

REGULATIONS OF WOMEN'S WELSH CUP COMPETITION

1. Name of the Cup

The Cup shall be called "The Football Association of Wales Women's Welsh Cup".

2. Scope of Application

The present regulations govern the rights, duties and responsibilities of all parties participating and involved in the preparation and organisation of The Football Association of Wales Women's Welsh Cup Competition (hereinafter the competition).

3. Cup Ownership

- a) The Cup is the property of The Football Association of Wales Limited and shall be presented to the winning club following the outcome of the final tie. The Champions shall then be responsible for its return to the Association on or before the 1st day in March in the ensuing year in good order and condition. Should the Cup be lost, destroyed or damaged by fire or any other cause whilst under the care and custody of the Club, the latter shall refund to the Association the amount of its current insured value or the cost of thorough repair in addition to any other penalty which The Football Association of Wales may impose.

- b) When the winning Club have been ascertained the Chief Executive Officer of the Association shall hand the Cup to the representatives on receiving a document to the following effect, and subscribed to by them –

"We, Secretary of the Club, and Members and representing the said Club, which has been declared to have won The Football Association of Wales Welsh Cup for the current year, and the same having been delivered to us by or on behalf of the said Association, do hereby, on behalf of the said club, individually and collectively, engage to return the same to the said Association on or before the first day in March in the ensuing year in good order and condition, and in accordance with the conditions of the annexed Rules, to which also we have subscribed our respective names."

The Club winning the Cup shall insure the Cup at the same value as that value determined by The Football Association of Wales.

- c) The champion Club shall hold the trophy for approximately one year and the FAW will be responsible for the engraving of the trophy. The Cup must be returned to the FAW not later than 1st March in the following Playing Season. The date, time, and location of any such presentation shall be decided by the Board.

4. Medals

The winning team is presented with 25 winner's medals and the runner-up with 25 runners-up medals. Additional medals may be purchased for additional squad members. When a Player taking part is ordered to leave the field of play for misconduct, the medal to which she may be entitled may be withheld at the discretion of the National Cup Board.

5. Control of Competition

The entire control and management of the Competition shall be vested in the National Cup Board. The National Cup Board shall have the power to formulate the Competition Regulations and to alter or add to the Regulations as they, from time to time, deem expedient. The National Cup Board shall give decisions on matters arising out of the Competition which, within the Rules laid down by the

Association, shall be deemed decisions of the Directors. Clubs shall be bound by any Contract entered into by the National Cup Board in relation to the Competition. In any matter not specifically mentioned in these Rules, the Committee shall have the power to take such action and impose such penalties as it deems necessary.

6. Admission Criteria and Procedure

The Competition shall be open to all women's clubs who play all of their football under the jurisdiction of the Football Association of Wales, are affiliated to the Football Association of Wales or their Area Association and whose registered ground meets the Ground Criteria (Rule 10). Entry shall be mandatory for all clubs currently playing in Tiers one (1) and two (2) of the women's Pyramid system. The National Cup Board may reject the entry of any Club if they deem such a cause desirable.

7) Admittance

- a) Each Club desirous of competing shall give notice to the Chief Executive Officer of the Association on a form on or before the 31st July immediately prior to that season, in which such club proposes to compete and shall, with such notice, forward an entrance fee of twenty-five pounds sterling including vat. The National Cup Board may reject the entry of any Club if they deem such a course desirable.
- b) Clubs seeking to play ties on artificial pitches shall return with the entry form such information as they wish to place before the National Cup Board when it considers authorisation of an artificial pitch, or pitches under Rule 11 of these rules. The consideration of such information may be delegated by the National Cup Board.

8) Duties of the clubs

- a) On entering the competition, participating clubs agree:
 - i) to stage and play all matches in the competition in accordance with the present regulations;
 - ii) to comply with all decisions regarding the competition taken by the National Cup Board, the FAW administration or any other competent body and communicated appropriately (by circular letter or by official letter, fax or email);
 - iii) The clubs are responsible for the behaviour of their players, officials, members, supporters and any person carrying out a function at a match on their behalf.

9) Competition Format

- a) The Competition shall be on a Knockout basis.
- b) Adran Premier clubs shall be awarded a bye for any Qualifying Round(s). Further exemptions or byes, as may be considered appropriate, shall be granted or made at the discretion of the National Cup Board.
- c) Matches in all stages of the competition are played in conformity with the IFAB Laws of the Game. The half-time interval lasts 15 minutes.

10) The Draw

- a) From the Qualifying Round up to and including Round 2, clubs will be placed in geographical groups for The Draw. The National Cup Board shall decide the geographical distribution of

the Clubs participating in the competition. From the Quarter-Final onwards, The Draw will be open.

- b) The clubs after having been placed by the National Cup Board in their groups shall be drawn in couples. These couples shall compete, and the winners shall be drawn and shall compete in the same manner and this shall be continued until the end of the Competition, when the winning Club shall hold the Cup.
- c) As soon as practicable after each draw; the fixtures, the Conference Date and the provisional time of kick-off shall be published on the systems and platforms of the Association.
- d) The National Cup Board shall have the authority to determine the kick-off time and the date of the match to suit the Transmission Contract or in the overall interest of the Competition.
- e) In any Round where, paired Clubs desire to play on a date other than the Conference Date, a kick-off time other than the time set by the FAW, or at a venue other than the registered ground of the team first drawn, both Clubs shall notify the Chief Executive Officer of the Association of their request within 7 (seven) days of the draw. Matches are not allowed to be played after the Conference Date. If any request is granted, then the re-arranged date shall be regarded, for all purposes, as the Conference Date for the Round concerned. The provisions of Rule 11 shall apply to the choice of ground.
- f) Clubs shall not mutually arrange to play a match in lieu of a Cup Tie. If a match is played to a conclusion it must be a Cup Tie.
- g) Any Club refusing to play the Club against which it has been drawn within the time intimated to it, without sufficient reason for doing so, shall be adjudged to have lost the match.

11) Stadium / Ground Information, Facilities and Equipment

a) Choice of Ground

In each tie, up to the Semi-final Tie, the game shall be played on the registered ground of the Club first drawn. If the registered ground is unavailable, the fixture must be reversed to the opponents registered ground. When the fixture has been reversed, the Club which will now host the match is responsible for all of the expenses relating to the fixture.

A Club not having the facilities as required by Rule 11(b) and having not obtained the consent of the National Cup Board to the use of an alternative ground shall play on its opponent's ground. Clubs shall not play on a neutral ground without the consent of the National Cup Board. The National Cup Board shall have the power to order any match to be played on an alternative ground if it is deemed necessary.

The Ground for the Semi-Final and Final ties shall be decided by the FAW.

b) Ground Facilities

- i) Goal nets and corner flags must be used in all ties. The playing area must be roped, railed or walled off, except those areas and spaces excluded from spectator viewing. Dressing and showering accommodation (including appropriate sanitary facilities) must be separate for each team and Match Officials and should be situated within a reasonable walking distance to the pitch, as accepted by the Association.
- ii) The dimensions of the field of play for all Cup Ties shall comply with the IFAB Laws of the Game.

c) Appeal – Unsuitability of Ground

If the ground of the Club entitled by the draw to have the Cup Tie played on its ground is considered unsuitable for the Cup Tie, having regard to all the circumstances, the opposing Club may appeal to the Association within seven days of the receipt of the official intimation of the draw. Such appeal must be accompanied by a fee of £50.00 which may be forfeited in the appeal is not sustained. The National Cup Board may order the match to be played on the ground of the appealing Club, or on a neutral ground. The payment of the expenses incidental to the Appeal shall be at the discretion of the National Cup Board.

d) Playing Condition of the Ground

The postponement of a Match due to ground conditions must be carried out in accordance with this Rule. No Club shall postpone the playing of a Match on account of apparent unfitness of its ground, the Referee or designated person as deemed competent by the FAW Referee's Manager being the sole person to decide as to the fitness after inspection. In bad weather, or where it seems apparent that there is not a possibility of the Match being played, it shall be obligatory for the Home Club to call in the most senior FAW qualified referee available, to give a ruling as to the fitness after consultation with the Competition Manager. The time of any inspection shall be by mutual agreement between the two Clubs taking into account the travelling time of the visiting Club. In case of dispute, the Competition Manager shall decide the time of any inspection.

In the event of the available referee declaring the ground unfit, the Home Club shall notify the Visiting Club and the Match Officials forthwith by email and telephone call to avoid all unnecessary expense in travelling. The Visiting Club shall forthwith acknowledge receipt of such notice. If the Home Club does not receive an acknowledgement promptly, the Home Club shall forthwith notify the Competition Manager.

If the available referee or designated person as deemed competent by the FAW Referee's Manager does not declare the ground unfit, a final decision shall be made by the Match Referee upon their arrival at the ground (each such Referee taking into account that Referees should not hastily postpone or abandon Matches). A Match Official conducting a ground inspection shall be entitled to an inspection fee, as set by the FAW Referees Committee from time to time, and travelling expenses to be met by the National Cup Board.

During the months of November, December, January and February, the Referee shall visit the ground two hours before the time of kick-off. If necessary, the home Club may require the Referee to visit the ground two hours or more before the time of kick-off any time during the season.

e) Artificial Pitches

Football turf must be in accordance with the 'FAW Regulations for the use of Synthetic Turf in all Competitions' and the IFAB Laws of the Game and the pitch must be listed on the FAW's Register of Artificial Grass Pitches.

f) Equipment

The Home Club shall ensure that;

Match Balls comply with the *IFAB Laws of the Game*

A First Aid Kit is available. Each team must have a person who holds, at a minimum, the FAW First Aid qualification in attendance at each match; this individual should be named as such on the team sheet and may not be a player

(including named substitutes).

12) Club Kits

- a) Shirt Numbers and Names
 - i) Numbers, corresponding to the list of names submitted on the Team Sheet, must be worn on all shirts.
 - ii) Player names are permitted on the back of the shirts in accordance with the FAW Kit Regulations.
- b) Colours
 - i) For all matches, the home club has the first choice as to which of its official kits announced on the entry form it wears for its home matches. If the clubs are unable to agree on the colours to be worn by their teams, they inform the Association, who takes a final decision.
 - ii) In any case, if the referee notices on the spot that the colours of the two teams could lead to confusion, they decide on the colours. As a rule, in such cases it is the home team that has to change colours, for practical reasons.
 - iii) For the final, both teams may wear their first choice of colours. However, if there is a clash, the team designated as the away team must wear alternative colours. The Association proposes suitably contrasting colours in advance of the match.
 - iv) Goalkeepers must wear colours which distinguish them from the other players and the Match Officials.
 - v) Each Home Club shall confirm full kit colours (including goalkeeper) on via the systems and procedures set by the FAW from time to time at least five (5) days prior to the Match. The Visiting Club and Referee must also confirm full details (including goalkeeper) via the systems and procedures set by the FAW from time to time at least three (3) days prior to the Match. The Match Referee must confirm approval of both Clubs' proposed kits with both Clubs and the Competition Manager via email at least forty eight (48) hours prior to kick off.
- c) FAW Kit Regulations
 - i) The FAW Kit Regulations apply to all matches in the competition, unless specified otherwise in these regulations.

13) Duration of Matches

- a) A match lasts for two equal halves of 45 minutes.
- b) Allowance is made by the referee in each half for all time lost in that half in accordance with the IFAB Laws of the Game.
- c) The half-time interval lasts 15 minutes.

14) Provisions for all Matches

For all matches the following provisions shall apply:

- a) Matches in all stages of the competition are played in conformity with the IFAB Laws of the Game.
- b) Matches in The Welsh Cup take priority over any other Official Match, Open Friendly Match or Closed Friendly Match.
- c) Any late kick-off or late arrival of a Match Official must be reported by the Referee to the Association and the National Cup Board shall have the power to impose a fine.

- d) Electronic performance and tracking systems (EPTS) are permitted. In accordance with the Laws of the Game, if used they must not pose any danger to the players and/or match officials;
- e) Post-match hospitality for players and club officials shall not be mandatory, but if it is agreed in advance by the two clubs in writing, and one team fails to honour the agreement, the offending Club will be subject to reimbursement of reasonable costs, as agreed by the FAW.
- f) The use of red cards and yellow cards for team officials are applicable and in accordance with the 'FAW Disciplinary Procedures Concerning Field Offences in Cup Matches Only – Players and Team Officials.'
- g) Pitch watering - For matches up to the Semi-Final
If pitch watering is available, the home club can determine whether it is implemented. The pitch must be watered evenly and not only in certain areas. As a general rule, pitch watering must finish 60 minutes before kick-off. However, upon decision of the home club, pitch watering may also take place after that time, provided it takes place;
 - i) between 10 and 5 minutes before kick-off, (i.e. after the warm-up is complete) and/or
 - ii) during half-time (for a maximum of 5 minutes).

The referee is entitled to request changes to the schedule.

- h) Pitch watering - For the Semi-Final and Final
If pitch watering is available, The Association, following consultation with both Clubs and in cooperation with the Referees, can determine whether it is implemented. The pitch must be watered evenly and not only in certain areas. As a general rule, pitch watering must finish 60 minutes before kick-off. However, upon decision of the host club, pitch watering may also take place after that time, provided it takes place;
 - i) between 10 and 5 minutes before kick-off, and/or
 - ii) during half-time (for a maximum of 5 minutes).

The referee is entitled to request changes to the schedule.

- i) Match Delegates – For the Semi-Final and Final
Match Delegates may be appointed by the FAW for all Semi-Final and Final matches as it deems appropriate.

15) Extra Time and Penalties

- a) Extra Time
Extra Time is not played in this Competition.
- b) Penalties
 - i) If the result stands as a draw at the end of normal playing time, kicks from the penalty mark are taken in accordance with the procedure laid down in the *IFAB Laws of the Game*.
 - ii) The referee decides which goal will be used for the kicks:
 - (1) For reasons of safety/security, state of the field of play, lighting or other similar reasons, the referee may decide which goal will be used without tossing a coin. Such decisions are final and require no justification.
 - (2) If either goal could be used for the kicks, then, in the presence of the two captains, the referee tosses a coin to decide which goal will be used.

- iii) To ensure that the procedure is strictly observed, the referee is assisted by his team, who also note down the numbers of the players on each team who have taken kicks from the penalty mark.

16) Postponed or Abandoned Matches

- a) Postponement or Abandonment for the first time
When a match has been postponed or abandoned before its completion and neither club being at fault, it must be played on or before the following weekend. If the clubs concerned fail to agree on a mutually agreeable date, the FAW will fix the date.
- b) Postponement or Abandonment on two occasions
When a match has been postponed or abandoned before its completion on two occasions, the fixture shall be reversed, with home advantage being awarded to the visiting team. When a fixture has been postponed by the FAW for whatever reason, this will not count as one of the 'two occasions' as described above. When the fixture has been reversed, the Club which will now host the match is responsible for all of the expenses relating to the fixture.
- c) Matches abandoned through the fault of one or both Clubs, shall be dealt with by the National Cup Board.
- d) If there are fewer than seven (7) players on either of the teams, the match is abandoned. In this case, the National Cup Board (see Regulation 5) decides on the consequences.
- e) Clubs affected by the selection of two or more players for International Duty by their National Association for Senior, Under 19 and Under 17 UEFA and FIFA competitive matches or International friendlies / trials / camps during scheduled international dates may request a postponement by the National Cup Board of its Cup fixture provided at least 10 clear days' notice is given to the Competition Manager in writing. If one player is selected and that player is the goalkeeper, a Club could make a similar request for the postponement of its Cup fixture. Matches postponed on this basis will have a new date set by the FAW.

17) Floodlighting

- a) Matches may be played in daylight or under floodlight conditions provided that the installation meets with the approval of the Association or by mutual agreement of the two Clubs.
- b) Clubs may appeal to the National Cup Board within three days of the receipt of the official intimation of the draw if they consider the floodlights of the Club on whose ground the tie is to be played to be below the required standard. Such appeal must be accompanied by a fee of £50.00, which may be forfeited if the appeal is not sustained.
- c) The Referee will decide at what point in the game the lights shall be switched on. This will necessitate a discussion with responsible officials of the competing Clubs before the game when an agreed signal must be arranged.

18) Provision for Semi-Finals and Final

- a) Stadium and Match Arrangements
The National Cup Board shall determine the stadium for all semi-final and final ties and shall have direct control of the arrangements. At the Association's request, the stadium must be clean of advertising for centralised branding.

b) Tickets

Competing clubs will be provided with 15 complimentary tickets each. Competing clubs must settle all ticket accounts with the staging Club / Association within 14 days of the match.

19) Reporting Results

- a) Each Club competing in a Match shall send the completed standard electronic Result Form to the Association within sixty (60) minutes of the final whistle in the Qualifying Rounds and within thirty (30) minutes of the final whistle from Round 1 onwards, using the systems and procedures set by the FAW from time to time. The Referee shall confirm the details of the completed standard Referee's Report Form to the Association within ninety (90) minutes of the completion of the Match, using the systems and procedures set by the FAW from time to time. The Referee's Report Form must be complete in all details, including the result of the Match, the full names of the Players taking part in the Match, the names of the substitutes and details of any substitutions made (including the Match time when the substitution was made), match attendance and details of any yellow cards and red cards issued (including the Match time when the card was issued).
- b) From Round 1, onwards each Club competing in a Match shall update live match information, using the systems and procedures set by the FAW from time to time. The details required include, but are not limited to, goals scored, penalties scored and missed, details of any substitutions made (including the Match time when the substitution was made), match attendance and details of any yellow cards and red cards issued (including the Match time when the card was issued). The Home Club has responsibility for managing the 'match timer' function. The Referee has the authority to amend any such details, before the Report is submitted in accordance with Rule 19a).
- c) Clubs and referees failing to comply with either Rule 19a) or 19b) or both of Rule 19a) and 19b), or submitting an incorrect Match Report Form, may be subject to disciplinary action by the National Cup Board.

20) Provisions for withdrawing from the Competition

- a) Any Club intending to withdraw must give information of their intention to do so to the FAW and to the Secretary of the opposing Club, and will be reported to the National Cup Board, who shall have power to compel such offending Club to pay the expenses incurred and take such action as they may deem suitable and expedient.
- b) Clubs failing to give a satisfactory reason for withdrawing shall not be allowed to enter the Competition the following season and shall be liable to a fine. In the Semi-Final and Final Ties any Club failing to play without showing a good and sufficient cause for such failure to play, may be adjudged by the National Cup Board to have been guilty of serious misconduct, and liable to be dealt with under the Rules of the Association.
- c) Any Club that withdraws from the Competition, after earning prize money, will be fined at least the equivalent amount of prize money received, as well as the standard fine.
- d) In the Semi-Final and Final Ties any Club failing to play without showing a good and sufficient cause for such failure to play, may be adjudged by the National Cup Board to have been guilty of serious misconduct, and liable to be dealt with under the Rules of the Association.

21) Provisions Concerning Eligibility of Players

- a) The Cup shall be competed for annually in accordance with these Rules and matches shall be placed under the Laws of the Game as approved by the International Football Association Board. Unless a satisfactory reason is given, each team shall represent the full available strength of each competing Club.
- b) In order to be eligible to participate in the competition, players must be registered with the Club, no later than 5pm on the last working day before the Conference Date and fulfil all the conditions set out in FAW Regulations for the Registration of Players.

A registered member is one who is registered with the Association in accordance with Section H of the FAW Rules.

When a match has been postponed or abandoned, only those players eligible on the Conference Date will be eligible to play in the rearranged match.

- c) A player can play for more than one competing Club in the Season, provided that they are duly qualified according to the Rules of the Association.
- d) A Player who has been suspended may play in postponed or abandoned ties after the term of her suspension has expired.
- e) Clubs must confirm their official team sheet including 11 starting players, the names of the nominated substitutes (maximum five) and club officials seated in the technical area on COMET (or any such system as authorised by the FAW):
 - i) At least thirty (30) minutes before the advertised time of kick off for all rounds up to the semi-final.
 - ii) For the semi-final and final ties, team sheets must be submitted no later than sixty (60) minutes before the advertised time of kick off.
 - iii) If the match is to be transmitted "live" on terrestrial or television or to be streamed by the FAW or one of our partners, team sheets must be submitted no later than seventy-five (75) minutes before the advertised time of kick off.

Any Club failing to carry out these provisions will be fined a sum not exceeding £100.00.
- f) After the team sheets have been provided to the referee by both teams, and if the match has not yet kicked off, no replacement is allowed except in the following cases:
 - i) If any of the 11 players indicated on the team sheet as forming the starting 11 are not able to start the match due to unexpected physical incapacity, they may only be replaced by any of the five substitutes listed on the initial team sheet, with the exception of the Goalkeeper, who may be replaced by a non-listed substitute. The substitute(s) in question may then only be replaced by a registered player (players) not listed on the initial team sheet, so that the quota of substitutes is not reduced. During the match, five players may still be substituted.
 - ii) If any of the five substitutes listed on the team sheet are not able to be fielded due to unexpected physical incapacity, they may only be replaced by a registered player not listed on the initial team sheet.
- g) A Club may at its discretion use five substitute Players at any time in a Cup Tie, except to replace a Player who has been sent-off from the game by the Referee after play has commenced. Substitute Players must be nominated to the Referee on the official team sheet.

During the match, each team:

- i) may use a maximum of five substitutes;
- ii) has a maximum of three substitution opportunities;
- iii) may additionally make substitutions at half-time;
- iv) where both teams make a substitution at the same time, this will count as a substitution opportunity for each team.

h) A player must have reached the age of sixteen on the day that the match is played.

22) Validity of Players' Qualification

- a) If the National Cup Board have any doubt as to the qualifications of any player taking part in this Competition, they shall have power to call upon such player, or the Club to which he belongs, or for which she played, to prove that she is qualified according to the Rules, and failing satisfactory proof the National Cup Board shall remove the Club from the Competition, and may impose such other penalty on the Club or player as they may think fit.
- b) If the National Cup Board removes a Club in accordance with the provisions set out in 22a), their opponents are deemed to have won the tie.

23) Disqualification

The National Cup Board shall have the power to disqualify any competing Club, or Official, or Players for any competing Club, who may be proved to be guilty of any breaching of the Association's Rules.

24) Provisions Concerning Match Officials

- a) In all matches, the Referee team shall be appointed by The Football Association of Wales. Neither past nor present members of either contending Clubs shall be eligible.
- b) The referee team are appointed as follows:
 - i) For matches before the Quarter Final, in principle, the FAW appoints one referee only.
 - ii) For Quarter Final matches, in principle, the FAW appoints one referee and two assistant referees.
 - iii) For Semi-Final and Final matches, in principle, the FAW appoints one referee, two assistant referees and one fourth official (substitute referee).
 - iv) The FAW reserves its right to provide additional referees where it deems necessary in any tie.
- c) The fees and expenses of all officials appointed by the Association to officiate in any match prior to the Semi-final Tie shall be paid by the Club upon whose ground the match takes place unless otherwise instructed by the National Cup Board.

If a Match Official prefers being paid their expenses either in cash or by bank transfer, they must notify the Home Club of their preference at least forty-eight (48) hours before the Match. Otherwise, the Home Club shall decide on the payment method.

The Home Club must pay the Match Officials their fee and/or expenses either:

- i) in cash on the date of the Match, in their dressing room, within a reasonable time after the conclusion of the Match or
- ii) by bank transfer within three (3) Business Days after the Match.

d) Scale of Expenses to be paid to Match Officials

An allowance of £0.45 per mile will be allowed to all officials officiating who travel by private car. There is an expectation that where reasonable, match officials shall travel together.

Officials shall be entitled to claim a meal allowance of up to £10, upon production of receipts, for all matches where travel exceeds 150 miles. In the event of doubt, a route finder must be used to prove distance travelled.

e) Scale of Fees to be paid to Match Officials

Qualifying – Round 2 for matches involving one or more Clubs outside of Tier 1:
Referee £35; Assistant Referees and 4th Official (if appointed) £25 each

Quarter-Final for matches involving one or more Clubs outside of Tier 1:
Referee £60; Assistant Referees and 4th Official £40 each

Round 1 to Quarter Final matches involving two Tier 1 Clubs:
Tier 1 League Match Fees apply for all Match Officials.

Semi-final: Tier 1 League Match Fees apply for all Match Officials.

Final: Referee £110 and a souvenir medal
Assistant Referees and 4th Official £80 each and a souvenir medal.

- f) Officials are entitled to their travelling expenses if incurred and half their fees if the match to which they have started their travel, is not played.
- g) A Match Official conducting a ground inspection shall be entitled to an inspection fee, as set by the FAW Referees Committee from time to time, and travelling expenses to be met by the National Cup Board.
- h) The Referee team shall individually acknowledge acceptance of appointments for all matches in the Competition to the FAW Administration.
- i) The Home Club shall send details of the match to the Referee team, who shall acknowledge receipt.
- j) The duties of the Referee team shall be as defined in Laws of the Game 5 and 6.

25) Provisions relating to Protests

- a) All questions relating to the qualification of competitors or interpretation of the Rules, or any dispute whatever shall be referred to the National Cup Board, whose decision shall be final and binding on both Clubs.
- b) Every protest must be made in writing and must contain the particulars of the ground upon which it is founded. Two copies of the protest must be lodged with the Association, accompanied by a fee of £100.00 within two days of the match to which it relates (Sundays not included). The fee shall be forfeited to the Association in the event of the protest not being sustained.

- c) The National Cup Board may order any Club engaged in a dispute or protest to pay such sum as may be considered necessary towards defraying the expenses incurred.
- d) Any protest relating to the ground, goal posts or bars or other appurtenances of the game shall not be entertained by the National Cup Board unless an objection has been lodged with the Referee before the commencement of the match, and not later than one hour before the official time of the kick-off. The Referee shall require the responsible Club to correct the cause of the objection, if this is possible without unduly delaying the progress of the match.
- e) When an objection has been lodged with the Referee, a protest must be made to the Association and neither objection nor protest shall be withdrawn, except by leave of the National Cup Board.
- f) The Chief Executive Officer of the Association shall send a copy of the protest and particulars to the Club protested against.
- g) Each Club may support its case by witnesses.
- h) If a member of the National Cup Board is connected with the Club concerned in a dispute of protest, they shall not sit on the National Cup Board while the dispute or protest is being considered.
- i) A Club summoned to attend a Hearing of a dispute of protest may be represented by one (1) or more of its Members. A Barrister or Solicitor may represent the Club of which he is Chairman or Secretary at the time of the alleged offence, but otherwise only with the prior consent of the National Cup Board. Any person summoned to attend a Hearing of a dispute or protest must attend personally and shall not be legally represented except with the prior written consent of the National Cup Board.

26) Intellectual property rights

- a) FAW is the exclusive owner of all intellectual property rights of the competition, including any current or future rights in all audio and visual (with or without audio) material of the competition, names, logos, brands, music, mascots, medals, plaques, commemorative items and trophies. Any use of the aforementioned rights requires the prior written approval of FAW and must comply with any conditions imposed by FAW.
- b) All rights to the fixture list and match schedule, as well as any data and statistics (including databases in which such data is stored) in relation to the matches of and players' participation in the competition are the sole and exclusive property of FAW. No tickets or accreditation may be used by anyone in order to gain access to a venue for the purposes of collecting or gathering such data, and such activities are expressly prohibited. The foregoing prohibition does not apply to the participating clubs, subject to any and all such data collected being used solely for the purposes of instructing their team, players and officials and expressly excluding any other exploitation or use whatsoever.

27) Transmission of Matches

The FAW shall have the sole and exclusive right to exercise the Transmission Rights and enter into Transmission Contracts and/or authorise others to do so. The Clubs shall do nothing to infringe such rights and shall at their own cost do all such things and sign all such documents as are necessary to facilitate the exercise of the Transmission Rights and enable the FAW, its agents and licensees to

comply with the terms of Transmission Contracts, including without limitation the provision of access, facilities and services and the right to use Club, Official and Player names, logos, images and biographies.

“Transmission Rights” means the sole and exclusive worldwide right in perpetuity to record (a) television or other moving pictures of any Competition match; (b) sounds of and/or commentary upon any Competition match and (c) data relating to any Competition match (and, in each case, have sole and exclusive access to the ground of each Club to do so) and transmit and/or exploit and/or otherwise make available the whole or any part of such recordings in any language and whether live and/or delayed by any and all manner and means in all current and future media including without limitation by terrestrial, cable and satellite television, radio, internet and mobile networks and whether to the public or closed groups, and to authorise others to do so.

“Transmission Contracts” means any and all contracts entered into by the FAW and/or its agents and licensees in or ancillary to the exercise of the Transmission Rights.

28) Sponsorship

The FAW shall have the sole and exclusive right to exercise the Sponsorship Rights and to enter into Sponsorship Contracts and/or authorise others to do so. The Clubs shall do nothing to infringe such rights and shall at their own cost do all such things and sign all such documents as are necessary to facilitate the exercise of the Sponsorship Rights and enable the FAW, its agents and licensees to comply with the terms of Sponsorship Contracts, including without limitation the provision of access, facilities and services and the right to use Club, Official and Player names, logos, images and biographies.

- a) “Sponsorship Rights” means any and all sponsorship rights worldwide in perpetuity relating to the Competition, including without limitation, rights to use Competition designations (such as title sponsor, official sponsor, official partner and/or official supplier of the Competition), Competition advertising rights, rights to use Competition logos, rights to Competition press and other public relations campaigns, rights to Competition licensing, merchandising and promotions but excluding Transmission Rights.
- b) “Sponsorship Contracts” means any and all contracts entered into by the FAW and/or its agents and licensees in or ancillary to the exercise of the Sponsorship Rights.

29) Notices

All notices required to be given to the Association by any of these rules shall be addressed to the Chief Executive Officer, at the offices of The Football Association of Wales, Hensol, Pontyclun CF72 8JY

U16's GIRLS WELSH CUP COMPETITION

Rules apply as the Football Association of Wales Women's Welsh Cup except for the following variations:

1. Name of the Cup

The Competition shall be called "The Football Association of Wales Under 16 Girls Welsh Cup Competition".

7. Admission Criteria and Procedure

The Competition shall be open to all girl's clubs who play all of their football under the jurisdiction of the Football Association of Wales, are affiliated to the Football Association of Wales or their Area Association and whose registered ground meets the Ground Criteria (Rule 11) except for the provision of changing and showering facilities as proscribed in 11b) (i). The National Cup Board may reject the entry of any Club if they deem such a cause desirable.

9. Competition Format

The format of the competition should be determined based upon the number of entries submitted. A straight-knock out format should be used from the quarter-final stage onwards, but earlier rounds may use an alternative format. The National Cup Board shall confirm the structure of the competition once the entry deadline has passed and shall communicate to participating Clubs at the earliest opportunity.

13. Provisions for all Matches

- a) The duration of each match shall be 40 minutes each way. The Referee shall allow for time wasted or lost through accident or other cause. The Referee is the sole judge of allowance of time whether lost through accident or other cause and their decision on this matter is not subject to appeal.
- b) If the match, which is designated as a knockout match, ends in a draw after 80 minutes played, it must be decided on penalties in accordance with the International Football Association Board procedures. There is no extra time in this competition.
- c) Kicks from the penalty mark are taken in accordance with the procedure laid down in the *IFAB Laws of the Game*.
- d) The referee decides which goal will be used for the kicks:
 - i) If either goal could be used for the kicks, then, in the presence of the two captains, the referee tosses a coin to decide which goal will be used.
 - ii) For reasons of safety/security, state of the field of play, lighting or other similar reasons, the referee may decide which goal will be used without tossing a coin. Such decisions are final and require no justification.
- e) To ensure that the procedure is strictly observed, the referee is assisted by their team, who also note down the numbers of the players on each team who have taken kicks from the penalty mark.
- f) Any late kick-off must be reported by the Referee to The Football Association of Wales and the National Cup Board shall have power to impose a fine.

20) Provisions Concerning Eligibility of Players

- a) The Cup shall be competed for annually in accordance with these Rules and matches shall be placed under the Laws of the Game as approved by the International Football Association Board. Unless a satisfactory reason is given, each team shall represent the full available strength of each competing Club.
- b) In order to be eligible to participate in the competition, players must be registered with the Club, no later than 5pm on the last working day before the Conference Date and fulfil all the conditions set out in FAW Regulations for the Registration of Players

A registered member is one who is registered with the Association in accordance with Section H of the FAW Rules.

When a match has been postponed or abandoned, only those players eligible on the Conference Date will be eligible to play in the rearranged match.

- c) A player can play for more than one competing Club in the Season, provided that they are duly qualified according to the Rules of the Association.
- d) A Player who has been suspended may play in postponed or abandoned ties after the term of her suspension has expired.
- e) Clubs must confirm their official team sheet including 11 starting players, the names of the nominated substitutes (maximum five) and club officials seated in the technical area on COMET (or any such system as authorised by the FAW):
 - i) At least thirty (30) minutes before the advertised time of kick off for all rounds up to the semi-final.
 - ii) For the semi-final and final ties, team sheets must be submitted no later than sixty (60) before the advertised time of kick off.
 - iii) If the match is to be transmitted "live" on terrestrial or television or to be streamed by the FAW or one of our partners, team sheets must be submitted no later than seventy-five (75) minutes before the advertised time of kick off.Any Club failing to carry out these provisions will be fined a sum not exceeding £100.00.
- f) After the team sheets have been provided to the referee by both teams, and if the match has not yet kicked off, no replacement is allowed except in the following cases:
 - i) If any of the 11 players indicated on the team sheet as forming the starting 11 are not able to start the match due to unexpected physical incapacity, they may only be replaced by any of the five substitutes listed on the initial team sheet, with the exception of the Goalkeeper, who may be replaced by a non-listed substitute. The substitute(s) in question may then only be replaced by a registered player (players) not listed on the initial team sheet, so that the quota of substitutes is not reduced. During the match, five players may still be substituted.
 - ii) If any of the five substitutes listed on the team sheet are not able to be fielded due to unexpected physical incapacity, they may only be replaced by a registered player not listed on the initial team sheet.
- g) A Club may at its discretion use five substitute Players at any time in a Cup Tie, except to replace a Player who has been sent-off from the game by the Referee after play has commenced. Substitute Players must be nominated to the Referee on the official team sheet.

During the match, each team:

- i) may use a maximum of five substitutes;
- ii) has a maximum of three substitution opportunities;
- iii) may additionally make substitutions at half-time;
- iv) where both teams make a substitution at the same time, this will count as a substitution opportunity for each team.

- h) The player must be in Academic Year ten (10) or eleven (11), as defined by the FAW Rules or not have attained the age of 16 years before the 1st September of each season.

19. Provisions Concerning Referees

- d) Scale of Expenses to be paid to Referees

An allowance of £0.45 per mile will be allowed to all officials officiating who travel by private car. There is an expectation that where reasonable, match officials shall travel together.

Officials shall be entitled to claim a meal allowance of up to £10, upon production of receipts, for all matches where travel exceeds 150 miles. In the event of doubt, a route finder must be used to prove distance travelled.

- e) Scale of Fees to be paid to Referees

All Rounds prior to Quarter-finals:

Referee £25; Assistant Referees £18 each

Quarter-finals:

Referee £30; Assistant Referees £20 each

Semi-final:

Referee £40; Assistant Referees and 4th Official £30 each

Final:

Referee £60 and a souvenir medal

Assistant Referees and 4th Official £40 each and a souvenir medal.