



CONSTITUTION
and
RULES

NORTH REGION

Season
2023 – 2024

Chris Auton
Secretary

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HONORARY PRESIDENTS

F Sievewright, N Mackay, G Copland, J S Grant, P R Duncan, G Rose, I Morris,
J Whitehead, J H Irvine, C Thorn, D Ewing, I Finnie, D Davidson, T Dando, D Cadenhead

HONORARY VICE PRESIDENTS

D Neville, J P Black MBE, G G Cowie, A Gruddy, G Davies, C Harper,
G W Keith, TA Johnston, J Milton, D Thomson, A Moir, A James, W Morrice,
A Davidson, D Cadenhead, A Fiddes, Y Mearns, D Roberts, L Hutton, S Johnston

PAST PRESIDENTS (Name – From-To)

E.Edmond 1968-1975, A.A.Logie 1975-1978, J.Shirreffs 1978-1980, J.Grant 1980-1983,
C.A.Grant 1983-1986, W.Cruickshank 1986-1989, P.R.Duncan 1989-1992, G.Rose 1992-1995,
I.Morris 1995-1998, F.Seivwright 1998-2001, J.Irvine 2001-2004, J.S.Grant 2004-2006,
D.Thomson 2006-2007, D.Ewing 2007-2011, I.Finnie 2011-2012, G.Rose 2012-2017,
D.Davidson 2017-2019, D Cadenhead 2019-2022

PAST SECRETARIES

F Shanks, H Wignall, B Strachan, J Whitehead, R Easton

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OFFICE BEARERS 2023 – 2024

PRESIDENT - John Voight Carroll, 140 Osborne Place, Aberdeen, AB25 2DY Tel: 07749673786

VICE PRESIDENT - Brian Johnston (Newmachar United)

SECRETARY - CHRIS AUTON 6 Hazelhead Place Aberdeen AB15 8HD Tel: 07873259710 (M) Email:
NRJFASecretary@hotmail.com

TREASURER - DAVID ROBERTS (Islavale FC) 18 Quarryhill, Keith AB55 5AX Tel: 01542 887531(H), 07929
444254 (M) E-mail: david1955roberts@gmail.com

ASSISTANT SECRETARY - Brian Johnston (Newmachar United)

Email:NRJFAAssistantsecretary@hotmail.com

REPRESENTATIVES TO S.J.F.A. - C.Auton (Secretary), J.Carroll (President), G Thomson (Culter)

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - D.Ewing (Hermes), B.Park (Bridge of Don Thistle), G Laird (Fraserburgh
United), D Roberts (Islavale), G Lawson (Maud FC), B Johnston (Newmachar United) DELEGATES TO

NORTH/TAYSIDE REGION - C Auton (Secretary) D Ewing (Hermes FC) B Johnston (Newmachar United)

AUDITORS - G Laird (Fraserburgh United FC), G Lawson (Maud)

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CLUB DIRECTORY

Aberdeen East End - (H) Black and Gold shirts, Black shorts, Black socks. (A) Red and white shirts, Red shorts, Red socks.

Ground - New Advocates Park, Aberdeen, AB24 1RG

Secretary: FIONA ANDERSON, 82 Fowler Avenue, Aberdeen, AB16 7YR. Tel: 07874 978855 / 07717

850845 Email – fiona.anderson3@nhs.scot

Alternative contact: Stuart Whicher, Tel: 07527 891279

Alternative contact: Aaron McGuigan Tel: 07809 432912

Shirt sponsor: (H) P. Wright Flooring (A) Motorchoice

Aberdeen University – In abeyance and hoping to return for season 2024/25

Banchory St Ternan - (H) Royal Blue shirts, White with Royal Blue stripe shorts, White socks (A) Red shirts, Red shorts, Red Socks. (3rd) White shirts, Black shorts, White socks

Ground - Milton Park, Crathes

Secretary: CHRISTINE HANDSLEY, 47 Formaston Park, Aboyne, AB34 5HF. Tel: 07877 291200 / 01339

886475 Email – chandsley27@gmail.com

Alternative contact: Graeme Handsley, Tel: 07803 634865

Shirt Sponsor: (H & 3rd) FAI Holdings (A) N&S Club

Website: banchorystternanfc.co.uk

Banks O'Dee JFC - (H) Navy/Sky Blue hoops shirts, White shorts, Sky Blue socks (A) White shirts, White shorts, White socks.

Ground- Spain Park, Abbotswell Road, Aberdeen, AB12 3AB

Secretary: MARK ROBB, 4 Lochinech Place, Cove. Tel: 07984429196/07747472290 E-mail :

Marrobb4@gmail.com

Alternative contact: Paul Dunn Tel: 07843383850

Alternative contact: Paul Robertson Tel : 07985276649

Bridge of Don Thistle - (H) Blue shirts, Blue shorts, Blue socks (A) Black shirts, Black shorts, Black socks

Ground - Aberdeen Sports Village, Aberdeen, AB24 5RU

Secretary: BARRY PARK, 2 Baillieswells Crescent, Aberdeen AB15 9BD Tel: 07881 206774 (M) Email –

Barry@oemgs.com

Alternative contact: Lewis Muirhead Tel: 07739 259019

Buchanhaven Hearts - (H) Maroon / Sky blue shirts, Maroon / Sky blue shorts, Maroon / Sky blue socks.

(A) Royal Blue / White Shirts, Royal Blue / White Shorts, Royal Blue / White Socks.

Ground - Raemoss Park, Victoria Road, Peterhead, AB42 1UB.

Secretary: GRAEME MACKIE, 51 Richmondhill Road, Peterhead, AB42 3GJ Tel: 07950 974466

Alternative contact: David Buchan, Tel: 01779 470722 / 07518 244499 Email -

graeme@billmackieengltd.co.uk

Shirt Sponsor: Bill Mackie Engineering Ltd

Burghead Thistle - (H) Green shirts, Green shorts, Green socks (A) Royal Blue shirts, Navy Blue shorts, Royal Blue socks.

Ground - Forest Park, Burghead, IV30 5YJ

Secretary: ANDREW GORDON, 1 Firthview, Burghead, IV30 5YW Tel: 07717 478279 / 01343 835077

Email – Agordon314@btinternet.com

Alternative contact: Eddie Leggat, Tel: 07917775202

Alternative contact: Karen Grant, Tel: 07789 785441

Shirt Sponsor: (H) Tulloch of Cummington (A) JNK Kitchens

Colony Park FC - (H) Black and Red vertical striped shirts, Black shorts; Black socks (A) Red and White vertical striped shirts, Red shorts, Red socks (3rd) Yellow shirts, Royal Blue shorts, Royal Blue socks

Ground - Colony Park, Harlaw Road, Inverurie, AB51 4SX

Secretary: MARK FRASER, 6 Oxen Craig, Inverurie, AB51 4LN Tel: 01467 622127 / 07725413533 Email – Markfraser22@btinternet.com

Alternative contact: Roger Langtree, Tel: 01467 621357 / 07813 002781

Alternative contact: Paul Morrison, Tel: 01224 702611 / 07772 209232

Shirt Sponsor: Alpha Taxis Cub

Website: www.pitchero.com/clubs/colonyparkjuniors

Cruden Bay - (H) Purple with black/white shirts, Black with purple/black trim shorts, Purple with black/white socks (A) White with purple trim shirts, Purple shorts, White socks. (3rd) Navy / Sky blue vertical striped shirts, Navy shorts, Navy / Sky blue hooped socks

Ground - Watson Park, Cruden Bay, AB42 0NQ

Secretary: GRAHAM HEDDLE, 18 John Buchan Drive, Cruden Bay, AB42 0FP, Tel: 07876 340139 / 01779 813282 Email - Graham.heddle@yahoo.com

Alternative contact: Grant Heddle, Tel: 07956 021463

Alternative contact: John Esson, Tel: 07786 554371

Shirt sponsor: (H & 3rd) Kilmarnock Arms Hotel (A) Simplicity Cuisine

Culter - (H) Red shirts, White shorts, Red socks (A) White shirts, Black shorts, Black socks.

Ground - Crombie Park, Malcolm Road, Peterculter, AB14 0XB

Secretary: : Grant Horne, 33 Hillside Place, Peterculter AB14 0TT Tel: 07525 716826 Email – Grant.Horne@btinternet.com

Alternative contact: Ian Finnie, Tel: 07961105909

Alternative contact: Gordon Thomson, Tel: 07787540206

Shirt sponsor: (H) Aberdeen Gas Services (A) Kooltech

Deveronside - (H) Black/White vertical stripes shirts, Black with white trim shorts, Black with white trim socks (A) White shirts, White shorts, White socks

Ground - MacDuff Community and Sports Centre, MacDuff, AB44 1AA.

Secretary: LINDA LEGGE, 14 Gellymill Street, MacDuff, AB44 1TN. Tel: 01261 833273 / 01261 818303 / 07840 073441 Email - admin@prsct.org

Alternative contact: Andrea Lovie Tel: 07817 429670

Alternative contact: Hamish McLeay 07974 092351

Shirt sponsor: (H) Fife Lodge Hotel (A) Nordic Shellfish

Dufftown FC - (H) Green shirts, Green shorts, Green socks. (2) Red shirts, Red shorts, Red socks.

Ground - Westburn Park, Hill Street, Dufftown, AB55 4AW

Secretary: SUSAN OFFICER, 32 Church Street, Dufftown, AB55 4AR. Tel: 07745 178435 Email – Susanofficer@btinternet.com

Alternative contact: Steven Williams, Tel: 07876 195889
 Alternative contact: Harry Officer, Tel: 07932 844121
 Shirt sponsor: (H) Global Energy Group (A) Standfast Engineering

Dyce FC - (H) Blue & White hoops shirts, Royal Blue shorts, Royal Blue socks (A) Black and White striped shirts, Black shorts, Red or Black socks.

Ground - Ian Mair Park, Dyce Drive, Dyce, Aberdeen.

Secretary: KEITH McINTOSH, 15 Wellside Avenue, Kingswells, Aberdeen, AB15 8EF Tel: 07787 127574 / 01224 742694 Email - keith.mcintosh@raeburns.co.uk

Alternative contact: Syd Birnie. Tel: 07950 266693

Alternative contact: Norman Mackay Tel: 07768273630

Shirt Sponsor: Ogilvie Construction Club

Website: www.pitchero.com/clubs/dycejuniorsfc

Ellon United - (H) Red shirts, Black shorts, Red socks (A) Blue shirts, Blue shorts, Blue socks.

Ground - The Meadows, Ellon, AB41 9QJ

Secretary: IRVINE MORRIS, 14 Hillhead Road, Ellon AB41 9LF. Tel: 01358 721321 / 07791 026406 Email - r.morris645@btinternet.com,

Alternative contact: David Neville, Tel: 01358 720003

Alternative contact: Miller Mathieson, Tel: 01358 722863

Shirt Sponsor: (H) & (A) John Willox Kitchen Design

Forres Thistle - (H) Red with white shirts, Red with white shorts, Red socks (A) Blue with white shirts, Blue with white shorts, Blue socks.

Ground - Logie Park, Pilmuir Road, Forres, IV36 2HN

Secretary: DUTCH HOLLAND, 15 Highfield, Forres, IV36 1FN Tel: 01309 676666 / 07769 041876 Email - dutchinforres@btinternet.com

Alternative contact: James Sutherland Tel: 07801 354129

Alternative contact: Steven Johnston, Tel: 07725 217502

Shirt Sponsor: (H) Sinclair Taylor (A) Keith Builders Merchants

Fraserburgh United - (H) Orange and Black shirts, Black shorts, Orange socks (A) Black and Orange shirts, Orange shorts, Black socks. (3rd) Black and white stripes shirts, Black shorts, Black socks

Ground - College Park, Henderson Road, Fraserburgh. AB43 9GA

Secretary: GORDON LAIRD, 23 Ailsa Court, Fraserburgh AB43 9SN. Tel: 01346 516828 / 07925 501113
 Email - gordonlaird23@aol.com

Alternative contact: Eric West Tel: 07830 033011

Alternative contact: Brent Bruce, Tel: 07476 887350

Shirt Sponsor: (H) D G Electrical (A) I K Supplies Club

Website: www.fraserburghutdjfc.co.uk

Glentanar - (H) Navy Shirts, Navy shorts, Navy socks. (A) Yellow Shirts, Yellow shorts, Yellow socks. (3rd) Royal Blue shirts, White shorts, Royal Blue with two white rings socks.

Ground - Woodside Sports Complex, Aberdeen, AB24 4UL

Secretary: FINLAY ROSS, 5 Forvie Lane, Bridge of Don, Aberdeen, AB22 8TF Tel: 07584 960174 / 01224 820762. Email – FinlayRoss1@gmail.com

Alternative contact: Alexander Jackson, Tel: 07719774192

Alternative contact: Michael Crawford, Tel: 07597 178534

Shirt Sponsor: (H) Flexi Store, (A & 3rd) Castle Bar

Hall Russell United (H) (A)

Ground – Denmore Park, Bridge of Don, Aberdeen, AB23 8JW

Secretary:

Alternative contact:

Alternative contact:

Shirt Sponsor: (H) (A)

Hermes - (H) Black / Blue striped shirts, Black shorts, Black socks. (A) Grey shirts, Grey shorts, Grey socks
(3rd) University Red & Crimson

Ground - Lochside Park, Bridge of Don, Aberdeen, AB23 8JW

Secretary: DEBORAH WALLACE, 2 Johnston Gardens West, Peterculter, Aberdeen, AB14 0LB Tel: 07814 288020 / 01224 730018 Email – Deborah.wallace@btinternet.com

Alternative contact: Dennis Ewing, Tel: 07818 831652

Alternative contact: Steven Watson Tel: 07825353790

Shirt Sponsor: (H) Grampian Geotechnical Services (A) The Old Bank Bar, Peterculter

Islavale - (H) Red and black shirts, Red shorts, Red socks. (A) Yellow and Black shirts, Black shorts, Black socks
(3rd) Red shirts, Black shorts, Black socks

Ground - Simpson Park, Westerton Road, Keith, AB55 5AX

Secretary: ALLY RAE Beechlea, 4 Muldearie View, Keith, AB55 5TF Tel: 07487688979/ 01542 886336

Email – raeraeally93@aol.com

Alternative contact: Sandy McCombie Tel: 07740 173436

Alternative contact: David Roberts Tel: 07929 444254

Shirt sponsor: (H) Ross & Simpson Carpets (A) Richmond Mills Fabrication (3rd) Plough Inn Club

Website: www.islavalefc.com

Longside - (H) Black & Red shirts, Black shorts, Black socks (A) Royal Blue shirts, Royal Blue shorts, Royal Blue socks.

Ground - Davidson Park, Longside, AB42 4GR

Secretary: GAVIN DAVIDSON, 15 Bruce Brae, Longside, AB42 2SY Tel: 01779 821347 / 07748 558461

Email - gavin.davidson23@gmail.com

Alternative contact: Stephen Wallace, Tel: 07813 724908

Alternative contact: John Duncan Tel 07870 368347

Shirt Sponsor: (H & A) Abacus Valves

Website: www.pitchero.com/clubs/longsidefc

Lossiemouth United - (H) Blue & white Argentina (A) Red

Ground - Phoenix Park, Lossiemouth

Secretary: JOHN TODD, 18 Duffus Heights, Hamilton Gardens, Elgin, IV30 5PA Tel: 07971249698 Email – jsjdtodd@sky.com

Alternative contact: Alex Lauriston, Tel: 07770616266

Maud J.F.C - (H) Red shirts with white sleeves, Red shorts, Red socks (A) Blue shirts with white sleeves, Blue shorts, Blue socks.

Ground - Pleasure Park, Deer Road, Maud, AB42 4NP

Secretary: GRAHAM LAWSON, 39 Glenugie View, Peterhead AB42 2PW. Tel: 07825 585524 / 01779 585897 Email - maudjfc@aol.com

Alternative contact: John Mcleod Tel: 07872676581

Alternative contact: Alan Mathers, Tel: 07766 214993/01771613467

Shirt Sponsor: (H) Viking-life saving equipment ltd (A) AM Campbell, Club

Website: www.maudjfc.co.uk

Montrose Roselea- (H) Royal Blue shirts, Royal Blue shorts, White socks (A) Green shirts, Green shorts, Green socks.

Ground - Links Park Stadium, Wellington Street, Montrose, DD10 8QD

Secretary: ROY GILL, 73 Bents Road, Montrose, Angus, DD10 8QA Tel: 07908 763219 / 01674 673651

Email - gill.fin@btinternet.com

Alternative contact: Stuart Robertson, Tel: 07732 222633

Alternative contact: Graham Douglas, Tel: 07787 289082

Shirt Sponsor: Montrose Community Trust

Nairn St Ninian - (H) Maroon shirts, Maroon shorts, Maroon socks (A) Sky Blue shirts, Sky Blue shorts, Sky Blue socks (3rd) Red and White shirts, White shorts, Red socks.

Ground - The Showfield, Lodgehill Road, Nairn.

Secretary: DEREK DAVIDSON, 8 Mill Road Terrace, Nairn. IV12 5EG. Tel: 01667 459332 / 07743 165525

Email - derekdavidson789@btinternet.com Alternative contact: James Wallace, Tel: 07818 878142

Alternative contact: Alan Walker. Tel: 07940 853607

Shirt Sponsor: (H) Westerlea (A) Narden (3rd) Alba Business Services

New Elgin - (H) Red / Black shirts, Red or Black shorts, Red or Black socks. (A) Blue / Black shirts, Blue or Black shorts, Blue socks

Ground - Nicol-Togneri Park, Pinefield, Elgin. IV30 6AF

Secretary: GEORGE ROSE, 10 Rowan Court, Elgin IV30 4BB. Tel: 07580 508190 / 01343 550734 Email - gernejfc@yahoo.co.uk;

Alternative Contact: Bill Thomson: 07747325873

Alternative Contact: Neil McDonald: 077431981082

Shirt Sponsor: (H) Dennis Thomson Building Contractor (A)The Kirkie Bar

Newmachar United - (H) Red and black vertical striped shirts, Black shorts, Black socks (A) Royal Blue / white vertical striped shirts, Royal Blue shorts, Royal Blue socks.

Ground - Charles Gordon Park, Disblair Road, Newmachar. AB21 0QD.

Secretary: BRIAN JOHNSTON, Glenury, Old Whiteford, Pitcaple AB51 5EB, Tel: 07740 909531 Email - newmacharutdjuniorsfc@gmail.com

Alternative contact: John Matthew, Tel: 07876 656713

Alternative contact: Ewan Robb. Tel: 07411 770537

Shirt sponsor: (H) Newmachar Hotel (A) Boogie Woogie Café & Gift Shop

Rothie Rovers - (H) Yellow shirts, Navy shorts, Yellow socks (A) Blue shirts, Blue shorts, Blue socks

Ground - Rothienorman Playing Field, Forgue Road, Rothienorman, AB51 8UE

Secretary: BRYAN MCKINNON, 3 Corsmanhill Grove, Inverurie, AB51 5SW. Tel: 07841 979651 Email – rothieroversafc@hotmail.com

Alternative contact: Sandy Raffan Tel: 07825 212170
Alternative contact: Brian Cormack Tel: 07840 762351
Shirt sponsor: (H) BLC Joinery, (A) Premier Coaches (Kintore)
Club website: www.picthero.com/clubs/rothierovers

Stonehaven - (H) Gold and Black hoops, Black with gold trim shorts, Black or gold socks (A) Royal Blue with white trim shirts, Royal Blue shorts, Royal Blue socks.
Ground - Glenury Park, Mineralwell, Stonehaven, AB39 3PY
Secretary: NEALE SCOTT, 149 Kincorth Circle, Aberdeen, AB12 5NS Tel: 07738 293966 Email - stonehavenjfc@hotmail.co.uk
Alternative contact: Ken Scott, Tel: 07741 243248
Alternative contact: Chuck Thorn, Tel: 07778359384
Shirt Sponsor: (H) Carron To Mumbai (A), Sumitomo, Station Hotel Stonehaven

Stoneywood Parkvale FC - (H) Red and white shirts, Red and white shorts, Red and white socks (A) Blue and white shirts, Blue and white shorts, Blue and white socks (3rd) All Black,
Ground - Stoneywood Park, Stoneywood, Aberdeen, AB21 9JE
Secretary: BRIAN HAY, 21 Overton Park, Dyce, Aberdeen, AB21 7FT Tel: 07876 258116 Email - hayubrian@aol.com
Alternative contact: Sandy Smith. Tel: 07849 714894
Alternative contact: Jim Smith Tel: 07534456586
Shirt Sponsor: (H) Viking (A) LJF Coatings (3rd) CarJoy

Sunnybank - (H) Black & white hoops (black Sleeves), Black shorts, Black socks (A) Red / White vertical striped shirts, Red shorts, Red socks.
Ground - Heathryfold Park, Aberdeen, AB16 7DS
Secretary: LESLEY CHRISTIE, 22 Davidson Drive, Aberdeen AB16 7RN. Tel: 07709 192286 Email – lesleychristie@sunnybankfc.co.uk
Alternative contact: Malcolm Turnbull, Tel: 07500 895232
Alternative contact: Gillian Bloomer, Tel: 07572266573
Shirt Sponsor: (H) Phil Anderson Financial (A) Scott James & Associates
Website: www.sunnybankfootballclub.co.uk

Whitehills (H) (A)
Ground – School Park, Whitehills
Secretary:
Alternative contact:
Alternative contact:
Shirt Sponsor: (H) (A)

4 CONSTITUTION and RULES

Title

That this Association be called '**THE NORTH REGION JUNIOR FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION**'.

Object

The object of the North Region Junior Football Association is to legislate for, foster, develop, and promote the game of Association Football among all Junior Clubs who are members of the region.

5 MEMBERSHIP

1. That all Junior Clubs north of Brechin and Montrose (inclusive) shall be eligible for membership subject to the approval of the Association.
2. The Regional Association shall have control in all matters connected with Football Players under its jurisdiction and shall have powers to deal with by way of expulsion, suspension, fine or otherwise as may be thought fit with any Club in membership of the Regional Association, its Officials, Representatives, Members and Players who, in the opinion of the Association or of the Management Committee or of a Sub Committee, are guilty of misconduct, or who breach these rules, or are in any way acting prejudicial of the interest of the Regional Association.
3. All clubs participating in the North Region Junior Football Association should have grounds that satisfy the Scottish Junior Football Association and North Region Junior Football Association Structural Standards as outlined in relevant section in this current handbook.
4. 5. All clubs to have a minimum **Ten**-year lease of their Ground.
5. All clubs to have **First Call** on Park as required by the Association.
6. All grounds shall be available to play matches, as and when required, from the commencement date of the season in any year to the end of the season.
7. Application for membership by clubs for the season shall be made in writing to the General Secretary of the Region on a form supplied, which will be signed by the President, Secretary and Treasurer of the club seeking membership, giving names and addresses of all members of the club Committee. These forms to be submitted by Email and be received by the Association General Secretary no later than 30th April each year. Also, each club shall forward a statement detailing Club name, name of ground, name, address and telephone number of President, Secretary, Treasurer, Committee Members and Representatives along with Club colours and any other details that may be required.
8. Any new Club applying for membership of the Association shall pay £200 for Membership plus the Annual Subscription of £150 on acceptance by Member Clubs. Inter-Regional Cup Competitions will be separate subscriptions.

9. New clubs accepted for membership shall be placed in the Championship at the Annual General Meeting.

10. Any club in membership with the Region resigning or being expelled shall have no right or interest in the property or assets of the Region.

11. Any Club withdrawing from the playing side of the Association after the North Region Annual General Meeting and going into abeyance will, on their return, be fined **£100.00 (one hundred pounds)** for each published fixture that was not fulfilled.

6 MEETINGS

1. At the Annual General Meeting office bearers shall be appointed for the ensuing season and shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary(who must be neutral), Treasurer, and Assistant Secretary and these positions may receive honoraria fixed by the General Committee.

Any office bearer who is eligible and who seeks re-election at the Annual General Meeting shall, **not later than 21 days** prior to the Region's Annual General Meeting, deliver, by email intimation of his desire to continue in office. Any other candidate shall, **not later than 21 days** prior to the Region's Annual General Meeting, inform the Secretary in writing, by email, of the office to which he seeks election. If in the interval between the 21 days prior to the Region's Annual General Meeting, an office bearer or candidate intimates withdrawal of his desire for election or if any eventuality which would preclude his election has arisen, the Secretary shall proceed as instructed by the Management Committee of the North Region. The Secretary shall, on issuing the notice and agenda for the Annual General Meeting, intimate to the Members the names of candidates for office.

2. The Management Committee shall consist of the office bearers and five elected members, present at the Annual General Meeting.

Majority of the General Committee to form a quorum. Two thirds of a majority of the General Committee required to rescind a former finding of the Association. The President/Chairperson shall have a deliberative vote, and, in the event of equality in a division, a casting vote.

3. That the General Committee of the Association shall consist of the Office Bearers and one Representative from each Club. **At the AGM and all General Committee Meetings, each member club shall have one vote.**

4. All Members of General Committee to be Club Officials but no Club to have more than one Member on General Committee.

5. Officials and Members of Management Committee attending meetings shall be paid travelling expenses at the rate of 40p per mile each way.

6. The President of the Association shall preside at all meetings. In his absence the Vice President shall preside. In the absence of both, the Secretary, or some delegate present, shall call upon the meeting to elect a delegate to preside. Should the President or Vice

President arrive at the meeting later the Chairperson appointed by the delegates shall continue until the business under discussion is disposed of before vacating the Chair to the official holder.

7. At the Annual General Meeting the President shall hold office until a successor is elected. The new President will forthwith take the Chair and conduct the remaining business.

8. No meeting shall be properly constituted until the Minutes of the previous meeting have been read and adopted. Except in the case of special meetings at which only the business for which the meeting has been called shall be discussed.

9. The President may call a special meeting at any time if he considers same to be in the best interests of the Association. Or on the signed request of one Club accompanied by a fee of **£25.00 (twenty-five pounds)** that shall be forfeited if the request is considered frivolous.

10. All delegates shall stand to address the Chair and shall preserve order. Delegates shall be seated when the President/Chairperson rises.

11. The mover and seconder of a motion shall be deemed to have spoken thereon. The mover of a motion or an amendment shall not speak for more than five minutes and seconder and succeeding speaker for not more than three minutes.

No delegates shall be allowed to speak oftener than once on the subject under discussion unless on a point of order or with the consent of the President/Chairperson to make an explanation. The mover of the motion shall close the discussion.

12. The President/Chairperson if desirous of speaking individually to any motion shall request the permission of the meeting to leave the Chair for the purpose of doing so. Providing always that this shall not abrogate the ordinary right of the President/Chairperson to sum up or comment on a discussion to clarify the issues on which the delegates are to vote.

13. Any motion to rescind a previous decision must be supported by a two-thirds majority.

14. When such a motion is so disposed of it shall not be competent for any delegate to propose a similar motion for a period of three months in connection with the decision rescinded.

15. It shall not be competent for a delegate to move or second his own appointments or to take part in a vote if he is a nominee and must leave the meeting during the voting. Voting shall be by a show of hands. The President/Chairperson, besides his deliberative vote, shall have a casting vote only when he has used his deliberative vote(s). When a vote has been taken and the accuracy of the count is immediately challenged it shall be at the discretion of the President/Chairperson to order a recount.

16. When a vote is being proceeded with, no delegate shall be permitted to give an opinion or ask a question. Amendments shall be taken in order and one amendment shall be disposed of before another is moved. If the first amendment is carried it becomes itself the question whereupon any further amendment may be moved and similarly dealt with.

17. If a motion is made to adjourn next business, the vote to be taken shall be moved and seconded and put to the vote without discussion. After such a vote twenty minutes shall

elapse before such a motion can again be accepted by the President/Chairperson. A motion of 'next business' shall not be taken until the mover and seconder of a motion have been heard.

18. The President/Chairperson's ruling on any point of order arising from these standing orders shall be final unless challenged by not less than five delegates. If such a challenge is made the President/Chairperson shall put his ruling to the vote forthwith.

Any breach of, or question on, standing orders may be raised by a delegate rising to a point of order.

A motion to suspend standing orders for the remainder of a meeting must be supported by a majority of two - thirds of the delegates present.

19. Any alterations to these standing orders must be made in a notice of motion to the Annual General Meeting.

20. Any Club, Official, Member or Player who may be dissatisfied with a decision of the Management Committee of this Association shall have the right of appeal to the Scottish Junior Football Association. Such appeal shall be set forth as laid down by appeals rule of the Scottish Junior Football Association Handbook.

21. Any Club missing a General Committee Meeting will be fined £100.00 (one hundred pounds) on the first occasion in any season. Second and subsequent absences will be dealt with by the Management Committee. All fines to be ratified by the Management Committee.

22. Each Club, its Officials, Representatives, Members and Players, shall be bound by the Constitution and Rules and by all decisions of the Regional Association and the Management Committee and such decisions, subject to the right of appeal to the Scottish Junior Football Association, shall be final and binding on the Association, its Members, and all others mentioned. (See Rule 23)

23. Each Club shall appoint one Representative to attend the Annual General Meeting, which will be held at a venue chosen by the Management Committee.

24. Clubs not represented at meetings of the Association Committee shall be dealt with by the Management Committee.

25. The President shall have power to call Special Meetings as may be deemed necessary.

26. Each Club shall forward the names and addresses of its Secretary and Representative plus a third individual, and statement of distinguishing colour, costume and ground to the Secretary of the Association before the **2nd Saturday in June** each year. Once the distinguishing colours have been lodged with the Secretary they cannot be changed until the next season. Any Club failing to comply to be fined the sum of **£50.00 (fifty pounds)**.

27. That the Rules can be altered only at the Annual General Meeting. Notice of proposed alteration to be sent to the Secretary at least twenty one days before the Annual General Meeting.

28. Any President completing three years' service shall receive a badge or token to indicate same. Any Member of Committee having served five years and having had 75% attendance at meetings of Management Committee shall receive a Life Member's token.

29. That 50% of Management Committee Members present at a meeting shall form a quorum.

30. The General Committee and Management Committee shall have the power to fill any vacancy in the Office Bearers and Management/Discipline Committee which may occur during the season.

31. The Management/Disciplinary Committee will have full power to administer the disciplinary code of punishment issued by the SJFA on all players found guilty of field offence by the Referee.

32. No business of the Region will be communicated to the Press until the matter has been fully considered or investigated by the Management committee. If this occurs then the Club will be cited to appear before the Management Committee and if necessary punished accordingly.

33. Any changes to League Reconstruction agreed by the members will be in force for a minimum of three years before any alterations or amendments can be proposed to change the league set up.

7 FINANCIAL

1. That the subscription for each Club is **£150.00 (one hundred and fifty pounds)** per annum (unless the management committee agree to a deduction), payable seven days before the Annual General Meeting, and no Club shall be eligible to have a representative at the said Meeting whose subscription is unpaid for the ensuing season. A failure to comply with this rule will result in expulsion from the Association.

2. The Funds of the Association shall be lodged in a Joint Stock bank in the names of the President, Vice President and Treasurer (and their successors in office), any two to be signatories. All accounts over **£500.00 (five hundred pounds)** to be brought before the Management Committee. Financial Accounts and Statements for each year to be audited by two Members of the General Committee appointed at the Annual General Meeting.

3. The Financial Year shall end on 31st March of each year.

8 GENERAL COMPETITION RULES

1. The Association shall conduct a competition called the North Junior League. Such League shall consist of a Premier League consisting of the minimum of 16 teams from Season 2023/24 onwards, with the remaining teams playing in the Championship at the start of the season.

2. In the event of a club being relegated from the Highland Football League into the Premier League and a club from the Premier League being promoted to the Highland Football League the bottom two clubs will be relegated from the Premier League to the Championship.

In the event of a club being relegated from the Highland Football League into the Premier League and no club being promoted from the Premier League to the Highland Football

League the bottom two clubs will be relegated from the Premier League to the Championship. The top club in the Championship will be promoted to the Premier League. In the event of no club being relegated from the Highland Football League to the Premier League and one club being promoted from the Premier League to the Highland Football League, the bottom club in the Premier League will be relegated into the Championship. The top two clubs in the Championship will be promoted to the Premier League.

If the champions and runners up of the Championship have a ground to satisfy the Premier Division Structural Standards then promotion will be automatic. Should a club fail to accept promotion they will automatically be placed into abeyance for the following season.

3. If the ground of the Championship champions and/or runners up does not comply with Premier Division Structural Standards, then the third placed club having a Ground in compliance with Premier Division Structural Standards will compete in a Play-Off with the second bottom placed club in the Premier League. Such Play-Off shall be played at a neutral ground allocated by the Regional Secretary and shall consist of ninety minutes duration plus any further time added by the match referee. Thereafter in the event of equality the penalty kick system shall be used to decide the winners.

4. After the fulfilment of the league fixtures in each season the Club in each League with the most points will be declared the winner and receive a prize as part of league sponsorship agreement.

Should more than one Club finish on the same number of points at the end of their league campaigns, then goal difference shall decide their positions. If points and goal difference are equal the Club who has scored the most goals will be deemed the winner. Should Clubs still be equal then the head to head record between all teams involved shall be taken into account to decide the winner and if finally still equal then a playoff game or round robin games between all teams involved at neutral venues will be played to decide a winner.

In the event of playoff games to decide a league winner at neutral venues then the gate receipts will be evenly distributed, after deduction of match official fees, between the Association and teams involved.

5. For season 2022/23 only, the top four placed teams of the Championship will take their place in the newly formed Premier League in 2023/24

For season 2023/24 onwards, Play offs involving the 3rd, 4th and 5th placed Clubs in the Championship and the 3rd bottom Club in the Premier League will take place to introduce the possibility of a third promotion place to the Premier League.

The Play offs will involve the 3rd bottom Club in the Premier League playing against the 5th placed Club in the Championship and the 3rd and 4th Clubs in the Championship playing against each other for the right to meet in the Playoff final.

Play off matches to be played over two legs home and away with the aggregate score being the decider and if still the aggregate scores are level then penalties will be taken to decide the match. For avoidance of doubt away goals will not count double.

Final to be played at a neutral venue with gate receipts from the match (following the deduction of expenses for the match officials and ground fee) will go to North Region Junior Football Association.

In the event of a Club being relegated from the Highland League into the Premier League and no club being promoted from the Premier League to the Highland League, the bottom two clubs will be relegated from the Premier League to the Championship and only the top club from the Championship will be promoted to the Premier League. The Play offs will then be taken from the 2nd, 3rd and 4th places in the Championship and 3rd bottom of the Premier League with 3rd bottom of the Premier League playing 4th place in the Championship and 2nd and 3rd in the Championship playing each other for a place in the Playoff final.

In the event of no Club being relegated from the Highland League to the Premier League and one club being promoted from the Premier League to the Highland League, the bottom club only in the Premier League will be relegated to the Championship. The top two Clubs in the Championship will be promoted to the Premier League. The Play offs will then be between the 2nd bottom club in the Premier League and the 3rd, 4th and 5th placed clubs in the Championship, with 2nd bottom in the Premier League playing 5th placed club in the Championship and the 3rd and 4th clubs in the Championship playing each other for a place in the Playoff final.

No clubs will be allowed to obtain promotion or participate in the Play offs whose ground does not comply with Premier Division Structural Standards at the beginning of the Play offs. If either the 3rd, 4th or 5th placed teams grounds fail to comply with Premier Division Structural Standards then they will not be allowed to partake in the Playoff matches and matches will only take part between Clubs whose grounds comply with Premier Division Structural Standards for the right to play the club in the Playoff position in the Premier League.

6. In all Premier League matches assistant referees are to be appointed, (depending on availability), the Secretary has the power to approve a match proceeding without assistants. The cost of assistant referees are the responsibility of the home club. In all other matches The Regional Secretary, or his agent, shall have the power to appoint assistant referees to any game as and when they are available.

7. Referees shall report the time of kick-off in all games and Clubs responsible for late appearance on the field shall be dealt with by the Management Committee. Should a fine be imposed the minimum shall be **£20.00 (twenty pounds)**.

Any Club so fined shall have the right of appeal, in the first instance, to the North Region Secretary within seven days of written notification.

8. The Management Committee shall have the power to hold each match as finished and allow the result at the time of stoppage to stand if circumstances in the opinion of the Management Committee warrant such actions.

9. In the event of a League game which has commenced timeously being abandoned due to inclement weather, deteriorating ground conditions, or darkness, the game will be replayed at the original venue and the visiting team will receive 50% of admission money after deduction of expenses for Match Official(s)

10. In all league games the **Home Club** shall retain the gate money and shall be responsible for paying the Match Official's fees and expenses prior to kick off. If a Home Club fails to pay Match Officials prior to a match then they will be dealt with by the Management Committee.

11. In the event of a ground becoming unplayable the **Home Club** must call their **opponents** and the **referee** at least **three hours** before kick-off time, unless their opponents have to travel over **60 (sixty) miles**, when at least **five hours'** notice must be given.

Should a ground become unplayable thereafter the decision must rest with the referee appointed.

No ground to be declared unfit for play prior to 5.00 p.m. on the day preceding the match.

The Secretary of the Association, or his agent, will arrange for ground inspections as per S.J.F.A. Rule.

No pitch inspection will take place where the grounds of the home and away teams are up to 20 miles apart, other than at the discretion of the Regional Secretary.

12. In any situation where a Club has to seek an alternative ground the Secretary of the Association must receive details of the proposed venue at least seven days prior to the date of the fixture, and that the payment of **£150.00 (one hundred and fifty pounds)**, to be paid to the Association.

13. All competitions directly run by this Association shall have priority over all other competitions except those of the Scottish Junior Football Association and the Scottish Football Association.

14. That only referees upon the official list of the Scottish Junior Football Association shall be eligible to act in games played under the jurisdiction of the Association.

15. That no professional referees shall be eligible to take part in the administration of the affairs of the Association.

16. In all games the Secretary, or person in charge of the team, shall hand to the Referee, fifteen minutes before the stated kick off time, two lists of the proper names and ID number (if this is not known, then a date of birth must be entered) of their respective teams including substitutes.

The team lines shall consist of eleven players and is permitted to list up to a maximum of seven substitutes, of whom not more than five may take part in the match with a maximum of 3 stoppages in the match. Player's shirts must be numbered and this should correspond with the player's full name on the team list. The goalkeeper shall wear a jersey distinctive in colour to that of his fellow players and opponents. The Referee shall compare and sign all lists and shall hand one copy to the opposing Club prior to kick off and send one copy to the Regional Secretary, with the score and duly signed, within two days thereafter (Sundays excluded). The Regional Secretary shall keep a register of all players taking part. The Registration Lists shall be

open for inspection at a fee of £2.00 (two pounds) per team sheet. Any person violating this rule will be dealt with by the Management Committee.

17. Clubs will be fined the sum of **£40.00 (Forty pounds)** if they do not telephone their result to the Secretary/Assistant Secretary, as designated, five minutes after the final whistle. **This applies to all home clubs.** Clubs will not be required to attend the next meeting (unless they wish to appeal), and the fine will be imposed automatically. Second and/or subsequent offences will be dealt with by the Management Committee.

Rule also applies to clubs who are drawn away in the Scottish Cup and Inter-Regional Cup, and when the fixture has been postponed. Any Club so fined shall have the right of appeal, in the first instance, to the North Region Secretary within seven days of written notification.

18. All Clubs to inform the Regional Secretary in writing regarding changes and movement of players (including loan deals) between Junior Clubs throughout Scotland for the purposes of noting cautions, within seven days of playing a player who has previously played for another Junior Club during the currency of the season involved.

Failure to do so will result in an automatic fine of **£50.00 (Fifty pounds)** per instance.

Any Club so fined shall have the right of appeal, in the first instance, to the North Region Secretary within seven days of written notification.

19. Players must appear in the registered colours of their Club. Clubs may play in their 2nd strip in away fixtures, providing there is no colour clash with the home team. When the colours of the two competing clubs in the same match are alike or similar, the visiting club shall change to its second-choice colours or a combination of its first and second choice colours (or, if applicable, third choice colours) provided that these do not include any of the basic colours of the home club. If there is still deemed to be a clash then the home team follow the same aforementioned process to avoid a colour clash. Whether or not there is a clash shall be determined by the referee in his sole discretion.

On the list submitted to the Referee each player should be individually numbered and commence the game wearing a strip with the respective number publicly shown. When a fixture is issued the home team must confirm the colours with the opponents. Should they fail to do so, should any problems arise due to this lack of communication, action will be taken by the Management Committee as they see fit.

20. Games shall be played on Saturdays. Games will be played midweek, weather and light permitting. Games may be played on a Sunday if **both** Clubs agree. **Clubs shall be required to play matches under floodlights, and Sundays at the discretion of the Secretary.**

21. Players selected by the Association for trial or a representative game will not be eligible to play for any Club on the day of the fixture without permission of the Association. Permission, if granted, will be issued by the Association Secretary.

22. The Association Constitution and Rules and Trophy Competition Rules shall apply to League Competition where preceding Rules do not apply.

23. All other football must be played under permit issued by the Secretary at a cost of £5 per permit.

24. The committee have the power to hold each match as finished and allow the result at the time of stoppage to stand if circumstances in the opinion of the Committee warrant such actions.

25. In league matches clubs can only feature a maximum of four trialists. A player can only play a maximum of 3 games as a trialist for any one Club during the course of the season

26. In all League matches clubs must not have less than seven signed players in the starting line-up.

27 Any Club(s) refusing to play in a league playoff match on the date fixed by the League Secretary shall be liable for disqualification and a fine.

28. In the event of a Club withdrawing during the current playing season all points gained by Clubs winning or drawing with such teams will be deducted. Similarly goals for and against shall be declared null and void.

29. Prior to the start of the season, the previous season's winners of the Premier League will play the previous season's winners of the North Regional Cup for the Jim McPherson trophy at a venue to be chosen by the Regional Secretary.

Should the same club win both trophies, the runners up of the North Regional Cup will participate in the match.

The gate receipts from the match (following the deduction of expenses for the match officials) will go to a registered charity chosen by the Management Committee.

30. Where a club makes a successful claim for the league points, this results in a 1-0 victory. A claim must be submitted within 3 days of the incident or game.

31. Any Club failing to fulfil a fixture, without reasonable excuse or agreement of the Management Committee, will, in a League game be deducted 3 points and the opposition awarded 3-0 victory and if a Cup game they will forfeit the game and be suspended for the competition for the following season.

32. When a referee asks for a club / clubs to supply a club official(s) to act as a club linesman/person, the club(s) must comply, however if they do not comply without reasonable excuse, will be dealt with by the Management Committee.

33. Should a Junior Club require to rent the use of another Junior Club's ground to fulfil a fixture the rental fee will be **£150.00 (One hundred and fifty pounds)** payable in advance to the Association who, in turn, will reimburse the Club granting the use of the park.

Any damage or loss incurred will be the responsibility of the renting Club.

34. **No Free Dates** to be granted.

35. All Clubs to have at least one qualified first aid person on duty during matches. All Home Clubs to have access to a fully working defibrillator with up to date batteries and pads. The Management Committee will reserve the right to discipline and/or fine any Club failing to comply with this mandatory requirement for participation in NRJFA.

36. All Club Secretaries to have direct and personal use of e-mail.

37. All Member Clubs to charge the standard admission price on match days. Admission charges to all grounds under the jurisdiction of the Region will be set at a minimum of Adult - £6 Concessions £3

38. Previous season league champions will commence their league programme with a home game unless they have gained promotion to Highland League via pyramid Play offs then the runners up will commence their league programme with a home game.
39. In circumstances of illness the club affected must produce a minimum of seven Medical Certificates for the players, signed by each individual player's General Practitioner. Injured players will not count towards the seven. Medical Certificates to be in the hands of the General Secretary no later than 7.00pm on the day prior to the game being played. Failure to implement this procedure will result in the match proceeding.
40. All clubs in membership of the N.R..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.
41. 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.
42. 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.
43. 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.
44. 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.
45. Any player taking part in football out with 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 out with the country except in the circumstances mentioned above, then the signing club must ensure that International Clearance is obtained from the SFA.
46. 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.
47. An amnesty shall be granted to players for offences committed prior to 18th June 2022 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 18th June 2022.

48. That in regard to all competitions this Association adopt the Scottish Football Association Laws of the Game, and the Scottish Junior Football Association Constitution and Rules.
49. That Members of the Management Committee and the Scottish Junior Football Association shall, on production of their Membership Cards, be admitted to the ground of all Clubs in membership of the Association.
50. Referees Fees: Referee £55 and Assistants £30 each with additional Mileage expenses at 40p per mile to a maximum equivalent to a 60 mile round trip. Only 1 Official can claim mileage expenses. The Scottish Football Association to appoint Referee and Assistant Referees to be appointed by local referee association. Clubs can't reject match officials including Assistant Referees if allocated them.
51. All claims or complaints shall be reported to the Secretary of the Association within **three days** of the event. A copy of the claim, or complaint, shall be sent to the Club, or person complained against at the same time.
52. Where in a League match a Club plays a player who is suspended or who is otherwise ineligible, the said Club, if found guilty, shall lose any points gained in the said match plus a further three points - this in addition to any fine the Management Committee may deem appropriate.
53. If any Player, Official or Club have been deemed to have brought the game into disrepute by whatever means they will be cited to appear before the Management committee to provide an explanation and the Management Committee will thereafter decide if any further action is required.
54. No preseason friendlies can be played before 1st July each year

9

CUP COMPETITION RULES

1. The competition for trophies shall be annual and shall be open to all Junior Clubs in the Region, subject to the approval of the Committee.
2. The Management Committee shall conduct the running of the Cup Competitions.
3. Admission charges for any cup final under the jurisdiction of the Region will be set at a minimum of Adults - £7 and £3 Concessions
4. Players must appear in the registered colour of their Club in all Cup ties. Clubs may play in their 2nd strip in away fixtures, providing there is no colour clash with the home team. **In the final tie where the contesting Clubs have similar colours *both Clubs must change.* Where alternative strips also clash the Regional Secretary to be consulted for decision on way forward.**
5. All Cup-ties will be decided on one game. If at the end of ninety minutes plus any further time added by the match referee the game is drawn, the penalty kick system will be used to decide the winners.
6. The Finals of the Association Cups will be played at a neutral grounds chosen by the League Secretary.

7. Up to and including semi-finals, all cup draws will be played on the ground of the first drawn of the contesting clubs & they will be responsible for match expenses, except when the ground is unplayable or unavailable on the day set for the cup tie, both clubs may agree to reverse the venue subject to the permission of Regional Secretary.

7a) In all Cup-ties, apart from the final, the Club first drawn will be responsible for match expenses only.

7b) In all of the cups, neutral assistant referees shall be appointed for all semi-final ties.

8. If any Cups are played for in group format, if teams finish level on points then final positions will be decided by goal difference, if level then it will be decided by goals scored, if still level then it will be decided by goals conceded and if finally if still level then the head to head record will decide who qualifies from the group to the further rounds. If still unable to separate the teams then a playoff will be played at a neutral venue decided by the League Secretary

9. In Cup ties the **HOME CLUB** must supply the visiting Club with thirty admission tickets for the use of team and officials. In Cup ties played on neutral grounds both Clubs will be supplied with thirty admission tickets.

10. In local cup ties the **HOME CLUB** shall keep all gate monies and pay the Referee's fee and expenses.

11. Any Club refusing, or failing, to play the Club against which it has been drawn within the time intimated to it, and without sufficient reason for doing so, shall be dealt with by the Management Committee who shall have power to fine and disqualify them. The offending Club may be held responsible for all expenses incurred by their opponents and the Management Committee.

12. No Club shall have more than one bye in any competition unless under unavoidable circumstances.

13. Notice of result of each match, along with the list of players, shall be sent by the Referee so as to be in the hands of the Secretary, or appointed agent, within **TWO DAYS** (Sunday excluded) of the date on which the match has been played.

14. Exchange of ground rights will be at the discretion of the Regional Secretary.

15. All Clubs must have trophies cleaned and engraved when handing them back to the Secretary or they will be fined. Cups must be returned on a date stated by the Regional Secretary to his home address.

All Clubs must have trophies cleaned and engraved when handing them back to the Secretary or they will be fined £100. Cups must be returned on a date stated by the Regional Secretary at a mutually agreed place.

Should any trophy be damaged in any manner whilst in the care/custody of the winner, the winner shall be liable for the cost of the repair. If bill not paid then the Club will be debt suspended until the bill is paid.

16. 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.

17. A player who has played in a cup competition in the current season (including the group stages of the Grill League Cup) cannot play in the same season for another club in the same competition.

18. Before playing in a cup tie a player must sign a Registration Form

(a) Contract Players – must be signed, registered and acknowledged before playing in a Cup tie

(b) Non Contract and Amateur Players – must be signed before playing in a cup tie, the Club then has 3 days excluding Saturday and Sunday to register players

19. At all Cup Finals or play-offs the Secretary, or appointed agent, may appoint clubs to conduct the gate and raffles. Failure of a Club to comply with this will result in a fine of £50 (**Fifty pounds**) being imposed.

20. The **PROTEST FEE** in all Cup Competitions shall be as per Scottish Junior Football Association protest fee. Any Club wishing to protest must lodge same, specifying the date and nature of the objection, with the opponent's secretary and a verbatim copy to the Secretary of the Association by **FIRST CLASS RECORDED DELIVERY** bearing a date stamp not later than the **THIRD DAY** following that on which the tie was played, Sunday excluded.

PROTESTS, once lodged, **CANNOT BE WITHDRAWN**. Clubs protested against shall have at least **TWO DAYS** notice before a Management Committee meeting is held to consider such protest.

21. Should either of the Clubs, in connection with a protested tie, have a Member on the Management Committee the said Member shall not be eligible to sit on Committee while the said protest is being considered.

22. In the event of any dispute where none of the foregoing Rules apply the Rules of the **SCOTTISH JUNIOR FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION** shall be the determining factor.

10

CONCUSSION SUBSTITUTES RULES

Principles

- Each team is permitted to use a maximum of two “concussion substitutes” in a match.
- A “concussion substitution” may be used regardless of the number of substitutes already used.
- In competitions where the number of named substitutes is the same as the maximum number of “normal” substitutes that can be used, the “concussion substitute” and the associated “additional” substitute for the opposing team (see below) can be a player who has previously been substituted and who may be used at any time, regardless of the number of substitutes already used.
- When a “concussion substitute” is used, the opposing team then has the option to use an “additional” substitute for any reason.

Procedure

- The substitution procedure operates in accordance with Law 3 – The Players (except as outlined otherwise below).

- A “concussion substitution” may be made:
immediately after a concussion occurs or is suspected;
after an on-field assessment, and/or after an off-field assessment;

or

- at any other time when a concussion occurs or is suspected (including when a player has previously been assessed and has returned to the field of play).

- If a team decides to make a “concussion substitution”, the referee/fourth official is informed, ideally by using a substitution card/form of a different colour.

- The injured player is not permitted to take any further part in the match (including kicks from the penalty mark) and should, where possible, be accompanied to the changing room and/or a medical facility.

- The opposing team is informed by the referee/fourth official that it now has the option of using an “additional” substitute and an additional substitution opportunity.

- This option may be used concurrently with the “concussion substitution” made by the opposing team or at any time thereafter (except as outlined otherwise by the Laws of the Game).

Substitution opportunities

- Making a “concussion substitution” is separate from any limit on the number of “normal” substitution opportunities.

- However, if a team makes a “normal” substitution at the same time as a “concussion substitution”, this will count as one of its “normal” substitution opportunities.

- Once a team has used all its “normal” substitution opportunities, it cannot use a “concussion substitution” opportunity to make a “normal” substitution.

- Where a team makes a “concussion substitution”, the opposing team receives an “additional” substitute and an additional substitution opportunity. This additional opportunity can only be used for the “additional” substitute, not for any “normal” substitute(s).

Match officials

The referee (and the other match officials, especially the fourth official):

- is not part of the team's decision-making process as to whether a player should be substituted or not, nor whether a player should be replaced by a “normal” substitute or a “concussion substitute”.

- must not decide whether an actual or suspected injury qualifies for a “concussion substitute” to be used.

- should give appropriate support where a player has an actual or suspected injury, including informing the team captain/coach/medical staff if they suspect a player needs assessment/treatment.
- should support a decision by the team captain/coach/medical staff that an injured player must not continue playing – this may require the referee to delay the restart of play until the player has left the field of play.
- must inform the appropriate authorities if a concern is expressed that a “concussion substitute” was potentially used incorrectly.

11

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 18th June 2022 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.

A player aged 18 years or under and signed on an amateur form by a Highland League club can play as a trialist for a Junior Club as long as they have notification in writing from the Highland League club that they player was signed for their development squads and has not featured for the first team at any time during the season. If they feature in a first team squad then they will be deemed as being a senior player and will not be eligible to play for a Junior Club at any time after inclusion in the first team squad.

If a Club release or cancels a contract with a player before the 31st March and the player does not sign for another Club then the player may resign after the 1st April as long as it is only for the same Club that he was released from.

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 within this Association shall have more than 25 (twenty five) players registered at any time during the season. However, a club may in addition sign a maximum of 20 Youth players in total. For avoidance of doubt this includes players out on loan or on temporary transfer to other Clubs (Junior or Senior).

Any Club found to have breached this rule will be deducted any points gained during the period of the offence plus an additional deduction of 3 points and fined accordingly as deemed appropriate by the Management Committee for each and every occasion of this offence.

Youth players will be designated as U18 players that are eligible to play in the Highland League Development League and signed on either recreational or amateur registration forms by the Club.

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 Territorial Army may, during camping season, take part in Territorial Army 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. Even after 1st April if a temporary transfer is terminated between Junior Clubs then the player reverts back to his original parent Club and is therefore eligible to play during the remainder of the current season for his parent Club.

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.

12 **DISCIPLINE**

1. The Region will adopt the SJFA disciplinary paper. (listed below)

2. Any player or official failing to reply to a field offence communication within the prescribed period shall be deemed to have accepted the grounds as cited and his case shall be dealt with in his absence.
3. Any Club, Official or Player failing to reply in writing to a communication from the Secretary shall be dealt with at the discretion of the Management Committee.
4. All disciplinary correspondence will be sent to Club Secretaries for distribution to players and officials. Postage will be by **First Class Mail. Clubs will be held responsible for implementation of suspensions, fines etc.**
5. All correspondence to the Secretary must be by **First Class Mail**. Correspondence to the Secretary, or the Treasurer, which requires an answer, must be accompanied by a **Stamped Addressed Envelope**. On such occasions an email will not suffice.

6. Clubs guilty of playing a player who has a fine unpaid shall be automatically fined the sum of **£25.00 (twenty five pounds)** on each and every occasion. A Club so fined shall have the right of appeal, in the first instance, to the North Region Secretary within seven days of written notification.

7. In the event of any fine imposed by this Region being unpaid after the prescribed period, the amount will be **automatically doubled** and the Club, player or official whose fine is doubled shall have the right of appeal, in the first instance, to the North Region Secretary within seven days of written notification. A Club, player or official whose fine remains outstanding after the doubling up period for payment has expired shall be liable to further action by the Management Committee which shall have the authority to debt suspend the said Club, player or official.

8. It is the Clubs responsibility to make sure that all players, officials and spectators who attend their ground conduct themselves in a responsible manner throughout their attendance at the ground, if there are any complaints received regarding the conduct of a player, official and/or spectator then the Club will be cited to appear before the Management committee to provide an explanation. If found guilty of failing to keep control within their ground then the Management Committee can impose a punishment accordingly.

9. That any Club, Official, member or Player who may be dissatisfied with the decision of any Club shall have the right of appeal to this Association. Such appeal shall set forth the grounds on which the appeal is based and must be sent by **recorded or special post** to the Secretary of this Association within **seven days** from the decision appealed against and must be accompanied by a deposit fee of **£10.00 (ten pounds)**.

The Secretary of the Association shall send a copy to the Secretary of the body whose decision is appealed against, and to any other interested party. 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 the expenses of the meeting. In the event of the appeal being dismissed the Committee may take such action as they think fit and may also find the appellants liable for the expenses of the appeal. Any member of Committee who has been connected with the appeal case prior to it coming before the Committee shall be ineligible to adjudicate thereon.

10. No team can refuse another team from recording the game as the recording may be required to adhere to any disciplinary appeal as the SFA Disciplinary Procedures decrees that no appeal will be accepted without video evidence, so no team can refuse another to record the game due the requirement by the SFA for video evidence as part of the discipline process.

As part of the SFA Child Wellbeing procedures if any team has players under the age of 18 then they must obtain signed permission for consent to give permission for their photograph/recording taken as part of any individual or team photographs/recording and for these photographs/recordings to be used and reproduced by in such a manner, as they deem appropriate.

Usage will be in line with any guidelines within the SJFA Player Protection Policy or policy of the Scottish Football Association including Disciplinary Procedures.

DISCIPLINE SYSTEM

SENDING-OFF OFFENCE CATEGORIES

- A1 Serious Foul Play
- A2 Violent Conduct
- A3 Spitting at an opponent or any other person
- A4 Denying the opposing team or an opponent a goal or an obvious goal scoring opportunity as defined by Law 12
- A5 Offensive, insulting or abusive language and / or gestures
- A6 Receiving a second caution in the same match

SENDING-OFF OFFENCES

Any player sent off during a match shall be subject to the following automatic suspension/fine:

- 1 Serious Foul Play - 2 games + £15 fine
- 2 Violent Conduct
 - a) Punching an opponent/attempting - 2 games + £20 fine
 - b) Kick an opponent/attempting - 2 games + £15 fine
 - c) Pushing an opponent/attempting - 2 games + £10 fine
 - d) Elbowing an opponent/attempting - 2 games + £20 fine
 - e) Head butting an opponent/attempting - 2 games + £20 fine
 - f) Stamping on opponent/attempting - 2 games + £20 fine
 - g) Others - 2 games + £10 fine
- 3 Spitting at an Opponent or Any Other Person – 2 games+£20 fine
- 4 Denying the Opposing Team or an Opponent a goal or an Obvious Goal Scoring Opportunity as Defined by Law 12 – 1 game + £10 fine
- 5 Offensive, Insulting or Abusive Language and/or Gestures - 1 game + £10 fine
- 6 Receiving a Second Caution in the Same Match - 1 game + £10 fine

All suspensions are effective immediately and shall apply to the club's next official match(es), regardless of competition [subject to relevant appeal procedures].

CAUTIONABLE OFFENCES

B1 Unsporting behaviour

There are different circumstances when a player must be cautioned for unsporting behaviour which include, but are not limited to, when a player:

- a) Impedes an opponent with contact
- b) Recklessly trips or attempts to trip an opponent
- c) Recklessly tackles or challenges an opponent
- d) Recklessly kicks or attempts to kick an opponent
- e) Denies an opponent an obvious goal scoring opportunity as defined by Law 12
- f) Holds or pushes an opponent

- g) Commits an offence which interferes with or stops a promising attack outwith the penalty area
- h) Excessively celebrates the scoring of a goal as defined by Law 12
- i) Handles the ball deliberately
- j) Shows a lack of respect for the game
- k) Commits an act of simulation
- l) Commits any other offence(s) deemed by a match official to be unsporting behaviour.
- B2 Dissent by word or action
- B3 Persistently offending against the Laws of the Game
- B4 Delaying the restart of play
- B5 Failing to respect the required distance at restart of play
- B6 Entering or re-entering or deliberately leaving the field of play without the referee's permission.

After each match, the Referee will submit a report online showing:

1. The Player's number – the player's name – the offence number
2. The Official – name & position

CAUTIONABLE OFFENCES (LEAGUE)

The following sanctions shall be applied for the accumulation of caution able offences within the relevant league competition:

- 5 cautions 1 game + £10 fine
- 10 cautions 2 games + £10 fine
- 15 cautions 3 games + £10 fine
- 20 cautions 4 games + £10 fine

Suspensions shall be effective from the 14th day following the 5th/10th/15th/20th caution, as appropriate, and shall apply to all SJFA matches.

N.B. Cautions which result in a sending-off for receiving a second caution in the same match will not be added to a player's cumulative total of cautions.

CAUTIONABLE OFFENCES (CUP)

The following sanctions shall be applied for cautions incurred within SJFA Cup Competitions (and shall not be recorded in a players' league cumulative total):

- Domestic Cup Tie - £5 fine per caution
- Scottish Junior Cup - £10 fine per caution

APPEALS

Please note that all Appeals must be accompanied by video evidence of the incident or the Appeal shall not be permitted.

Appeals may be submitted on the grounds of either Mistaken Identity or Wrongful Dismissal or Wrongful Caution as follows:

APPEAL - MISTAKEN IDENTITY

An appeal on the grounds of Mistaken Identity may be submitted in respect of any cautionable or sending-off offence listed within the Schedule of Offences.

In all Mistaken Identity Appeals the name of true perpetrator of the offence must be named as part of the Appeal or it will not proceed.

APPEAL – WRONGFUL DISMISSAL OR CAUTION

An appeal on the grounds of Wrongful Dismissal or Caution may be submitted only in respect of the following offences:

A1 Serious Foul Play

A2 Violent Conduct

A3 Spitting at an Opponent or Any Other Person

A4 Denying the Opposing Team or an Opponent a goal or an Obvious Goal Scoring Opportunity as Defined by Law 12

B1k Commits an act of simulation

APPEAL PROCEDURE

All Appeals must be lodged by the player with the nominated Regional Official or, in the case of the Scottish Junior Cup, with the SJFA Secretary, within 2 working days of the game (no later

than 5.00pm) and accompanied by relevant supporting documentation and evidence.

The Region/Association/Club can access a full report via the Club Admin System. On receipt of a properly lodged Appeal, the automatic suspension will be lifted. Such Appeal will be heard by the appropriate Committee as soon as possible and, generally, before the club's next match.

If the Appeal is upheld, the offence and resultant sanction will be quashed and the Appeal fee shall not become payable.

If the Appeal is dismissed, the Committee will deal with the Player/Official on the merits of the incident, the appropriate sanction will become effective immediately, and the Appeal fee shall become payable.

In the event that an Appeal submitted to the Region or the SJFA has not been determined prior to the player / club's participation in the Scottish Senior Cup or the Pyramid Playoffs, such player shall not be eligible to participate in those fixtures.

For all on-field Standard Offences, as above, the decision of the Regional and SJFA Committees will be final and binding.

REPORTING OF CLUB OFFICIALS

Technical/Coaching Staff & Officials who are removed from the Technical Area or reported by a Match Official shall be automatically fined £50 subject to the right of

appeal. In the event of a second offence being committed in the same season, a fine of £50 + 2 game ban will apply, third offence £50 + 3 game ban.

Technical/Coaching Staff & Officials who receive a caution by a Match Official, these will be accumulated over the season (across all competitions) the sanctions will be

4 Cautions – 1 match ban;
 8 cautions – 2 match ban;
 12 cautions – 3 match ban;
 16 cautions and above will be dealt with SJFA/Region Committee.

If the offence is of a serious nature, the Committee will reserve the right to increase the punishment to reflect the seriousness of the offence.

The Official has 5 days to submit an appeal.

Where match officials submit an Excessive Misconduct Report then the Regional Official or SJFA Secretary will write to the player / official via the club requesting their comments / observations on the report and the matter will be dealt with at the next scheduled meeting.

ON-FIELD OFFENCES An appeal fee of £25 will become payable in the event of the appeal being dismissed.

TEAM STAFF OFFENCES An appeal fee of £25 will become payable in the event of the appeal being dismissed.

The Caution Points System

A player wishing to appeal against a caution must lodge notification of his intention with the **Regional Secretary within 3 (three) days** (as per team lines) of receiving copy of the caution report.

Penalty points for cautions will accumulate as follows:

One Point:

Entering or re-entering the field of play without the Referee's permission (including leaving the field of play for the purpose of gesticulating to spectators);

Time wasting;

Shirt pulling etc.;

Deliberately and blatantly handling the ball in a manner which constitutes an affront to the Laws of the Game;

Encroaching;

Gesticulating in front of an opponent taking a throw-in or free kick;

All other offences deemed by the Referee to be ungentlemanly conduct.

Two Points:

Persistently infringing the Laws of the Game;
 Deliberately playing an opponent's leg or legs;
 Dissenting by word or action;
 Obstruction;
 Deliberate tripping;
 Reckless and/or dangerous play;
 Adopting a threatening or aggressive attitude.

GUIDANCE NOTES

Please note, suspensions will apply to all fixtures including Scottish Junior Cup ties, & Scottish Senior Cup tie & Pyramid play-offs.

All fines and suspensions incurred under the accumulation of cautions will be notified to the player via the club. It is the responsibility of the club to ensure the player/Official, etc. complies with the ordering off system. All fines must be paid within 7 days.

Players reported for “off the field” offences will be dealt with as previously by the appropriate Committee

Serious offences to be dealt with on their merit by the appropriate Committee (i.e. both players & team officials.)

Any player who accumulates 3 red cards during the season for the offences A1, A2, A3 and/or A5 will have subsequent suspensions and fines doubled.

13**SJFA AND NORTH REGION STRUCTURAL STANDARDS****SJFA MINIMUM STANDARDS**

All new Clubs making application for membership 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

NORTH REGION STRUCTURAL STANDARDS

1. All clubs to have an enclosed perimeter barrier.
2. All clubs to have a perimeter barrier between spectators and pitch with a safe corridor for players and officials to enter and leave the field of play.
3. All clubs to have separate changing and shower facilities for both teams and officials.
4. All clubs to have technical areas on one side of pitch to allow a fourth official to operate effectively.
5. All clubs to have two safe and accessible entrances and exits.
6. All clubs to have separate spectator toilets for male and female.

14 Prediction League

Every club will take part in a weekly prediction league at a cost of £50 per club (to be paid prior to the start of the competition). Any club not paying on time will have their fee doubled.

The competition will run from the first Saturday in September to the First Saturday in May.

The Association will create a NRJFA League on a Prediction League site and email the access code to all member Clubs so that they can register a team accordingly in time for the start of the competition. The Prediction League site will automatically choose 6 games at random from the Football Leagues and it is then up to the Clubs representative to input in the score for each game before the weekly deadline.

The Prediction League site will calculate each teams score on a weekly basis and create a league table accordingly which can be viewed at anytime by the Club representative.

Prizes;

Winning club at end of the season - £500

Runner up - £300

Third place - £150

Fourth place - £100

Fifth place - £50

If one or more clubs are tied on the same points at the end of the season, then the prize money will be shared out equally.

15**HIGHLAND PYRAMID PLAY-OFF****Additions to Terms and Definitions**

1.3.13 Highland Pyramid Play-Off Competition means the competition at the end of the season to determine which Clubs, if any, are to be relegated from the Highland Football League ("SHFL") to the North Caledonian Football Association

("NCFA"), the North Region Junior FA ("NRJFA") or the East Region JFA Midlands League (ERJFA) and which Clubs, if any, are to be promoted from the NCFA or the NRJFA or the ERJFA to the SHFL;

1.3.14 Highland Pyramid Play-Off Rules means the rules of the Pyramid Play-Off Competition as set out in Appendix 4 hereto;

Additional section to Clause 9**9 Pyramid**

9.1 Pyramid Play-Off Competitions shall take place each year and shall be played in accordance with the Highland Pyramid Play-Off Rules as detailed in Appendices 3 and 4.

9.2 Subject to the terms of this Rule, all Clubs that are, as at 31 January in the relevant year, able (based on their then points total and number of remaining games) to become the Champion Club (in accordance with Rule 8.1.3) shall, prior to 31 March in the relevant year apply to become members of the Scottish Professional Football League (the "Application"). The Application shall set out in detail the Club's ability to comply with all of the entry requirements contained within Rules of the Scottish Professional Football League as at 31 March in that year and, shall also confirm that the Club shall, on an on-going basis, comply fully with all of the Rules of the SPFL (as amended from time to time by the Board of the SPFL) should the Club become a member of the SPFL. Notwithstanding the foregoing, it is agreed that any Club which is not able (based on their then points total and number of remaining games) to become the Champion Club (in accordance with Rule 8.1.3) as at 31 March in the relevant year shall not be obliged to submit an Application.

9.3 Subject to the terms of this Rule, all North Caledonian FA Clubs or North Region Premier League Clubs or East Region Midlands League Clubs that are, as at 31 January in the relevant year, able (based on their then points total and number of remaining games) to become the Champion Club of their respective competition shall, prior to 31 March in the relevant year apply to become members of the Scottish Highland Football League (the "Application"). The Application shall set out in detail the Club's ability to comply with all of the entry requirements contained within Rules of the Scottish Highland Football League as at 31 March in that year. Notwithstanding the foregoing, it is agreed that any Club which is not able (based on their then points total and number of remaining games) to become the Champion Club shall not be obliged to submit an Application.

9.4 All member clubs of the Scottish Highland Football League shall, by 31 July in the relevant year, give written notification to the League Secretary of which Tier 6 League it would wish to be placed in at the start of the succeeding season in the event of it losing the Highland Pyramid Play-off Match.

Appendix 4

Highland Pyramid Play-off Competition Rules, Definitions, Interpretation and Infringement of these Pyramid Play-Off Competition Rules

(a) In these Pyramid Play-Off Competition Rules, the following words and terms shall (unless the context otherwise requires) have the following meanings:

“SHFL Highland Playoff Club” means the Club occupying the lowest position in the SHFL at the end of the relevant Season;

“NCFA Highland Playoff Club” means the Club occupying the highest position in the NCFA at the end of the relevant Season;

“NRJFA Highland Playoff Club” means the Club occupying the highest position in the NRJFA at the end of the relevant Season;

“ERJFA Highland Playoff Club” means the Club occupying the highest position in the ERJFA Midlands League at the end of the relevant Season;

“Highland Pyramid Liaison Group” means the group of representatives of partner Leagues that oversees the working of the Highland Pyramid;

“Membership Criteria” means the membership criteria of the SHFL;

“Highland Pyramid Play-Off Competition” means the competition at the end of the season to determine which Club, if any, is to be relegated from the Scottish Highland Football League (“SHFL”) and which Club, if any, is to be promoted from the North Caledonian Football Association (NCFA) or the North Region Junior Football Association (NRJFA) or the East Region Junior Football Association Midlands League (ERJFA) to the SHFL;

“Radio Transmission” means any terrestrial or satellite, analogue, digital or otherwise radio broadcast or transmission of sounds and/or commentary upon any match taking place as part of the Highland Pyramid Play-Off Competition not consisting solely of storage and distribution of recorded sounds in tangible form whether such radio transmission is on a live or recorded basis in whole or as excerpts or clips;

“rights, facilities and properties” includes, but is not limited to, all contractual and property (whether tangible or intangible) rights, all rights in and relating to intellectual property, including all rights held by way of license, all image and other similar rights held in respect of Players and all rights of access to databases and database rights generally;

“Team Lines” means the team lines which shall be utilised for all matches played in the Highland Pyramid Play-Off Competition;

“Transmission” means the transmission through any available device or medium of any terrestrial or satellite broadcast or transmission of television of moving pictures (with or without sound) and any other means of transmission of moving pictures, including, without limitation, by broadband, IPTV, mobile network or any other new or other media means or mode of transmission of any match taking place as part of the Highland Pyramid Play-Off Competition or cable relay of such broadcast or transmission or inclusion of such moving pictures in a cable programme service not consisting solely of the storage and distribution of recorded pictures with or without sound in tangible form whether such broadcast or transmission is on a live or recorded basis in whole or as excerpts or clips.

(b) References to rules within these Highland Pyramid Play-Off Rules are references to the rules that are contained within this annex unless otherwise stated.

(c) Any amendment to these Pyramid Play-Off Rules must be agreed by each of the Scottish FA, SHFL, NCFA, NRJFA and ERJFA prior to it becoming effective.

Infringement of Pyramid Play-Off Competition Rules

(a) Any club, Official, Player, or other person, who infringes any of these Highland Pyramid Play-Off Rules, shall be liable to a fine, censure, suspension, order to replay a Pyramid Play-Off Match (in the case of a club), ejection from the Pyramid Play-Off Competition (in the case of a club) and/or any such other sanction(s) as specified within the Judicial Panel Protocol of the Scottish FA.

(b) The Judicial Panel is empowered to consider and determine any allegations of infringement of these Highland Pyramid Play-Off Rules and to impose such sanction(s), as specified within the Judicial Panel Protocol or in these rules, as it considers appropriate in order to deal justly with the case in question except where the sanction for a specific infringement is mandatory. In particular (but without prejudice to the generality):

(i) a club which is found to have infringed these Highland Pyramid Play-Off Rules may be ordered to replay the Pyramid Play-Off Match in question at a time and venue and subject to whatever conditions (including as to allocation and/or indemnification of financial benefits and liabilities) as deemed appropriate by the Judicial Panel in its absolute discretion;

(ii) where a club is found to have named within Team Lines a player who is not eligible to participate in the relevant match in the Pyramid Play-Off Competition pursuant to these Highland Pyramid Play-Off Rules and/or the disciplinary procedures of the Scottish FA, then such Club will be ejected from the Pyramid Play-Off Competition. No party or other body (including but not limited to the Judicial Panel) shall be entitled to waive or modify the application of this Rule in any circumstances; and in the event of disorderly conduct by a club in breach of the Articles of Association of the Scottish FA, such club may be ejected from the Pyramid Play-Off Competition.

(c) For the avoidance of doubt, the provisions of this rule II do not supersede or override the terms of any other rule which addresses sanctions for infringement thereof.

(d) No appeals shall be permissible from a Judicial Panel decision in relation to an infringement of these Highland Pyramid Play-Off Rules.

(e) Notwithstanding the terms above, the Scottish FA has the power to investigate any matter pursuant to the operation of the Pyramid Play-Off Competition.

Team Eligibility and Running of Competition

(a) The League Champions of the NCFA League, NRJFA League and ERJFA Midlands League shall be eligible (subject to rule III(f)) to take part in a play-off competition organised by the SHFL on behalf of the Scottish FA to determine, subject to these rules, which club shall take part in the Highland Pyramid Play-Off Match. The nature of the Play-off competition may vary from year to year according to the number of clubs that meet the criteria for membership of the Highland League and it will be the responsibility of the Highland Pyramid Liaison Group to make specific competition arrangements in each season.

(b) If the terms of III (g) or (h) apply in any given season, there will nevertheless be a competition organised by the Highland Pyramid Liaison Group on behalf of the Scottish FA to determine, subject to these rules, which club shall be the Highland Tier 6 champion club. The winner of the match detailed in rule III(a), or the team determined in accordance with rule III(f), will enter a home and away two-legged match against the SHFL Highland Playoff Club

known as the “Highland Pyramid Play-Off Match”. In the event that the scores are equal after regulation playing time, extra time of thirty minutes (fifteen minutes each way) will take place and thereafter if necessary kicks from the penalty mark will be taken in accordance with the rules laid down by The International Football Association Board, which will determine the winner. The Highland Pyramid Play-Off Match pursuant to this rule III(b) shall be approved and organised by the SHFL.

The winner of the Highland Pyramid Play-Off Match will be entitled to be a member of and play in the SHFL during the immediately succeeding Season and shall thereafter comply with the Rules and Regulations of the SHFL.

(d) In the event of the SHFL Highland Playoff Club losing the Highland Pyramid Play-Off Match, it will be relegated to the highest division of the NCF A or NRJFA or ERJFA Midlands League according to the terms of Clause 9.4.

(e) The winning club in the Highland Pyramid Play-Off Match will be the club which scores the greatest number of goals over the relevant two match tie. In the event that the aggregate scores are equal after the second leg of the tie, extra time of thirty minutes (fifteen minutes each way) will take place and thereafter if necessary kicks from the penalty mark will be taken in accordance with the rules laid down by The International Football Association Board, which will determine the winner.

(f) The Play-Off Match and the two legs in the Highland Pyramid Play-Off Match will take place on dates and at times determined by the SHFL League Management Committee.

(g) In the event that only one of the Champion Clubs in the NCF A or the NRJFA or the ERJFA Midlands League complies with the Membership Criteria in circumstances where it is required to do so as the Candidate Club in terms of the SHFL Rules that Champion Club will automatically go forward to the Highland Pyramid Play-Off Match in terms of rule III(a).

(h) In the event that no Champion Club of the NCF A nor of the NRJFA nor of the ERJFA Midlands League complies with the Membership Criteria in circumstances where it is required to do so as the Candidate Club in terms of the SHFL Rules there will be no Highland Pyramid Play-Off Competition at the end of the relevant Season and SHFL Highland Playoff Club will retain its place in the SHFL in the immediately succeeding Season.

Competition Rules – General

Laws of the Game

(a) All matches will be played according to the Laws of the Game as recognised by the Scottish Football Association Ltd.

Appointment of Match Officials

(b) Match officials shall be appointed by the Scottish FA from those referees whose names are included in the list of referees maintained by the Scottish FA.

(c) A Club may not refuse to accept the services of any match officials appointed by the Scottish FA. If any Club refuses to play a match due to an objection or concern about the identity of any match official, it shall be liable to ejection from the Play-Off Competition together with such other sanctions as are imposed pursuant to the provisions above under the heading of Infringement of Highland Pyramid Play-Off Rules.

(d) Fees and expenses of match officials shall be paid by the Scottish FA in accordance with paragraph (ff) of these Highland Pyramid Play-Off Rules.

Clash of Colours

(e) When the colours of the two competing clubs in the same match are alike or similar, the visiting club shall change to its second-choice colours or a combination of its first and second choice colours (or, if applicable, third choice colours) provided that these do not include any of the basic colours of the home club. Whether or not there is a clash shall be determined by the referee in his sole discretion.

(f) The colour of the goalkeeper's shirt must, in all cases, be clearly distinguishable from the colours of the shirts worn by all outfield Players of both participating clubs in any match and from those of the match officials. Whether or not there is a clash shall be determined by the referee in his sole discretion.

Number of Players and Substitutes

(g) Except for the circumstances described below under replacement of Players on a Team Line, a team shall consist of eleven players and is permitted to list a minimum of five substitutes up to a maximum of seven, of whom not more than three may take part in the match. The team list must include two recognised goalkeepers, one of whom must be named as a substitute.

Eligibility of Players

(h) Only a Player registered at the Scottish FA by a Club on 31 January in the year of the relevant Play-Off Competition shall be entitled to be listed on the Team Lines of said Club for the purposes of playing in the Play-Off Competition.

(i) All Players in the Pyramid Play-Off Competition must be eligible to play in the relevant match having regard in particular (but without prejudice to the generality to the Registration Procedures and the Disciplinary Procedures).

Team Lines

(j) The Team Line for matches in the Highland Pyramid Play-Off Competition shall permit the listing of eleven players, a minimum of five substitutes up to a maximum of seven, and six technical personnel. The Team Line must be submitted in order to enable a Club to participate in a match in the Pyramid Play-Off Competition.

(k) Not later than 60 minutes before the start of a leg of a match, each Club will hand to the Referee and to its opponents a duplicate of the Team Lines for that club for the relevant leg. The Team Line shall contain accurate and complete details of the numbers, full player names in relation to not more than eighteen players, together with full names of the technical personnel to be seated within the technical area (subject to a maximum of six such technical personnel).

The

Team Line must be completed in block capitals, and signed by the club secretary or other accredited official. Upon such signature, such Team Line shall be deemed to be complete and binding on the Club concerned.

(l) The eleven first named players on the Team Line must commence the match. The other named players are designated as substitutes. The numbers on the players' shirts and/or shorts must correspond to the numbers indicated on the Team Line. The goalkeepers and team captain must be identified.

(m) Only three of the substitutes listed on the Team Line may take part in the match. A player who has been substituted may take no further part in the match.

(n) It is recommended that a club's doctor and physiotherapist are listed on the Team Line and accommodated in the technical area within the category of technical personnel.

Replacement of Players on the Team Line

(o) If any of the first eleven players listed on the Team Line is not able to start the match due to unexpected physical incapacity or other extreme circumstances (which are explained to and accepted by the referee), he may only be replaced by one of the named substitutes. The substitute(s) in question may then only be replaced by an eligible player(s) not originally listed on the Team Line as signed, so that the quota of substitutes is not reduced. During the match, three players may still be substituted.

(p) If any of the named substitutes listed on the Team Line is not able at the start of the match to be fielded due to unexpected physical incapacity or other extreme circumstances (which are explained to and accepted by the referee), he may only be replaced by an eligible player not originally listed on the Team Line as signed.

(q) If none of the goalkeepers listed on the Team Line is able to be fielded due to unexpected physical incapacity or other extreme circumstances (which are explained to and accepted by the referee), then one may be replaced but only by an eligible goalkeeper not originally listed on the Team Line as signed.

(r) If for any reason changes require to be made to the Team Line pursuant to the above provisions (and said changes are accepted by the referee) then the club must notify its opponent immediately thereafter.

(s) The club concerned must in addition to the requirements set out above, upon request, provide the Scottish FA and/or the SPFL with necessary medical certificates and/or a full written explanation of the circumstances that caused the change.

(t) The Scottish FA and/or the SPFL shall keep a register of the names of all of the players who take part in the Pyramid Play-Off Competition. The register shall be open for inspection by all clubs taking part in said Pyramid Play-Off Competition.

Pitch Protection

(u) In order to protect the pitch and unless otherwise agreed between both participating clubs, the following procedures shall be adopted by players and Officials in the periods immediately before and after and at half time during a match in the Pyramid Play-Off Competition:

(v) the pitch shall only be used for warming up or warming down by the players listed in the Team Lines;

(w) pre-match warming up by either team shall not commence until at the earliest 60 minutes before the scheduled kick-off time, shall not last for more than 30 minutes, and shall end not later than 10 minutes before the scheduled kick-off time;

(x) if portable goals are provided, they shall be used for all goalkeeping drills other than crossing practice;

(y) the goalmouth area shall be used by goalkeepers only if portable goals are not provided or for crossing practice and then only for not more than 20 minutes;

(z) for the purposes of warming up and warming down each team shall use only part of the pitch between the edge of a penalty area and the half way line or as otherwise directed by the groundsman;

- (aa) all speed and stamina work shall be undertaken off the pitch parallel to the touchline opposite the side to be patrolled by the assistant referee or, in the absence of sufficient space at that location, in that part of the pitch as directed by the groundsman;
- (bb) players using the pitch at half time shall give due consideration to any other activity or entertainment taking place on the pitch at the same time;
- (cc) the home club may water the pitch provided that it gives reasonable notice to the referee and the other club that it intends to do so and that any such watering is carried out evenly over the entire length and width of the pitch; and
- (dd) any warming down after the conclusion of a match shall last for no longer than 15 minutes and for that purpose neither penalty area shall be used.

Admission Charges and Abandoned Matches

- (ee) The SHFL in a Play-Off Match or any leg in a Highland Pyramid Play-Off Match shall, in its absolute discretion, determine admission charges (subject to these being the same for home and away supporters for broadly comparable facilities).
- (ff) The Host Club in a Play-Off Match or any leg in a Highland Pyramid Play-Off Match shall be responsible for all match expenses and shall (subject to Part IV of these Highland Pyramid Play-Off Rules) retain the net receipts in relation to said Play-Off Match. The fees and expenses of the match officials will be the responsibility of the Scottish FA.
- (gg) The Scottish FA and / or SHFL shall be entitled to request that the Home Club in any Play-Off Match provides a written statement of gate receipts and expenses incurred.
- (hh) In the event of a leg in a Play-Off Match or a leg in a Highland Pyramid Play-Off Match being abandoned the League Management Committee of the SHFL shall determine the requirement and/or arrangements for any such leg being replayed or the League Management Committee of the SHFL may determine a deemed result of such leg and, said decision of the League Management Committee of the SHFL shall be final and binding and shall not be open to challenge.

Commercial Rules

- (a) The clubs taking part in a Pyramid Play-Off Competition and each of them agree to centrally pool and market their rights, facilities and properties relating to and concerning, Radio Transmission and Transmission of matches in the relevant Pyramid Play-Off Competition for exclusive exploitation by the SHFL and the Scottish FA.
- (b) The clubs taking part in a Pyramid Play-Off Competition and each of them hereby authorise the SHFL and the Scottish FA to enter into commercial contracts for the commercial exploitation of the matches (or any of them) in the relevant Pyramid Play-Off Competition (the "Pyramid Commercial Contracts") including but not limited to Pyramid Commercial Contracts in relation to any Radio Transmission, Transmission, sponsorship or advertising of or at the matches (or any of them) in the Pyramid Play-Off Competition.
- (c) The Clubs taking part in a Pyramid Play-Off Competition and each of them shall license and otherwise provide to the SHFL and the Scottish FA the use of such of their other rights, facilities and properties as may be required by the SHFL and the Scottish FA to enable the SHFL and the Scottish FA to enter into and fulfil its/their obligations under and in terms of Pyramid Commercial Contracts entered into or to be entered into by the SHFL and the Scottish FA in relation to the relevant Pyramid Play-Off Competition.

(d) Except pursuant to a Pyramid Commercial Contract, there shall be no and, each of the clubs shall in respect of a match in a Pyramid Play-Off Competition played at their home ground procure that there shall not be any Radio Transmission and/or Transmission of all or any part of a said match without the prior written approval of the SHFL and the Scottish FA.

(e) The clubs taking part in a Pyramid Play-Off Competition and each of them shall not by any act or omission infringe any exclusive rights granted by the SHFL or the Scottish FA in a Pyramid Commercial Contract or otherwise cause any breach thereof to occur.

(f) The SHFL and Scottish FA shall determine in their absolute discretion any costs, expenses, charges or any other sum or amount to be charged and/or off-set against any income generated by Pyramid Commercial Contracts before any distribution in terms of rule V(h).

(g) The SHFL and Scottish FA shall not be permitted to make a charge or set-off in terms of rule V(f) except in relation to or in respect of any cost, expense, liability or charge incurred or for which either or both may be liable arising out of or related to the Pyramid Play-Off Competition and/or the operation of the Pyramid arrangements generally.

(h) Any net profit generated by the SHFL and by the Scottish FA pursuant to this Part IV of these Pyramid Play-Off Competition Rules shall be distributed to the Clubs participating in the Pyramid Play-Off Competition on a basis agreed from time to time by the SHFL and Scottish FA.

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