WEST OF SCOTLAND FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Clark Nicol (Hurlford United)

Tel: (H) 01563 526534 (M) 07583 002828

email: clark@hurlfordunited.com

Robert Watson (Wishaw)

Tel: (H) 01236 725042 (M) 07764 223057

email: wishawjuniors@hotmail.com

REGIONAL SECRETARIES

EAST REGION

SECRETARY

John Reilly

Tel:(H) (01382) 533982 (M) 07753 689382

email: rjohnreilly18@yahoo.co.uk

NORTH REGION

SECRETARY

Chris Auton

(M) 07835172312

email: nrjfasecretary@hotmail.com

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Brian Johnston

Tel: (M) 07740 909531

email: nrjfaassistantsecretary@hotmail.com

Scottish Football Association

Hampden Park, Glasgow G42 9AY Tel. 0141 616 6000.

Registrations Dept.: Graeme Paton 0141 616 6051/2/3/4

Fax: 0141 616 6055.

Email: Graeme.Paton@scottishfa.co.uk.

Registrations Email: registrations@scottishfa.co.uk

Referee Appointments Email: appointments@scottishfa.co.uk

SCOTTISH JUNIOR FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION AND RULES

GENERAL RULES

1. The Association shall be called the Scottish Junior Football Association and shall be affiliated to the Scottish Football Association Ltd.

2. The objects of the Association shall be to foster and develop the game of Association Football among all Junior Football clubs in Scotland.

3. The Association where applicable shall have jurisdiction in all matters connected with junior football in Scotland, and the Committee shall have power to deal as they think fit with any club, club official, member, team staff or player of a club in membership of the Association, and with any affiliated Association, and other Association, League, or other combination of clubs which are being granted a permit as hereinafter mentioned, and the clubs, club officials, members, and players thereof guilty of misconduct, of a breach of the rules where applicable, the Cup Competition rules, or if in any way acting prejudicial to the interest of the Association.

4. All correspondence requiring a reply shall be acknowledged by email.

All correspondence to the Association must be addressed to the Assistant Secretary.

5. Any official or player failing to reply in writing to a communication of the Chief Operating Officer or Assistant Secretary within ten days, shall be liable to be fined the sum of £20.

6. The playing season shall commence as determined by each individual Region at their AGM and terminate on the third Saturday in June the following year.

Committee shall have the power to amend this as may be necessary.

7. Any club in membership of the Association resigning or being expelled shall have no right or interest in the property or assets of the Association.

8. The Committee of the Association shall have the power to add to these Rules and Cup Competition Rules as they from time to time may deem expedient, provided they do not annul or conflict

with any rule adopted at the Annual General Meeting.

9. In the event of any alteration being deemed necessary to the Rules of the Association, notice of the proposed alteration shall be sent in writing to the Assistant Secretary on or before 30th April by a club in membership.

The retiring Committee shall have power to nominate amendments which must be sent in writing to the Assistant Secretary on or before 30th April.

10. No motion to alter or rescind a resolution shall be competent within two years from the date of its adoption, and no motion or amendment to the same effect as one that has been rejected by the AGM within the previous two years shall be proposed by any member.

11. Membership of the Scottish Junior Football Association confers Registered Membership of the Scottish Football Associates.

12. All clubs in membership of the Scottish Junior Football Association must by the 1st July of each season have adequate Public Liability Insurance (PLI) in line with the minimum requirements laid down in the Guidance Notes. Any Club that opts out of the PLI policy offered by the Association or the PLI Policies offered by the EoSFL and WoSFL must lodge a copy of their complete PLI Policy with the Association before that Club can participate within football under the jurisdiction of the Scottish Junior Football Association.

13. All clubs in membership of the Scottish Junior Football Association must, by the 1st July in each season, demonstrate that they have adequate Player Accident Insurance.

14. All clubs must appoint a Club Safeguarding Officer and enter their contact details on the Club Admin site.

15. Safeguarding Officer

Any player, club official, team staff or volunteer involved in Junior Football and who is the subject of an allegation against a child as defined within the SJFA policy “Children’s Wellbeing in Scottish Junior Football” shall be subject to the disciplinary procedure as detailed in that document.

16. Prior to registering an Under 18 player, the Junior club’s Safeguarding Officer must complete the Wellbeing in Scottish Football E-Learning course.

MEMBERSHIP

1. All North and East Region clubs together with EoSFL and WOSFL clubs shall be eligible for membership subject to the approval of the Committee aforementioned and on admission each club, their respective officials, representatives, players and members shall be bound by the decisions of the Committee where applicable and such decisions shall be final and binding on all concerned, subject to all

existing rights of appeal. All such clubs, officials, representatives, players and members shall be subject to the Articles, Rules & Procedures of Association for the time being of the Scottish Football Association Ltd., so far as the said Articles, Rules & Procedures affect this Association and such Articles, Rules & Procedures shall be read and held as part of these Rules.

In cases of dispute, legal proceedings shall not be taken except with consent of Committee.

2. All clubs who have not been members of the Scottish Junior Football Association this season shall be treated as new applicants and must make application to the Assistant Secretary on the prescribed form prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting.

Clubs once admitted as members of the Scottish Junior Football Association must become members of a Regional Association or League.

3. There are two regional associations, the North Region and the East Region. The Management Committee may, with the consent of the Regions, Transfer a Club from one Region to the other. The Club so transferred shall thereafter, for all purposes be a member of the Region to which it is transferred. Any Club intending to resign from a Region must give 12 month's notice to that Region and the Scottish Junior FA.

4. Application for membership shall be made in writing to the Secretary of the Association and shall be signed by the President and Secretary of the club seeking admission. Application must be accompanied by minute of meeting forming the club seeking admission together with names and addresses of officials and members of Committee of the club.

5. All new clubs making application for membership of the Scottish Junior Football Association must have a ground complying with the following requirements:

- (a) Must be enclosed with a suitable fence to keep spectators from gaining entry to the ground without payment.
- (b) Must have a pavilion situated inside the ground and closely adjacent to playing field with separate stripping accommodation for home and visiting teams and for match official, all with adequate toilet and washing facilities.
- (c) The playing field must be properly fenced to keep spectators from encroaching on the field;
- (d) Grounds and facilities must satisfy the inspection of the Scottish Junior Football Association. Ground inspection fee of £40 must accompany application for

membership and clubs will be responsible for expenses incurred for any further inspections required.

6. The annual subscription for each club shall be £35 and shall be payable before the Annual General meeting in each year.

MANAGEMENT OF ASSOCIATION Office-Bearers

1. At the Annual General Meeting, Office-Bearers shall be appointed for the ensuing season, and shall consist of President, Vice- President, Chief Operating Officer, Treasurer, Assistant Secretary who shall be granted Honoraria.

2. Any Office-Bearer who is eligible and who seeks re- election at the ensuing Annual General Meeting shall not later than 30th April deliver into the Assistant Secretary's hands written intimation of his desire to continue in office.

Any other candidate shall, by 30th April, inform the Assistant Secretary in writing by recorded delivery, of the office to which he seeks election. If the interval between 30th April and the date of the Annual General Meeting an Office-Bearer or candidate intimates withdrawal of his desire for election or if any eventuality which would prelude election has arisen, the Assistant Secretary shall proceed as instructed by the Management Committee of the Scottish Junior Football Association.

3. The Assistant Secretary shall, on issuing the Notice and Agenda for the Annual General Meeting, intimate to the members the names of the candidates for office.

4. The affairs of the Association shall be governed by a Committee consisting of the President, Vice-President and representatives of the Regions and WOSFL and EOSFL, all of whom must be members of a club in membership of the Region and WOSFL and EOSFL and the President, Vice- President and the neutral officials of the Scottish Junior F.A., along with the General secretaries of each Region of the Scottish Junior Football Association but only so far as regards said bodies remain affiliated to the Scottish Junior Football Association.

5. Any Office-Bearer (other than the Chief Operating Officer, Treasurer/Assistant Secretary) or member of the Committee ceasing to be a member of a club in membership of the Association shall vacate the office held.

6. The President, Vice-President, Chief Operating Officer and Treasurer/Assistant Secretary for the time being shall be Trustees, ex-officio for the Association and shall hold any property of the Association and all investments shall be made in their names and their successors in office as Trustees for behalf of the Association.

7. The Treasurer/Assistant Secretary shall be neutral officials

and shall not be entitled to a vote at any meeting, nor shall they be connected with any club in membership.

The Chief Operating Officer shall not be entitled to a vote at any meeting.

8. The office bearers may invite from time to time up to two independent people not being associated with a member club to join the Management Committee who have specific competencies and/or expertise in a relevant field.

Committee

1. Both the East and North Regions shall be entitled to elect three representatives each to the Management Committee, SJFA members from WoSFL and will be entitled to elect three representatives to the Management Committee and SJFA members from EoSFL will be entitled to elect one representatives to the Management Committee. The management of the business and control of the Association shall be vested in the Management Committee.

2. Representatives shall be nominated at the Annual General Meeting and in the event of only the required number of representatives in any Region being nominated, these shall be declared elected.

In the event of the required number of representatives in any Region not being nominated, those nominated shall be declared elected, and the vacancies occurring may be filled up by the Committee should they deem if necessary to do so.

3. If more nominees posts are nominated in any region or WOSFL and EoSFL, the Assistant Secretary shall, within fourteen days, send a voting paper with the list of representatives nominated to each club in every Region or WOSFL and EoSFL who are entitled to have a representative at the Annual General Meeting and such voting paper shall be returned to the Assistant Secretary of the Association within ten days, duly completed and signed by the President and Secretary of the club.

Clubs can only vote for the number of candidates for whom there are vacancies and they must vote for that number;

4. After the date fixed for the return of the voting papers, the Assistant Secretary shall convene a meeting of the office-bearers who shall count the votes. The candidate or candidates for each post having the greater number of votes shall be declared elected. In the event of a larger number than is required being elected through an equality of votes, another vote or votes shall be taken on those standing in equality till the required number is elected.

5. A representative shall not be a member of more than one Junior Club and a club shall not have more than one of its members on the Committee.

6. Any representative whose club does not take part in the Association Cup competition shall be disqualified from continuing to act on the Committee and the Committee shall have power to fill the vacancy. Any representative infringing this rule shall be suspended for one year.

for one year.

7. An Appeals Committee shall be appointed at the first meeting of the Committee, up to two representatives from each existing Region and WOSFL and EOSFL to consider appeals from any clubs, official, member or player thereof who may be dissatisfied with the decision or any affiliated Region, or of any Association, League or combination of clubs which shall have been granted permit by the Committee.

8. Excepting as above mentioned, the Association will delegate to the General Secretary of the North and East Regions of the Scottish Junior Football Association and WOSFL and EOSFL, the authority to come together with the President - Vice-President - Chief Operating Officer - Treasurer and Assistant Secretary of the Scottish Junior F.A. to determine matters of importance within the structure of Junior Football.

The Management Committee of the Association, along with all Regional Committees and WOSFL and EOSFL where applicable, will be encouraged to remit for the consideration of this Committee, any business which would be to the benefit of uniformity in the Scottish Junior F.A. e.g. Discipline - Venues International Matches - and matters with regard to the latter stages of the Cup Competition.

Any decision taken would be binding and could only be changed by the Management Committee of the Association.

9. In the event of any vacancy occurring in the Office- Bearers or the Committee, the Committee shall have power to fill up same.

10. The minimum travel fares and any other necessary expenses of members of the Committee shall be defrayed by the Association.

11. The Committee shall appoint a delegate to represent the Association on the Congress of the Scottish Football Association Ltd.

12. The Association shall issue to the members of the Committee a membership card in each season which will admit the holder to all grounds of clubs in membership of the Association, and members of the Committee of the affiliated Associations, on production of their card of membership thereof, shall be entitled to be admitted to all grounds of clubs in membership of the Association.

13. Any member of Management Committee desirous of questioning sub-committee minutes, or intending to raise any point or points embodied in said minutes, must notify the Assistant Secretary in writing two days prior to meeting of Committee, specifying the objection or points to be raised.

14. The Committee may rescind, alter or vary any term of suspension of a club, player or official by a two-thirds majority of those present at any meeting of a Committee, provided notice of such motion is intimated at the previous meeting of Committee.

This will include monetary penalties that have been imposed.

15. The Association of the Committee or any sub-committee of this Association shall be entitled to publish in the public Press or in any other manner it shall think fit, reports of its proceedings, acts, resolutions and decisions whether the same shall or shall not reflect on the character or conduct of any club, official, player or spectator shall be deemed to have consented to such publication and to regard the same as privileged in law.

16. Past-Presidents shall have the same privilege extended to them as ordinary members of Committee. Only immediate Past President should sit on Management Committee unless put forward by Regional Committees.

Life Members

1. Any member completing five years on Committee with 75 per cent attendance shall be created an Honorary Life Member and receive the badge or token of the Association. On application to the Assistant Secretary, a Life Member shall obtain a card entitling him to admission to all grounds of clubs in membership of the Association.

Each President of the Association shall on retiring, be furnished with a badge other than the Life Member's badge.

2. Life Members shall, on application to the Association Secretary, receive complimentary ticket for personal use for matches of the Association and will be accorded the privilege of attending meetings of General Committee and Annual General Meeting of the Association but without voting powers.

Meetings of Association

1. The Annual General Meeting shall be held on the third Saturday in June in a central location as determined by the Management Committee and the Committee shall have power to call special General meetings when and where they may deem necessary.

2. The representative to General Meetings appointed by each club entitled to send a representative, must be a bona-fide member of the club he represents and will be admitted to the meeting by ticket supplied by the Assistant Secretary of the Association which must be certified by the secretary of the club that the representative they appoint and the name on the ticket is such a member of the club.

3. At the Annual General Meeting in each year or at any special General Meeting, each club failing to send a representative shall be fined £100, also any club whose subscription remains unpaid two days previous to the Annual General Meeting shall not be entitled to have a representative at the Annual General Meeting.

4. The chairman shall have a casting as well as a deliberate vote.

5. The Committee recommend that affiliated Regions shall hold their Annual General Meetings not later than twenty-one days after the Annual General Meeting of this Association.
6. Meetings of all Committees shall be held in Glasgow or at such other place as the President of the Association, for the time being, may determine.
7. Four members shall form a quorum at all meetings of the Management Committee.
8. The President, or in his absence the Vice-President shall preside at all meetings of the Committee, and in the event of neither of these office-bearers being present, the meeting shall elect a chairman.
9. Except as specially otherwise provided, four members of all sub-committees shall form a quorum, and the Chairman shall have a casting as well as a deliberate vote. The President and Vice-President shall be ex-officio members of the Appeals Committee and all sub-committees.

CUP COMPETITION RULES

1. The Cup shall be called “THE SCOTTISH JUNIOR CUP”.
2. The competition for the Cup shall be annual, and shall be open to all member clubs of the Association and all tier 6 teams and below on payment of entry fee, subject to the approval of the Committee. All matches shall be played under the laws of the Association game.
3. The names of clubs entered for the competition by virtue of membership, shall be placed in a receptacle and except that a club may be balloted as having a ‘bye’ into the Second Round of the competition, the clubs shall be balloted in couples to compete with each other in the First Round of the competition. Those clubs who have qualified to participate in the Scottish Senior Challenge Cup will receive a bye in the first round of the Junior Cup.

The names of the winning clubs in the First Round, together with the names of the clubs which may have received a ‘bye’ in the First Round, shall be placed in a receptacle and balloted in couples to compete with each other in the Second Round. This process shall continue until the clubs qualifying for the Final Tie are known.

‘Byes’ shall be balloted in the First Round of the competition to the number necessary to ensure an even run through the competition to finality.

4. The SFA will be responsible for appointing Match Officials to Scottish Junior Cup ties and will notify both clubs of name(s) and contact details of Match Officials. Details of Cup draws will be posted on the SJFA website www.scottishjuniorfa.com
5. Any club refusing or failing to play the club against which it is drawn within the time intimated to it, and without sufficient reason

for doing so, shall be adjudged to have lost the match.

6. In rounds prior to the Semi-Finals, the club first drawn in each couple shall have a choice of ground provided its ground or the ground it secures (which must be within the Region, EoSFL Junior Area or WOSFL area the club plays in and must be within a ten miles radius of that club's registered ground), efficiently prevents the public having access thereto without payment and has dressing accommodation, including full toilet and washing facilities for the teams of each club within the ground.

If the ground fails in these requirements and the ground of their opponents meets these requirements, the tie shall be played on the latter ground. If neither ground conforms to the said requirements the Chief Operating Officer shall fix a ground conforming thereto for the playing of the tie.

7. A club may have its opponent's ground inspected as to those requirements provided five days' notice, prior to the date of the tie, is given to the Association Secretary who shall forthwith appoint an inspector to examine the ground. The report of this inspector shall be fixed and binding.

8. Exchange of ground rights is forbidden except by permission of the Association officials.

9. Any club intending to scratch must give notice to the Chief Operating Officer of the Association, prior to the first round of the Competition - otherwise they may be reported to the Committee of the Association who shall have the power either to compel such offending club to pay expenses incurred by their opponent - or take such action as they may deem expedient.

Any club withdrawing from the Scottish Junior Cup after the commencement of the competition shall not participate in the following season's competition.

10. If ground conditions are such that the playing of a tie is in doubt, the home club must contact the Region or Chief Operating Officer for a ground inspector to be appointed. The Regional Secretary or Chief Operating Officer will make an appointment and an official of the club concerned will make arrangements to meet and conduct the ground inspector through the club premises and ground at a time mutually agreed upon. The ground inspector will immediately report to the Regional Secretary or Chief Operating Officer his findings and the club requesting the inspection will be responsible for payment of agreed fee to the official concerned. Only the match official appointed will have power to declare a ground unplayable after such a decision has been made.

Fee for ground inspector will be 50% of referees fee paid in the Region in which is carried out, which may be deducted from the gross gate of the tie.

11. If the game is postponed, the home club will be responsible for notifying their opponents and the match officials immediately the decision is made and this match will be played on the first available Saturday/Sunday or any date set aside for this purpose by the committee.

Request for ground inspection should be made not later than 4.30p.m. on the preceding day for away clubs travelling 100 miles and over and not later than 7.30 a.m. on the day of the tie. Friday inspection does not negate the need for a Saturday morning inspection should the climatic conditions deteriorate.

Request for ground inspection should be made to your Regional Secretary or Chief Operating Officer.

Referees appointed must notify the Regional Secretary or Chief Operating Officer of the decision reached.

12. The Association reserve the right to appoint an inspector to carry out an inspection of any ground where a Scottish Junior Cup Tie is due to take place. The S.J.F.A. in these circumstances will advise the home club that such a request has been made and the home club will carry out the arrangements as above.

13. The clubs balloted to play each other in the Semi-Final ties shall be bound to play on grounds and dates arranged by the Committee who shall make all arrangements in connection therewith.

Under penalty of paying all expenses incurred by the Association and under any penalty assessed for inconvenience, no club shall scratch in the Semi-Final ties.

14. (a) On qualifying for the Semi-Final and Final tie of the Scottish Junior Cup (or any competition managed by the National Association in which case the rule will apply from the start of the competition) each club will require to submit to the Assistant Secretary of the Scottish Junior F.A., fourteen days prior to the date set for the match, if this is not possible, within a period ordered by the Committee of the Association, the names and ID numbers of all players who would be eligible in their opinion to take part in the competition for their club.

(b) The Association Assistant Secretary will transmit to the club's opponents a copy of such lists.

(c) Any objection by a club to any name on the list received by a club would require to be lodged with the Chief Operating Officer and a copy to the club secretary concerned by recorded delivery post seven days prior to the date set for the match, or if this is not possible, within a period fixed by the Committee of the Association. Clubs must specify the nature of the objection lodged. The Chief Operating Officer will convene a meeting of Committee within three days to consider any such objections and the decision reached by Committee will be final and binding on all clubs.

(d) The Association Assistant Secretary will check the

registrations of all players whose names have been submitted by clubs.

If any registration infringement is found, the club concerned would be notified and provided it was rectified according to the Articles of Association at least seven days prior to the date of the match or within a time specified by Committee, the player or players would be declared eligible to take part in the Cup competition.

(e) Only those whose names and addresses have been submitted and where no objection has been lodged which has been upheld and that clearance has been obtained on registration within the time limits set down, will be allowed to take part in the Semi-Finals and Final tie of the Scottish Junior Cup unless otherwise decided by Committee.

(f) Permission to include a player or players after the lists have been submitted and approved will only be granted in exceptional circumstances and the decision of the Committee on such matters would be final and binding. If such circumstances arise, the Committee may hold the club responsible for the expenses of such meetings to consider the application.

15. The Committee will take whatever action they deem necessary for the smooth running of the Semi-Final and Final tie of the competition but under no circumstances will a replay be granted to any club raising objections after a tie has been played. The Committee will impose a monetary penalty on clubs in keeping with the severity of the offence committed.

16. Each club shall forward its name, the name and address of its secretary to the Assistant Secretary of the Association. The club colours to be lodged on the Club Admin System. Players must appear in these registered colours in Cup-ties otherwise their club shall be liable to be disqualified, but when clubs have the same or nearly the same colours, the **AWAY** club must change and notify opposing club and Assistant Secretary of the Association of change. In the Final tie when the first choice colours of the teams are the same or similar then choice of strip/kit will be decided by the toss of a coin. In the Final tie, if there is any dispute as to whether the colours of the clubs are the same or similar, the Chief Operating Officer together with a representative of the SFA Referee Development Team will decide and this decision will be final and binding on the clubs.

17. In all competition matches, the Secretary or person in charge of the teams shall hand to the referee, before the beginning of the game, two lists of the proper names and ID numbers of the players in their respective teams (Christian names to be given in full), one of which will be forwarded to the Assistant Secretary of the Association within one day thereafter, the other to be given to an official of the opposing club, both lists to be compared and signed by the referee. Any club

violating this rule will be dealt with as the Committee deem fit.

18. Players must be numbered and this should correspond with the player's name on the team list. The Association Assistant Secretary shall keep a register of all the players taking part in the competition and the registration lists shall be open for inspection. Up to a maximum of five from a maximum of seven Substitutes nominated may be used in any match played in the competition.

19. The duration of each match shall be one hour and a half and the halftime interval shall not exceed 15 minutes. The Scottish Junior Cup rounds, prior to the Semi-Final, will be decided over 1 game. At the conclusion of 90 minutes play, if the game is drawn, the tie will be resolved by the penalty kick system.

20. In the event of the Semi-Finals played over one leg or Final tie resulting in a draw, then the penalty kick system will be used to determine the winner. NB No extra time. The penalty kick system will be in accordance with the conditions laid down by the International Football Board.

21. Visiting clubs in ties previous to Semi-Final ties are entitled to thirty admission tickets for players, officials and members.

21a. It is expected that the home club shall provide half-time hospitality to the opposition committee and any SJFA observers and full-time hospitality to opposition players and coaches.

22. Goal nets shall be used in all matches played under the jurisdiction of the Association.

23. The Committee shall present to the winners of the Final tie the Scottish Junior Cup and 25 medals and to the beaten finalists 25 medals.

The winners of the Cup shall grant a guarantee for the safe custody and return of the Cup by the first day in April in each year.

The winning club in the Final shall hold the cup for one year.

24. No club shall be compelled to play on 25th December or 1st January in any year.

25. The Association shall have power to make Cup Competition Rules which shall be binding on clubs, club officials, members and players as they present, exist, or as they may from time to time be altered, and such rules shall be read and held as part of these rules.

26. Matches in the Scottish Junior Cup shall be played on a natural grass surface or an artificial surface which complies with the Quality Standards set by UEFA and/or FIFA and approved by the Association Management Committee.

27. If required by Management Committee, clubs will play Scottish Junior Cup Semi Final and Final ties on a Sunday.

28. Notwithstanding the above, the Association's Officials and Management Committee may, if they consider the financial and other

interests of the Association and Semi Final participants clubs are best served by playing the Semi Final on a home and away basis, put in place the necessary arrangements to ensure this is achieved.

Furthermore, if in the opinion of the Association's Officials and Management Committee, the ground of a semi final participant is not suitable for whatever reason to host a Scottish Junior Cup semi final, then the club will be given the opportunity to secure an acceptable venue within a 10 mile radius of its own ground, failing which the Officials of the Association will decide the venue.

In the event of ties being played on a home and away basis:

1. The aggregate score will determine the winner.
2. If the teams' cumulative scores are even after the second 90 minutes, the overall outcome will be decided by penalty kick system.
3. In the event of the tie being played over 2 games, Rule 16, page 17, will not apply.
4. The first drawn club in each Semi Final will play at home in the first game.

29. Scottish Junior Cup fixtures will be agreed prior to the start of each season. To ensure League fixtures are completed timeously to allow participation in the Lower Pyramid Play Offs, games will be scheduled and agreed by the respective football bodies to allow this to happen.

FINANCE

(General)

1. The funds of the Association shall be lodged in a bank in the name of the Association and all cheques drawn thereof shall be signed by two of the following - the President, Vice-President, Chief Operating Officer and Treasurer and Assistant Secretary.

2. All accounts and payments shall be submitted to the Management Committee and the Treasurer shall submit a financial statement at each meeting of this Committee, which statement shall be included in the minutes.

3. The financial year of the Association shall end on 31st March each year and the Treasurer's books shall be closed on that date.

The Treasurer accounts for each year shall be audited by a qualified auditor appointed at the A.G.M.

4. The Association shall effect a Fidelity Guarantee insurance guaranteeing the intromissions of the Treasurer.

5. The Management Committee may borrow money on behalf of the Association and may authorise the President, Vice-President, Chief Operating Officer and Treasurer / Assistant Secretary as Trustees for the

Association to execute any Documents for the purpose of giving any property of the Association in security for the payment of money by the Association.

6. In all matches arranged by the Association the drawings shall be checked by the Treasurer and a member of the Executive Committee and a report thereof submitted to the first meeting of the Management Committee thereafter.

7. The Committee shall have power to settle financial disputes arising between clubs provided notice is given to the Association Chief Operating Officer within twenty-eight days of the dispute arising (this to be done by recorded delivery letter service), and to adjudicate upon financial claims made against clubs. Where any club is found liable, to pay a sum to any other club or official; the officials, members and registered players thereof shall be liable to fulfil the order of Committee and the Committee shall be entitled to make a pro-rata division thereof among such officials, members or players.

Any official, member or player failing to pay his pro-rata share on being notified thereof by the Assistant Secretary of this Association shall stand suspended till payment is received.

Any official, member or player so suspended shall not be eligible to play or act for any club in membership of the Association while so suspended, provided always that this rule shall not apply to any dispute which fails to be determined by the Scottish Football Association Ltd.

8. All financial claims shall be submitted in duplicate within 28 days by recorded delivery letter service to the Assistant Secretary of the Association who will forward a copy of the claim to the Secretary of the club claimed against and the limit will be fourteen days when the claim is being made against the Scottish Junior Football Association; from the date of the decision made.

9. Each club in membership of the Association shall keep proper books showing its financial and other transactions, and the Committee shall have the right to call in same, along with the vouchers, for inspection and to deal with any irregularity ascertained. These books and vouchers etc., must be sent within twelve hours of receipt of request to the effect.

(Cup Competition)

1. The charge for admission to all ties prior to the Quarter- Finals shall be a minimum of £7 and £3 for Children and Senior Citizens and for the Quarter Finals a minimum of £10 and £5 respectively, and the proceeds will be allocated as follows:-

(a) In ties prior to the Semi-Final ties, after deduction of the semi's fee, and when appropriate assistant referees fees and expenses the remainder equally between the contesting clubs

15% off net gate drawings to the nearest £1 OR minimum of £10 will be paid to the SJFA.

(b) Guarantees will be as follows:-

Round	Payout	
Final	£20,000.00	Winner
Final	£10,000.00	Runner up
Semi-Final	£5,000.00	Runner up
Quarter Final;	£2,000.00	Runner up
Last 16	£500.00	Runner up
Last 32	£100.00	Runner up

Semi-final to be played Home and Away

(c) At all Scottish Cup ties prior to the Semi-Final ties, away club should appoint Gate Checker at each entry payment point for the purpose of ascertaining that each spectator has been properly issued with an appropriate numbered admission ticket and collect said ticket.

Association reserve the right to appoint independent Gate Checkers at any Scottish Junior Cup tie should it determine it is appropriate to do so.

2. In ties other than Semi-Final and Final ties, the clubs shall within three days of the tie being played, each make a return of the admission money to the Association and both clubs shall be held responsible for the correctness of the return and for payment to the Association. Gate checkers shall be provided by the visiting clubs.

3. In all ties up to but excluding the Scottish Junior Semi-Final stages of the Cup competition the first drawn club must guarantee to reimburse the visiting team the amount due according to the following table:-

Distance	0-25 miles	Guarantee	£55
	26-50 miles		£95
	51-75 miles		£120
	76-100 miles		£170
	101-150 miles		£220
	151-200 miles		£270
	201-250 miles		£310
	251-300 miles		£340

Mileage shall be calculated on the basis of the shortest single journey between the competing clubs.

In addition those clubs incurring a 101 plus mile single journey, the Association will contribute a further 50% of the above guarantee towards the away team's travel costs which must be claimed within three days of the Tie.

Any dispute between competing clubs should be notified by email the club paying the guarantee verbally to their opponents at the time of the match and thereafter the club paying the guarantee

shall intimate, by Recorded Delivery Service, within 3 working days details of the complaint to the Assistant Secretary of the S.J.F.A. who shall be empowered to refer the matter to a national motoring organisation (AA or RAC) to act as arbiters.

The above table shall be reviewed by the Committee who shall make recommendations to the A.G.M. of the S.J.F.A. regarding any proposed alterations.

4. The Committee of the Association, or the Officials, if this is more expedient, may grant a further sum to assist clubs regarding transport of their supporters to the ground which has been selected for the Semi-Final and the Final Tie. This shall not exceed three times the amount set out in the above rule.

5. Charges additional to ground admission for stand accommodation to be retained by ground club except where the ground is being used by the Scottish Junior Football Association for the playing of Semi Final ties or representative games.

6. The charge for use of a ground as a neutral venue provided by junior clubs for ties prior to the Semi-Finals, shall be £100 or 10 per cent of money drawn as admission to the ground.

Members' tickets and/or season tickets of the ground club will not be valid for use on such occasions.

7. The home club travelling to play at an alternative venue shall bear their own travelling expenses and share all other match expenses.

8. The Committee shall have power to examine all accounts in connection with any match and order excessive and unauthorised charges to be refunded.

9. In all rounds of the Scottish Junior Cup Competition, including the Semi Final, where applicable, it is the responsibility of the home club to ensure that every spectator entering the ground receives a numbered ticket on receipt of entrance fee. These tickets will ensure the proper number of people entering and the correct gate receipts thus allowing both clubs to enact Cup Competition Rules - Rule 2.

10. Should the Scottish Junior Cup be damaged in any manner whilst in the care/custody of the winner, the winner shall be liable for the cost of the repair.

Any repairs required to the Scottish Junior Cup may only be carried out by the Association's approved silversmith.

11. If any of the first eleven players listed on the official teamlines is not able to start the match due to unexpected physical incapacity, he may only be replaced by one of the named substitutes. The substitute in question may be replaced by an eligible player so that the quota is not reduced.

If, for any reason, teamlines require to be changed (and said changes are accepted by the Referee) then the club must notify its opponents immediately thereafter.

REFEREES

1. The SFA Referee Department will be responsible for all Match Official appointments in the Scottish Junior Cup. Assistant Referees shall be appointed in the Fourth and succeeding rounds. In rounds prior to the fourth round the Association Chief Operating Officer or, by agreement, both clubs, can request Assistant Referees to be appointed where available

2. The fees for referees for Cup ties shall be:

Rounds 1 - 5.....£65

Semi-Finals.....£75

Final.....£100

When Assistant Referees and 4th Officials are engaged in these ties the fees shall be 50% of those paid to referees.

3. In the event of a referee failing to turn up, the clubs may mutually agree to any neutral referee. The referee shall not belong to any of the competing clubs.

The expenses of such referee shall be defrayed by the competing clubs and must be paid before the start of the tie.

4. In all matches an S.F.A. listed referee must be used.

5. Referees in all ties must forward the results of matches played within one day thereafter to the Assistant Secretary of the Association.

6. No professional referee shall be eligible to take part in the administration of Scottish Junior Football at any level.

PERMITS

1. A permit is required to operate an Association, Region, League or combination of clubs under the direct auspices / jurisdiction of the Scottish Junior FA.

All applications, where applicable, for permits shall be made on a form supplied by the Association Assistant Secretary and must be in his hands at least seven days before the commencement of the competition, accompanied by a fee of £5, competitions of six clubs and under, £1.

2. All applicants for permits by Regions, Associations, Leagues or combination of clubs, shall contain particulars as to the clubs which

intend participating therein and same must be confined to the clubs within their Region, but two Regions may mutually agree to allow a club or clubs of their Region to take part in the Competition of another Region and failing agreement the Committee shall decide the matter.

In the event of there being no alteration from the previous season, the Secretary shall have power to grant permits.

3. The Association shall have power to admit, as affiliated members Regional Junior Associations, the Scottish Welfare F.A., and to grant permits to other Associations, Leagues or combinations of clubs.

4. All affiliated Regions and all Associations, Leagues or combinations of all clubs which have been granted a permit shall have power to deal with clubs, officials, members and players of clubs in membership of their Region, Association, League or combinations of clubs who may be guilty of misconduct or in any way violating their respective rules.

5. No suspension shall be reduced without the consent of the Committee of the Scottish Junior Football Association.

6. The rules of permitted Regions, Associations, Leagues or combination of clubs must be in conformity with the rules of this Association and a copy thereof sent to the Association Chief Operating Officer. All those functioning under permit from this Association shall set forth in their rules the degree of priority which their competitions obtain over others not already provided for these Rules.

7. Regional Associations have first claim on new clubs formed within their Region.

Where no Region exists a new club may make application to the Region it considers most suitable and the Region may accept such a club with the permission of the Scottish Junior Football Association. Once admitted to membership, neither club nor Region shall terminate the membership on any ground whatsoever, other than the retiral clause under Regional Rules. Retiral clause will not operate in any district where there is no alternative football competition under the jurisdiction of the Scottish Junior Football Association.

8. Clubs shall not engage in any match other than those covered by Regional or Association Permits, without permission of the Scottish Junior Football Association.

Permits will be granted at the discretion of the Committee and a fee of £5.00 will be charged for those granted. It shall be the responsibility of the home club to record the details of the teams involved prior to the commencement of the match and thereafter forward this information to the Regional Secretary of the

Association.

9. Permits for benefit or charity matches will only be granted when under the control of Regions, Associations, leagues or clubs or to approved applicants. Application must be substantiated by three acceptable signatures as a guarantee of good faith.

Fee of £1 will be charged but may be returned on application which should be accompanied by Balance Sheet which has been approved by Committee.

INTERNATIONALS

1. The Association shall have powers to arrange such International and other representative games as they may deem expedient, and also trial matches in connection therewith.

2. On dates fixed for International or representative games in Scotland no Junior games shall take place within a forty-five mile radius of the venue.

3. Players chosen for games under the auspices of this Association can only be released from the obligation of playing by the consent of this Committee, Clubs having a player called upon for a game by this Association shall not be under any obligation to fulfil a fixture while the player is at the service of this Association nor shall clubs having a player chosen play such player in any game within three days prior to a full international game of the Association.

4. A club must not unreasonably refuse the Association access to their ground or facilities for an International/Representative game or training.

CLUBS & PLAYERS

1. Each club will be supplied with an OFFICIAL RETURN which must be completed detailing name of club, etc., and returned to the Association Assistant Secretary. Clubs are required to detail in the Club Admin System details of all officials (including manager, coaches and first aider) and volunteers.
2. All clubs in membership of the S.J.F.A. can have as many season ticket holders as they so wish, but the season tickets will not be valid for any Cup Ties.
3. No Junior official shall be allowed to take part in any unauthorised competition and they are requested to inform the Association of any Junior player whom they may witness taking part in such games.
4. Any person or club that has been, or is, connected with Senior football must declare such an interest. The circumstances will be considered by the Management Committee of the Association before any permission be granted to take part in Junior Football.
5. Clubs shall have the power to fine and suspend players for misconduct or who fail to turn up to games when notified and without sufficient reason for doing so.
6. It shall be permissible for clubs to play matches on Sundays during the playing season as may be arranged by the Association or Regions or at the request of clubs if such request is considered by the Association or Region to be reasonable but in any match arranged to be played on a Sunday both clubs must be agreeable to so play, and there shall be no compulsion on a player or official to take part in a match on a Sunday.

In any match so arranged and agreed to be played on a Sunday, a club can only play its own registered players or, in matches for which registration is not necessary, players of clubs from the Scottish Youth F.A., Scottish Welfare F.A. and Scottish Amateur F.A. In the latter case, their terms of agreement between this Association and minor associations must be complied with.

It is not permissible to play on a Sunday as trialist players, any players attached to any club in any grade of football other than those mentioned.

7. A player on being transferred during the currency of a season may play in any competition other than a competition he has already taken part in provided he is signed and registered as per rule.
8. Any player taking part in football outwith Scotland unless in a representative game or games with his own club sanctioned by the SFA/SJFA, will require International clearance.

NB. Before signing a player who has or may have played outwith the country except in the circumstances mentioned above, then the signing club **must** ensure that International Clearance is obtained from the SFA.

9. Junior players reverting to youth or amateur football while subject to being dealt with by this Association, are not grounds for protest unless reversion takes place between the expiry of one junior playing season and the commencement of the next junior season.

10. An amnesty shall be granted to players for offences committed prior to 15 June 2024 except in cases which have been subject to report prior to that date and may not have been dealt with or brought to a conclusion by the retiring Committee.

The amnesty does not include debt and sin-die suspensions or field offences committed up to and including 15 June 2024.

REGISTRATIONS

1. A player shall not be eligible for any club (except as aforementioned) in membership of this Association unless he signs either the Player Registration Form or Transfer Form of the Scottish Football Association Ltd.

(a) Receipts for signing fee paid to player must show only the amount of signing fee paid, as per rule. Violation of this rule will be seriously dealt with by the Committee.

(b) Registration shall be binding on all contracted players until the end of their contracts unless mutually agreed between the club and the player and also until the end of the current playing season for all non-contract, amateur and youth players. A player may only play for the club for which he is registered. A player of a Junior club signed by a Senior club on a Transfer Form is eligible to play for both clubs providing that by doing so he is not contravening the SJFA Constitution and Rules.

2. No Junior player shall be eligible to play for any club in membership of this Association who, after 17 June 2023 has signed a registration form or agreement for or played for any club in any Region, Association, League or other combination of clubs which has not been granted a permit by this Association.

3. A player may be transferred by the club for which he is registered to another junior club provided the club and player are agreeable to such a transfer.

The player, in these circumstances, must register on the official form for the club to which he is transferred.

No transfer shall be sanctioned after 1st April with the exception of temporary transfer from SYFA clubs - subject to the player being otherwise eligible.

Any Junior player, other than a recognised goalkeeper, whose registration is cancelled during the course of the season shall not be eligible to register for another Junior club after 1st April. NB. The “recognised goalkeeper” may only be played in the goalkeeping position.

Any Junior player whose registration is cancelled after 1st April may not participate in Junior football for the remainder of that season.

Any Senior player signed as a Youth player, i.e. **not** contract, non-contract or Amateur, for a Senior club and released after 31st March will be eligible to register for a Junior club.

Any player registered on a Contract, Non-Contract or Amateur form whose registration is cancelled after 1st April may not participate in Junior Football for the remainder of that season.

4. A player who has had his registration form for a club in membership of this Association cancelled in the current season, may play for any club in membership of this Association in any game subject to the terms of Rule 3.

5. No Junior club shall have more than twenty-five players registered at any one time during the season. However, a club may in addition sign a maximum of 20 Youth players in total.

6. Before taking part in a Cup-tie, the player must sign one or other of the registration forms and transfer forms of the Scottish Football Association Ltd.

All Junior registration forms must be received by the Scottish Football Association Secretary within three days from signing, excluding Saturday and Sunday. Clubs failing to comply with this rule shall be dealt with as Committee deem necessary.

7. The Scottish Football Association shall have power to cancel the registration of players in cases of clubs for which they are registered becoming defunct, or where reasons satisfactory to the Committee are adduced why the registration should be cancelled.

8. Registered players who are members of the Armed Forces and Emergency Services may, during camping season, take part in Armed Forces and Emergency Services football and shall not be deemed to have committed any irregularity under these rules.

9. A player registered by a club in membership shall not take part in Senior games or matches unless he has the written consent of the Secretary or other official of the Junior club for which he is registered for each game. Players taking part in such games or matches without written authority shall be suspended by the Committee as may be agreed upon.

10. Transfer / Temporary Transfer of registration during currency of contract - Junior to Junior

Temporary transfer of registration from one Junior club to another shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. Temporary Transfer shall not be permitted after the last day of March in each year.
2. A player whose registration is temporarily transferred shall have the dispensation to play only for the borrowing club during the period of such transfer.
3. Temporary transfers shall be permitted between clubs of the same Division.
4. Temporary transfers will only be for a defined period (minimum 28 days) and subject to the condition of such transfer having the player's consent.
5. There shall not, during the season, be more than four temporary transfers to any one club.
6. All temporary transfers will automatically lapse at the end of the playing season.
7. Any temporary transfer which stipulates when, or against whom, the player may or may not play is not acceptable.
8. On the termination of a temporary transfer for any reason, the player's registration shall automatically revert to the lending club.
9. If a club is in default of payments due to another club under a transfer agreement, the Association may place an embargo on any further registrations by such defaulting club until such time as the agreement is honoured or **any other action necessary**.
10. Any club which, in the opinion of the Association, unfairly traffics or deals in the registration of any player or otherwise abuses in any way the transfer system shall be dealt with as the Association may decide.

DISCIPLINE

1. In the event of the Officials of the Scottish Junior F.A., or Official of any Regional Authority within the Scottish Junior F.A., taking the view that public order may be at risk when any Scottish Junior Cup Tie or any game under the Regional Permit is to be played, they shall be empowered to consult with the Police authority within the area concerned. If employment of Police is considered necessary then the cost of such Police shall be paid for by the Scottish Junior F.A., or the Region as the case might be, and the two competing clubs, on the basis of 50% from the Scottish Junior F.A., or Region and 25% from each club involved.

2. When it can be proven that the spectators at the cup-tie match conduct themselves in such manner as to cause the game to be abandoned, the Committee shall, on application of either club, have the power to order the match to be replayed on another ground, neutral if possible, and to make arrangements, financial and otherwise as they may think fit, or to award the tie to either club.

3. Clubs will be held responsible for the behaviour or conduct of their supporters, and ground clubs are instructed and empowered to take the necessary steps for the expulsion from the football enclosure of any spectator using foul, abusive or threatening language and/or unacceptable or inappropriate conduct and also to refuse admission to their ground of any spectator known to be guilty of using foul or abusive language.

Clubs failing to satisfy the Association that they have taken the necessary steps to have such individuals dealt with, shall be liable to be expelled from the competition or be dealt with as the Committee may deem necessary.

4. A club shall take all steps that are reasonably practical to ensure the safety, good conduct and good behaviour of its supporters in any ground.

5. All affiliated Regions and other Associations, Leagues or combination of clubs, must be within two days of meeting at which a suspension has been passed, report same to the Assistant Secretary of this Association stating the date of the meeting, the name of the party suspended, the reason for the suspension and the duration of the suspension where the suspension is different from the Automatic Suspension Guidelines only.

6. Any player, etc., taking part in any match directly or indirectly under the jurisdiction of the Scottish Football Association while under suspension by a recognised Association, League or other body, shall be liable, where applicable, to be fined and suspended and the club playing the player shall be similarly liable.

Any Secretary failing to comply with this rule shall be dealt with by the Committee.

7. All fines and suspensions passed to be notified to this

Association within seven days from date of decision for confirmation where different from the Automatic Suspension Guidelines.

No suspension shall be reduced without consent of the Committee of the Scottish Junior Football Association.

8. A Player shall have right to appeal to this Association – a copy of such to be sent by the Association to his club.

9. No recognised football body, club, official, Team Official or other member of Team Staff, player or other person under the jurisdiction of the Scottish Junior F A, shall in an interview, a “blog” on the internet, on a social networking or microblogging site, or in any other manner calculated or likely to lead to publicity (i) criticise the decision(s) and/or performance(s) of any or all match official(s) in such a way as to indicate bias or incompetence on the part of such match official; or (ii) make remarks about such match official(s) which impinge on his character. For the avoidance of doubt this rule applies (i) whether reported to the Scottish Junior F A by a match official for misconduct or otherwise, and (ii) where remarks are brought to the Scottish Junior F A’s attention, or of which the Scottish Junior F A becomes aware, by whatever manner or means. There shall be a presumption that any material published in such manner was published in the name of and/or with the authority of the person or body bearing to have published the material.

Any reported offences will be dealt with the Management Committee of the SJFA

10. No recognised football body, club, official, Team Official or other member of Team Staff, player, match official or other person under the jurisdiction of the Scottish Junior F A, shall in an interview, a “blog” on the internet, on a social networking or microblogging site, or in any other manner calculated or likely to lead to publicity, make comment(s) of a discriminatory or offensive nature based on, but not limited to, race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability, or that endorse or encourage foul play or are otherwise offensive. There shall be a presumption that any material published in such a manner was published in the name of and/or with the authority of the person or body bearing to have published the material.

Any reported offences will be dealt with the Management Committee of the SJFA

PROTESTS

1. With the exception of the Scottish Junior Cup, Semi-Final and Final tie and other national competitions which are separately provided for, the procedure for protests on points of play must be formally intimated to the captain of the competing club in the presence of the referee before leaving the ground.

2. Any objection relative to ground, goal-posts, referee, team lists

or other appurtenances of the game, must be lodged with the referee previous to start of the match, and the club on whose ground the match is played shall be responsible that the conditions required according to the laws of the game are complied with, failing which they shall be liable to be disqualified or otherwise dealt with as the Committee may determine.

3. Any club wishing to protest (except in Semi-Final and Final tie of the Scottish Junior Cup which are previously provided for must lodge same specifying the date and nature of the objection with the opponent's secretary, and a verbatim copy to the Chief Operating Officer of the Association both of which must be recorded delivery letter service or email and bear a post-date not later than the third day following that on which the tie is played, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, Public and Bank holidays.

Deposit fee of £50 must accompany the protest sent to the Association Assistant Secretary which shall be retained if protest is dismissed unless the unanimous consent of the Committee to return fee is given.

4. Protests, if sustained, which result in the match being ordered to the re-played, or result in the offending club being disqualified from the Competition, will only be granted on the following grounds:

- (i) Offending club playing a player currently under suspension.
- (ii) Offending club playing a player whose registration lies with another Junior club.
- (iii) Offending club playing an un-registered player.
- (iv) Offending club playing a player currently cup - tied in this Season's Scottish Junior Cup Competition.

5. The Assistant Secretary shall call a meeting within seven days of receipt of protest to consider same, In the event of case not being finished at first hearing, both sides to hand all documentary evidence with names and addresses of witnesses to Association Assistant Secretary. No new evidence to be taken at second hearing.

6. Registration irregularities committed will not be considered grounds for protest unless the infringement has taken place during the current season in which case the circumstances of the infringement may be dealt with as the Committee may determine.

Players failing to sign registration form as per rule will be suspended for one month from date of being dealt with and club responsible for such irregularity fined.

7. Should any club in connection with a protested cup tie have a member on Committee, the said member shall not be eligible to sit on Committee while the said protest is being considered.

8. Clubs shall be entitled to send a representative to a meeting in

the interest of their case who may be heard at the discretion of the Committee. Members of Committee shall also retire when matters affecting their clubs are under discussion.

9. Debt suspensions shall not be considered grounds for a replay. A monetary fine only shall be imposed which shall go to the protesting club.

10. The Assistant Secretary of the Association and the Secretary of any affiliated Region or other Association, League, or combination of clubs, shall, on application from the club\ secretary on payment of a prescribed fee, furnish, to be produced as evidence if desired, the names of clubs, date of ties, lists of names and addresses, nature of infringement, if any.

11. Any clubs, players and committees must obtain their own evidence.

Documents obtained by any other club or party will not be accepted as evidence.

12. Any failure by a secretary to comply with the above request shall be reported to the Committee who shall deal with the matter as they deem expedient.

13. In matters submitted to Committee requiring proof of a player having taken part in a Cup competition match, the proof required will be by means of a certificate to be obtained by clubs from the Assistant Secretary of the Association as an extract from the lists referred to above in rule 10. Team lines which have been exchanged by clubs in Cup- ties will not be accepted by Committee as evidence of proof.

14. On a protest being sustained, the Committee may disqualify or fine the offending club in such sum as they deem expedient.

In the event of a club being disqualified, the tie shall be awarded to the protesting club. If the Committee consider a protest trivial or groundless, they shall, besides retaining the fee, hold the club responsible for expenses incurred or impose a fine or both.

15. Protests and appeals once lodged cannot be withdrawn.

16. The Committee may fine and disqualify any club from taking further part in the competition which in their opinion knowingly play ineligible players.

The tie will be awarded to the protesting club.

APPEALS

1. With the exception of on-field discipline, any Club Official, member or player who may be dissatisfied with the decision of any affiliated Region, League or combination of Clubs, which shall have been granted permit by the committee, shall have the right of appeal, to an Appeal Committee appointed by the Committee of this Association.

Such appeal shall set forth the grounds on which the appeal is based and must be sent by recorded Delivery/email post to the

Assistant Secretary of this

Association within seven days from the date of the notification of the decision being sent and must be accompanied by a deposit fee of £50 if lodged by a club, Region, League or Association, £25 if lodged by a player or official.

2. The appeal shall be lodged in triplicate with the Assistant Secretary of this Association and the Secretary shall transmit a copy to the Secretary of the body whose decision is appealed against and to any other interested club.

3. In the event of the appeal being sustained, the deposit fee shall be returned and the party losing the appeal may be held liable for expenses of the meeting, but in the event of it being dismissed, the Appeal Committee may make such order as to the deposit fee as they may think fit and also find the appellants liable to the expenses of the appeal and/or any other sentence the Committee may impose.

4. Any member of the Appeals Committee who has participated in or is concerned with the case appealed against, prior to the appeal being before the Appeals Committee, shall be ineligible to adjudicate thereon.

5. On points of fact connected with the play going on, the decision of the referee shall be final. On questions of interpretation of rules or laws of the game an appeal may be made to the Committee of the Association, but the referee's decision must be acted on in the field although under protest.

6. All questions of eligibility, qualifications of competitors or interpretation of the rules or laws shall be referred to the Committee of the Association whose decision shall be final.

7. When an appeal is lodged with the Scottish Junior FA against a decision taken by a member Region, such appeal must be submitted in accordance with the appeals procedure. When the decision taken has resulted in the suspension of a player, such player must not take any further part in football until he is notified by the Secretary that he is in receipt of his appeal and it is in order.

In the event that the decision of the Scottish Junior FA is not in the appellants favour, and results in a further appeal to the Scottish Football Association, the Scottish Junior FA reserve the right to recite the player and adjudicate on circumstances.

USEFUL DATES

- 1st April:** No transfer of players after this date. Any player whose registration has been cancelled during currency of the season cannot sign with another club.
- 30th April:** Notices of alterations to Rules to SJFA to secretary in writing.
- 19th May:** Players currently registered may be resigned for ensuing season on and after this date.
- 3rd Sat. June:** Close of season (no permits issued for games during close season).
SJFA Annual General Meeting.

Mon following

- 3rd Sat. June:** New players Amateur & Non-contract can be registered at SFA (valid until 3rd Sat June following).

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE

Before playing in a Cup tie a player must sign a Registration Form.

Contract Players :

Must be signed, registered and acknowledged before playing in a Cup tie.

Non contract Players :

Must be signed before playing in a Cup tie – club then has 3 days, excluding Saturday and Sunday, to register players.

Amateur Players :

Must be signed before playing in a Cup tie – club then has 3 days, excluding Saturday and Sunday, to register players.

REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS

1. No transfers after 1st April with the exception of SYFA players.
2. A club cannot sign a player after 1st April who has already been registered by another Junior Club during that season with the exception of a recognised goalkeeper. (see Page 28, Rule 3, para 4)
3. After 31st March, clubs may sign players from Amateur, Youth or Welfare football provided they are eligible to do so.
4. Players previously signed Senior on a Youth Form do not require reinstatement, therefore a freed Senior Youth player can sign after 31st March.