

Torfaen



Junior & Youth Association Football League

Rules

Season 2022/2023

Affiliated to the Gwent County FA

Committee members

Life members

S.J. Brooks KSS JP
J. Challingsworth
G. Davies
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League Secretary

Kevin Sims
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Executive committee members

President – Steve Brooks

Chairman – Gerald Davies

Vice Chair & Referee coordinator – Kevin Beckett

Comet Registrations Champion – Karen Robinson

Comet Competitions Manager – Kevin Sims

Media officer – Karla Judge-Heales

Welfare Officer – Neil Beech

Treasurer – Eva Sims

Club representatives

K Robinson (Cwmbran Celtic). K Beckett (Pontnewydd). N Beech (Griffithstown)
K Williams (Race). J Tahanaha (Cwmbran Town). S Allcock (New inn).

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Member clubs (18)

Blaenavon Blues
Coed Eva
Croesyceiliog AFC
Croesyceiliog ATH
Cwmbran Celtic
Cwmbran Town
Cwmffrwdoer
Fairfield
Griffithstown
Llanyrafon
Lucas Cwmbran
New Inn
Panteg
Penygarn
Pilcs
Pontnewydd
Pontypool Town
Race
Sebastopol

Information

Start of Season

The League shall determine the start and end of the season within the period laid down by the Football Association of Wales and The Gwent County Football Association.

Note: Each year fixture dates will be published but may alter, due to weather and postponements.

Days and Times of Kick off (Comet fixtures take preference)

U12s – U16s: Saturday's with a 10:30am kick off (Torfaen cups 10am)

Teams may KO if sanctioned between the hours of 10:00am – 2:30pm

If both teams agree a neutrally KO time, clubs must ask for sanction.

If teams can't neutrally agree a kick-off time, it shall be as published on Comet.

Mini's: Sunday's

Under 6s, KO 11:00am

Under 7, Under 8, Under 9, KO 10:30am

Under 10, Under 11s, KO 12pm

Correspondence:

Must only come from Club secretary's and addresses to the Torfaen league secretary.

The league reserves the right not to reply if the above isn't followed.

Goal difference:

No goals are recorded on the league tables. 1 - 0 or 10 - 0 makes no difference.

Teams inflicting over double figure wins will be republished to a 1-0 win, all goals scored still remain recorded on comet.

Comet:

Comet is a Football Management System, all league rules must apply when using Comet.

Each season, all clubs must be accredited & players must be **confirmed** on Comet to play.

Clubs and teams must look on comet app regularly for any fixture updates.

Players playing up a year.

All players must play in their correct age group(s).

If the small sided rules allow, only players with sanction from the league can play up/down a year.

One player one club, League/Academy players:

One Player One Club rule means players can only sign & play for one club.

Players in the Under 6s to Under 11s age groups will be permitted to register with a Junior Club whilst continuing to attend training sessions and Closed Friendly Matches only for a recognised FAW Academy without being registered.

Players in the Under 12s to Under 16s age groups can only register for the League or an Academy.

Note:

Where a Club which plays in the FAW Licensed Academy Programme and also has a team playing in a junior league at Grassroots Level, no players registered to the club's academy squad (U12 – U16 age group) shall be allowed to play in the Grassroots team's league or cup fixture.

Comet App match day

- Select your team line-up on COMET APP and submit them as per COMET rules so the opposition and league can see them.
-
- Home side is responsible for starting and stopping the match timer.
- It is not a requirement to enter goal-scorers, goal times or assists on live reporting.
- All Cautions and Sending off **must** be reported on the COMET APP by the Referee. The home club shall be responsible for ensuring that any club referee appointed reports the matter as above.
- At the end of the game the home side enters the scores.
- Once the score has been entered the home side can tap the Full-Time button.
- At some point after the score has been reviewed the match status will be changed by the League competition manager to PLAYED and the result will then go onto the League table.
- Only an official referee or the Competition Manager can change the status to PLAYED

Explanation of kick-off times, bringing games forward and reversing games.

1. No club can rearrange a fixture for a later date. A postponement application is required, and if accepted then the league will rearrange the fixture.
2. Bringing games forward does not require a postponement application, but it does require both clubs to agree and sanction from the league.
3. Clubs may request to kick-off at a different time on a Saturday. This is subject to agreement with the opponents and needs sanction from the league.
4. A club may wish to request a reversal of a league fixture to the opponents ground subject to agreement with the opponents and the sanction of the league. The reciprocal away fixture will be reversed as well. Note, cup games are automatically reversed if a ground is unavailable or unfit to play.
5. Scheduling of mid-week dates allows extra flexibility to kick-off days. This is subject to agreement with the opponents and the sanction of the league.

RULES

1. COMPETITION

The League will operate divisions, based upon demand, as follows:

Competitive Football

Under 12*/ 13s* (9-a-side)

Under 14, Under 15 and Under 16 (11-a-side)

Non-Competitive Football

U6 – U11s Non-Competitive Football

U12s*, Max 20 weeks competitive football, each season the league will see if it's viable to run a competitive cup.

U13s*, Fully competitive.

The number of clubs accepted into each division shall be at the discretion of the League Management Committee. All players must be under the age as defined by the division on the 31 August at the commencement of the season. In normal circumstances the league will run 1 division at each group with teams playing each other twice on a home and away basis, with championship points awarded as below. The League has the discretion to vary this where circumstances require it. That is where there is a very high or very low demand for entry into a particular division or cup. In such cases the league will notify member clubs of how the competition winners and runners up are to be determined before the commencement of the season.

For competitive matches championship points will be awarded as follows:-

- i. Win - Three (3) points to the winning team
- ii. Drawn Matches - One (1) point to each team

The team having the greatest number of points in a division shall be declared winners of that division and the team with the next greatest number of points shall be declared runners-up. In the event of two, or more, teams in the same division having the same number of points then the league shall arrange play-off games to determine the division winners and runners up.

Goal difference shall not be counted.

2. CLUBS APPLYING TO JOIN LEAGUE

The League will only accept applications from clubs based within the area of the league as defined in Constitution section 2. Clubs from outside of a league area applying to join that league will not normally be allowed to do so except in special circumstances, such applications may only be approved by the Gwent County Football Association.

Clubs must apply before 31st July each year and will be accepted into the league at the discretion of the League Management Committee and must be notified of their acceptance or otherwise by 1 September each season. Clubs must provide a current Gwent County Football Association Affiliation number & abide by all the Torfaen league rules.

The League may accept late applications from clubs but clubs applying to join a league after the commencement of the current playing season will only be allowed to join if there is a vacancy, ie an odd number of teams in a division.

Clubs making false statements in support of their application to join a league will be fined as directed by the Management Committee.

3. CLUB DETAILS

Within 11 days of their acceptance into the league each club shall forward to the League Secretary full details, including name, address and telephone number and email address of club officials.

4. CLUB COLOURS

Each club shall forward to the League Secretary a statement of its distinguishing colours. Registered colours only to be used. No variations will be allowed, and no one will be allowed onto the field until properly dressed. No club will be allowed to play in black or navy shirts. If there is a clash of colours, the home team must change. Goalkeepers shall play in colours distinct from members of both teams.

5. CLUB GROUNDS

Each club in the League shall register its ground with the League and shall not use another ground for home matches unless by agreement of the League Secretary.

The League will not be responsible for the safe custody of the club, players or officials' property. When in any dressing accommodation whether hired to the club or the League, it is the responsibility of the club, person or official concerned.

Officials and Members of the league committee shall have free access to any part of the Football Grounds during the progress of all League and Cup matches.

The league may require the use of member clubs pitch(s) for the use of neutral games, pitch(s) must be made available if the venue is free of use and playable.

6. WITHDRAWALS

Teams withdrawing from the league must pay all league and cup fees and, at the discretion of the Executive Committee will lose any deposits paid. In addition, they will be liable to a withdrawal fee not exceeding £50.00.

7. FIXTURES

Fixtures will be arranged by the League competitions manager.

Postponed fixtures what are to be re-fixtured will be updated on Comet.

Note: The Cymru App will show the new fixture date but will still be highlighted as postponed until moved to scheduled.

Matches played without the consent of the above will be declared void and offending clubs will be dealt with by the League Management Committee. In all cases league and cup matches shall take precedence over friendly games.

8. PLAYER REGISTRATION.

All clubs must register sufficient players in order to start the season;

Sufficient players in the competitive division will be deemed a minimum of:

Twelve in U12s/13s Division.

Fourteen in U14s to U16s Divisions.

Clubs failing to play scheduled fixtures because they have insufficient players registered will be dealt with by the League.

Player(s) need to be registered on the FAW Comet system.

Each player must be registered and **confirmed** with the FAW Comet Registration System to play organised football.

In competitive age groups, where a club enters two, or more, teams in one division, for the purposes of player registration, the teams will be treated as separate clubs and players may register and play for one team only.

Any player wishing to move from one club's team to another within the same division must apply for a transfer.

In competitive age groups, where a League has divisions at every age group a player may only register for one age group. Clubs playing a player prior to registration confirmation being received will be charged with playing an ineligible player.

Where a Club which plays in the FAW Licensed Academy Programme and also has a team playing in a junior league at Grassroots Level, no players registered to the club's academy squad (U12 – U16 age group) shall be allowed to play in the Grassroots team's league or cup fixture.

The registration period is the 1st June to the last Thursday in March inclusive. Players must reside within the area of Gwent subject to the FIFA rules concerning players living within 50kms of a Country's external border i.e. Wales/England.

One Player One Club; players can only sign & play for one club. Players in the Under 6 to Under 11 age groups will be permitted to register with a Junior Club whilst continuing to attend training sessions and Closed Friendly Matches only for a recognised FAW Academy without being registered.

9. REGULATIONS AFFECTING PLAYERS UNDER THE AGE OF 16 ON 31 AUGUST AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF EACH SEASON

No player may play senior football until their sixteenth birthday. Note that rule applies until the end of the season in which the player is 16.

When a player reaches the age of 16 he/she may register for a jointly affiliated senior team in the pyramid system and continue to play for his junior team. This will apply until the end of the season in which the player reaches 16.

Any player wishing to play senior football for any other club will not be able to continue playing junior football.

Players wishing to play senior football must register in accordance with the rules of the senior league in which the player wishes to play.

10. TRANSFER OF PLAYERS

Players wishing to transfer must complete the transfer via the FAW Comet system.

Players transfers must be **confirmed** on Comet before they can play.

Where possible transfers should be actioned asap or with in 7 days.

Clubs are responsible for ensuring that a player is free to register and also not cup tied.

Players are only allowed one transfer per season.

Note: Where a player holds kit or is in any way in dispute with, the existing club then such details must be entered on the transfer by the club secretary of the existing club. The Gwent County Football Association will take such comments into account when determining whether the transfer is to be allowed or refused.

It's the club's responsibility to make sure transferred player(s) are not cup tied.

11. DURATION OF SEASON

The League shall determine the start and end of the season within the period laid down by the Football Association of Wales and The Gwent County Football Association.

12. DURATION OF GAMES

Under 15 & Under 16 - **40 minutes** in each half

Under 12/Under 13 & UNDER 14 - **35 minutes** in each half

The time played in each half must be equal.

Clubs wishing to kick off a league fixture at a different time must apply to the League Secretary in writing, prior to the date of the match concerned. In case of one club objecting then the fixture will be played at the time notified by the league as above. Any match not completed may be ordered to stand as a completed match or to be replayed for the full period as the Management Committee may direct.

13. REFEREE & ASSISTANT REFEREES

Referees in all matches for all divisions when available will be appointed by the League appointed officer and published on Comet.

Referees appointed by the League must accept or reject within 48 hours.

Each season, the referee's fee and expenses will be determined by the Gwent County Football Association.

Home and away club to equally share the payment of the referee's fees and expenses. However, leagues may, at their discretion, order the home or away club to pay in full. It's the home club's responsibility to make sure the referee is paid in full.

If a Gwent official referee is appointed to a match, only he/she can call the match off. Failure to follow, rule 23 may be applied.

Where a referee has not been appointed by the League, or the appointed referee fails to turn up for the game, the **home club** will appoint a suitable person to referee the game. He/she must have an up to date DBS and hold a FAW number.

No game to be postponed because of the lack of a referee.

If a game is not played because no referee is available then the league, at its discretion, may charge the home club with breaking a fixture. If assistant referees are not appointed by the league, then both the home and away clubs will each supply a suitable person to act as assistant referee. The home club shall be responsible for supplying flags for both assistant referees.

To get the most effective use of club referees and assistant referees, the following procedure should be adopted.

Match Day Procedure

- Home team must appoint a suitable person to act as referee.
- Both teams must appoint a suitable person to act as assistant referee who must not be changed without informing the referee
- These three persons are then acting on behalf of the Gwent County Football Association.
- The referee must acquaint himself/herself with the assistants
- The referee must not start the game until he/she is satisfied that the assistants are in position.
- The officials must take a zero tolerance to foul and/or abusive language.
- Any player using foul and/or abusive language must be sent from the field of play immediately and reported to the Gwent County Football Associations.
- Any manager that uses foul and/or abusive language must be removed from the field of play and the game must not restart until the said person is back in the changing rooms or well away from the pitch.

The person must be reported to the Gwent County Football Association.

- Any official not adhering to the above will not be allowed to officiate in any further games and clubs will be charged with misconduct.
- The only reports that will be accepted are from the referee and/or the club.
- No reports will be accepted from parents or spectators. If any other reports are required these will be requested by Mr Jones.
- All reports from referees must be sent to Gwent FA, Disciplinary Secretary.

14. NOTIFYING OF HOME GROUND

The Home Club must notify the visitors and referee (if appointed) by email or text, same to be in the hands of the opponents and referee at least 72 hours preceding the match, with details of the arrangements. Clubs failing to confirm will be fined the sum of £10.00 for the first offence and at the discretion of the League Management Committee for subsequent offences.

In the event of non-receipt of notification, the opposing club and referee to obtain the information and submit a report to the League Secretary. Non-receipt of notification will not be accepted as an excuse for not playing the match.

15. POSTPONEMENTS DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER

HOME PITCH UNPLAYABLE

If a club deems a ground unfit, it must be verified by either the clubs grounds-person or a local qualified referee is to be called in.

In the event of the home ground unfit due to weather, the home club **must** notify their visitors to see if the match can be reversed to the away ground, if both grounds are unplayable, Clubs must copy each other & the league in correspondence.

REVERSING THE FIXTURE.

If the home side pitch is deemed unplayable, the away side **must** offer their pitch if deemed available, the home side then travelling away will still be treated as their home fixture for the purpose of supplying nets and contacting the referee if appointed. Clubs need to inform the league and update Comet before KO. Failure to adhere to rule 15, rule 23 will apply.

16. THE BALL

The home team will be responsible for supplying match balls which should be in good condition; the size should be as follows:

U12s/13s - Size **4**.

14s/15s & U16s - Size **5**.

Clubs failing to provide a ball of the size required will be fined the sum of £10.00.

17. CORNER FLAGS & NETS

These must be provided and erected by the home club. Nets and corner flags to be in accordance with the laws of the game. Clubs not providing or erecting nets and flags will be fined the sum of £15.

17A SPECTATOR BUFFER ZONES (crowd barriers)

For all matches the home club must create a 'Buffer zone' that runs parallel to pitch, minimum of 2 metres from both touchlines. (A smaller buffer zone may be used where space does not allow 2 metres)

Only bibbed substitutes, FAW/CRB designated coaches and 1st Aider allowed within zone. Crowd barriers are to be used at matches and cones for additional marked lines.

Clubs not providing a buffer zone will be fined the sum of £20.00.

If a home team travels away due to their home pitch deemed unpayable, the away ground supplies the crowd barriers. Where a crowd barrier cannot be used on the one side of the pitch due to limited space only official linesmen and faw coaches can stand with-in the said area, all parents and spectators will need to stand on the one side of the pitch behind the barrier.

Clubs failing to adhere to the above will be fined £20

18. SUBSTITUTES

A Club may, at its discretion, use a substitute player at any time in a match for any reason except to replace a player who has been suspended from the game by the Referee. The substitution can only be made when play has stopped for any reason, and only after the referee has given permission. Five named substitutes are allowed and must be named prior to kick-off. A player who has been substituted himself/herself becomes a substitute and may replace another player at any time subject to the substitution being carried out in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of Association Football.

19. LATE STARTS

The referee to report clubs responsible for delaying the start of the game to the League Management Committee. Clubs deemed responsible for the late start will be fined the sum of £5.00 for the first offence, £10.00 for the second offence and up to £25.00 for subsequent offences.

20. TEAMSHEETS, RESULTS & MATCH REPORTS

Teamsheets

Match day players must be selected and confirmed on Comet team sheet, minimum 1 hour before KO.

If the Comet app is down or unavailable team sheets must be handed to opponents before KO, plus entered onto comet at the earliest convenience. Clubs not submitting a team sheet within the time period will be fined the sum of £15 (forms can be printed off from Torfaen leagues website)

Teams must be available for inspection at every match by the Opposition Manager and League Officer(s) if present prior to the commencement of the game.

Failure to provide a completed team sheet for inspection will result in a fine of £15 and up to 3 points deducted from the offending team.

Results

Comet will require results to be submitted for each game played.

Results must be entered no later than 5 hours after end of match (cup games 6 hours).

Clubs not submitting a result within the time period will be fined the sum of £10

Match reports

Match reports to be entered on Comet no later than 5 hours after end of each match (cup games 6 hours). Clubs not submitting a match report within the period will be fined the sum of £15.00.

Clubs falsifying information on a match report will be fined the sum of £20.00.

Persistent offenders at the discretion of the league will endure an extra £5 added to the above fines.

21. CAUTIONS AND SENDINGS OFF

All Cautions and Sending off must be entered on Comet.

Players must be reported to the Gwent County FA.

Clubs failing to carry out above will be fined £20

22. POSTPONEMENT OF FIXTURES

If a postponement of any league fixture is required, application date must be made in writing and be in possession of the League Secretary, at least Fourteen (14) days before the match is to be played.

The unavailability of a qualified person is not classed as a reason to postpone a fixture. A fee of £15.00 must be sent with the application, also if the team has a published fixture a copy of this application must also be sent to the Secretary of the opposing club within the same time scale. The league will then notify the club of the postponement if agreed to. (Postponement application forms can be requested or downloaded from Torfaen website)

Note, The application is for a calendar free date, if you haven't a fixture it doesn't automatically mean you have a free date as fixtures do get updated.

It's the club's responsibility to check Comet regularly, teams are expected to play every weekend & play mid-week fixtures arranged by the league throughout the football season.

THIS RULE WILL NOT APPLY WHEN PITCHES ARE DECLARED UNFIT FOR PLAY.

Clubs failing to notify their opponents in writing will be liable to a fine of £10.00. The league may ask for proof of reason for postponement if postponement is not granted and game not played rule 23 applies.

23. BREAKING A FIXTURE

Clubs charged with breaking a fixture shall be dealt with by the League Management Committee.

The offending club shall have up to three (3) points deducted from their total of points and fined as directed by the Management Committee. They will also be liable for any costs incurred by their opponents. In all cases the game will either; be rescheduled or awarded to the non-offending club as determined by the League Management Committee.

Competitive teams published on Comet:

The offending club shall be fined the sum of £35.00 for the first offence and £45.00 for the second offence.

Non Competitive teams published on Comet:

The offending club shall be fined the sum of £25 for the first offence and £35.00 for the second offence.

A Club committing a third offence will be liable to such disciplinary action the Management Committee may determine, including expulsion from the League.

24. ABANDONED MATCHES:

24.1 CAUSED BY LATE START:

In the event that a late start is the cause of a match being left unfinished, the League Management Committee shall determine if the result at the time the match finished shall stand.

4.2 CAUSED BY INCLEMENT WEATHER:

When a match is abandoned due to inclement weather, the League Management Committee shall determine if the result at the time the match finished shall stand.

24.3 CAUSED BY MISCONDUCT OF A CLUB/S:

Any match abandoned by the Match Official due to indiscipline of a Club or Clubs must be reported by the match Official to the Gwent County Football Association with a copy of the report sent to the League Secretary. A charge of misconduct shall be issued to the offending club/s by the Gwent County Football Association. The Gwent County Football

Association shall inform the League of the outcome of the Disciplinary Hearing. Any Club found guilty by the Area Football Association of having caused the abandonment of a match may have up to three (3) points deducted from its League record by the League Management Committee. Furthermore, the League Management Committee shall determine the result of the match as they deem fit or have the match replayed. In the event that both Clubs are found guilty by the Area Association, the League Management Committee may at its absolute discretion declare the match VOID and order that it be replayed.

24.4 CAUSED BY TEAM LEAVING THE FIELD OF PLAY:

In the event of any club leaving the field of play, without the permission of the referee, the Match Official must send a report to the Gwent County Football Association with a copy of the report sent to the League Secretary. A charge of misconduct shall be issued to the offending club/s by the Gwent County Football Association. The Gwent County Football Association will inform the League of the outcome of the Disciplinary Hearing and the result of the match shall be decided at the discretion of the League Management Committee, irrespective of the time played. The offending club may have up to three (3) points deducted from its League record.

25. INELIGIBLE PLAYERS

Any club playing an ineligible player shall be dealt with as follows:

When the winning club plays an ineligible player:

The match shall be awarded to the non-offending club.

The result will be recorded as 1-0 win

When the losing side plays an ineligible player:

The result of the game will stand,
the goals scored by the losers shall be disallowed.

In drawn matches where one club plays an ineligible player:

The match shall be awarded to the non-offending club.

The result will be recorded as 1-0 win

When both teams play an ineligible player.

The match shall be declared a 0-0 draw.

No points shall be awarded.

In all cases clubs will be liable to fines and expenses as the Executive direct.

The defaulting club shall pay such expenses of opponents as the league direct and shall be fined a sum not exceeding £50.00.

Any player taking part in a match in which he is not eligible, shall be reported to the Gwent County FA.

The player is also liable to have his registration cancelled at the discretion of the League Executive Committee.

26. SEARCH OF REGISTER

Should doubt arise as to the eligibility of any player, the League Secretary will give such registered information as necessary, or required, on payment of a fee of £10.00 per player. All applications will be made in writing and must be accompanied by the fee. This will not constitute a protest which should be made in the usual way.

Frivolous requests being proved, fee will be retained.

27. PROTESTS

Protests must be lodged with the League Secretary within 10 days of the match to which they refer, and an exact copy of such protests shall in addition be forwarded by the club protesting, to the secretary of the club against which the protest is directed, within such time limits as aforesaid. To prevent frivolous protests, a fee of £25.00 must accompany the protest or they will be rendered void, if the Committee deems the protests frivolous, the fee will be forfeited.

The protest must be confined to the infringement of rules contained herein. If individuals are referred to in the protest their full names must be given.

28. CONDUCT

The League Management Committee shall have powers to deal with any offending club or clubs on infringing the rules contained herein. All cases of misconduct by clubs, players, officials or spectators will be dealt with by the Gwent County FA.

All offending clubs will be invited to attend disciplinary hearings.

29. FINES

All fines must be paid within 8 days of receiving notice from the League (such notification to be given within 8 days of the fine being imposed) or the offending club will be placed under suspension until such time as the fine is paid, the only exception being, when the offending club has given notice in writing of an appeal. All fines to be paid to the League Secretary.

30. APPEALS & HEARINGS

You have the right to appeal Torfaen's decision to the Gwent County Football Association. The request notice must be served on the Gwent County Football Association not more than seven (7) Business Days after the earlier of (a) the League announcing its decision at the time of its hearing (if any) or (b) receipt by the Party appealing, of written notification of the League's decision. For the purposes of (b) above, the provisions of Section B Rule 27 (as to the services or notices etc) shall apply to the said written notification issued by the League. Any Request Notice lodged after seven (7) Business Days will be rejected unless the Party lodging the same can demonstrate, to the reasonable satisfaction of the Association, that it was not reasonably practicable to lodge the Request Notice within

the time limit. All appeals must be accompanied with the appropriate fee of £50.00 (made payable to the Gwent County Football Association Ltd.) and be addressed to Mr A. Watkins, Secretary Gwent County Football Association, 1 Ashtree Cottages, Aberbeeg, Abertillery, Blaenau Gwent. NP13 2AT.

30.1 HEARINGS

If a club is found guilty after a personal hearing the club will be charged with the cost of league expenses.

31. TROPHIES AND MEDALS

For competitive divisions, and where funds permit, the League will present up to 16 medals to the winners and up to 16 medals to the runners up in each division. Additional medals may be provided for each club if requested. The league will require the cost of additional medals to be borne by the requesting club.

Teams who don't attend the league presentation without good cause may at the discretion of the league have their trophies forfeited.

Cup winners & League Champions, where funds permit keep a memento cup, at cup matches the main cup is to be handed back straight after photos.

32. ACADEMY PLAYERS

Where a Club which plays in the FAW Licensed Academy Programme and also has a team playing in a junior league at Grassroots Level, no players registered to the club's academy squad (U12 – U16 age group) shall be allowed to play in the Grassroots team's league or cup fixture.

33. REPRESENTATIVE AND INTER LEAGUE MATCHES

The league shall enter any inter-league competition arranged by the Gwent County FA. The League Management Committee shall have the power to arrange special matches, the proceeds of which shall be devoted to the General Funds of the League.

Any player selected to play under the auspices of the League in Inter-League games or otherwise, and failing or refusing to do so, shall, in the absence of good and sufficient cause, be dealt with at the discretion of the League Management Committee. Any club which shall be found to have encouraged or instigated such conduct on the part of a player shall be deemed guilty of misconduct and shall be dealt with at the discretion of the League Management Committee.

Leagues may decide their own criteria for the selection of their representative squads and the recruitment of representative team managers and coaches.

34. DISBANDED CLUBS

The players of any disbanded team which has discharged its liabilities to the League, shall be eligible to register for any other club in the League immediately withdrawal of such team is accepted by the League Management Committee.

Results of matches of disbanded teams to be completely eliminated from the League records.

Once all outstanding fees & fines (both League & County FA) have been paid the League Secretary must update Comet.

35. RULEBOOK & COMET

Each season start, Torfaen league rule book is available to view or print off the Torfaen website. A plea of not having a rulebook or not having knowledge of comet up to date rules shall not be accepted as a plea of clemency if any charge be made against a team or club.

36. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATION WITH THE LEAGUE

All communications with the League must be in writing from the club secretary, the league reserves the right not to act on correspondence received from any person other than the club secretary. Email will only be accepted in the following circumstances:

The email address must have been lodged with the League Secretary at the start of the season.

The email must have a signed letter on Club Letterhead attached or should be followed up with a signed letter on Club Letterhead with 3 days.

Correspondence which requires an answer should be accompanied by S.A.E.

Clubs failing to answer correspondence from the league within 7 days will be liable to a fine of £20.00.

Clubs failing to correspond match details with league appointed referee's at least 3 days prior to the match will be liable to a fine of £20.00

All telephone communications with the league must be confirmed in writing (email acceptable), by the club secretary, within three days. The league reserves the right not to act on telephone communications until such confirmation is received.

No telephone calls to be made to League Officials, Club Secretaries or Team Managers after 9.00pm unless by prior arrangement.

Any member of a club asked to attend a Torfaen hearing will be given a minimum of 7 day's notice for such hearing. He/she can bring along one (1) club representative but must inform the league at least 3 days prior to the hearing.

The league may also insist a named member of the club to attend.

Clubs failing to attend a hearing without reasonable cause will be fined up to the sum of £30 plus any cost incurred. The matter will also be reported to Gwent FA.

37. FRIENDLY MATCHES / TOURNAMENTS

A friendly match may only be arranged when the team(s) concerned has no prior commitment in the league or league cup competitions.

For friendly matches sanction is required, against:

- Teams within the same league area - Permission from the League Secretary
- Teams outside the league area, but within Gwent - first permission from Gwent County Football Association, followed by the league secretary.
- Teams outside of Gwent but within Wales - Permission from Gwent FA
- Teams outside Wales - Gwent & Football Association of Wales

Playing a friendly requires 7 days-notice.

Applications to play a team outside of Wales requires 14 days

A club found guilty of playing matches without permission will be reported to the Gwent County Football Association.

No tournaments or events will be sanctioned while in the football season, special exceptions maybe approved at the discretion of the league.

38. ALTERATION TO RULES

No alteration shall be made to these rules except by the Gwent County Football Association.

Clubs wishing to propose rule changes must do so in writing to the League Secretary prior to 1st February each season.

Leagues to hold a Rules Revision Meeting specially convened for that purpose in March of each season when proposals from Clubs and those, if any, proposed by the League Management Committee will be voted upon. Proposals receiving the assent of at least two thirds of the members present at the Rules Revision Meeting shall then be forwarded by the League Secretary to the Secretary of the Gwent County FA. This will may then be approved or rejected by the Gwent County FA in May of each year.

Rule changes made by the Gwent County FA shall become operative at the commencement of the following season.

39. MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

Any matter arising which is not provided for in these rules shall be dealt with at the discretion of the League Management Committee and shall be reported to the Gwent County Football Association.



TORFAEN LEAGUE CUP RULES

1. PARTICIPANTS

All teams registered with the league must enter on Comet their respective cup competition(s) and pay Comet fees.

2. CHOICE OF GROUND

Each round & semi-finals will be drawn by the League Management Committee.

The team drawn first will play at their home venue. If the home teams venue is unplayable then it will be reversed to the venue of the second drawn team.

If both venues are unplayable the match will be re-scheduled and it will take precedence over a League fixture.

The league reserves the right to schedule any league cup fixture at a neutral venue in order to resolve fixture issues.

In all rounds both clubs shall supply two suitable match balls.

2.1

Where possible the league will arrange neutral grounds for semi-finals to be played on, clubs must make available to the league their pitch(s) if available for such semi-finals or finals.

3. DATE OF ROUNDS

Date of rounds to be decided by the League Management Committee and published when drawn on comet.

Cup final dates shall be strictly adhered to unless mutual arrangements are arrived at between the two competing clubs and the association.

Once venue(s) are booked they shall be adhered to.

4. DURATION OF GAMES

The duration of the game will be as League Rule 12. In the event of a draw at full time, extra time of 10 minutes each way will be played. Should a draw still result, penalties will be taken as per the rules laid down by the Football Association of Wales Penalty Procedure.

Any match not completed may be ordered to stand as a completed match or to be replayed for the full period as the Management Committee may direct. The Management Committee to have the power to decide that an abandoned match result may stand.

5. REGISTRATIONS

A player must be registered & confirmed on Comet 7 days immediately previous to the match. A player may only play for one team in one age group in the cup competition. No player shall be registered after the last Thursday in March each year. It's the club's responsibility to make sure any players transferred throughout the season are not cup tied. Any club that plays an ineligible player will be struck out of the competition and the tie may be awarded to the opponents and fined as directed by the League Management Committee.

6. NETS AND CORNER FLAGS

Nets and corner flags must be provided in all rounds.

7. REFEREES

Referees if available will be appointed by the league for semi-finals and finals.

If the appointed referee is not available, then league rule 11 applies.

Qualifying rounds: Both teams pay half each.

Semi finals: Referees fee and expenses to be paid by the home club and Torfaen league will re-inbust on receipt from clubs.

Finals: Torfaen will sort our prior to match.

8. COLOURS

As in League Rule 4.

9. BROKEN FIXTURES

Any club who fails to play an arranged cup match on the appointed date without a suitable reason will be struck out of the competition and fined as directed by the League Management Committee.

10. NOTIFICATION

In all rounds league rule 12 shall apply.

In Semi-Finals the league secretary shall confirm all details with the referee.

11. SUBSTITUTES

As League Rule 18.

12. SEARCH OF REGISTER

As per League Rule 26.

13. RESULTS & TEAM SELECTION & MATCH REPORTS

As per League Rule 20.

14. MEMENTOES

Winners and Runners Up, players taking part in the finals will all receive a trophy or memento, the league will order up to 16 in total any extra's may be purchased through the League, but payment for such must be made before order can be placed.

15. MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

Matters not provided for in these rules shall be dealt with by the League Management Committee. Where not stated in Cup Rules, League Rules shall apply.

MINI - FOOTBALL

FAW updated mini regulations take preference over the below & are on our website.

League Rules apply unless specified in the following.

1. GENERAL

There will be no league or cup competitions.

No club to organise a competitive league or cup competition.

Mini-football is a modified version of the 11 a-side game. It gives children the chance to play real football, for a real team, whilst experiencing an enjoyable and fun introduction to football through small sided games.

Mini-football is for all children, irrespective of ability, under 11 on 31 August at the start of each season. It is also intended for boys and girls and young footballers with disabilities and learning difficulties.

2. AGES, DIVISIONS AND SESSIONS (FIXTURES)

- a. The League will organise sessions for players up to and including Under 11.
- b. All sessions organised by the league shall take precedence over club arranged matches.

3. TEAM SIZE – PITCH SIZE – BALL SIZE

a) Age Group Number of Players Pitch Size Ball Size

Age Group	No. of Players	Pitch Size	Ball Size
Under 6	As per U7s		
Under 7	4 v 4 No Goalkeepers	28 x 20 yards	3
Under 8	5 v 5	35 x 25 yards	3
Under 9	5 v 5	35 x 25 yards	3
Under 10	7 v 7	44 x 40 yards	4
Under 11	7 v 7	44 x 40 yards	4

NOTE: Players must be aged over 5 to play in the under 6s.

b) Teams must be of equal numbers at all times. If one team does not have the required number of players present, then the other team must reduce the number of players in its team until the teams are equal.

c) Any number of substitutes may be used at any time with the permission of the game leader. Players substituted may re-enter the game at any time.

d) All players in the squad must be given an equal playing time during the game. If portable goal posts are used these must be securely fixed to the ground. Under 7 should use smaller goals such as Pop up Goals (PUG).

e) Ideally games should be played on dedicated mini-football pitches but any level surface which is suitable for football may be used. THERE MUST BE NO DEBRIS OR DANGEROUS HAZARDS EITHER ON THE FIELD OF PLAY OR IN THE IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING AREA. The game should not be played on sections of full-size pitches where full size fixed goal posts form part of the touchline or goal lines or are within three (3) yards of these lines.

f) Cones and marker discs may be used for pitch marking. Corners must be marked. The general aim is to provide a safe, supervised environment for the players and their families.

4. DURATION OF SESSIONS AND GAMES

A mini player can only play a maximum of 60 minutes sanctioned match time in one 24 hour period.

Maximum playing duration: (This should be broken down into quarters).

Under 6 & Under 7s, 40 minutes.

Under 8 & Under 9s, 50 minutes.

Under 10 & Under 11, 60 minutes.

5. KICK OFF

The kick-off to be taken in the centre of the field. The normal football rules apply to the kick-off.

6. THROW INS

Law 15 applies and the throw in should be taken in the normal way, game leaders can, and should, show flexibility. For example, in the case of a foul throw in, the game leader should allow the throw to be retaken by the same team; if necessary the game leader should advise the player concerned of the correct way to take the throw in.

7. CORNER KICKS, FREE KICKS AND PENALTIES

These are to be taken in the normal way except:

- a. Opponents must be three yards from the ball when the kick is taken.
- b. All free kicks are indirect.
- c. No penalties are awarded. Offences in the goal area are penalised with an indirect free kick.

8. GOAL KICKS

- a. To be taken anywhere in the goal area.
- b. Under 8's and 9's may kick the ball out of their hands.
- c. Under 10 and Under 11 players must kick the ball off the ground as normal. Goalkeepers in younger age groups may kick the ball from their hands anywhere in the goal area.
- d. Opponents must be at least five yards away when the kick is taken.

9. GOALKEEPERS

- a. May handle the ball in the goal area and there are no restrictions on the number of steps they may take when holding the ball.
- b. Cannot handle the ball outside of the goal area.
- c. May play the ball outside or inside the goal area with their feet but may then be challenged by an opponent.
- d. Under 10 and Under 11 may only throw the ball after it is picked up or kick the ball on the ground. Goalkeepers in younger age groups may kick the ball out of their hands.
- e. May handle the ball if it is passed to them by a team mate.

10. GOAL AREA

There are no restrictions on the number of players allowed in the goal area.

11. GAME LEADERS

- a. A game leader is appointed to supervise each game.
The club hosting the mini-football session is to appoint the game leader(s).
- b. The role of the game leader is to supervise the game, awarding free kicks, throw ins etc. as a normal referee would and, in addition, he/she should explain the rules as the game proceeds, if necessary demonstrating certain points as to how the game is restarted, eg. a throw in.
- c. Game leaders shall perform their duties from the side of the playing area
- d. The game leader is urged to be extremely flexible in the way the game is supervised, especially with the younger children.

12. RESULTS

Scores or results are not to be recorded or published on social media, team(s) or club(s) attempting to collate results will be dealt with by the league committee.

13. PLAYER REGISTRATION

a. As per main junior League Rule 8

- b. Each player must be registered & confirmed on the FAW Comet system to play.
- c. Players to register for a club only, players may play for any team run by the club subject to age restrictions. This gives clubs the opportunity to select equal size squads for each team if they run more than one team at each age group.
- d. No player to play for more than one team on the same day.

14. MATCH REGULATIONS

The club hosting the mini-football session shall be classed as the home club.

- a. The home club shall contact the visitors, at least 72 hours prior to the date of the session to confirm all details.
- b. The pitch and all required equipment shall be provided by the home club.
- c. In the event of colour clashes the away team(s) shall change, except where the home club wishes to play in colours not registered with the league in which case the home club shall change.
- d. In the event of postponements due to inclement weather then the home club shall notify visitors and the league.

15. TEAMS NOT ARRIVING, INELIGIBLE PLAYERS AND TEAMS LEAVING THE FIELD

In the event of one team not turning up for a league organised session or if a team plays an ineligible player or if a team leaves the field without the permission of the game leader.

The matter shall be dealt with as follows:-

- a. The League may impose fines as per directed by the Management Committee.
- b. For a second offence the League may instruct such teams to appear before the League Management and/or disciplinary committee.
- c. Teams committing a third offence may be expelled from the League.

16. FESTIVALS ETC

Clubs organising Football Festivals must have permission from the Gwent County Football Association.

Any Club wishing to play in a Football Festival must also have permission from the Gwent County Football Association.

Clubs organising or playing in Football Festivals without the necessary permission will be reported to the Gwent County Football Association.

Clubs wishing to play in Football Festivals outside Wales must apply to the Gwent County Football Association who will then get the necessary permission from the Football Association of Wales.

Any games outside of Gwent permission must be obtained from Gwent County.

No festivals will be sanctioned while in the football season, special exceptions maybe approved at the discretion of the league.

17. TROPHIES/MEDALS/AWARDS

No trophies, medals or awards of any kind indicating winners, runners up, finalists, most improved team, most sporting team etc., shall be presented to any team or the individual players of any team. The exception to this is where a league or club wishes to recognise the involvement of players in a particular session, e.g. a festival. In such cases exactly the same award must be presented to each and every player taking part, or in the case of one award per team, to each and every team taking part.

18 EXPLANATORY NOTES

The mini-football rules contained in this handbook are based on the Football Association of Wales requirements for mini football.

Mini-football is non-competitive and therefore it is not important that clubs play each other on a home and away basis. However, each team that makes a commitment to entering into the organisation of mini-football must recognise that it has certain responsibilities towards the league and other member clubs.

Clubs may well end up hosting sessions on a home and away basis but this is mainly to ensure that the work required in preparing the pitch and pitch hire costs are spread equally across all teams. Clubs/Teams that persistently break the rules may be expelled from membership of the league subject to the usual disciplinary procedures.

19. OTHER

a Club and team officials must ensure that every player in the team gets an equal opportunity. Winning is not important.

b. Officials and spectators are asked to encourage the players at all times.

c. Club and team officials must consider weather and ground conditions very carefully before games commence.

TJ&YFL SUMMARY OF FINES

Please follow the rules and regulations & you won't get fined

	Offence	Fine
	Failure to attend Annual or Special general meeting	£50
RULES		
2	Falsified statement in support of League application	£50
7	Match played without consent of League	£30
8	Playing a player prior to receipt of registration (Playing an ineligible player)	£50
14	Failure to notify opponents of venue	£10
17	Failure to supply suitable football	£10
17a	Failure to erect buffer zone	£20
18	Failure to supply and erect nets and corner flags	£10
19	Failure to start game to time (1 st Offence)	£5
	(2 nd Offence)	£10
	(Subsequent Offence)	£25
20	Failure to complete any Comet information on time	£15
	Constant offenders the cost will raise per rule	
	Failure to fully complete Comet Report	£10
	Falsifying information on Comet match report	£20
	Failure to supply Comet result in on time	£10
21	Failure to report cautions or sending off to GCFA	£20
22	Failure to copy postponement request to opposition	£10
23	Club breaking a fixture	£25 - £45
24	Team leaving the field of play without ref permission	Misconduct - GCFA
25	Playing an ineligible player	£50
29	Failure to pay fines within timescales	Suspension until paid
36	Failure to respond to correspondence from League	£20

Please note: these are simply fines payable that relate to the rules infractions detailed, there may be other penalties associated with some of the above fines and also reported to GCFA for possible further action.

Each season the Torfaen website updates the rule book & takes preference, please familiar yourself with the seasonal rules, matters also not provided for within the rule book shall be dealt with by the league committee.

STANDING ORDERS FOR LEAGUE MEETINGS

1. CONTROL OF MEETINGS

The Chairman of the League shall have control of the meeting, and in case of a tie on voting for any motion or amendment, he shall have power to give a second or casting vote.

2. MOVING OF RESOLUTIONS

Every motion or amendment shall be moved and seconded (and if so required shall be reduced to writing) before it is discussed or put to the meeting.

3. MEMBERS SPEAKING

A member shall address the Chair, only the Chairman shall have power to check or call to order a speaker. When the Chairman rises no one else shall continue, nor shall anyone else until the Chairman has finished.

4. MATTERS NOT BEFORE THE MEETING

No member shall speak on any matter, not before the meeting.

5. MEMBERS TO SPEAK ONCE ONLY.

No member shall speak twice on any motion, unless permission be given to explain, except the mover of the original resolution, or of an amendment that displaces an original resolution.

6. RESOLUTIONS ETC. NOT TO BE WITHDRAWN

A motion or amendment once made and seconded, shall not be withdrawn without the consent of the meeting.

7. AMENDMENTS TO BE RELEVANT

Any amendment must be relevant to the motion on which it is moved.

8. REJECTED AMENDMENTS

If any amendment be rejected, other amendments may be moved on the original motion, providing notice has been given.

9. AMENDMENTS CARRIED

If any amendment is carried, the original amendment as thereby amended, shall become the question upon which any further amendments may be moved.

10. NOTICE TO RESCIND RESOLUTION

Notice of motion must be given and appear on the agenda before any decision arrived at can be varied or rescinded. Any motion having been passed by the Executive Committee Meeting shall not be rescinded without the consent of at least half of those present. No motion to alter or rescind any resolution passed within the preceding 6 months, and no motion or amendment to the same effect as one which has been rejected within the preceding 6 months, shall be proposed. When any such motion or amendment has been disposed of by any Executive Committee it shall not be open to any member to propose a similar motion within a further period of 6 months.

11. URGENT MATTERS

Any matter of pressing importance not on the agenda, may be dealt with at once upon a motion of 'urgency' being duly moved, seconded and carried by at least half majority of the Members present.

12. INTEREST

If a member or member(s) has any interest in any matter put before the meeting, then the member(s) shall withdraw from the meeting whilst the matter is discussed and resolved.

13. TIME LIMIT FOR SPEECHES

No member shall address the Executive Committee for a longer period than 5 minutes on any one question, except the mover of the resolution, who may speak on bringing forward his proposition for a period not exceeding 10 minutes.

14. PRIORITY OF SPEAKER

When two or more members rise at one time, the Chairman shall decide who shall have priority of speaking.

15. OBJECTIONABLE MATTERS

If the Chairman shall be of the opinion that any motion proposed to be made is of an objectionable character, he may at once put it to the vote (on which there shall be no discussion) whether it shall be entertained or not, and if two thirds of the members present decide not to entertain such motion the matter is disposed for that meeting.

16. QUORUM

At least Four members shall form a quorum of the Executive Committee, and without a quorum no business shall be transacted. This does not refer to sub-committees.

17. CONDUCT OF MEMBERS

Should there be any dispute which involves the conduct or otherwise of any member, or members of the Executive Committee, the said member shall retire during its consideration.

18. RESOLVING INTO COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee may, by vote, resolve itself into a Committee, and whilst in Committee there shall be no restriction as to the number of times a member may speak.

19. PRIVILEGE

The evidence of witnesses, statements of members, general discussion and other matters within and before the Executive Committee and Sub-Committees shall be deemed to be privileged and private. The Executive Committee shall have the power to censure or suspend from service on the Executive Committee any member proved to be guilty of a breach of this rule.

20. DURATION OF MEETINGS

All Executive Committee meetings should terminate no later than 3 hours after the Chairman declared the meeting open.

CONSTITUTION

1. TITLE

Junior & Youth Association Football League

The league shall be known as the Torfaen Junior & Youth Association Football League.

2. AREA

The league area will be the same as the area of Torfaen County Borough Council.

3. OFFICERS & MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

(I) MANAGEMENT

The affairs of the League shall be managed by an Executive Committee to consist of Life Members, Life Vice-Presidents and up to twelve (12) club members elected annually by the clubs at the Annual General Meeting. The area Football Development Officer (FDO) will be co-opted to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall have the power to co-opt members to the committee in the event of their being a vacancy.

(ii) ELECTION

The Annual General Meeting of clubs will elect persons to sit on the Executive Committee. The officers (President, Vice-President, Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Assistant Secretary) shall be appointed by the Executive Committee from amongst its number at the first Executive Committee meeting immediately following the Annual General Meeting. Officers may be life members or elected members. The FDO shall not be eligible to be an officer of the league. The President and vice president of the league will be appointed for a three-year period. Other officers will be appointed for a one-year period.

(iii) LIFE MEMBERS

A member of the Executive Committee shall be eligible for Life Membership after serving 15 years, not necessarily continuously. Life members will have full voting powers and may hold any office within the league. Life members not to exceed five in number.

(iv) LIFE VICE-PRESIDENTS

A life member who has served as president will be eligible to become a Life Vice-President immediately after their service as President has ceased.

(v) MANAGEMENT MEETINGS

Committee meetings shall be held each month during the football season or as ordered by the Chairman and Secretary. Any member absent from three consecutive meetings without sufficient reason shall be considered to have resigned and the vacancy be filled by the Management Committee.

For business to pass there must be at least a core of 4 or more executive members present.

(vii) DISQUALIFICATION'S

A two third majority can remove any member or officer of the committee guilty of misconduct in any form.

(viii) ALLOWANCES & REWARDS

Although league executive members are not employed, expenses & annual allowance may be paid to such members, members must provide paperwork to the treasurer at the end of each season.

4. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The league will hold an Annual General Meeting of clubs in June of each year. A minimum of 21 days' notice of the date of the Annual General Meeting will be given by the league secretary to member clubs.

5. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

The league secretary shall convene a Special General Meeting at any time by order of the executive committee and/or by requisition of at least two thirds of the clubs in membership of the league. Such requisition to be given in writing to the league secretary. Special General Meetings shall take place as directed by the executive committee. A minimum of 14 days' notice of the date of the Special General Meeting will be given by the league secretary to member clubs.

6. REPRESENTATIVES AT ANNUAL AND SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS.

Each club in membership of the league shall be entitled to send two representatives to the Annual General Meeting or any Special General Meeting but each club will only be entitled to one vote on any issue.

Clubs not represented at the Annual General Meeting or any Special General Meeting will be fined as directed by the executive committee. (Sum £50)

Clubs who owe fees or fines to the league or the Gwent County Football Association, or are under suspension for any reason, must attend the Annual or Special General Meeting but will not be allowed to vote on any issue before the meeting.

7. AFFILIATION

All clubs in membership of the Torfaen league must be affiliated to the Gwent County Football Association.

8. Fees

Comet will charge an entrance fee for each club and team(s) accepted into the league.

Clubs must pay in full before each season start, failure to comply may render the club liable to immediate suspension