



RULES

1. **VENUE** – TBC
2. **REPRESENTATION** – Groups may enter One team each competition
3. **ELIGIBILITY**
 - 3.1. A squad of 7 members, all of whom must be aged between 17 and 28 and on 1st September 2021 and full members of a Club affiliated to NFYFC.
4. **PROCEDURE**
 - 4.1. The County Final will be played on an Astro surface with a pitch size between 25m and 50m long and between 16m and 35m wide. Recommended goal size is 3.66m wide by 1.83m high.
 - 4.2. For 5 a side leagues each team may field 4 outfield players and a goalkeeper on the pitch at any one time.
 - 4.3. Substitutions are unlimited during the game, can only be made when the ball is dead and only with the Referees consent. Outgoing substitutes must leave the field of play before the replacement enters the playing area. The oncoming players are active immediately and can receive the ball. Substitutes must stand outside the pitch perimeter and spectators must not enter the field of play under any circumstances.
 - 4.4. The match will consist of two equal halves of 4 minutes with 1 minute for half time and a change of ends.
 - 4.5. Points will be awarded as follows:

Win	3 points
Score Draw	2 points
No Score Draw	1 point
Lose	Nil
 - 4.6. Extra Time – In the Final and Semi-Finals, should the scores be equal at full-time, a further two minutes shall be played each way. In league matches no extra time will be played and appropriate points will be awarded.
 - 4.6.1. If, after extra time, the scores are still level that match will be decided by kicks from the penalty mark with the best of 5 penalties winning. Teams may choose which 5 players take the penalties.
 - 4.6.2. If after 5 penalties the scores are still tied, sudden death penalties will continue until a penalty is missed. The same 5 penalty takers should continue.
 - 4.7. Teams may not change their goalkeeper more than once during the course of the game. A change of goalkeeper must be authorized by the Referee.
 - 4.8. NO screw in studded footwear or blades is permitted to be worn by any player. Only training shoes, moulded soles and astro boots may be worn. All Players must wear shin pads. The wearing of any form of jewellery (including, without limitation, watches) is not permitted during play. Referees may refuse to allow players to play with inappropriate footwear, without shin pads and/or are wearing any form of jewellery.
 - 4.9. The first half will begin with one team taking a centre; the second half will begin with the other team taking a centre. After a goal has been scored the game will be re-started by the team who conceded the goal taking a centre.

- 4.10. Only the defending goalkeeper is allowed to play the ball inside the goal area and only he may handle the ball in this area.
- 4.11. An outfield player gaining or seeking to gain an advantage by entering his own goal area will have a penalty kick awarded against his team.
- 4.12. An outfield player entering his opponent's penalty area will be penalized. The game will be re-started from the goalkeeper.
- 4.13. A goalkeeper gaining or seeking to gain an advantage by leaving his area or by playing the ball when it is outside the area will have a penalty awarded against his team.
- 4.14. The goalkeeper must return the ball into play by rolling it out of his area with an under-arm bowling action. The ball is returned any other way a free-kick will be given to the opposition two metres outside the area. A teammate receiving the ball from the 'keeper may not return the ball directly to him - the ball must first be touched by another teammate or an opponent. A free kick will be awarded against the offending team from the place where the defending player returned the ball unless it is deemed by the Referee that a player returning the ball to the Goal-Keeper is gaining an advantage then a penalty will be awarded.
- 4.15. The ball must not be played above kick board height. An indirect free kick will be awarded against the last player to touch the ball before it goes above kick board height, regardless of intent.
- 4.16. The ball must never be played with the head even if it is below board height. A free kick will be awarded for infringement.
- 4.17. If the ball goes out of play off the goalkeeper, the game will be restarted by indirect free kick by the same goalkeeper.
- 4.18. A goal may be scored from any point within the field of play. The only exception is that goalkeepers may not score against their opponents (except in penalty shoot-outs). Goal keepers are not permitted to take penalties (except in penalty shoot-outs).
- 4.19. No slide tackles are allowed. Infringement of this rule will lead to a free kick being awarded against the offending players' team.
- 4.20. Professional fouls will be penalized with a penalty and the guilty player may face disciplinary action.
- 4.21. All free kicks will be direct with the exception of over board height (see 2.12) which is deemed indirect.
- 4.22. Opposition players must be at least two metres from where any free-kick is taken. If opposing players do not retreat the required two meters the kick may be moved forward one metre. If a free kick is awarded on or near the goal area it can be moved up to two metres backwards to allow defenders to be two metres from the ball.
- 4.23. The goalkeeper must be on the goal line when a penalty is being taken. Players may only take one step whilst taking a penalty.
- 4.24. The Referees decision on all on-field matters is final and no discussions will be entered into either on or off the pitch.
- 4.25. Players may be sent to the 'sin bin' at the referee's discretion depending on the offence. The duration of the sin bin will be 2 minutes for which a blue card will be shown. A player may only be sin binned once per game as a second offence would involve a second blue card which would automatically be followed by a red card and a sending off.
- 4.26. If a player is given a red card whilst off the field of play (for unacceptable conduct on the sideline), the team must correspondingly reduce the number of players on the field.
- 4.27. Referees must be treated with respect from all teams. Teams found guilty of abusing Referees will be removed.
- 4.28. The referee's decision is final