

Cheshire Girls Football League Administration Rules and Constitution Season 2017-18

This combination of clubs shall be designated the Cheshire Girls' Football League (CGFL) and shall consist of four age groups, under 9's, under 11's, under 13's and under 15's (all two year age banding) and as many divisions as required to fulfil fixtures.

Discipline

The CGFL Management Committee hereby requires all participating Clubs and Club members that they must comply with the RESPECT and other relevant codes of conduct for Coaches, Spectators and Players at all times. Furthermore all Clubs and their members are expected to demonstrate high standards of sporting and friendly behavior to other League participants, officials and spectators.

Breach of the above orders and instructions will be dealt with under League rule 5(H). Clubs can expect the Management Committee to issue at its discretion written warnings and/or fines and/or exclude individuals, teams or Clubs who fail to follow the League's orders and instructions.

League Officials may on match days issue verbal warnings/advice to Club Officials/Managers/Coaches. Such warnings will be intended to address quickly any issues and thus avoid any further action or escalation involving the Management Committee. Clubs should thus ensure that any such warnings/advice are noted and acted upon as required.

Clubs are also advised that League Officials may on rare occasions at their discretion video record or photograph match day events. This video footage or images may be used subsequently by the League and/or County FA in disciplinary proceedings or alternatively used to illustrate good practice.

Misconduct

At a meeting of the Management Committee, any club found guilty of misconduct (including breaching of codes of conduct) or persistent infringement of League rules or whose conduct has been undesirable, the Management Committee shall have the power to fine, suspend or exclude the defaulting club/team from further participation in the Competition in the present season and thereafter the ensuing season(s). Also it must be noted that the registration of any player, whose parent(s), guardian(s), or other family members are guilty of any misconduct whilst attending matches in the jurisdiction of this League, may have their registration terminated or suspended by the Management Committee.

Qualification of Players

All League players must be **over 7 and under 9 at midnight August 31st (under 9s)**.
All League players must be **over 9 and under 11 at midnight August 31st (under 11s)**.
All League players must be **over 11 and under 13 at midnight August 31st (under 13s)**.
All League players must be **over 13 and under 15 at midnight August 31st (under 15s)**.

Player Registration

All clubs must register 13 players (11 v 11), 11 players (9 v 9), 7 players (7 v 7)* and 5 players (5 v 5)* in the correct manner by the **21 July 2017** when requesting League membership. The remaining players must be correctly registered with the League before player ID cards are issued. These ID cards **MUST** be available for checking by the opposition prior to the start of each match. Clubs officials must also display their ID card during the matches.

Teams failing to register a minimum number of players in the correct manner will not be guaranteed a place in the League for the first competitions at the start of the season. The team will be placed on a waiting list and entry to the League will be determined by the Management Committee for competitions scheduled for later in the season. The deadline for entry into the second round of competitions in all age groups shall be **30 September**. Failure to comply with this second deadline may result in refusal to enter CGFL for that current season. However, it may be possible to arrange friendlies with teams within the League. For the U9s and U11s Development Leagues, the Committee will try to accommodate new teams as and when it is feasible.

Format, length of games, Kick-off times, Team responsibilities for equipment and matches

The times to be played in League matches shall be:

U9s: (5 v 5) will be 10 mins each way (5 minutes maximum half time) no more than 60 mins in any 24-hour period. Size **3** footballs to be used.

U11s: (7 v 7) will be 15 minutes each way (5 minutes maximum half time) no more than 60 minutes in any 24-hour period. Size **4** footballs to be used.

Under 13s (9 v 9) will be 25 minutes each way (5 minutes maximum half time). Size **4** footballs to be used.

Under 15's (11v11) will be 35 minutes each way (10 minutes maximum half time). Size **5** footballs to be used.

*If a Club is entering more than one team in these formats, then the minimum number to be registered is one more than the format Eg For 5v5, a minimum of 6 players **MUST** be registered for each team.

All matches **must** kick off promptly at the appointed times. It is therefore imperative that teams arrive well in advance of their kickoff times to set up the equipment on their allocated pitch and to check ID cards **prior** to the match. If a late kickoff is reported to the League, the Management Committee may impose **a fine of £20**. For U15s and U13s matches, the referee reserves the right to shorten the match if the kickoff is delayed because a team(s) is/are not ready by the appointed kickoff time. Each team manager will be informed of the new times (e.g. 5 minute reduction on each half) prior to kickoff. For small sided games, it is also essential to kick off promptly. For these matches, the referee reserves the right to shorten the match by up to 2 minutes each way to avoid a knock on effect to later games.

All matches will be played on Saturdays (other days may be included as required to complete fixtures at the beginning and towards the end of the season) at Hartford Moss Farm Recreation Centre, or alternative venues as determined by the Management Committee eg (Hartford Sports Campus).

*If a Club is entering more than one team in these formats, then the minimum number to be registered is one more than the format Eg For 5v5, a minimum of 6 players **MUST** be registered for each team.

U9s (5 v5)

Each team will play alternate weeks (except when conditions cause different Divisions to play on consecutive weeks or the same day at different times) playing normally a maximum of two fixtures with the first match to start at **9.30am** and the second match to start at **10.05am**. The duration of each match will be 10 minutes each way with no longer than a 5 minute break at half time. A maximum 10-minute change over time will be allowed between matches.

If the Divisions include more than 22 teams as the season progresses, it may be necessary to add kick of times to include an additional Division, eg **11am and 11.35am**.

U11s (7v7)

Each team will play alternate weeks (except when conditions cause different Leagues to play on consecutive weeks or the same day at different times) playing a maximum of two fixtures with the first match to start at **9.30am** and the second match to start at **10.15am** or the first match to start at **11am** and the second at **11.45am**. The duration of each match will be 15 minutes each way with no longer than a 5 minute break at half time. A maximum 10-minute change over time will be allowed between matches.

U9s & U11s (on grass pitches)

Each team will report to the Barn and collect and erect one half set of goals, two goal anchors, a net, two corner posts and **each home team** a Respect Barrier which must cover the entire length of one side of the pitch. Teams that erect a Respect Barrier of insufficient length may be fined the same amount as teams who fail to setup a Respect Barrier. At the end of the second match, if no other team is playing on that pitch afterwards, each team must also be responsible for dismantling and return of ALL equipment at the end of the second match. The **Home team** in the second match is responsible for the return of the Respect Barrier. Failure to do so will result in the defaulting team(s) incurring a Club charge of £15.00 payable to the League. If it is not possible to identify which team did not comply with this instruction, then the fine will be distributed between both teams playing on that pitch.

When transporting the crossbar for the goals between the barn storage and the pitch and back to the barn, this **MUST** be done by **TWO** persons (one at each end). This is for health and safety reasons and has undergone a risk assessment. Failure to comply with this instruction will result in a fine of up to £10.

Mini soccer goal nets must be pegged down with a minimum of 8 pegs provided by the team or securely tucked under the goals before the goal anchors are inserted, particularly on the rugby pitches. Failure to do so will incur a fine of not less than £10.00 and the game awarded to the opposition. Each manager by the end of play of the first match will pay the referee a fee of £5.00 (Total = £10) for U9s (5v5) and £7 (Total = £14) on the **first match** for U11s (7v7).

U13s

The U13s (9v9) will kick off at **11.30am/12.30pm** or as per fixtures**. All teams kicking off on grass pitches at 11.30am will be required to erect one goal with net, two corner posts and their own Respect Barrier and technical area on their allocated pitch **before** the kick off time. Each team's Respect Barrier must be setup, so it covers ½ the length of the pitch on the same side of the pitch and must be in place before the match starts. Teams that erect a Respect Barrier of insufficient length may incur a fine of the same amount as teams who fail to setup a Respect Barrier.

The goals, goal anchors, nets and corner posts must be collected from the barn and/ or other designated storage facility. This will require two adults. Goals must be pegged down with a minimum of 8 pegs **provided by the team** (failure to do so by the defaulting team will incur a club fine not less than £15.00). Each manager will pay the referee £8 for the match (i.e. that is half of the referee's fee – total = £16).

The teams on grass pitches kicking off at 12.30pm will not normally be required to erect the goals but may have to move them to another pitch and will be responsible for dismantling and return of all of the equipment to the barn/designated storage facility in a safe and tidy manner. Some of the teams kicking off at 11.30am will be informed by the Barn officials if they are required to return the equipment after their match. Failure to do so will result in the defaulting club(s) incurring a charge of £15.00. If it is not possible to identify which team did not comply with this instruction, then the fine will be distributed between both teams playing on that pitch. ALL Teams on grass pitches will be required to erect their own Respect Barrier and take it home after their match.

ALL teams playing 9v9 are required to have their own RESPECT barrier. These can be purchased through the League at a cost of £40. Please contact the League Secretary to order and the League will then invoice for payment.

U15s

The U15s will kick off at **9.30am** or as per fixtures indicate. All teams playing (11v11) will be expected to provide their own nets, two corner posts and RESPECT barriers (which can be ordered through the League). Each team's Respect Barrier must be setup on the same side, so that it covers ½ the length of the pitch each and must be in place before the match starts. Teams that erect a Respect Barrier of insufficient length may incur a fine of the same amount as teams who fail to setup a Respect Barrier. Goals must be pegged down with a minimum of **8 pegs provided by the team and to the satisfaction of the referee**(failure to do so by the defaulting team will incur a Club fine not less than £15.00). Each manager will pay the referee £10 for each U15s match (i.e. that is half of the referee's fee – total = £20).

All Age Groups

The pitch allocation for ALL matches (including those on 3G) will be displayed on the noticeboard outside the Moss Farm Changing rooms close to the Match Report Letter Box in addition to being published on Twitter (<https://twitter.com/CheshireGirlsFL>) by Friday evening.

If matches are scheduled for 3G pitches, then Cheshire FA guidelines for footwear etc **must** be followed. **No spectators** are allowed on the 3G pitches but must stay in the designated spectator areas.

For ALL matches, the team is expected to outline a technical area before the match starts as per the pitch plan illustrated on the noticeboard using cones. No more than 2 officials and ALL substitutes (when not playing in the match) should remain in this technical area during the playing times. Clubs breaching this rule will be fined not less than £5.

Respect barriers that cover the entire length of one side of the pitch (Home team U9s & U11s) or ½ a pitch (each team U13s & U15s) **MUST** be used on grass pitches. Respect Barriers must be in place before the match starts. Failure to do so will incur a fine of not less than £15 for the team at fault. Teams that erect a Respect Barrier of insufficient length may incur a fine of the same amount as teams who fail to setup a Respect Barrier.

Managers are responsible for their side line at all times and any infringements of the rules will result in sanctions imposed against their Club. Spectators, parents, managers and coaching staff are NOT allowed to stand **near to or alongside or behind the goals**. Clubs found to breach this rule will be fined not less than £15.00.

Notice of cancellation/forfeit of any match must be given without delay by the postponing Club or notice of a Club being unable to fulfil any match, **MUST** be given 21 days prior to the match by the Club to the League Secretary, Fixtures' Secretary, Referees' Secretary and the Secretary of the opposing Club. Clubs giving less than 14 days' notice shall be dealt with by the Management Committee who shall inflict any penalty it may deem suitable.

Cancelling a match will result in a fine of £20 unless it is within 24 hours of kick off. **Clubs that cancel games within 24 hours of the game's scheduled kick off will incur a severe penalty as determined by the Management Committee, with a minimum fine of £50 payable.** Clubs seeking postponements under Rule 10(E) (ii) must supply full written details on school headed paper or equivalent from the school head teacher/P.E. teacher/teacher in charge of the event as to player names and activity taking place. Failure to supply written details not exceeding 14 days after the postponement will result in the fixture being awarded to the opposition.

Without exception, all managers must have their players' identity cards available for inspection **five minutes prior** to kick off and all players will meet at the pitch's centre circle for identification purposes for player eligibility. Clubs failing to produce their Club's players' identity cards will be fined not less than £20.00 and the fixture awarded to the opposing team and/or dealt with as the Management Committee decide. Any player that does not have an ID card cannot be allowed to play in the League's scheduled matches. With the agreement of the opposition and the referee, the matches can be played as a friendly but a match report is **still required** stating that it is a friendly and the reason for this.

Club Kit Colours

Away teams must make sure that before kick off their kit colours DO NOT CLASH including their goalkeeper's shirt, with the final decision resting with the referee. Infringement will result in the club being fined £20.00 and the fixture may be awarded to the opposition. Any fixture, when played under the referee's permission, when there is a breach of this rule, will be considered as a friendly and the sanctions still levied on the Club. Teams failing to provide shirts with numbers will not be permitted to play and shall be fined £10/shirt up to a maximum of £30.00 and the fixture awarded to the opposing team. Duplicate shirt numbers within a team **will not be permitted**; infringement will result in the player being excluded from the fixture(s) until the player has changed to a different numbered shirt that does not duplicate any other from their team on the pitch.

Players must have their shirts, shorts and socks clearly visible at all times during the game(s). No player will be allowed to play in matches without the appropriate protective equipment e.g. shin pads for ALL players and goalkeeping gloves for the goalkeeper. On no account will players be allowed to wear normal spectacles during a match. **Only** Safety Sports spectacles are allowed or the player plays without their spectacles.

ALL players must remove jewelry including wrist watches/fitbits and piercings before playing a match. In the event that it cannot be removed (e.g. newly pierced ears – the area must be securely taped). They will only be allowed to continue playing if in the referee's opinion it is safe to do so.

Managers/Coaches

The League will issue each Team Officials (Manager's, Coaches and Assistants) with a League identity card which will contain Club name and Team Official's name and photograph. These identity cards will only be issued to Team Officials who are listed against the Clubs team(s) on the Whole Game System AND who have valid CRC check listed on the Whole Game System at the time the ID card is being issued.

Each club must ensure that their Team Officials have these ID cards clearly visible on every occasion. Team Officials will be required to produce their cards when requested by referees and League Officials. These League ID cards must be current and from the present season. Failure to comply with this rule will incur a fine of £20.

Team Officials must remain in the team's designated technical area during matches unless summoned on to the pitch by the referee. **Only** those Team Officials in the technical area should be issuing instructions to their players. Please ensure that parents and spectators are made aware of this good practice and that their role is to be encouraging by positive comments for all players on the pitch or to keep quiet.

All Clubs, Managers, Players, Parents/Guardians and other spectators will be expected to abide by the principles of the CGFL Code of Conduct and the Notes for Moss Farm Users.

Match Reports

Match reports should be fully completed with the full names of the players printed on the form. No more than 16 players for U15s, 14 players for U13s, no more than 14 players for U11s (7 v 7) and no more than 10 players for U9s (5 v 5) can be included in each match. Players not used in a match should be struck out before the report is signed by the teams involved. The match report should be signed after the match by both team managers and the referee. Match reports should then be posted in the identified letterbox at the side of the old Moss Farm Swimming Baths (Not at Cheshire FA Headquarters). If this is overlooked, the match result must be telephoned or emailed to the League Secretary before **6.30pm** on the match day and the report should then be posted or scanned and emailed to the Secretary to arrive no later than the following Tuesday. It is the responsibility of the **designated Home team** to ensure that the match report is completed fully and accurately. This must include ***both team names*** (make sure this is accurate – there are several teams from the same club in some age groups), ***the final score, date, age group and kickoff time.*** Failure to complete the form fully or in the correct manner or to submit the form/result by the deadline(s) will incur a fine of up to £10 for the designated home team for any omission(s).

League Meetings

All clubs **must** be represented at each League meeting. Failure to send a representative (There are no restrictions on who this may be. However, the person present is expected to communicate the information from the meeting to ALL relevant Club members) will result in a fine of £20. Clubs that are guilty of persistent non-attendance at League meetings will be dealt with under the Misconduct rules as above. Failure to have a Club representative at the AGM will incur a fine of **£50**.

De-registration of players

If a player decides that they do not wish to continue playing football and leaves your club, a de-registration form should be completed (available from the web-site) and returned to the Registration Secretary as soon as possible after the player has made clear their intentions. Failure to do this in a timely manner may result in any requests for postponements etc. of fixtures not being accepted by the Management Committee because on paper the team has sufficient players registered to play the match.

This does NOT apply to players who are transferring to either another team within the Club or to a different Club where the player transfer form (also available on the website) should be completed instead in addition to the WGS process. The deadline for the transfer of players between Clubs or teams is **January 31**. The deadline for signing a new player who has not played for another team in CGFL in the current season is **March 31**.

Summary of League Administration Fines

Breach	Fine	Page Number
Misconduct (also 5(H) of SCORY)	Up to £50	1
Late Kick Off	£20	3
Failure to return equipment to the Barn/Compound	£15	3
Failure to carry cross bar by two persons	Up to £10	4
Failure to provide net pegs / or secure under goals	£10	4 & 5
Failure to erect a RESPECT barrier where required (also 2(D))	£15	5 & 6
Failure to mark out a technical area (also 2D)	£5	6
Standing behind or alongside goals	£15	6
Failure to fulfil a fixture [also 10E(i) & (iii)]	Up to £50 plus any expenses incurred	6
Failure to produce ID cards/ playing the match without seeing ID cards	£20	7
Failure to avoid clash of colours (away team)	£20	7
Failure to display numbers on players' shirts (also 9A)	Up to £10/shirt with max agg £30	7
Failure to display team official ID card	£20	7
Match Report breaches: incomplete/ no result by deadline/ failure to submit	Up to £10	8
Failure of a Club to be represented at a League Meeting	£20	8
Failure of a Club to be represented at AGM (also 6H)	£50	8