

## **SUNDAY CHALLENGE CUP RULES (sponsored by CNG Ltd)**

1. The Cup shall be called "The Sunday Challenge Cup".
2. The Cup is the property of the Harrogate & District Football Association. The President and Treasurer of the Harrogate & District Football Association shall be, for all intents and purposes, the legal owners of the Cup in trust for the Association.
3. The entire control and management of the above competition shall be vested in the Executive of the Harrogate & District Football Association and all correspondence shall be through the Secretary.
4. The Cup shall be competed for annually by Sunday League Clubs which are members of the Association. Reserve teams are eligible to play in this competition if they wish, but where a club is permitted to play more than one team, no player shall be allowed to play for more than one team.
5. The entrance fee shall be £20. Each competing club shall forward the entrance fee to the Treasurer within 14 days of the receipt of the invoice. Failure to do so will result in a fine of £15 and may result in the expulsion from the competition.
6. A player shall not be eligible to play for more than one team in any one season.
7. In the case of postponed matches, only those players shall be allowed to play who were eligible on the date fixed for the playing of the round, but a player who has been suspended may play in postponed ties after the term of suspension has expired, and providing any outstanding fines have been paid.
8. The Council shall have the power to take disciplinary action against any competing club or player of any competing club who has been proved guilty of any breach of the Rules of the Competition or of the Football Association.
9. The ties shall be drawn and matches played as the Council may determine. The Conference date for such matches shall be the third Saturday or Sunday in each month. Where floodlights are available the game may be played in the week prior or week subsequent to that date, subject to the agreement of both clubs. A team unable to provide a ground for any reason must concede home advantage.

Where games are likely to be called off within 36 hours of the scheduled kick off time clubs must consider playing the game on their opponents ground, if that is playable or consider the use of a neutral venue. Failure to take this action may result in the offending club/clubs being fined and/or expelled from the Competition. The Secretary shall, notify each club of the name of the club against which it is drawn, the date on which the match is to be played and the time of kick off. Clubs must acknowledge by first class post or e-mail the receipt of the draw. Non-acknowledgement shall incur a fine of £15.00. The kick off time shall coincide with those of local league club competitions, unless specifically stated otherwise in the official fixture list.

A list of players registered with the club shall be forwarded to the Secretary of the Association prior to the playing of the first round of the Competition. Any subsequent transfers or registrations must be notified to the Secretary in writing or by e-mail. No player shall be allowed to play in the competition unless a confirmation has been received from the Association that the player is registered on the original or any subsequent list. In all rounds of the competition, a player shall be a "registered and recognised playing member" of his Club under the Rules. A registered member is one who is either, in the case of a player with a written contract, registered with The Football Association or in the case of a player without a written contract, registered with a League in which his Club competes in the current season. A recognised playing member is one who has either actually played in a recognised League or Cup game for the Club in the current season or has been registered with the District FA. No player shall be eligible to take part in the Competition unless qualified to play for the same club by 31<sup>st</sup> December in that season. In exceptional circumstances this Association will consider registrations, after the 31<sup>st</sup> December, subject to the participating club submitting full details, listing reasons, in writing to the Secretary of the Association. Any decisions concerning late registrations will be binding on all parties.

Any club found to have played an ineligible player may be dismissed from the competition and/or fined £15.00 per ineligible player.

The home team must provide at least two footballs, which are fit to play. In the Semi-finals, both teams must provide a football which is fit for play. The referee shall notify the captain(s) if he intends to make a report as to the football(s) being unsuitable.

Clubs in default shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £30.00. The home team must also provide flags for the Assistant Referees. Failure to do so will result in a fine of £15.00.

Not less than 30 minutes before the time fixed for the commencement of the game, each team shall provide the referee and a representative of the opposing club, with a written list of all players taking part in the match, with the shirt number against the players name as per the team sheet, which the referee shall send with the result of the match, to the secretary, within 2 days. Any club failing to comply shall be liable to a fine of £15.00

The referee shall report all late starts and inform the captain of the offending team of his intention. Clubs held responsible for late starts shall be fined £5.00 for the first five minutes or part thereof and then fined £1.00 per minute for a period of 30 minutes. Second or subsequent offences shall be dealt with by the Management Committee. The Council shall also deal with cases in which a start is delayed by more than 30 minutes. The Secretary of the home club must inform their opponents and match officials of full particulars of situation of ground, colours, time of kick off and means of reaching the ground at least 5 days prior to the playing of the match. The away club and officials shall acknowledge receipt of such particulars. Any club failing to comply shall be liable to a fine.

10. Unless otherwise mutually arranged, each tie including the Semi-Finals in the first instance shall be played on the ground of the club which is first drawn in the ballot. Where a ground is considered unsuitable for a cup tie, opponents of the home club may appeal

within three days of receipt of the official draw. The Council may order the match to be played on the ground of the appealing club or on a neutral ground. Where an appeal fails, the complaining club may be called upon to pay all or part of the expenses incurred to decide the appeal. A Referee shall have the power to decide as to the fitness of the ground in all matches. Each club must take precautions to keep its ground in a playable condition. Where the state of the ground is in doubt the home club must have a referee, who has no connection nor had any connection with either club, visit the ground at least two hours before the time advertised for kick off. If the match is called off, the home club shall notify their opponents and the match officials immediately. Clubs failing to do so shall be liable for the travelling expenses incurred by their opponents and match officials. In the event of a match not being played because of circumstances of which clubs have no control, the match officials, if present, shall be entitled to half fee plus expenses. If a match is not played due to one club being in default, that club shall be responsible for the payment of the officials, if present, their full fee plus expenses.

If the club in default is not present, the other club must pay the officials and the club in default must reimburse that club such payment

Postponed matches shall be played on a date to be arranged by the Council. In the final the executive shall select the ground and be responsible for all match arrangements.

11. The duration of each match shall be 90 minutes. The half time interval shall not exceed 15 minutes duration and shall not be amended except with the consent of the referee.
12. The dimensions and marking of the ground shall be in accordance with Law 1 of Association Football. Goal nets and corner flags must be used. The Home club shall be responsible for fulfilling this rule. Where adequate arrangements are not made it shall be liable to a

fine not exceeding £20.00. Technical areas shall be restricted to 8 persons.

13. The Council shall appoint referees for all matches and competing clubs shall appoint assistants and failure to provide an assistant shall result in a fine of £15.00 (except in the Semi-finals and Final when they shall be appointed by the Council). A fourth official may be appointed to the Final. The Council shall have the power to appoint assistant referees in protested ties. The referee's fee shall be £20.00 except in the Final where they will be presented with a trophy instead of a fee. The officials shall be allowed out of pocket expenses, i.e. second class rail fare or bus fare operating on the day of the match, or for those officials who travel by private car expenses at the rate of 40p per mile. (This may be reviewed during the season.) Where the Referee or Assistant Referee fails to appear, or is unable to continue with his duties, both clubs must agree to a replacement match official. Clubs failing to agree shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £20.00 and could result in the expulsion of both clubs from the competition. In the event of any match in the competition resulting in a draw, extra time of 15 minutes each way shall be played. If scores are level after extra time, penalties shall be taken according to the rules of F.I.F.A.
14. A club failing to play in any tie without sufficient cause may be adjudged to be guilty of serious misconduct and be liable to a fine not exceeding £100.00, and may be dealt with under Rule 8 of the Association.
15. Any club intending to withdraw must inform the Secretary of the opposing club and the Secretary, in writing, with the reasons for their intended withdrawal at least fourteen days before the date fixed for playing or they shall be reported to the Council, who shall have the power to compel such offending club to pay the expenses incurred by their opponents or to take such action as they shall deem expedient. A league match shall not be played in lieu of a cup tie.

16. The Secretary of each club shall complete and send the relevant District FA Match Report Form with the result of the match together with the full names of players who played and the referees mark by post or e-mail to reach the Secretary of the Association not later than the 4<sup>th</sup> day following the match. Clubs failing to comply with this rule shall be fined £15.00. In the event of a postponement for any reason the club postponing must inform the Secretary, the opposing club and the Referee without delay and must submit a full report to the Secretary within three days of the match. Clubs failing to comply with this rule shall be fined or be dealt with by the Council.
17. (a) Protests and Objections relating to any violation of the Cup Rules or Rules of the Association, must be lodged with the Secretary within 48 hours (Sundays not included) of the date of playing the tie on which the protest or appeal arises, accompanied by a deposit of £25.00 which shall be forfeited if the Council consider the protest trivial or groundless. Protests shall be made in writing and two copies sent to the Secretary by recorded delivery and a copy sent to the club protested against by recorded delivery.
- (b) All protest shall fully state the grounds on which they are founded.
- (c) Any objections relative to the ground or appurtenances of the game must be made to the referee and captain of the opposing team, in writing at least, 15 minutes before the time fixed for kick off. If possible the fault shall be rectified.
- (d) If the Council subsequently discover that any rule has, in their opinion, been violated by mutual agreement between clubs, or otherwise, it shall be in the power of the Executive to disqualify any such clubs from further competing in the ties, or to order the tie to be replayed and otherwise deal with the offenders, without any formal protest being laid.
- (e) The Council shall have the power to compel any protesting club to pay such expenses of the club protested against and the club

engaged in the protest to pay such sums as may be considered necessary towards defraying any expenses incurred.

(f) No objection or protest shall be withdrawn, except by leave of the Council. In dealing with any protest, the Council may take into consideration the possession of any knowledge by the protesting club, which, if properly used, might have obviated the protest.

18. Appeals against the decision of the Council must be made to the West Riding County Football Association in accordance with the County Appeals Rule (No 5).
19. When the winning club has been determined, the cup shall be handed to the representative of such club. The Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer shall give an undertaking to return the Cup in good and clean condition. Should the Cup be damaged, destroyed or lost the Club shall be liable for the cost of an equivalent replacement plus the cost of any engraving. The holders of the Cup shall return the Cup to the Secretary on or before the first day of February each year. Clubs failing to return the Cup by the said date shall be fined a sum not exceeding £100.00. In addition to the Cup, the Association may present medals or mementos to the players in the final tie. When a player is ordered from the field for misconduct, the medal to which he is entitled may be withheld at the discretion of the Management Committee.
20. The final tie will be played on such date and ground as the Council may determine. The Council shall have the power to take, for the final tie, the ground of any club affiliated to the Association. The final shall be played as the Council may determine.
21. In the final the Association shall take all receipts and pay all reasonable expenses.
22. The Council shall appoint an Emergency Committee of three, if necessary, to deal with any questions which may arise suddenly.

23. In the event of the opposing clubs having the same colours, the visiting team must change. In the case of same or similar colours of the finalists BOTH clubs must change unless prior mutual agreement has been reached between the two competing teams and the Council of this Association have agreed.
24. All notifications of alterations of these rules must be sent to the Secretary by 31<sup>st</sup> March. Circulars must be sent to each member of the Association notifying such proposed alterations.
25. In all rounds clubs must play their strongest teams.
26. A club at its discretion may use three substitute players at any time from five nominated prior to the commencement of the game, except to replace a player who has been suspended from the game by the referee.
27. The Council reserves the right to deal with anything not provided for in these Rules, providing that they are in accord with Football Association Regulations.
28. Glasses, glass bottles or cans containing alcohol are not permitted outside of the Clubhouse and must not be brought into grounds. No alcohol is to be consumed in the ground or premises during the period of any match, except as may be governed by the terms of the club licence with regard to its own members, but, notwithstanding such, no alcohol is to be taken or consumed outside the licensed clubhouse or any other authorised area during such match period or brought into the ground.
29. At all Cup finals no alcohol or glass bottles are allowed in any Dressing Room.
30. Each Club should provide a properly maintained First Aid Kit at all matches.