

The Rules of The Scottish Premier League.

Effective 18 April 2011

The Rules of the Scottish Premier League

Contents

<u>Rule Number</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
Section A: Composition of the League and League Rules 8	
A1	Name 8
A2.1-A2.9	Membership, Promotion and Relegation 8-10
A3.1-A3.3	Relationship between Clubs and the League 10
A4	Membership of the Company 10
A5	Alterations to Rules 11
A6.1.1-A6.20	Basis of Competition 11-15
A7.1.1-A7.2	Agreement on compliance with Applicable Rules, Statutes and Regulations 15-16
A8	Commitment to National teams 16
A9.1-A9.2	Scottish Cup and League Cup Competitions 16
A10.1-A10.3	Other Football competitions 16
Section B: Fixtures & Season Structuring 17	
B1.1-B1.5	Kick-off Times 17-18
B2	Half-time Interval 18
B3	Duration of Matches 18
B4	Teams for League Matches 18
B5	Laws of the Game 18
B6	List of Players 18
B7.1-B7.3	Substitute Players 19
B8.1-B8.2	Player Identification 19-20
B9.1-B9.7	Clubs to Register Colours 20

B11-B12	Clashes of Colours.....	20-21
B13	Shirts to bear logo(s).....	21
B14	Ball Attendants' Clothing.....	21
B15.1-B15.2	Match Balls.....	21
B16.1-B16.2	Match Report.....	21
B17.1-B17.3	Postponement and Abandonment of Matches.....	21-22
B18.1-B18.2	Non-fulfilment of Fixture Obligations.....	22
B19	Technical Area Facilities.....	22
B20.1-B20.5	Attendance of Medical Practitioners and Others.....	22
B21	Head Injuries.....	23
B22.1-B22.2	Covered Stadia.....	23
B23.1-B23.5	Synthetic and Artificial Pitches and Surfaces.....	23-24
B24-B25	Pre-arranging Results.....	24
B26	Under 19 League.....	24-25
B27	Reserve League.....	25
	Section C: Commercial Matters.....	26
C1-C2	Operating Expenses.....	26
C3.1-C3.19	Commercial Contracts, Broadcasting and Transmission.....	26-29
C4.1-C4.3.3.2	Commercial Revenues.....	29-31
C4.4	Retained Revenues.....	31
C4.5.1-C4.5.2	Parachute Payments.....	31-32
C5	Fixture Lists etc.....	32
C6.1-C6.3	Gate Receipts.....	32
C7.1-C7.5	Press and Media Facilities.....	32-33

C8-C8.4	Shirt Advertisements and Televised Matches.....	33
C9.1-C9.4	Defaulting Clubs.....	34
C10.1-C10.2	VAT and Rights to Payments.....	34
C11.1-C11.2	UEFA Competitions.....	34-35
C12.1-C12.3	Termination of Membership.....	35
C13	Conflict.....	35
C14.1-C14.6.2.3	Admission to Grounds and Ticket Distribution.....	35-36
C15.1-C15.11	Expert Determination.....	36-37
C16.1-C16.3	Definitions and Interpretation.....	37-39
	Section D: Players.....	40
D1.1-D1.26	Registration and Eligibility.....	40-43
D2.1-D2.2	Expedited Registration.....	43
D3.1-D3.3	Priority of Registration and Multiple Contracts of Service.....	43-44
D4.1-D4.9	Transfer of Players.....	44-45
D5.1-D5.14	Temporary Transfers and Trialists.....	45-47
D6.1-D6.10	Termination of Registration and Playing Restrictions.....	47-49
D7.1-D7.2	Notification to Secretary of termination of Contract of Service and non-renewal of Registration.....	49
D8.1-D8.6	Approach to, by or in relation to Registered Players.....	49-50
D9.1-D9.6	Contracts of Service.....	50-51
D10.1	Suspensions, Fines, Termination of Contracts of Service – Notification to League.....	51
D11.1-D11.21	Compensation.....	51-54
D12.1	Contract of Service with Option.....	54
D13.1-D13.12	Development Contribution.....	54-57
D14.1-D14.3	Adjudication of Disputes.....	57-58

D15.1-D15.3	Conflict of Rules.....	58
D16.1-D16.1.2	Press, Media and Players.....	58
	Section E: Match Officials.....	59
E1	List of Referees.....	59
E2	List of Assistant Referees.....	59
E3	Appointment of Referees and Assistant Referees.....	59
E4	Misconduct.....	59
E5.1-E5.5	Retainers and Allowances for Referees and Assistant Referees.....	59
E6.1-E6.2	Payment of Hotel Expenses Incurred.....	59-60
E7	Illegal Payments to Referees and Assistant Referees.....	60
E8	Referee to visit Ground early during bad weather or at request of Home Club.....	60
E9	Pitch Report.....	60
E10	Assistant Referees' Flags.....	60
E11.1-E11.3	Choice of Football to be used.....	60-61
E12	Report on Match Officials.....	61
E13.1-E13.2	Referee Supervisor.....	61
	Section F: Financial Records and Confidentiality.....	62
F1	Inspection of Financial Records.....	62
F2-F5	Confidentiality.....	62
	Section G: Inquiries, Commissions, Adjudications and Appeals....	63
G1.1-G1.3	Power of Inquiry and Determination.....	63
G2.1-G2.3	The Panel.....	63
G3-G4	Commissions.....	63-64

G5.1-G5.3	Rules of Procedure.....	64
G6.1-G6.4	Powers of the Board and Commissions.....	64-65
G7.1-G7.3	Decisions.....	66
G8-G10	Appeal to the SFA.....	66
G11	Representation.....	66
G12	The Board.....	66
G13	Advice.....	66-67
	Section H: Miscellaneous.....	68
H1	SFA Council.....	68
H2	Dual Interests.....	68
H3	Employees Contracts.....	68
H4	Severability.....	68
H5	Club Ceasing to Play and be a Member of the League.....	68
H6.1-H6.8	Registration of Ground.....	68-70
H7.1-H7.3	Ground Safety, Behaviour at Matches and Damage to Stadia.....	70
H7.4.1-H7.10.2	Unacceptable Conduct.....	70-72
H7.11-H7.12	Damage to Stadia.....	72-73
H8.1-H8.5	Giant Screens and LED Perimeter Boards.....	73
H9.1-H9.2	Football Trust.....	73-74
H10-H11	Inducement to break Contracts.....	74
H12-H12.5	Directors.....	74-75
H13	Membership of League Confers Membership of SFA.....	75
I1	Section I: Definitions & Interpretation.....	76
I2	Time.....	82

I3	Board and Chief Executive.....	82
I4	General Meetings.....	82
I5.1-I5.2	Designation of Rules by numbering and lettering.....	82-83
I6	Headings.....	83
	Appendix 1	84
	Code of Practice for Use of Giant Screens.....	84-85
	Appendix 2	86
	Code of Practice for Use of LED Perimeter Boards.....	86-87
	Appendix 3	88
	Financial Disclosure Requirements.....	88-90
	Appendix 4	91
	Code of Conduct for Under 19 Players.....	91-93
	Annex A	94
	Guidance for Clubs on Unacceptable Conduct at a Stadium on the occasion of an Official Match.....	94-96
	Annex B	97
	Rules of Procedure (for Disciplinary and Appeal Processes and Adjudications Etc).....	97-100

Note: Annexes A and B are not part of the Rules but are produced here for ease of reference.

SECTION A: COMPOSITION OF THE LEAGUE & LEAGUE RULES

Name

- A1 The name of this combination of association football clubs is THE SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE.

Membership, Promotion and Relegation

- A2.1 The League shall consist of 12 leading association football clubs in Scotland. The association football clubs eligible to participate in the League in any Season shall, subject to the Articles of Association and Rules, be those Clubs which participated in the League in the immediately preceding Season, except that, subject to Rules A2.2, A2.3 and A2.4, the Club finishing in last place in the League in the immediately preceding Season shall not be eligible to participate in the League and shall be relegated to the SFL and the Candidate Club shall be promoted from the SFL and admitted entry to the League.
- A2.2 Subject to Rule A2.7, the Candidate Club for any Season, if it is to be promoted from the SFL and admitted entry to the League, and the Clubs participating in the League, must satisfy the Membership Criteria.
- A2.3 In the event that the Candidate Club for any Season, if promoted from the SFL and admitted entry to the League, would, in the opinion of the Board in its absolute discretion, fail to fully comply with the Membership Criteria and no waiver, relaxation or period of grace is or has been granted to the Candidate Club in terms of Rule A2.7, then the Candidate Club shall not be promoted from the SFL and admitted entry to the League and the Club which would otherwise have been relegated from the League to the SFL in accordance with Rule A2.1, shall retain its place in the League.
- A2.4 In the event that any Club, in the opinion of the Board in its absolute discretion, shall or if it were to participate in the League in any Season would, fail to fully comply with the Membership Criteria and no waiver, relaxation or period of grace is or has been granted to that Club in terms of Rule A2.7, such Club shall be subject to such sanction or sanctions and such action may be taken as the Company in General Meeting shall, in its absolute discretion, determine.
- A2.5 The Membership Criteria are:-
- A2.5.1 A Club participating in the League must be a member of the SFA.
- A2.5.2 A Club participating in the League must have registered or be deemed to have registered its ground in accordance with Rule H6.1.
- A2.5.3 A Club participating in the League must:-

- A2.5.3.1 itself, or through a subsidiary or holding company of such Club, own its Registered Ground; or
- A2.5.3.2 have such other rights of occupation or tenure in its Registered Ground as may be approved by the Board.
- A2.5.4 Any ground which a Club or the Candidate Club registers or is deemed to have registered as its Registered Ground, must, by not later than 31st March preceding any Season and for the whole of that Season:-
 - A2.5.4.1 subject to Rule H6.8, have satisfied and satisfy the Stadia Handbook requirements for a Club taking part in the League;
 - A2.5.4.2 have provided and provide individually numbered seats in areas under cover of a roof for not less than 6,000 spectators; and,
 - A2.5.4.3 have had and have adequate winter pitch protection, as provided in Rule H6.7,
- A2.5.5 Clubs shall take all steps determined necessary by the Board to implement the development of youth football in Scotland in line with the requirements, philosophy and recommendations of the Company.
- A2.5.6 Where a Club or the Candidate Club registers or is deemed to have registered as its Registered Ground for any Season a ground at which it is intended to play League Matches on a pitch utilising a synthetic or artificial playing surface then such Club or Candidate Club must have made an application to the Board in accordance with Rule B23.1.3 by not later than 31st March and must have been granted an approval by the Board in terms of that Rule by not later than 1st June, both preceding such Season.
- A2.5.7 Clubs and the Candidate Club shall from and including 1 January 2010 comply with the Financial Disclosure Requirements.
- A2.6 Any application for approval for the purposes of Rule A2.5.3.2 or application for a waiver, relaxation or period of grace for the purposes of Rule A2.7, must be made in writing to the Secretary not later than 31st March preceding any Season or, as the case may be, first Season, in relation to which the ground for which such approval, waiver, relaxation or, as the case may be, period of grace is sought, is to be registered or deemed to be registered in accordance with Rule H6.1, as the Registered Ground of the Club or Candidate Club concerned.

- A2.7 The Board may in its absolute discretion waive, relax or grant a period of grace in respect of any Club's or Candidate Club's requirement to comply with any part of the Membership Criteria and/or Rules A2.6 and H6.1.
- A2.8 The Board may undertake or instruct to be undertaken such inspection and may require such verification to be exhibited by a Club or Candidate Club as the Board considers appropriate to satisfy the Board that there is, has been and will be compliance by each Club and a Candidate Club with the Membership Criteria.
- A2.9 The implementation of the Membership Criteria shall be capable of appeal in accordance with the provisions of Section G of the Rules.

Relationship between Clubs and the League

- A3.1 In all matters and transactions relating to the League and Company each Club shall behave towards each other Club and the Company with the utmost good faith.
- A3.2 No Club, either by itself or its Club Officials, shall by any means whatsoever unfairly criticise, disparage, belittle or discredit any other Club, the Company or the League or in either case any such other Club or the Company's directors, officers, employees or agents (which shall, for the avoidance of doubt, exclude supporters).
- A3.3 A Club shall not either during its membership of the League or at any time after its membership has terminated disclose or divulge either directly or indirectly to any person, firm or company whatsoever or otherwise make use of any Confidential Information as to the business or finances of the League or any of its dealings, transactions or affairs or as to any other matters which may come to its knowledge by reason of its membership without the Board's prior written consent save where required by law to statutory and regulatory authorities (including by the SFA in accordance with the SFA Articles) and to such employees of a Club to whom such disclosure is strictly necessary for the purpose of their duties and only then to the extent so necessary.

Membership of the Company

- A4 The owner and operator of a Club participating in the League shall become a member of the Company by acquiring one Ordinary Share therein at par for cash, such Ordinary Share to be acquired, through the Secretary, in accordance with the provisions of the Articles of Association. The owner and operator of a Club ceasing to be entitled to play in the League shall cease to be a member of the Company and shall relinquish its Ordinary Share at the end of the relevant Season in accordance with the Articles of Association.

Alterations to Rules

- A5 Any alteration, deletion or addition shall be made in or to these Rules or the Articles of Association only in accordance with the Articles of Association and shall in each case be subject to the approval of the SFA in accordance with the SFA Articles.

Basis of Competition

- A6.1.1 Each Club shall comply with and play in the relevant fixtures comprised in the fixture schedule determined by the Board.
- A6.1.2 So far as reasonably practicable the fixture schedule determined by the Board shall require Clubs to play equal numbers of home and away games.
- A6.2.1 Three points shall be awarded to the winning Club in each League Match which is won and one point to each Club involved in a League Match which is drawn.
- A6.2.2 At the end of each Season (following completion of all League Matches) the Club scoring the highest number of points during that Season save in circumstances in which Rules A6.3 or A6.4 apply, in which case the higher placed Club, shall be declared the Champion Club of the League ("the Champion Club"). The Club scoring the lowest number of points during that Season save in circumstances in which Rules A6.3 or A6.4 apply in which case the lower placed Club, shall be declared the last placed Club and, subject to Rule A6.2.3 the other Clubs in the League shall be placed accordingly.
- A6.2.3 The Clubs which form the top half of the League immediately after the 33rd League Match shall occupy the first six places in the League at the end of the Season and the Clubs which from the bottom half of the League, immediately after the 33rd League Match, shall occupy the bottom six places in the League at the end of each Season, and, in the event that any other provisions of the Rules is inconsistent with this Rule A6.2.3, or if any ambiguities are created thereby, this Rule shall take precedence.
- A6.3 If any two or more Clubs are equal in points at the end of the Season, the higher placed Club shall be the Club with the larger or largest positive goal difference (or the lower or lowest negative goal difference where appropriate). Goal difference shall be determined by deducting the goals conceded from the goals scored in all League Matches played during the Season. In the event of the goal difference being equal, the higher placed Club shall be the Club, which has scored most goals in League Matches during the Season.

- A6.4 If two or more Clubs have the same goal difference and have scored the same number of goals in the relevant Season and their positions in the League have a bearing on deciding which Club is the Champion Club or the relegation of any Club or qualification (or consideration for qualification) for any other competitions including UEFA Competitions, then the Clubs concerned shall play-off a deciding League Match on a date and at a neutral ground as determined by the Board in each case. Such deciding League Match shall be of 90 minutes duration with 30 minutes of extra time and kicks from the penalty mark if necessary. The net gate money after deducting expenses shall be divided equally between the competing Clubs. Any Club staging a play-off match shall be entitled to charge, as an expense against the receipts of the match, its necessary match expenses together with a ground facility fee of 20% of the gross gate receipts after deduction of Value Added Tax.
- A6.5 If two or more Clubs have the same goal difference and have scored the same number of goals in the relevant Season but their positions in the League do not have a bearing on deciding which Club is the Champion Club or relegation of any Club or qualification for any other competitions, including UEFA Competitions, then the Clubs concerned shall not play-off a deciding League Match and shall be deemed to have finished in equal positions for all purposes.
- A6.6 The Club declared the Champion Club shall hold the "Scottish Premier League Championship Trophy" until the next Season's League competition is concluded. When the winner of the Scottish Premier League Championship trophy has been ascertained, the Trophy shall be handed over to the winner who shall return the same to the Company at the League Office not later than 3 weeks prior to the end of the next following Season, in good order and condition and in any event as soon as reasonably practicable following a request from the Board.
- A6.7 The Company shall present to the Champion Club, 25 League championship medals for Players, other staff and Club Officials. Additional League championship medals may be purchased from the Company with the prior consent of the Board. Only those Players who participated in 25% or more of the League Matches for the Champion Club in the relevant Season will be eligible to receive such medals.
- A6.8 Where a Club takes, suffers or is subject to an Insolvency Event that Club shall be deducted 10 points. Where the Insolvency Event occurs during the Season, the points deduction shall apply immediately. Where the Insolvency Event occurs during the Close Season the points deduction shall apply in respect of the immediately following Season, such that the Club starts that immediately following Season on minus 10points.
- A6.9 Where an Insolvency Event or in the event that such Insolvency Event is part of an Insolvency Process that process, continues and/or is subsisting for more than one Season then, for each

such Season, during the whole or part of which such Insolvency Event or Insolvency Process is continuing and/or subsisting, the Club concerned shall be deducted 10 points or, as the case may be, shall start each such Season on minus 10 points.

- A6.10 In the event that a Club shall take, suffer or be subject to more than one Insolvency Event during any one Season and the immediately preceding Close Season, which, in the opinion of the Board, are not part of the same Insolvency Process, then that Club shall be deducted 10 points in respect of each such Insolvency Event or, as the case may be minus such number of points, as reflects the number of Insolvency Events which that Club takes, suffers or is subject to during that Season and the immediately preceding Close Season.
- A6.11 The Secretary shall, on behalf of the League, give written notice to a Club, which is subject to a points deduction in terms of Rule A6.8 or A6.9, of each such points deduction.
- A6.12 Providing a Club that has taken, suffered or has been subject to an Insolvency Event or Events shall have commenced one or more of the arrangements listed in paragraph e. of the definition of Insolvency Event in Section I of the Rules during the Season in which this Rule is adopted, Rules A6.8 to A6.11 (inclusive) and A6.20 shall have no effect from the day after the last day of Season 2003/2004 until the last day of Season 2004/2005 on that Club with respect to such arrangement or arrangements and the Insolvency Event or Events so taken, suffered or subject to.
- A6.13 A Club may appeal against a deduction of points in terms of Rule A6.8 or A6.9 on the grounds that:-
- A6.13.1 It has not taken, suffered or been subject to an Insolvency Event or Insolvency Process;
- A6.13.2 The Insolvency Event which gave rise to the points deduction, against which an appeal is taken, is part of an Insolvency Process and that the Club has already been subject to a points deduction in relation to an earlier Insolvency Event in the same Insolvency Process in or for the same Season;
- A6.13.3 Rule A6.12 applies; or,
- A6.13.4 The Insolvency Event or Insolvency Process, which gave rise to such points deduction, arose as a result of a Force Majeure Event.
- A6.14 Any appeal under Rule A6.13 must be by notice in writing, sent by recorded delivery and received by or on behalf of the Secretary no later than 7 days after receipt by the Club of the notice from the Secretary of the League in terms of Rule A6.11. The written notice of appeal must contain a statement setting out the grounds of the appeal and in particular, where the

appeal is taken on the ground set out in A6.13.4, why the Club considers that a Force Majeure Event has occurred and must be accompanied by copies of any documentation referred to in the written notice.

A6.15 The appeal will be determined by an Appeal Tribunal, the members of which shall be appointed by the Board. The Appeal Tribunal shall comprise:-

A6.15.1 A legally qualified independent Chairman, appointed from the panel referred to in Rule G.2; and,

A6.15.2 Two persons who shall not be employees, officers or directors of any Club.

A6.16 The Appeal Tribunal shall have power to call for any documentary evidence available to the Board and/or from the Club and may require the attendance of any Club or Club Official at any relevant hearing. The Secretary to the Appeal Tribunal shall be the Secretary of the League or his appointed deputy. The Club making the appeal and the Company shall have the right to a personal hearing at an appeal and may be legally represented at any such hearing. The decision of the Appeal Tribunal on the appeal shall be final and binding.

A6.17 The League may, upon receipt of an appeal, and shall on being requested so to do by an Appeal Tribunal, instruct a firm or firms of independent accountants and/or solicitors to carry out a review or reviews of the Club's activities for the purposes of preparing an independent report or reports generally into the circumstances surrounding and leading up to the Insolvency Event and/or into specific matters relating to the Insolvency Event. The Club shall, as a condition of being permitted to pursue an appeal, cooperate fully with such independent firm or firms, meet the costs of the preparation of report(s) and must, at the request of the League make such payment to account and, if required by the League, interim payments towards the costs of such report(s) as the League may in its sole discretion determine. The report(s) shall be addressed to the League and copies shall be provided to the Club and to the Appeal Tribunal. The Appeal Tribunal shall take into account the contents of such report(s) when determining whether the Insolvency Event arose solely as a result of a Force Majeure Event.

A6.18 The Appeal Tribunal shall have power to:-

A6.18.1 Confirm the deduction of 10 points;

A6.18.2 Set aside the deduction of 10 points and substitute a deduction of such lower number of points as it shall consider appropriate; or

A6.18.3 Set aside the deduction of 10 points.

- A6.19 The whole costs incurred by the Company in connection with an appeal under and in terms of Rule A6.13, including the costs of the Appeal Tribunal, all as determined by the Board, shall be met by the Club concerned and shall constitute a debt due to the Company by the Club.
- A6.20 Except with the consent of the Board and that only where (i) the term of a Player's contract of service with his Club has expired and such contract has not been renewed or extended or such a contract has terminated with the mutual consent in writing of the Club and the Player concerned and, in either case, the registration of such Player with the League in terms of Section D of the Rules has been cancelled and a replacement Player is sought to be registered to replace the Player whose contract has so expired or been terminated; or, (ii) where the Player sought to be registered is a temporary replacement for a goalkeeper who is unable by reason of injury or illness to play and that only where written confirmation of such inability shall have been obtained by the Club from a qualified medical practitioner and submitted to the Board and the Board is satisfied that the Club concerned has no other goalkeeper who is registered and able to play, a Club that has taken, suffered or has been subject to an Insolvency Event or Events shall not be entitled or permitted to register any Player with the League and the League shall not register such a Player in terms of Section D of the Rules until such Insolvency Event or events shall no longer continue or subsist.

Agreement on compliance with applicable rules, statutes and regulations

- A7.1.1 Membership of the League shall constitute an agreement between the Company and each Club, and between each of the Clubs, to be bound by and to comply with:
- (a) these Rules and the Articles of Association;
 - (b) the SFA Articles and the statutes and regulations of UEFA and FIFA;
 - (c) the Laws of the Game; and
 - (d) the terms of the Settlement Agreement insofar as such terms apply to the members of the League for that Season.
- A7.1.2 Nothing in these Rules shall relieve any member of the Company from its obligations as a full member club of the SFA to comply with the applicable SFA Articles for so long as it remains a member of SFA.
- A7.2 Such agreement shall have effect from the date of the Club's admission to the League and terminate upon the Club ceasing to be a member thereof (but without prejudice to any rights or claims which may have arisen or arise in respect of

circumstances prior to such date and to any Rules which, by their terms, establish rights and obligations applicable after such date).

Commitment to National teams

- A8 Each Club shall support the SFA and other football associations in relation to all international matches in accordance with the provisions of the SFA Articles and the FIFA Statutes and Regulations.

Scottish Cup and League Cup Competitions

- A9.1 Each of the Clubs shall compete in the Scottish Cup competition in each Season if eligible to do so.
- A9.2 Each of the Clubs shall compete in the League Cup in each Season in accordance with and subject to the League Cup Rules.

Other Football Competitions

- A10.1 Clubs shall not, without the consent of the Board, participate in any football competitions in Scotland other than those competitions from time to time administered by the Company and/or on the SFA's list of approved competitions.
- A10.2 Clubs shall be entitled with the consent of the Board to participate in such international football competitions as may be approved by UEFA and/or FIFA and any Club proposing to play in any other football match outwith Scotland during the Season must before doing so obtain the consent of the Board.
- A10.3 The Board shall not unreasonably delay the determination of any application by a Club for consent in terms of either Rule A10.1 or A10.2 and shall only be entitled to refuse such consent on the grounds that the taking part by the Club seeking such consent in the competition or match for which consent is sought would, in the opinion of the Board, be likely to prejudice the ability of that Club to take part, in accordance with these Rules, in a competition or competitions from time to time administered by the Company and/or in which the Club concerned is required, by these Rules, to take part.

SECTION B: FIXTURES & SEASON STRUCTURING

- B1.1 All League Matches fixtures shall be specified by the Board as soon as practicable prior to the commencement of the Season following consultation with the SFA and the SFL. Subject to the terms of any Commercial Contract, League Matches shall normally be played on Saturday afternoons, and Clubs so far as reasonably practicable shall be a Home Club on one week and a Visiting Club the next. The Board shall have discretion to reschedule any League Match as it shall consider appropriate.
- B1.2 All League Matches shall, unless rearranged on the application of the competing Clubs and with the approval of the Board, or on the instruction of the Board in accordance with these Rules, be played on the dates and times scheduled at the commencement of the Season. The Board shall have authority to order that any League Match be moved from the scheduled date in order to facilitate the re-arrangement of fixtures, provided that, where any proposed re-arrangement has not previously been approved by any Clubs which might be affected thereby, the Board shall consult with and shall take into account any representations made by such Clubs before making any order under this Rule. The Board may refuse applications for approval made within ten weeks of the scheduled date because of the effect such a change may have on the Coupon (listing the fixtures of the League) published by members of the Pools Promoters Association or other successor body.
- B1.3 The appointment of Match Officials shall be the responsibility of the SFA in accordance with the agreement reached between the SPL and the SFA from time to time.
- B1.4 All kick-offs must adhere to the time fixed by the Board. Clubs and Referees must report any delays to the Board. Any Club causing a kick-off to be delayed by 15 minutes or more from the time advertised without sufficient reason (as determined by the Board in its absolute discretion) will be liable to a fine of up to a maximum of £5,000 for a first offence and for a second or subsequent offence occurring within two years of the first offence shall be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of Section G of these Rules.
- B1.5 A Club shall be entitled to apply to the Board for the postponement of any League Match where three or more of its Players are unavailable through international selection and, following receipt of such an application, the Board may postpone and rearrange the League Match in accordance with Rule B1.2.

Kick-off Times

- B2.1 The time of kick-off for all League Matches shall be determined from time to time by the Board (having regard to UEFA and FIFA TV Regulations in the case of a live transmission and in consultation with all necessary parties including, if appropriate,

the SFA and the relevant police force representatives) acting reasonably.

- B2.2 Both teams shall enter the field of play together no later than five minutes prior to the kick-off time, along with the Match Officials.

Half-time Interval

- B3 In all League Matches the half-time interval shall be fifteen minutes.

Duration of Matches

- B4 All League Matches shall be of 90 minutes' duration, with two equal halves of 45 minutes, but any League Match which, from any cause whatever, falls short of 90 minutes' duration may be ordered to count as a completed fixture or to be replayed in full as the Board may in its absolute discretion determine.

Teams for League Matches

- B5 Each Club shall play its full strength team in all League Matches.

Laws of the Game

- B6 All League Matches shall be played in compliance with these Rules and the Laws of the Game.

List of Players

- B7.1 An authorised representative of each Club must provide a written list of the names of up to 18 Players taking part in each League Match, including the name(s) of the nominated substitute(s), to the Referee, not less than one hour before the time of kick-off. The list shall indicate the full names, other than trialists listed in accordance with Rule D6, of Players and shall indicate the colour of the goalkeeper's shirt together with the colour of shirt proposed to be worn by other Players for the Club in the relevant game.
- B7.2 If any nominated player or substitute sustains an injury after the submission of the written lists to the Referee and before kick-off, he may be replaced provided that the Referee and opposing Club are informed immediately.
- B7.3 Any Club failing to adhere to any of the provisions of this Rule B7 will be fined a sum of up to a maximum, in each case, of £250 for a first offence, £500 for a second offence, £1,000 for the third offence and any subsequent offence shall be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of Section G of these Rules. For the avoidance of doubt, no fine imposed in accordance with this Rule B7.3 for a first, second or third offence shall be capable of appeal.

Substitute Players

- B8.1 Only up to three nominated substitutes for any one Club may take part in a League Match. A player who has been substituted may not take part in that League Match again. The list referred to in Rule B7.1 must include two recognised goalkeepers, one of whom must start the match, and three outfield players who qualify as Under 21 Players.
- B8.2 No more than three substitutes from each team shall warm up along the pitch perimeter at the same time. Substitutes who are warming up on the pitch perimeter shall wear colours sufficient to distinguish them from those worn by the players (including goalkeepers) participating in the League Match in question.

Player Identification

- B9.1 The Players' shirts must be clearly numbered on the back and the players' shorts must be numbered clearly on the left hand side at the front and in accordance with the list handed to the Referee before any League Match. Any such numbers and letters must be in compliance with the style and conditions approved by the Board and the SFA.
- B9.2 Prior to the start of the Season each Club must notify the Secretary of the shirt numbers allocated to each Player in their First Team Squad. Each Player must be allocated a different shirt number. If any Player is added to a Club's
- B9.3 During the Season additional numbers may be allocated as new Players join the First Team Squad.
- B9.4 A Player's shirt number must remain with him for the duration of the Season unless either:
- (a) he ceases to play for a Club in which case his shirt number will become available for allocation to new members of the First Team Squad; or
 - (b) for other reasons satisfactory to the Board in its absolute discretion.
- B9.5 A Player's name must appear on the back of the shirt above the shirt number.
- B9.6 One player for each Club shall be nominated as captain for the League Match on the list provided to the Referee in accordance with Rule B7.1 and shall wear a distinguishing armband to indicate his status. If the captain for the time being ceases to participate in a League Match another player shall be designated as captain and he shall wear an armband as aforesaid.

- B9.7 Any Club failing to carry out the provisions of Rule B9 will be fined a maximum sum in each case of £250 for the first offence, £500 for the second offence, £1,000 for the third offence and for any subsequent offence shall be dealt with by a Commission in accordance with the provisions of Section G of these Rules. For the avoidance of doubt, no fine imposed in accordance with this Rule B9 for a first, second or third offence shall be capable of appeal.

Clubs to Register Colours

- B10.1 By 1st June (or such other date as may be fixed from time to time by the Board) in each year, all Clubs shall submit to the Company written details of their first, second and, where applicable, third choice colours (of shirts, shorts and socks) and such details shall be published in the Directory of Clubs printed in the League Handbook. The first and second choice colours must be different and distinct. The colours registered by each Club shall be worn during the following Season and no changes either in the colours or the combination of colours shall be permitted during the course of the season except in the circumstances set out in Rule B11 or with the prior approval of the Board. A Club may, at its discretion, register third choice colours, which must be different and distinct from its first and second choices. Subject to the provisions of Rules B10.3, B11 and B12 Clubs are required to wear their first choice colours in all League Matches save that a Club shall be permitted to play a maximum of four home League Matches in any Season in colours which are not the first choice, provided that the Company, the opposing Club and the Referee appointed for the League Match have been advised in writing not less than 48 hours before the League Match and the Referee (whose responsibility shall relate to the Match in question only in this regard) shall be the final arbiter of whether each Club can wear its first choice colours in any given League Match in order to ensure compliance with Rules B10.3, B11 and B12.
- B10.2 Each Club shall submit a sample of its registered colours to the Secretary by 30th June each year, such samples to be retained for the duration of the Season.
- B10.3 No Club shall be permitted to play in shirts the colour of which is likely to cause confusion with the outfit worn by the Match Officials.
- B10.4 The obligations of Rule B10 are additional to any obligations to submit club colours to the SFA in accordance with the SFA Articles.

Clashes of Colours

- B11 When the colours of two competing Clubs are alike or similar, the Visiting Club shall change to its second choice colours or a combination of its first and second choice colours (or, if

applicable, third choice colours) provided that these do not include any of the basic colours of the Home Club.

- B12 The colour of the goalkeeper's shirt must, in all cases, be clearly distinguishable from the colours of the shirts worn by all outfield Players of both participating Clubs in any match and from those of the Match Officials.

Shirts to bear logo(s)

- B13 If so determined by the Board, the shirts of all Players in League Matches shall carry the League logo and/or, the name/logo(s) of the title or other sponsor of the League, on one or both sleeves, as specified from time to time by the Board.

Ball Attendants' Clothing

- B14 The colours of clothing worn by ball attendants must not be likely to cause confusion with the colours of either of the competing Clubs or Match Officials.

Match Balls

- B15.1 The ball or balls to be used in all League Matches shall comply with the Laws of the Game and be of a type as shall be specified by the Board from time to time.
- B15.2 At and during all League Matches, the Home Club shall have available for use if necessary a match ball and a sufficient number (being not less than two) of reserve balls, at least one of which shall be an orange or yellow coloured ball.

Match Report

- B16.1 The Home Club shall send to the Board within six days of each League Match a report containing the attendance statistics for the match.
- B16.2 Within 2 hours of the end of a League Match, the Referee of that Match shall send a Match Report by fax from the ground at which such League Match was played to the League and to the SFA containing details of the result of the League Match, the participating Clubs' team lists, the substitutes used, cautions and orderings-off, if any and the name of any scorers. The Referee shall also send a copy of such Match Report by first class post to the SFA and to the League within 3 days of the date of the League Match.

Postponement and Abandonment of Matches

- B17.1 No League Match shall be postponed except on the instructions of the appointed Referee or pitch inspector or by the Board.
- B17.2 If a League Match is postponed other than by the Board, such postponement shall be reported as soon as reasonably

practicable to the Secretary by the Referee concerned and, where it has been postponed with the consent of the Board, it shall be the duty of the Home Club to immediately notify the appointed Match Officials of such postponement.

B17.3 In the event of any League Match not being played or abandoned or being ordered to be played or replayed, it shall be played on a date and at a time as determined by the Board.

Non-fulfillment of Fixture Obligations

B18.1 No Club shall without just cause (as determined by the Board) fail to fulfill its fixture obligations in respect of any League Match on the appointed date or dates.

B18.2 Without prejudice to any other sanctions, which may be imposed for a breach of these Rules, any Club failing to fulfill its fixture obligations shall be liable to pay compensation for any expenses necessarily incurred by the opposing Club as a direct result of the failure. The amount of compensation will be at the discretion of the Board which will consider every such case on its merits.

Technical Area Facilities

B19 Each Club shall provide technical areas in accordance with the Stadia Handbook, the Laws of the Game and the SFA Articles and FIFA.

Attendance of Medical Practitioners and Others

B20.1 It is the responsibility of the Home Club in League Matches to ensure that a qualified medical practitioner is present to attend to players and Match Officials during the periods of the pre-match warm up, during the Match, at half time and for one hour after each League Match.

B20.2 It is the responsibility of each of the Clubs involved in League Matches to ensure that a chartered physiotherapist or equivalent is present throughout each League Match to attend to their respective Players and, if necessary, Match Officials.

B20.3 Only those qualified as above should treat Players or Match Officials on the field of play.

B20.4 For all matches involving a Club, other than a League Match, there must, at least, be in attendance an individual with appropriate emergency aid training.

B20.5 It is the responsibility of the Home Club in any League Match to ensure that a minimum of two stretchers and four stretcher bearers are readily available to remove Players or Match Officials from the field of play. Each member of the team of stretcher bearers must be of comparable height and have received appropriate training.

Head Injuries

- B21 All Clubs shall ensure that any Player in a League Match having left the field with a serious head injury in a match played under the auspices of the Company shall not be allowed to resume playing or training without the clearance of a qualified medical practitioner. The same provision shall apply where a serious head injury is sustained in training.

Covered Stadia

- B22.1 No League match shall take place at any stadium where the playing area is permanently covered or partially covered by a fixed or moveable roof without the prior written approval of the Board after full consultation with all Clubs.
- B22.2 Any Club proposing to cover or partially cover its stadium with a fixed or moveable roof shall be required to submit outline plans to the Company and a copy of the planning application prior to such planning application being submitted to the appropriate authority.

Synthetic and Artificial Pitches and Surfaces

- B23.1 No League Match shall be played on a pitch utilising a synthetic or artificial playing surface unless:-
- B23.1.1 such synthetic or artificial surface and the underlying structure of the pitch has been constructed using synthetic fibres and other materials and in accordance with a design and specification which have been approved after laboratory and field testing in accordance with the FIFA Quality Concept Handbook as complying with the FIFA Recommended 2 Star Standard;
 - B23.1.2 it is demonstrated to the Board that the pitch performs or will perform to the FIFA Recommended 2 Star Standard and that it complies and continues to comply with any conditions imposed by the Board in terms of Clause B23.4.; and,
 - B23.1.3 subject to Rules B23.2, B23.3 and B23.4, the Board, following a written application made by the Club concerned or the Candidate Club to the Secretary not later than 31st March in any year, in respect of what is intended to be the Registered Ground of that Club for the immediately succeeding Season, has approved the use of the specified pitch concerned for the playing of League Matches at that ground during that Season.

- B23.2 Where an approval is given in terms of Rule B23.1.3 and the Board is satisfied that such pitch, at the Registered Ground to which such approval relates, continues to comply with Rule B23.1.1 and Rule B23.1.2 then such approval shall apply to and be effective for, such number of complete Seasons immediately following such approval as the Board shall specify. If the Board does not so specify then any approval given by the Board in terms of Rule B23.1.3 shall be deemed to apply to and be effective for only the one Season immediately succeeding such approval being given.
- B23.3 An application for approval in terms of Rule B23.1.3 must specify or include specification of the pitch for which approval is sought sufficient to identify that the pitch concerned is the same pitch in relation to which the surface, construction and design has been approved or will be before the application for approval by the Board is granted, be approved after laboratory and field testing under and in accordance with the FIFA Quality Concept Handbook as complying with the FIFA Recommended 2 Star Standard.
- B23.4 Where an approval is given in terms of Rule B23.1.3 the Board may attach such conditions to such approval as the Board may consider appropriate.
- B23.5 The Board may in its absolute discretion waive, relax or grant a period of grace in respect of any Club's or Candidate Club's requirement to comply with the time limit for an application for approval to be made in terms of Rule B23.1.3."

Pre-arranging Results

- B24 Any Club, Club Official, Player or agent acting on any of their behalf's, offering or receiving a bonus or any other inducement, to or from another Club, Club Official, Player or agent acting on any of their behalf's or any other person or party other than, in the case of a Club Official or Player, their own Club under and in terms of their contract of service, to influence the result or any other aspect of a match shall, subject to the terms of these Rules and the Articles of Association, be liable to expulsion, suspension, fine or any other sanctions or conditions which the Board or a Commission appointed by the Board may think fit.
- B25 No Club shall offer any payment or other inducement in respect of foregoing the right of promotion.

Under 19 League

- B26 The Board shall organise an Under 19 league for each Season in which it shall be mandatory for Clubs to participate. The Board shall specify, from Season to Season, which of the Rules relating to League Matches shall apply to the Under 19 league, the extent of such application and generally determine the arrangements for the operation of the Under 19 league. Clubs are required to comply with such Rules as specified and

arrangements as so determined and failure to do so shall constitute a breach of these Rules.

Reserve League

B27 The Board may if it considers it appropriate organise a reserve league for each Season in which it shall be optional for Clubs to participate. The Board shall, where it is organising a Reserve League to take place in a Season, specify which of the Rules relating to League Matches shall apply to the reserve league, the extent of such application and generally determine the arrangements for the operation of the reserve league. Clubs taking part in a Reserve League are required to comply with such Rules as specified and arrangements as so determined and failure to do so shall constitute a breach of these Rules.

SECTION C: COMMERCIAL MATTERS

Operating Expenses

- C1 The operating expenses of the Company and the League (including payments to the SFL pursuant to the Settlement Agreement) shall be met, where possible, from Commercial Revenues in accordance with Rule C4.2.2.
- C2 The Board shall from time to time be empowered, by levy or otherwise, to require Clubs to contribute such sum or sums of money to the funds of the Company as may be required for the business of the Company and the League and to meet any liability which the Company may assume. Any such levy or call for funds shall be contributed on such equitable basis as may be agreed by the Clubs in General Meeting failing such agreement, equally.

Commercial Contracts, Broadcasting and Transmission

- C3.1 The Company shall in accordance with the Articles of Association and these Rules enter into Commercial Contracts for the purpose of generating Commercial Revenues.
- C3.2 Subject to these Rules, the Company shall seek to maximise Commercial Revenues.
- C3.3 The Clubs and each of them agree to centrally pool and market their rights, facilities and properties relating to and concerning, Radio Transmission and Transmission of League Matches for exclusive exploitation by the Company of Radio Transmission and Transmission of League Matches.
- C3.4 Subject to (i) these Rules (ii) that a Club shall not, other than in respect of a Commercial Contract relating to Radio Transmission or Transmission, be obliged to comply with this Rule C3.4 if to do so would result in that Club being in breach of a contractual obligation entered into prior to the Commercial Contract concerned being approved by the Company; and (iii) Rule C3.18, the Clubs and each of them shall license and otherwise provide to the Company the use of such of their other rights, facilities and properties as may be required by the Company to enable the Company to enter into and/or fulfill its obligations under and in terms of Commercial Contracts entered or to be entered into by the Company.
- C3.5 Except in the case of Limited Commercial Contracts where Rule C3.18 shall apply, the Company shall be entitled for Commercial Contract purposes to sub-license, package or otherwise deal in or with any rights, facilities and properties licensed or otherwise provided to the Company by the Clubs and each of them.

- C3.6 The Company shall not grant or purport to grant any exclusive right or rights in relation to Other Transmission of League Matches, which would have the object or effect, whether intentionally or otherwise, of preventing or inhibiting the Clubs or any of them from exercising any rights available to them, which they are not expressly prohibited from exercising in terms of these Rules.
- C3.7 Except pursuant to a Commercial Contract and subject to the provisions of Rule H8, there shall be no and each of the Clubs shall in respect of a League Match played at their home ground procure that there shall not be any Radio Transmission and/or Transmission of all or any part of a League Match without the approval of the Company in General Meeting.
- C3.8 The Clubs and each of them shall not by act or omission infringe any exclusive rights granted by the Company in a Commercial Contract in relation to Radio Transmission and/or Transmission or otherwise cause any breach thereof to occur.
- C3.9 The Clubs and each of them shall not grant or purport to grant any exclusive right or rights or generally enter into or accept any obligation in relation to Other Transmission of League Matches which has or would have the effect, whether intended or otherwise, of preventing, restricting or inhibiting the Company from or disadvantaging the Company in competing with the Club or any third party in the Other Transmission of League Matches.
- C3.10 Where a Club shall be involved in the broadcasting and/or transmitting by means of Other Transmission outwith the British Isles of moving pictures of all or any part of a League Match, other than pursuant to a Commercial Contract, it shall use its best endeavors to procure, including by use of legal proceedings at its own instance, that no broadcasting and/or transmission which is or would be prohibited within the British Isles by Rules C3.11, C3.13 or C3.15 shall be broadcast and/or transmitted by any person or party, whether with or without the permission of the Club concerned, within, to or which shall be capable of being received in the British Isles.
- C3.11 Except pursuant to a Commercial Contract and subject to the provisions of Rule H8, there shall not, without the approval of the Company in General Meeting, be any Other Transmission, within the British Isles, of moving pictures of all or any part of a League Match within any period provided for in a Commercial Contract and in any event not, in the case of a League Match played on a Saturday until midnight on the next day and on any other day until midnight on that day.
- C3.12 In the event that the Company in General Meeting, Board or any four Clubs shall at any time consider that there will be Excess Impact in any Season then the Company, Board or any such four Clubs may, not later than 1st January during that Season, request the appointment of an Expert to determine by Expert Determination whether there will be such Excess Impact.

- C3.13 In the event that it shall be determined by Expert Determination that in any Season there will be Excess Impact then, subject to Rule C3.14, in respect of the following and all succeeding Seasons, except pursuant to a Commercial Contract and subject to the provisions of Rule H8, there shall not, without the approval of the Company in General Meeting, be any Other Transmission of moving pictures of all or any part of a League Match within any period provided for in a Commercial Contract and in any event not, in the case of a League Match played on a Saturday until midnight on the next day and on any other day until midnight on that day.
- C3.14 In the event that it shall be determined by Expert Determination that in any Season there will be Excess Impact and within 60 days of such determination any Club or Clubs and/or the Company shall have commenced in the Court of Session, Judicial Review proceedings which seek to have such Expert Determination reduced or otherwise set aside then, provided always that such proceedings, including any appeal or appeals, shall at all times be progressed to a conclusion with reasonable expedition, then the provisions of Rule C3.13 shall not come in to effect until the earlier of (i) the final judicial determination or other termination of such proceedings, including any appeals but excluding any consideration of expenses, where such judicial determination or other termination is other than that the Expert Determination is reduced or otherwise set aside; and, (ii) the beginning of the Season following the Season which follows the Season during which such determination was made.
- C3.15 In December of 2005 and in December every third year thereafter the Board shall call a General Meeting at which the Clubs shall consider whether the Company should request the appointment of an Expert to determine by Expert Determination whether there will be Excess Impact during the then current Season.
- C3.16 If, at a General Meeting called by the Board in terms of Rule C3.15, the Clubs resolve that the Company should request the appointment of an Expert to determine by Expert Determination whether there will be Excess Impact during the then current Season the Board shall forthwith request such appointment.
- C3.17 The Company shall not contract in a Commercial Contract or Contracts:-
- C3.17.1 so as to require any home Club to provide, for central exploitation, more than 12 trackside advertising spaces or equivalent at a League Match;
- C3.17.2 for live Transmission of more than four League Matches at the home ground of each Club in any one Season;

C3.17.3 so as to require any home Club to provide for central exploitation more than 1 single and 4 half page programme advertisements in a programme issue for a League Match; and/or

C3.17.4 so as to require any home Club to provide more than 50 match tickets (or equivalent hospitality) for any one League Match;

provided always that any home Club may at the request of the Company agree to greater provision on any occasion or occasions.

C3.18 Except where a Club agrees in writing to license or otherwise provide to the Company such of its rights, facilities and properties as shall be specified in and on the terms set out in such written agreement, the Clubs and each of them shall not be required to license or otherwise provide to the Company the use of any of their or its rights, facilities and properties to enable the Company to enter into and/or fulfill the Company's obligations under and in terms of Limited Commercial Contracts entered or to be entered into by the Company.

C3.19 Any fee, royalty or other payment agreed to be paid by the Company to a Club for the license to use or other provision to the Company by that Club of any of its rights, facilities and properties for the purpose of enabling the Company to enter into and/or fulfill the Company's obligations under and in terms of a Limited Commercial Contract shall not exceed such sum or sums as in the reasonable opinion of the Board will represent the market value at the time to be licensed or otherwise provided of the rights, facilities and properties to be so licensed or otherwise provided by such Club and the Board shall also take account, when agreeing the amount of such payment to such Club, the value of such other rights, facilities and properties which shall be required to enter into and/or fulfill the Company's obligations under and in terms of such a Limited Commercial Contract and which are not licensed or otherwise provided to the Company by a Club with a view to securing an appropriate contribution to Net Commercial Revenues from such a Limited Commercial Contract.

Commercial Revenues

C4.1 Fee payments to Clubs will be made in accordance with the following provisions. Such fees are paid and to be paid in consideration of the rights, licenses, facilities and services, other than those for which a fee, royalty or other payment is agreed to be paid to a Club in terms of Rule C3.19 for the purpose of enabling the Company to enter into and/or fulfill the Company's obligations under and in terms of a Limited Commercial Contract, provided and which shall be provided by Clubs to facilitate the generation of Commercial Revenues and generally to enable the Company to fulfill its obligations under and in terms of Commercial Contracts.

C4.2.1 The aggregate fee payments referred to in Rule C4.1 shall be equal to the Net Commercial Revenues for the Season in question.

C4.2.2 No fee payment out of any Commercial Revenues will be made until there have been deducted therefrom, or adequate provision as determined by the Board has been made and monies in respect of such provision have been retained by the Company to cover all costs and operating expenses involved in administering, organising, running and/or managing the League and Company during the Season in question including, without limitation, wages and salaries, office running costs, advertising costs and any other costs or expenses directly or indirectly arising from the creation, establishment, administration and running of the League and/or the Company, including the payment of such support payment as may be agreed between the Clubs and/or the Company from time to time, whether in accordance with the Settlement Agreement or otherwise, to the SFL and any Parachute Payment(s) made to or provided for any Club relegated from the League as described in C.4.5.1.

C4.3 Fee payments to Clubs, after making deduction and/or adequate provision in accordance with Rule C4.2.2, shall be made as follows:-

C4.3.1 The remaining amount of the Commercial Revenues ("the Net Commercial Revenues") referable to any one Season shall be divided into two tranches as described and paid to the Clubs as set out in the table in Rule C4.3.2;

C4.3.2 The tranches referred to in C4.3.1 are:

"The Basic Facility Fee Pool", 48% of the Net Commercial Revenues, which shall be shared equally amongst the Clubs participating in the League during the Season in question; and

"The Supplementary Facility Fee Pool", 52% of the Net Commercial Revenues, which shall be paid to the Clubs participating in the League during the Season in question in accordance with their respective league positions at the end of that Season.

	Basic Facility Fee Pool	Supplementary Facility Fee Pool	Total
% of Net Commercial Revenues	48.0%	52.0%	100.0%
League Position			
1	4.0%	13.0%	17.0%
2	4.0%	11.0%	15.0%
3	4.0%	5.5%	9.5%
4	4.0%	4.5%	8.5%
5	4.0%	4.0%	8.0%
6	4.0%	3.5%	7.5%
7	4.0%	3.0%	7.0%
8	4.0%	2.5%	6.5%
9	4.0%	2.0%	6.0%
10	4.0%	1.5%	5.5%
11	4.0%	1.0%	5.0%
12	4.0%	0.5%	4.5%
	48.0%	52.0%	100.0%

All percentages shown in the above table are percentages of the Net Commercial Revenues.

C4.3.3 In the event that the number of Clubs in the League in any Season is other than twelve:-

C4.3.3.1 the distribution of the Basic Facility Fee Pool as set out in the table in C4.3.2 shall be reallocated such that it shall continue to be shared equally amongst the Clubs; and,

C4.3.3.2 the distribution of the Supplementary Facility Fee Pool shall be reallocated by the Board *pro rata* amongst the Clubs to the nearest two decimal places using the same basis of distribution as provided in the table in C4.3.2 adjusted for the number of Clubs in the League in the relevant Season.

Retained Revenues

C4.4 All Retained Revenues shall be retained solely by the individual Club which earns, generates or receives them and shall not be shared among the other Clubs or be paid or repayable to the Company provided that any Club receiving any Retained Revenues shall be responsible for and shall indemnify the Company against any additional costs or expenses incurred by the Company in facilitating or enabling such Club to receive such Retained Revenues.

Parachute Payments

C4.5.1 Subject to Rule C4.5.2 fee payments ("Parachute Payments") shall be made for each of the two Seasons following relegation

to any Club relegated from the League from time to time of the lesser of £250,000 and 1.63% of the Net Commercial Revenues in the Season following relegation and the lesser of £125,000 and 0.82% of the Net Commercial Revenues in the second Season following relegation. The Parachute Payments payable for each Season shall be paid to the appropriate Club(s) at the commencement of the relevant Season(s) following relegation.

C4.5.2 In the event that a Club is promoted to the League, after having been relegated for only one Season, it shall not receive any Parachute Payment in respect of the second Season after its relegation.

Fixture Lists etc.

C5 The copyright, database and all other rights in the League's fixture list shall vest in and be the property of the Company.

Gate Receipts

C6.1 Subject to Rules C6.2 and C6.3, the entire gate receipts of all League Matches (including abandoned or replayed League Matches) shall be retained by the Home Club.

C6.2 In the event of a League Match being abandoned in terms of Rule B17, unless otherwise determined by the Board the entire gate receipts shall be retained by the Home Club under deduction of and payment to the Visiting Club of £2,000 (plus VAT, if applicable) as representing its costs and any sums due in terms of Rule C6.3.

C6.3 Should a morning kick-off necessitate the Visiting Club incurring overnight hotel expenses, the Visiting Club shall be entitled to claim reasonable costs (for no more than 25 persons) from the Home Club against the gross gate. Any dispute in this regard shall be determined by the Board in its absolute discretion. The Visiting Club must make any such claim within 14 days of the match in question and payment or referral to the Board if the Home Club disputes the amount claimed, made by the Visiting Club within 14 days of receipt of the claim.

Press and Media Facilities

C7.1 Without prejudice to the Home Club's right (acting reasonably) to exclude any individual from its ground, the Home Club shall provide at its ground facilities in accordance with the requirements of the Stadia Handbook for the representatives of the press, radio and television and for up to 5 media staff from the Visiting Club, one of whom may be a cameraman taking moving pictures and another one of whom may be a photographer taking still photographs. The media staff of the Visiting Club shall be provided, at the cost of the Home Club, with the exclusive use of one Integrated Services Digital Network (I.S.D.N.) (or the equivalent) line. The Home Club may designate a location within their ground where all interviews

comprising moving pictures shall be conducted by the media staff of a Visiting Club.

- C7.2 Subject to any rules and regulations laid down from time to time by the Home Club, an appropriate number of photographers, cameramen and the personnel required to operate television cameras shall be granted access during play to the area between the boundaries of the field of play and the spectators.
- C7.3 Each Club shall provide a suitable gantry or gantries for use by television cameras and any other moving picture cameras in such an area of its ground and at such an elevation to allow for clear and unobstructed coverage of League Matches. Such gantry or gantries shall be of a standard reasonably satisfactory to the Board.
- C7.4 The Home Club shall allow access to be given to Radio Transmission and/or Transmission and/or Other Transmission companies and the like and their audio equipment, moving picture cameras and any other equipment to cover League Matches in accordance with any Commercial Contract.
- C7.5 Where possible, the representatives of the press shall be located within one area of the ground and with an unobstructed view of the field of play.

Shirt Advertisements and Televised Matches

- C8 The kit, comprising shirt, shorts, socks and any other item of visible clothing, in which Players Play in League Matches is subject to the following rules concerning advertising:-
- C8.1 provided that a Club shall be entitled to utilise not less than 32 square inches in total on the kit of each Player for advertisements, the dimensions, numbers and placing of advertisements on such kit to be in accordance with specifications approved by the Board ;
- C8.2 the maximum height of the letters and other characters to be as specified by the Board but shall not be less than 3 inches for principal shirt advertising;
- C8.3 provided that each Club shall be entitled, subject to RuleC8.4, to not less than one kit sponsor, each Club to be limited to such number of sponsors per Season, which may be advertised on such kit, as the Board may determine for the purpose of this Rule, and
- C8.4 each such sponsor to be notified to the Secretary for prior approval by the Board, which shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed, each Season, not later than fourteen days before the first televised match in which the advertisement of such sponsor is to be displayed, unless special dispensation is given by the Board in respect of this requirement.

Defaulting Clubs

- C9.1 If any Club defaults in making payment of any sum or sums due to the Company and/or to another Club the Board shall be entitled to apply any sums which, under these Rules, would otherwise be payable to the defaulting Club by the Company in discharge of any debt due by such Club in default to the Company and/or such other Club in such manner as the Board shall determine.
- C9.2 If, in the opinion of the Board, there are grounds to believe that a Club may not fulfil or be able, on the basis of information available to the Board, to fulfil all or any of its fixture obligations in Official Matches in the course of a Season then the Board may withhold, retain and/or defer payment of any sums which would otherwise be payable and/or be expected to be paid by the Company to such Club until such time as the Board is satisfied that such fixture obligations have or will be fulfilled.
- C9.3 The Board may require interest to be paid to the Company and/or to such other Club by such a Club in default on such a sum or sums so due and the balance or balances from time to time outstanding until paid in full, at the rate of 2% above the base lending rate of the Bank of England as same may vary from time to time compounded on the first day of each calendar month and the Board shall be entitled to apply any sums which, under these Rules, would otherwise be payable to the defaulting Club by the Company in discharge of any interest so payable by such Club in default to the Company and/or such other Club in such manner as the Board shall determine.
- C9.4 This Rule C9 shall be without prejudice to any sanction in relation to such default otherwise imposed in terms of these Rules.

VAT and rights to payments

- C10.1 All amounts specified in these Rules for payment are stated exclusive of value added tax, if applicable.
- C10.2 A Club's entitlement to receive payment of fees from the Company in accordance with the Rules shall not be in any way dependent upon the Club holding any share or shares in the Company and the Club shall remain entitled to receive payment of any fees properly due or payable to it in terms of the Rules following its ceasing to be a shareholder of the Company through relegation or otherwise.

UEFA Competitions

- C11.1 It is acknowledged that the SFA shall determine and nominate to UEFA the Clubs to compete in the UEFA Competitions each Season in accordance with the SFA Articles and the Regulations of the UEFA Competitions.

C11.2 The Board will procure that all fixtures for League Matches shall be arranged or rearranged to allow for any Club's fixtures in the UEFA Competitions referred to in Rule C11.1.

Termination of Membership

C12.1 No Club shall terminate its membership of the League unless it shall have given two full Seasons notice in writing to the Secretary to the effect that it shall terminate its membership. Once given, a written notice of termination of membership may not be revoked or withdrawn by the Club except with the approval of the Company in General Meeting.

C12.2 Any Club which is in breach of the provisions of this Rule C12 shall on demand indemnify the Company, on behalf of the other Clubs in the League, against all losses, damages, liabilities, costs or expenses suffered or incurred by such Clubs and/or the Company which result directly or indirectly from such breach (including, but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, any loss of income or profits from any sponsorship or other commercial agreement or arrangement entered into by the Company as a result of such breach).

C12.3 Subject to the provisions of Article 37 of the Articles of Association, the Company in General Meeting may from time to time, and upon such terms and conditions as it may think fit, expel or accept the retirement or resignation of any Club from the League.

Conflict

C13 In the event of any conflict between the Articles of Association and these Rules, the provisions of the Articles of Association shall prevail, unless specifically stated otherwise.

Admission to Grounds and Ticket Distribution

C14.1 The Home Club, in its absolute discretion, shall determine admission charges for League Matches.

C14.2 The Home Club must make provision for the admission of such reasonable number of visiting supporters at every home League Match as may be agreed in advance with the Visiting Club and, in the event of their being unable to agree such number not later than 14 days prior to the date of the League Match in question, the number of visiting supporters allowed shall be determined by the Board whose decision shall be final and binding.

C14.3 A section of the ground must be reserved for supporters of the Visiting Club and any tickets for League Matches must be distributed on this basis. Details of these arrangements should be publicised by the Clubs in advance.

C14.4 Where tickets for League Matches are produced they should be in such a form as to minimise the opportunity for ticket falsification. If forged tickets are found to be in circulation, the Home Club must inform the police forthwith. All tickets should be marked, if possible, so as to identify the distributor.

C14.5 The Visiting Club shall, unless it and the Home Club agree otherwise, return any unsold tickets for a League Match in its possession to the Home Club not less than 48 hours prior to the scheduled time of commencement of the League Match and shall pay the Home Club for any tickets which it sells for a League Match no later than 10 days after the scheduled date or dates for such League Match. Any Club making late payment shall pay interest to the Home Club on any balance or balances from time to time outstanding until paid in full, at the rate of 5% above the base lending rate of the Bank of England as same may vary from time to time compounded on the first day of each calendar month.

C14.6.1 Except as provided in Rule C14.6.2, a Club which is the Home Club for a League Match is prohibited from charging higher admission prices to accommodation designated for supporters of the Visiting Club than for broadly comparable accommodation designated for use by supporters of the Home Club at the same League Match.

C14.6.2 The prohibition in Rule C14.6.1 does not apply to any:-

C14.6.2.1 element of discount in the admission price *per* League Match integral in the price of a Season ticket for all of the home League Matches of the relevant Club for the complete Season in which the relevant League Match falls;

C14.6.2.2 concessionary admission prices for the relevant League Match charged exclusively to persons who are senior citizens, children and/or disabled and who qualify as such; and

C14.6.2.3 concessionary admission prices for the relevant League Match charged to individuals comprised in groups of two or more persons, at least one of whom must be less than sixteen years of age, for admission together to a *bona fide* family enclosure exclusively used and designated as such for the complete Season in which the relevant League Match falls.”

Expert Determination

C15.1 In the event that these Rules provide for a dispute arising hereunder to be determined by Expert Determination, such dispute shall be referred to an Expert (who shall have appropriate experience and skill in relation to the matter in dispute) to be appointed by the President for the time being,

whom failing the deputy or vice president, of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators.

- C15.2 An Expert Determination shall be deemed to commence on the date of acceptance of appointment by the Expert.
- C15.3 The Expert shall forthwith intimate in writing the commencement of an Expert Determination to the Board and all of the Clubs.
- C15.4 The Expert so appointed shall decide all disputes referred to him as an Expert and not as an arbiter.
- C15.5 The Expert shall determine the procedure to be adopted for determination of the matter in dispute subject always that he shall ensure that the Board and all of the Clubs each have a full, fair and equal opportunity to state their position in the Expert Determination and to respond to the position adopted by others, prior to the Expert making his determination. The Expert shall be under an obligation to take all representations and information made and/or provided to him by the Board and/or the Clubs into account when reaching his decision.
- C15.6 The Expert shall adjudicate on the matter for determination by him and shall issue his decision in a written reasoned form, dealing with each of the issues of fact and/or law arising during the course of the Expert Determination, within three months of the commencement of the Expert Determination.
- C15.7 The costs and expenses of and incidental to a referral to an Expert and the costs and expenses of the parties shall be borne in such manner and in such proportions as the Expert shall determine.
- C15.8 Unless all parties to a dispute agree in writing, any representations or concessions made by any party in, or in connection with the proceedings before an Expert shall be without prejudice to such parties' rights and shall not be raised by any other party in any other legal proceedings.
- C15.9 So far as applicable the provisions of section 3(1) of the Administration of Justice (Scotland) Act 1972 shall not apply to any Expert Determination.
- C15.10 The Law of Scotland shall apply to any Expert Determination and the Courts of Scotland shall have exclusive jurisdiction to determine any dispute or difference in connection therewith.
- C15.11 Nothing in these Rules or the Articles of Association shall prevent any Club or the Board aggrieved at the decision of the Expert in an Expert Determination from seeking to have that decision judicially reviewed in the Court of Session.

Definitions and Interpretation

C16.1 For the purposes of this part C of the Rules the following terms shall (unless the context otherwise requires) have the following meanings:

“British Isles” means the United Kingdom of Britain and Northern Ireland and Ireland;

“Commercial Contract” means any contract entered into by the Company in the expectation of or which might reasonably be expected to generate Commercial Revenues;

“Commercial Revenues” means any monies or revenues generated, earned, received, receivable or derived of whatever nature which are paid or payable to the Company, including, without limitation, all monies or revenues paid or payable to the Company from Transmission and/or Radio Transmission of League Matches and/or Other Transmission of League Matches by or under contract with the Company, from sponsorship of the League, from licenses, affiliations, permissions, use of trade or other marks, exploitation of intellectual property and other commercial operations relating to the operation of the League and from trackside advertising by the Company at any Club's ground or the Clubs or any of them which have been derived from rights, licences, facilities and properties which the Clubs or any of them are obliged, in terms of these Rules, to make available to the Company, but does not include any monies or revenues generated, earned, received, receivable or derived by the Company other than pursuant to this Section C of the Rules;

“Excess Impact” means, in respect of any Season, that the aggregate Commercial Revenues received and to be received by the Company from Radio Transmission and Transmission will be less than 95% of the aggregate Commercial Revenues, which the Company would have received from such Radio Transmission and Transmission were it not for Other Transmission by Clubs, except pursuant to Commercial Contracts, of moving pictures of League Matches played during that Season;

“Expert Determination” means determination in accordance with the procedure and by the person or persons appointed in accordance with Rule C15 and “Expert” shall be construed accordingly;

“Limited Commercial Contract” means a Commercial Contract which will not generate Commercial Revenues from Radio Transmission, Transmission or Other Transmission and which the Company in General Meeting specifies shall be a Limited Commercial Contract when the Company determines that the Company shall enter into same;

“Other Transmission” means any broadcast or transmission of sounds and/or moving pictures and/or commentary upon any League Match which is not Radio Transmission and/or Transmission not consisting solely of the storage and

distribution of recorded sounds and/or pictures in tangible form whether such broadcasting or transmission is on a live or recorded basis in whole or as excerpts or clips;

“Radio Transmission” means any terrestrial or satellite, analogue, digital or otherwise radio broadcast or transmission of sounds and/or commentary upon any League Match not consisting solely of storage and distribution of recorded sounds in tangible form whether such radio transmission is on a live or recorded basis in whole or as excerpts or clips;

“Retained Revenues” means all monies or revenues generated, earned, received, receivable or derived of whatever nature which are generated by, earned, received, derived, paid or payable to any Club which are not Commercial Revenues, including, without limitation, from friendly matches not played in the League or from matches in European competitions, all monies derived from shirt sponsorship, Club sponsorship, trackside advertising not pooled centrally for the Company, gate receipts and other receipts derived from home League Match fixtures; and,

“Transmission” means any terrestrial or satellite broadcast or transmission of television of moving pictures of any League Match or cable relay of such broadcast or transmission or inclusion of such moving pictures in a cable programme service not consisting solely of the storage and distribution of recorded pictures with or without sound in tangible form whether such broadcast or transmission is on a live or recorded basis in whole or as excerpts or clips.

- C16.2 Wherever the term “moving pictures” is used in this Part C of the Rules it means moving pictures with or without sound.
- C16.3 Wherever the term “rights, facilities and properties” is used in this Part C of the Rules this includes, but is not limited to, all contractual and property (whether tangible or intangible) rights all rights in and relating to intellectual property including all rights held by way of license, all image and other similar rights held in respect of players and all rights of access to databases and database rights generally.

SECTION D: PLAYERS

Registration and Eligibility

- D1.1 Subject to these Rules, to be eligible to Play for a Club a Player must first be Registered either as a Professional Player or as an Amateur Player.
- D1.2 An application for a Player to be Registered or to change Status must be made, in the case of Professional Registration, by submitting to the Secretary a fully completed and executed Contract of Service for the Player concerned and, in the case of Amateur Registration or change of Status, by submitting to the Secretary a fully completed written application in the form specified from time to time by the Board and must, in all cases, if issued to the Player concerned, be accompanied by a copy of the Player's Player Passport. In the case of Amateur Registration or change of Status the form used must be fully completed with all required details and signed by the Player and Club concerned prior to submission to the Secretary. The Board may determine in the case of Amateur Registration to accept as an application for Amateur Registration a fully completed copy of the form or forms then in use by the SFA for the registration of amateur players submitted to the SFA.
- D1.3 The Secretary shall, subject to these Rules, Register:-
- D1.3.1 Players as either a Professional Player of a Club or as an Amateur Player of a Club; and
- D1.3.2 any change in the Status of Registered Players.
- D1.4 Every Relevant Player (as defined in the Rules of the SFL) shall be deemed to be automatically Registered, with appropriate Status, immediately upon his Club becoming a member of the League.
- D1.5 Subject that a Player shall become registered as a Relevant Player, in accordance with the rules of the SFL, on the relegation of his club to the SFL, the Registration of every Player of a Club shall automatically cease upon his Club ceasing to be a member of the League
- D1.6 Subject to Rules D1.8 and D5.6, the Secretary shall Register Players only during two Registration Periods in the period from the day after the last day of a Season until the last day of the immediately succeeding Season. Subject to Rule D1.7, the first such Registration Period shall commence after the last day of each Season and before the first day of the immediately succeeding Season and the second shall occur in the middle of the Season and otherwise the Board shall determine the commencement and termination dates of Registration Periods.

- D1.7 The Board may alter, after determination in accordance with Rule D1.6, the date of commencement and/or termination of a Registration Period.
- D1.8 The Board may at any time, subject to such conditions, if any, as the Board considers appropriate, direct the Secretary to Register a Player and/or permit a Player to play in an Official Match. In considering an application in terms of this Rule D1.8 the Board shall, in an appropriate case, have regard to any relevant FIFA regulations and guidance relating to the registration of professional players who were not party to a Contract of Service on the last day of the immediately preceding Registration Period.
- D1.9 Subject to Rule D1.8, a Player may not be Registered on more than three occasions from 1st July in any one year until 30th June in the immediately succeeding year.
- D1.10 A Club participating in an Official Match must ensure that those of its Players Playing in the match are eligible to Play in such match.
- D1.11 Any Club Playing an ineligible Player in an Official Match and the Player concerned shall be in breach of the Rules.
- D1.12 If a Player Plays, whilst subject to suspension by the SFA and/or the League from participating or being named as a substitute in an Official Match, the Club and the Player concerned shall be in breach of the Rules.
- D1.13 A Club must, as a condition of Registration and for a Player to be eligible to Play in Official Matches, deliver the executed originals of all Contracts of Service and amendments and/or extensions to Contracts of Service and all other agreements providing for payment, other than for reimbursement of expenses actually incurred, between that Club and Player, to the Secretary, within fourteen days of such Contract of Service or other agreement being entered into, amended and/or, as the case may be, extended.
- D1.14 By permitting himself to be Registered, a Player shall be deemed to have submitted himself to the jurisdiction of the Company and the Board and to have agreed to adhere to, comply with and be subject to these Rules and any decisions, sanctions and/or penalties imposed by and/or determined in accordance with these Rules and to have agreed to comply with the statutes and regulations of FIFA and the articles of association and regulations of the SFA.
- D1.15 A Player must be aged 16 years or more to be eligible to play for a Club in League Matches and Reserve League matches.
- D1.16 A Registered Player must not, except with the prior consent of the Board and the Club to which he is Registered, play Football for any other Football club in any competition or except with the

prior consent of the Club to which he is Registered, train with such other Football Club.

- D1.17 A Player shall not be Registered where there is any restriction or condition, howsoever arising, as to when, against whom or on what terms the Player concerned shall or shall not Play.
- D1.18 Each Club shall, prior to the commencement of each Season, notify the Secretary in writing of the person or persons authorised by the board of that Club to execute documents required to be executed by that Club until the commencement of the next succeeding Season for the purposes of this Section D of the Rules. Clubs may, from time to time, notify the Secretary in writing of any changes in such authorised persons made by the board of that Club. The Secretary shall accept, for the purposes of this Section D of the Rules, only documents and others signed on behalf of Clubs by persons so authorised.
- D1.19 Any Club playing an ineligible player in a League Cup Match (as determined in accordance with the League Cup Rules) will be liable to such penalties as may be imposed in accordance with the League Cup Rules.
- D1.20 On or before 1st March and 1st October in each year the Secretary shall publish the names of all Registered Players as at 1st February and 1st September respectively in that year, the Clubs to which each of them are Registered and, whether a Player is Registered as a Professional Player or as an Amateur Player.
- D1.21 A Player may not be Registered as a Professional Player and an Amateur Player or for more than one Club at the same time.
- D1.22 A Professional Player may not be Registered as an Amateur Player within 30 days of having Played as a Professional Player.
- D1.23 The Secretary shall not, unless otherwise directed by the Board, Register an Under 19 Player as an Amateur Player if the Player concerned has, during the period of 12 months immediately preceding the date, on which the Player would otherwise be Registered, been Registered to another Club as an Amateur Player and such other Club has not consented in writing to such Registration. If such other Club delays or refuses to give such consent the Board may, on application being made to the Secretary in writing by the Club seeking to make the Registration or the Player, direct the Secretary to make the Registration notwithstanding the absence of such consent. A Club shall not seek to make the payment of any sum or the receipt of any benefit in kind a condition of the giving of such consent. The Board may make it a condition of the Secretary giving effect to any such direction that the Club to whom the Player is to be Registered first pay a Development Contribution to the Club for whom the Player was last Registered calculated in accordance with Rule D13.

- D1.24 Unless the Board shall, in order to ensure the integrity of the competition, exceptionally determine otherwise, and on such conditions and for such Official Match or Matches as the Board may specify, a Player who becomes Registered to a Club on or after 1st April in any Season shall not be eligible to Play in an Official Match for that Club until the commencement of the succeeding Season.
- D1.25 Notwithstanding the other provision of these Rules, an Under 19 Player may not be Registered nor may his Registration be renewed unless there is first submitted to the Secretary a fully completed and signed Code of Conduct for Under 19 Players in relation to that Player. A new fully completed and signed Code of Conduct for Under 19 Players must be submitted to the Secretary on each occasion on which an Under 19 Player is Registered or, as the case may be, on each occasion on which his Registration is renewed.
- D1.26 Clubs must submit to the Secretary a fully completed and signed Code of Conduct for Under 19 Players for each Under 19 Player Registered to them on or prior to 18 April 2011 by not later than 31 December 2011 and, subject to the terms of this rule D1.26, in the event that a fully completed and signed Code of Conduct for Under 19 Players is not submitted to the Secretary in relation to an Under 19 Player by 31 December 2011 then the Registration of that Player shall terminate on the last day of Season 2011/2012. The Board may, on the written application of a Club to the Secretary made on or before 31 December 2011 and on cause shown, extend the time or waive the requirement for submission to the Secretary of a fully completed and executed Code of Conduct for Under 19 Players in relation to an Under 19 Player who was Registered to that Club on 18 April 2011 and whose Registration was not renewed between 18 April 2011 and 31 December 2011.

Expedited Registration

- D2.1 If a Club wishes to Register a Player as a matter of urgency copies of the application for Registration and Player Passport and, except in the case of an Amateur Player, his executed Contract of Service may be sent electronically to the Secretary. Subject to confirmation being given in writing or electronically by the Secretary that the Player has been Registered, the Player shall be eligible to play for the Club concerned in matches for which Registration is required.
- D2.2 The originals of such documentation must be submitted by the Club concerned to the Secretary not more than fourteen working days after Registration, failing which the Registration shall be liable to be cancelled by the Board and/or the Club concerned may be liable to such sanction, including deduction of points and/or fine, as the Board may consider appropriate.

Priority of Registration and Multiple Contracts of Service

- D3.1 In the event of a Professional Player entering into Contracts of Service relating to the same period or part of a period with two or more Clubs, priority of submission of a Contract of Service in accordance with Rules D1.2 and D1.3 shall determine to which Club he shall be Registered. The Secretary shall notify any Club or Clubs subsequently seeking to Register such Player of his prior Registration.
- D3.2 A Player entering into a Contract of Service whilst still subject to another such contract with a different Football club and/or a Club inducing a Player to enter into such a contract in such circumstances shall be liable to be dealt with as the Board may think appropriate.
- D3.3 Outwith a Registration Period a Club may, for a player who is not party to a Contract of Service for a period and subject to there having been no infringement of Rule D8.1, submit a Contract of Service, with such player for such period, to the Secretary outwith a Registration Period and it shall be dated as received on the date of such receipt by the Secretary but if the player concerned is not, at the time of such submission, Registered to that Club then, subject to Rule D1.8, the Player concerned may not be Registered to that Club until the first day of the immediately succeeding Registration Period.

Transfer of Players

- D4.1 The full terms and conditions of the transfer of or payment of Compensation in relation to a Player, which involves the Registration of that Player, must be set out in writing and reported to the Secretary. Copies of all financial and other agreements, no matter how informal, relating to the transfer of such Player must be submitted to the Secretary before that Player may be Registered.
- D4.2 When two Football clubs, at least one of whom is a Club, exchange Players with no monetary consideration, and there exists, in a previous transfer agreement relating to one or both Players, a provision that another Club is due a percentage or share of an onward transfer fee, the clubs exchanging Players must place a financial valuation on the respective Players. This valuation must be agreed in writing between the clubs concerned and submitted to the Secretary, in order that a calculation can be made of the percentage of that valuation or amount otherwise calculated due to the other Club.
- D4.3 Should a Club, which is entitled to benefit financially from a Player's onward transfer, dispute the valuation placed on any Player in an exchange situation, or, should the Board consider that any such valuation may not be a true reflection of such Player's worth, a Compensation Tribunal will determine the value of or appropriate Compensation for the Player concerned.
- D4.4 Where an agreement relating to a transfer between two clubs, at least one of whom is a Club, makes provision for the payment of

further sums on the happening of a specified event, (e.g. after the Player has made a certain number of first team appearances or scored a certain number of goals) the transferee shall forthwith inform both the League and the transferor that such specified event has occurred. The transferee shall, at the same time, pay to the transferor the further sum(s) referred to in the agreement.

- D4.5 The Company shall treat the details of all transfers as confidential.
- D4.6 If a Club is in default of payments due to another Club under a transfer agreement or in relation to Compensation, such defaulting Club shall pay interest calculated on a daily basis at a rate of 5% per annum over the base rate from time to time of The Governor and Company of the Bank of Scotland to the other Club, and the Board may place an embargo on any further Registrations by such defaulting Club until such time as the agreement is honoured or, as the case may be, paid.
- D4.7 Any Club which, in the opinion of the Board, unfairly traffics or deals in the Registration of any Player or otherwise abuses in any way the registration, transfer, or Compensation systems shall be dealt with as the Board may determine.
- D4.8 It is not permitted for a transferor club to stipulate when or against whom a Player so transferred may or may not Play and any such stipulation in any agreement or other document shall be void.
- D4.9 If an agent or agents shall have been involved in the transfer of a Player to a Club such agent or agents must be identified by name and business address and the amount of all commissions, fees and other sums (exclusive of any taxes) paid by any Club or Clubs in relation to that transfer must be stated in the financial and other agreements setting out the terms of such transfer.

Temporary Transfers and Trialists

- D5.1 Subject to these Rules, the temporary transfer of a Player and his Registration shall be permitted from and to Clubs in membership of the SPL and/or a Football club in membership of any other league, providing the rules of such other league so permit.
- D5.2 Subject to Rule D5.7, the term of a temporary transfer of a Player to a Club must be at least until the first day of the immediately succeeding Registration Period.
- D5.3 The full terms and conditions of the temporary transfer of a Player, must be set out in writing and copied to the Secretary by the Club or, where appropriate, Clubs concerned prior to the commencement of the term of the temporary transfer.

- D5.4 Subject to Rules D5.7 and D5.12, a Club (i) shall not during any part of a Season have more than four Players Registered to it on the basis of temporary transfers and of those Players not more than one shall not be an Under 21 Player and (ii) shall not at any time have more than one Player Registered to it on the basis of a temporary transfer from each other Club
- D5.5 Subject to Rule D5.7 and D5.12, the maximum permitted number of temporary transfers to any Club from 1st July in any year to 30th June in the following year is five.
- D5.6 In the case of a Player who is to be temporarily transferred from a Club to a club in membership of the SFL, the Club and the SFL club concerned may, in the written agreement constituting the terms on which the Player shall be temporarily transferred entered into prior to the commencement of the term of the temporary transfer, provide that the temporary transfer of the Player shall cease on a specified date that does not fall within a Registration Period and, in that event, on the expiry of the term of the temporary transfer the Secretary shall, notwithstanding Rule D1.6 but subject to Rule D1.24, Register the Player.
- D5.7 The Board may, in exceptional circumstances, permit the Registration of a goalkeeper on the basis of a temporary transfer at any time and for such period as the Board may determine.
- D5.8 During the term of a temporary transfer, the Player concerned may not, without the consent in writing of the transferor club, play for the transferee club in either the League Cup or Scottish Cup.
- D5.9 Where the temporary transfer of a Player to a Club becomes permanent the transferee Club shall forthwith advise the Secretary in writing and the Player concerned shall then no longer be counted for the purposes of Rule D5.4.
- D5.10 In the case of a temporary transfer it shall not be permitted to stipulate when or against whom, the Player temporarily transferred may or may not Play and any such stipulation in any agreement or other document shall be void.
- D5.11 Except where Rule D5.9 applies, on the expiry of the term or other termination of a temporary transfer, the Registration of the Player concerned shall automatically revert to the transferor club.
- D5.12 Rules D5.4 and D5.5 shall not have the effect of imposing any limit on the number of Players a Club shall be permitted to have Registered to that Club at any time or over any period of time on the basis of a temporary transfer where such temporary transfer has required in order to take place the issue of an International Transfer Certificate in accordance with the FIFA Regulations for the Status and Transfer of Players and all such Players for whom such certificate was so required shall not count towards

the limits specified in Rules D5.4 and D5.5 on the numbers of Players who may be so Registered to a Club at any time or over any period of time.

- D5.13 During the term of a temporary transfer, the Player concerned may not take part as a player in the starting 11 or as being named as a substitute for the transferee club in a League Match against the transferor Club.
- D5.14 Trialists are not under any circumstances eligible to Play for a Club in a League Match. For the purposes of this Rule Official Matches do not include League Matches. No more than two Trialists may Play for a Club in any one Official Match. A Trialist shall, subject to compliance with the Rules, be permitted to Play in a maximum of three Official Matches in any one Season for any one Club. A Club intending to Play a Trialist in an Official Match must give advance written notification to the Secretary of such intention and such notification must specify details of the relevant Player's name and address, place and date of birth, previous club for which he last played (if any), previous club to which he was last registered (if any) and the country in which he last played.

Termination of Registration and Playing Restrictions

- D6.1 The Registration of a Professional Player shall terminate on receipt by the Secretary of a written request to that effect, countersigned by the Player concerned, from the Club to which he is Registered.
- D6.2 The Registration of an Amateur Player shall terminate on the receipt by the Secretary of a written request to that effect from the Club to which he is Registered.
- D6.3 The Registration of a Professional Player shall terminate on the expiry of the term, without renewal, extension or replacement, duly notified to the Secretary, of his Contract of Service.
- D6.4 Subject to the terms of this Rule D6.4, where the employment of a Professional Player by the Club to which he is Registered has been terminated in accordance with his Contract of Service the Player may, by giving fourteen clear days written notice to the Secretary, copied to the Club to which he is Registered, terminate his Registration. The Club to which he is Registered may, within fourteen days of receipt of the copy of such notice, notify the Secretary in writing and copied to the Player, that the Club concerned objects to the termination of the Registration of the Player. The only valid reasons for such objection are that the Player's employment under his Contract of Service shall not have terminated or that termination of the employment by the Player shall not have been in accordance with the terms of the Player's Contract of Service. In the event of the club validly objecting in accordance with this Rule D6.4 the Board shall determine whether, when and on what terms and conditions, if any, the Registration of the player shall terminate.

- D6.5 Any Player who is released from his Contract of Service by his Club on the grounds of permanent total disability from playing or training for Football and whose Registration is terminated, shall not, except with the approval of the Board, subsequently be Registered to any other Club.
- D6.6 Any Player whose Club has received a permanent total disablement payment from The Scottish Premier League Personal Accident Insurance Scheme (or any similar replacement scheme applicable to the League, Clubs and/or Players) in respect of that Player and whose Registration is terminated, and any Player who has applied for and received grant assistance from The Scottish Footballers' Benevolent Trust Fund (or any similar fund applicable to the League, Clubs and/or Players) and whose Registration is terminated, shall not, except with the approval of the Board, subsequently be Registered.
- D6.7 The Registration of an Amateur Player who is not an Under 19 Player shall, unless renewed by a written agreement between the Player and the Club concerned by means of a form specified from time to time by the Board and delivered to the Secretary prior to 30th June in any year, terminate on 1st July immediately following.
- D6.8.1 Without prejudice to Rule D6.8.2 Registration of an Amateur Player who is an Under 19 Player may be renewed annually by the Club concerned giving written notice to the Player of the continuation of his SFA registration in accordance with the procedures of the SFA and a copy of such notice being sent to the Secretary.
- D6.8.2 The Registration of an Amateur Player who is an Under 19 Player and who has reached the required age shall subsist and, as the case may be, continue and be renewed, for a period of up to three complete Seasons and their respective immediately succeeding Close Seasons, by the Club concerned giving written notice to the Player of the continuation of his SFA registration in accordance with the procedures of the SFA and a copy of such notice being sent to the Secretary.
- D6.8.3 For the purposes of Rule D6.8.2 the required age shall be 15 or where the 15th birthday of the Player concerned shall fall during the first of the three complete Seasons during which the Player is to be Registered, the required age shall be 14.
- D6.8.4 Notwithstanding the terms of this Rule D6.8, if an Amateur Player is registered by the SFA as a non-recreational player registration-youth (or any replacement equivalent) and if such SFA registration shall lapse or be cancelled in accordance with the procedures of the SFA, then, unless the Player shall be registered on any other form of amateur registration by the SFA, the Amateur Registration of the Player shall, unless otherwise determined by the Board, terminate or, where the relevant

requirements of these Rules have been complied with, be converted into a Professional Registration.

- D6.9 The Board may terminate the Registration of a Player where, after consulting with the Club and Player concerned, the Board is satisfied that the Player's association as a Player with the Club concerned has permanently terminated and there are no continuing claims between the Club and Player concerned.
- D6.10 The Registration of a Player shall continue unless or until terminated in accordance with these Rules.

Notification to Secretary of termination of Contract of Service and non-renewal of Registration

D7.1 A Club shall forthwith notify the Secretary in writing of:-

D7.1.1 any Professional Player whose Contract of Service expires or is otherwise terminated where the term of such contract has not been extended or the Player been re-engaged on a replacement contract; and,

D7.1.2 if the Registration of any Amateur Player expires without it being renewed.

D7.2 The names of Players notified by Clubs to the Secretary in accordance with Rule D7.1 during the 12 months preceding 31st May in each year shall, as soon as reasonably practicable after that date, be communicated simultaneously to all Clubs by the Secretary.

Approach to, by or in relation to Registered Players

- D8.1 Except during the last 6 months of the term of a Player's Contract of Service, no Registered Player may be approached, either in person or through or by an agent or other third party, by or on behalf of another Club with a view to that Player entering into a Contract of Service with and/or becoming a Player of that other Club without the permission in writing of the Club for which the Player is Registered being first obtained.
- D8.2 Any infringement of Rule D8.1 shall be dealt with by the Board or, if the Board considers appropriate, a Commission, which shall be entitled to take such action and impose such penalties and compensation, including, without limitation, fines, against the, Club, Club Official or Player concerned, compensation to any other Club, as it may, in the circumstances, think appropriate. Any such penalty may include a prohibition on Registration, for the Club guilty of the infringement, of any Player or Players for such period as may be determined.
- D8.3 A statement by or on behalf of a Club, Club Official or Player of that or their Club's interest in a Registered Player of another Club shall be deemed to be an approach for the purposes of Rule D8.1.

- D8.4 Any approach to a Player for a purpose mentioned in Rule D8.1 during the last 6 months of the term of a Player's Contract of Service must first be notified in writing by the Club making the approach or on whose behalf the approach is made, to the Player's then current Club.
- D8.5 A Registered Player shall not directly or indirectly, whether through or by any third party, communicate with or approach any Club or other Football club or any Club Official or Player of a Club or other Football club with the object of seeking, negotiating or arranging the transfer of himself or another Player to any Club or other Football club.
- D8.6 Any infringement of Rule D8.5 shall render the Player concerned and any third party who enters into communication or negotiation with him liable to such penalties and award of compensation, by way of fine, suspension, compensation to any Club or other Football club, or otherwise as the Board or a Commission may think appropriate in the circumstances.

Contracts of Service

- D9.1 All Contracts of Service between Clubs and Professional Players must be for a term of:-
- D9.1.1 not less than the period until the next first day of a Registration Period; and
- D9.1.2 not more than five years and the unexpired portion, if any, of any Season during which such contract was entered into.
- D9.2 All Contracts of Service between Clubs and Players must be in writing, fully completed and in a form approved, from time to time, by the Board.
- D9.3 No Player may receive any payment of any description from or on behalf of a Club in respect of that Player's participation in Association Football or in an activity connected with Association Football, other than in reimbursement of expenses actually incurred or to be actually incurred in playing or training for that Club, unless such payment is made in accordance with a Contract of Service between that Club and the Player concerned..
- D9.4 If an agent or agents shall have been involved in the negotiation and/or conclusion of a Contract of Service of a Player or an extension or amendment to same such agent or agents must be identified by name and business address and the amount of all commissions, fees and other sums (exclusive of any taxes) paid by any Club or Clubs in relation to such Contract of Service of a Player or extension or amendment to same must be stated in the document or documents constituting such contract, extension or amendment.

- D9.5 An Amateur Player may not be a party to a Contract of Service providing for the playing of or training for Football with a Club.
- D9.6 The League shall treat the details of all Contracts of Service as confidential.

Suspensions, Fines, Termination of Contracts of Service - Notification to League

- D10.1 All suspensions, fines and notices of termination of Contracts of Service imposed on or given to a Player by a Club must at the same time be reported, in writing, to the Secretary and the SFA by the Club concerned and such notification must be accompanied by a copy of any notice served on the Player.

Compensation

- D11.1 Compensation shall be payable to the former Club of a Player only where the Player concerned is Registered with his new Club at or before the end of the first Season in which the Player concerned reaches, will reach or shall have reached the age of 24 (amended to the age of 23 effective 1st September 2007)
- D11.2 If a Club wishes to re-engage a Professional Player and/or preserve any right that it may wish to assert to Compensation, such Club must have sent to the Player, to his last known home address or delivered to him personally, and copied to the Secretary, not later than fourteen days prior to the expiry of the term of the Player's Contract of Service, a written offer of re-engagement in accordance with Rule D11.3.
- D11.3 An offer of re-engagement for the purposes of Rules D11.2 must be for a term of not less than one year, on:-
- D11.3.1 replacement terms which are, in the opinion of the Board, not less favourable in all monetary respects, on an annual comparison basis, with the immediately preceding year of his employment, except that a signing-on fee and/or any additional or other lump sum payments included in the previous terms need not be repeated; or,
- D11.3.2 deemed terms as provided in Rule D11.4.
- D11.4 If an offer made in accordance with Rule D11.3 does not specify the term and/or terms offered for such re-engagement then the Club making the offer shall be deemed to have offered employment for a term of one year from the expiry of the term of the Player's existing Contract of Service on the same terms on which he was employed at the date of such offer, except that any signing-on fee and/or any additional or other lump sum payments included in the existing terms are not included in the deemed offer.

- D11.5 If, after the expiry of the term of his Contract of Service a Professional Player, to whom an offer in terms of Rules D11.3 and D11.4 has been made which is not accepted by him, is Registered for a new Club in circumstances where Rule D11.1 applies, then that new Club shall be liable to pay Compensation to the Player's former Club
- D11.6 If Clubs are unable to reach agreement on the amount of Compensation payable then either of the Clubs concerned or the Board shall have the right, at any time, to have any Compensation payable, if any, determined by a Compensation Tribunal.
- D11.7 In the event of the two Clubs concerned not reaching agreement on the amount of any Compensation payable, the new Club must, on the date of Registration or, if later, on the date of any first offer of Compensation, pay to the Player's former Club at least 50% of the highest amount offered or, as the case may be, offered, plus VAT at the standard rate. All offers of Compensation shall be in writing and shall be copied to the Secretary by recorded delivery post when they are sent to the Player's former Club. In the event that the amount of Compensation ordered to be paid by a Compensation Tribunal is less than the amount previously paid in terms of this Rule D11.7 or if no Compensation is ordered to be so paid then the Club which has received such payment shall be liable to forthwith repay as a debt the amount overpaid or, where no payment is so ordered to be paid, the amount paid, to the Club which made such payment.
- D11.8 A Compensation Tribunal shall be convened and its members appointed by the Board. The Clubs concerned shall provide the Compensation Tribunal with all the relevant information and documentation that the tribunal may require.
- D11.9 Unless otherwise agreed between the Clubs concerned, such agreed terms being set out in writing, signed by both Clubs and lodged with the Secretary, the balance or balances of Compensation, plus VAT at the standard rate, must be paid within 28 days of the date of publication of a Compensation Tribunal determination or, when an award in appropriate terms has been made by the Compensation Tribunal, of the occurrence or the relevant event or events. The Board may require interest to be paid on any balance or balances of Compensation from time to time due for payment and not paid until paid in full, at the rate of 2% above the base lending rate of the Bank of England as same may vary from time to time compounded on the first day of each calendar month.
- D11.10 The action of a Club in securing the Professional Player's signature on a Contract of Service shall constitute an acknowledgement of that Club's liability to pay any Compensation due in accordance with these Rules.

D11.11 If, in the opinion of the Board, a Contract of Service has been agreed or amended with the purpose or effect, in whole or in part, of avoiding or evading the payment of Compensation in accordance with the intent of the provisions of these Rules, the Board shall require the Club concerned to pay to the Club entitled to Compensation the amount of Compensation which a Compensation Tribunal considers ought to be paid.

D11.12 If, in the opinion of the Board, a Club unfairly traffics or deals in the Registration of any Player or otherwise abuses in any way the system of Compensation provided for in this Rule, or the intent thereof, the Board shall require such Club to pay to the Club from whom the Player was transferred such sum as the Board may consider just.

D11.13 A Compensation Tribunal shall comprise:-

- D11.13.1 a legally qualified chairman independent of the Clubs concerned;
- D11.13.2 a nominee of the SFL, where issues involving an SFL club arise;
- D11.13.3 a member or nominee of the Board; and
- D11.13.4 a person representing or representative of Players.

D11.14 A Compensation Tribunal shall be entitled to call for any documentary evidence required by it and shall have the power to order the attendance of any Club, Club Official or Player at any relevant hearing. The secretary to a Compensation Tribunal shall be the Secretary or his appointed deputy.

D11.15 The decision of a Compensation Tribunal on all matters determined by it shall be final and binding on all parties.

D11.16 In determining the amount of Compensation a Compensation Tribunal shall take into account the costs referred to in Rules D11.18 and D11.19 and the criteria set out in Rule D11.20.

D11.17 A Compensation Tribunal shall be entitled to award Compensation payable as a single sum or to award an initial sum with such further sum or sums as to be payable on the occurrence of a future event or events.

D11.18 Any costs relating to the Player concerned, including a contribution to overheads, indirect and shared costs, incurred by the Club losing the player's Registration in operating a youth development set-up such as for example, Football Academy, Centre of Excellence or Youth Development Initiative, including (without limitation) the cost of providing for students:-

- D11.18.1 living accommodation;

- D11.18.2 training and playing facilities;
- D11.18.3 scouting, coaching, administrative and other staff;
- D11.18.4 education and welfare requirements;
- D11.18.5 playing and training strip and other clothing;
- D11.18.6 medical and first aid facilities; and,
- D11.18.7 friendly and competitive matches and overseas tours.

D11.19 Any other costs incurred by the Club losing the player's registration directly and/or indirectly attributable to the training and development of the Player.

D11.20 The criteria are:-

- D11.20.1 the age of the Player;
- D11.20.2 the amount of any transfer fee or Compensation paid by the Club losing the player's Registration when acquiring the Registration of the Player;
- D11.20.3 the length of time during which the Club losing the player's registration held the Registration of the Player;
- D11.20.4 the terms of the new contract offered to the Player by each of the Clubs;
- D11.20.5 the Player's playing record in club and international team appearances; and,
- D11.20.6 substantiated interest shown by other clubs in acquiring the services of the Player.

D11.21 Provided any Relevant Club (as defined in the SFL rules) complies with its obligations under SFL rules in relation to any of its Relevant Players, such Relevant Club shall validly and effectively protect its entitlement to receive and be paid Compensation notwithstanding any other provisions in these Rules and/or SFL Rules.

Contract of Service with Option

D12.1 It shall not be permissible for any Club to include in the Contract of Service of a Player entered into prior to the Player's 24th (amended to 23rd effective 1st September 2007) birthday an option entitling the Club to renew or extend the term of such contract without the consent of the Player.

Development Contribution

- D13.1 For the purposes of these Rules, a Player's youth development for the playing of Football takes place during his Development Contribution Period.
- D13.2 In the event that a Player is Registered to another Club on or prior to his 23rd birthday, the Club to whom that Player was last Registered shall, subject to Rule D13.3, be entitled to payment of a Development Contribution for the youth development of that Player if he was, during all or, where it is the case, part, of any Development Contribution Year in his Development Contribution Period, Registered to or Associated with that Club.
- D13.3 A Development Contribution is not payable:-
- D13.3.1 where the Player concerned has not, prior to its termination, been offered in writing renewal of his Registration by the Club otherwise entitled to payment of a Development Contribution;
 - D13.3.2 where the Player concerned has at any time been Registered as a Professional Player to the Club otherwise entitled to payment of a Development Contribution;
 - D13.3.3 where the Player concerned is, for the first time, Registered as a Professional Player and the Club otherwise entitled to payment of a Development Contribution has not, prior to termination of his Registration to that Club, offered in writing the Player a Contract of Service on specified terms to commence on or before termination of his Amateur Registration;
 - D13.3.4 where the Player concerned is not also being, and for so long as he is not, registered with the SFA as a player of the Club otherwise liable to pay a Development Contribution;
 - D13.3.5 where the Board has, in accordance with Rule D1.23, directed the Secretary to Register the Player concerned to the Club otherwise liable to pay a Development Contribution without requiring that a Development Contribution first be paid; or
 - D13.3.6 to the extent and for such period(s) as a Development Contribution has on any previous occasion been paid to the Club otherwise entitled to payment of a Development Contribution for such period.
- D13.4 Any Club claiming to be entitled to payment of a Development Contribution for a Player shall be entitled to so notify the Secretary in writing and shall at the same time copy such notification to the Club from whom the Development Contribution is claimed. Such a notification must include the date of birth of the Player, details of the number and dates of the Development Contribution Year(s) and part Development

Contribution Year(s) claimed for and the age of the Player during each of such Development Contribution Year(s) and/or part Development Contribution Year(s).

- D13.5 For the purpose of determining entitlement to a Development Contribution the age of a Player in respect of any Development Contribution Year shall be ascertained by the age of the Player on the birthday of the Player falling in the Development Contribution Year concerned.
- D13.6 The Secretary shall consider any representations made by the Club claiming an entitlement to a Development Contribution and the Club against which such claim is made.
- D13.7 The Secretary shall, after considering such representations, within such time or times as the Secretary thinks appropriate, submitted to him, determine the amount, if any, of any Development Contribution payable and shall notify in writing each of the Clubs concerned of the amount, if any, determined as payable .
- D13.8 Within 7 days of the issue of a notification by the Secretary of a determination in terms of Rule D13.7 any Club aggrieved at or with such determination may appeal to the Board, by notifying such appeal to the Secretary in writing stating the grounds of such appeal. The Board may, after such process as it thinks appropriate, affirm, reverse, alter, modify and/or substitute any such determination of the Secretary.
- D13.9 The amount of any Development Contribution payable shall be determined by reference to the following table:-

<u>Maximum Age during the Development Contribution Year or part Development Contribution Year for which Development Contribution claimed</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11	£5000
12	£5000
13	£5000
14	£5000
15	£10000
16	£10000
17	£10000
18	£10000
19	£10000

- D13.10 Where a Player has been Registered to or Associated with a Club for only part of a Development Contribution Year for which that Club is entitled to payment of a Development Contribution then the amount of the Development Contribution which would have been payable had the Player concerned been Registered to or Associated with such Club for the whole of the Development Contribution Year concerned shall be *pro* rated to such part of such Development Contribution Year in respect of which he was so Registered to or, as the case may be, Associated with such Club.
- D13.11 Where any contribution, compensation, recompense or other payment is payable to a Club entitled to payment of a Development Contribution by the Club liable to pay a Development Contribution under or in accordance with any scheme, arrangement, rules or the like operated by any body operating within Organised Football for the same period in respect of which such Development Contribution is payable then the amount of the Development Contribution otherwise payable shall be reduced by the amount of such contribution, compensation, recompense or other payment.
- D13.12 Any Development Contribution due shall be paid by the Club liable to make payment to the Club entitled to same within 14 days of the Secretary giving notification of such liability to the liable Club, unless there is an appeal to the Board which might affect such liability, in which case the payment due shall be made within 14 days of the date of such determination of the appeal being notified to the liable Club, unless the determination of such appeal is that no Development Contribution is payable. The Board may require interest to be paid by the Club liable to make payment on any balance or balances of Development Contribution from time to time due for payment and not paid until paid in full, at the rate of 2% above the base lending rate of the Bank of England as same may vary from time to time compounded on the first day of each calendar month.

Adjudication of Disputes

- D14.1 If any dispute or difference, the method of resolution of which is not otherwise expressly provided for in these Rules, shall arise between a Club and a Player, the Board or, if the Board so decides, a Commission, shall, upon application to the Board made by either party, consider and adjudicate upon the matter. The determination of such dispute or difference and any award made by the Board, or as the case may be Commission, shall, subject to any appeal to the SFA, be binding on the Club and the Player.
- D14.2 The Club or Player may request a personal hearing prior to determination of an adjudication, in which case the Player may be represented by a person of his choice. The Club and/or the Player may also be legally represented at any such hearing.

D14.3 Either the Club or the Player may appeal, in accordance with the SFA Articles, against the determination of and any award made by the Board or, as the case may be, Commission, in an adjudication.

Conflict of Rules

D15.1 If there is any conflict or inconsistency between any provisions of these Rules and the SFL Rules in relation to any matter concerning any Club and one or more of its Players, the provisions of these Rules shall prevail and apply to such matter.

D15.2 If there is any conflict or inconsistency between any provisions of these Rules and any Player's Contract of Service in relation to any matter concerning a Club and one or more of its Players, the provisions of these Rules shall prevail and apply to such matter.

D15.3 If there is any conflict between any provisions of these Rules and the SFL Rules in relation to any matter concerning a member club of the SFL and one or more of its players, the provisions of the SFL Rules shall prevail and apply to such matter.

Press, Media and Players

D16.1 A Registered Player may, with the consent of the Club to which he is Registered, participate in a responsible manner in radio or television programmes, on-line and other broadcasts, media recordings, permit his picture to be taken, write or inspire books, newspaper or magazine articles, or endorse commercial products, providing:-

D16.1.1 that in so doing he shall not breach his Contract of Service or any other contract between himself and the Club to which he is Registered, the Articles of Association or the Rules; and,

D16.1.2 that a Player, in undertaking such activities, shall not use any Club's name, badge, emblem or strip without the prior consent of the Club.

SECTION E: MATCH OFFICIALS

List of Referees

- E1 Referees for League Matches shall be appointed from the List of Class 1 Referees prepared annually by the SFA (following a process of review with the Board).

List of Assistant Referees

- E2 Assistant Referees for League Matches shall be appointed from the List of Class 1 Specialist Assistant Referees prepared annually by the SFA (following a process of review with the Board).

Appointment of Referees and Assistant Referees

- E3 The Referee, Assistant Referees and reserve official for League Matches shall be appointed by the SFA from the Lists of Class 1 Match Officials.

Misconduct

- E4 The Referee and Assistant Referees must report to the SFA all cases of misconduct of Players, Club Officials or Spectators within three (4) days of the occurrence.

Retainers and Allowances for Referees and Assistant Referees

- E5.1 The gross match fee for Referees and Assistant Referees payable before any deductions shall be as determined by the Board.
- E5.2 In the case of postponed matches, half the above fee will be paid to Match Officials who report to the ground.
- E5.3 Match Officials shall be entitled to claim expenses as determined by the Board.
- E5.4 Match Officials who inspect grounds as directed by the Board shall be paid a fee as determined by the Board plus expenses (including time lost if applicable).
- E5.5 The Board may, at its discretion, make annual payments to the SFA for award or provision to Referees or Assistant Referees or any of them in recognition of satisfactory performance and commitment to training, education and development.

Payment of Hotel Expenses Incurred

- E6.1 In the event of a Referee or Assistant Referee being unable to reach his destination, going to or returning from a match, without staying at a hotel, he shall be reimbursed the cost of his hotel accommodation up to a maximum of an amount as

determined by the Board from the SFA on behalf of the Company, on production of a receipted hotel account providing that where a concessionary hotel rate is negotiated, he will, if it is not unreasonably inconvenient, stay at hotels with which such rate is negotiated to take advantage of such rates.

- E6.2 A Referee or Assistant Referee officiating at a game played more than 150 miles from his residence which finishes after 9.00 pm who elects to travel home after the game rather than staying in hotel accommodation shall be entitled to claim an additional allowance of an amount as determined by the Board.

Illegal Payments to Referees and Assistant Referees

- E7 No Club or Club Official or other person acting on behalf or in the presumed interests of a Club shall pay or offer to pay a Referee or Assistant Referee more than his proper fee, allowances and railway fare as specified in the Rules.

Referee to visit Ground early during bad weather or at request of Home Club

- E8 Match Officials shall use all reasonable endeavors to be present at the appropriate stadium at least one and a half hours prior to the advertised time of kick-off. The Referee shall decide as to the fitness of the ground in all matches and each Club must take every reasonable precaution to keep its ground in a playing condition and, where necessary, shall re-mark the ground during the half-time interval. The home Club may, where weather or other conditions make it appropriate, require the Referee to visit the ground two hours or more before the scheduled time of kick-off of any League Match.

Pitch Report

- E9 The Board may require the Referee to complete a report on the condition of the playing surface in a form specified by the Board and approved in writing by the SFA from time to time.

Assistant Referees' Flags

- E10 Home Clubs shall keep back up flags of a size and colour prescribed by the Board for use by Assistant Referees.

Choice of Football to be used

- E11.1 The football proposed to be used in the game and the replacement balls must be submitted to and approved by the Referee before the commencement of the game.
- E11.2 In addition to the normal type of ball, an orange or yellow ball which complies in every respect with the requirements of Law 2 of the Laws of the Game shall be available for League Matches.

E11.3 The selected ball must be used throughout the match unless otherwise determined by the Referee.

Report on Match Officials

E12 Clubs must submit to the Company a report on the Match Officials, in the prescribed form, within six days of each League Match. In case of default by a Club the Board may impose a fine of up to a maximum sum of £100 for each week or part thereof the Club is in default.

Referee Supervisor

E13.1 A referee supervisor shall be appointed by the SFA to attend each League Match.

E13.2 Clubs must ensure that the referee supervisor is given a prime seat in the main stand and is allowed free access to all areas of the ground.

SECTION F: FINANCIAL RECORDS AND CONFIDENTIALITY**Inspection of Financial Records**

- F1 Every Club shall keep detailed financial records and the Company shall be entitled to inspect such records and to require Clubs to provide copies of any financial or other records which the Company may reasonably require in order to enable the Company to investigate whether the Club has complied and is complying with these Rules, the Articles of Association, the SFA Articles, the UEFA Statutes and the FIFA Statutes and to ensure compliance by the Club with the same.

Confidentiality

- F2 Each Director shall not disclose (and shall use all reasonable efforts to prevent the publication or disclosure) in any way or form and at any time to any person, firm or company any Confidential Information save to employees or Directors of the Company and no Director shall use such Confidential Information for its or his own purposes nor for any purposes other than those of the Company.
- F3 Each Club and Director shall not after ceasing, as the case may be, to be a member of the Company or Director, without the authority of the Board, make or keep possession of copies of any documents memoranda or other media on which any Confidential Information is recorded or stored.
- F4 The restrictions contained in this Clause shall cease to apply to information or knowledge, which may come into the public domain otherwise than by way of breach of the Rules.
- F5 Each Director shall, without prejudice to any and all other duties and obligations thereby arising, on his being appointed a Director be deemed to have accepted to be bound by the terms of Rules F2, F3, F4 and this F5.

SECTION G: INQUIRIES, COMMISSIONS, ADJUDICATIONS AND APPEALS

Power of Inquiry and Determination

- G1.1 The Board and, where appointed by the Board, a Commission, shall have the power of inquiry into all financial, contractual and other arrangements within, between and/or amongst Clubs and Players and all matters concerning compliance with the Financial Disclosure Requirements and into all matters constituting or pertaining to any suspected or alleged breach of or failure to fulfill the Rules by any Club, Club Official and/or Player or any matter considered by the Board or, where appointed by the Board, a Commission, to be relevant to an Adjudication or an Appeal and every Club and Club Official and Player shall be liable to and shall afford every assistance to the Board or, as the case may be Commission, as may be requested or required of it or him.
- G1.2 The Board and, where appointed by the Board, a Commission, shall have the power of determination as to whether there has been a breach of or failure to fulfill the Rules and in Adjudications and Appeals.
- G1.3 The Board and, where appointed by the Board, a Commission, may require the attendance of any Club Official, Player and/or other person at any meeting of the Board or a Commission and/or the production to the Board or a Commission of any books, letters and other documents or records whatsoever and howsoever kept relating to or concerning any matter in relation to which the Board, and where appointed by the Board, a Commission, have the power of enquiry or determination in terms of Rules G1.1 and G1.2 respectively.

The Panel

- G2.1 The Board shall from time to time establish and maintain the Panel of such persons as it may consider appropriate to appoint to be a member of a Commission.
- G2.2 The Panel:-
- G2.1 may include members of the Board; and,
- G2.3 shall include legally qualified persons whom the Board may appoint to sit as a chairman of a Commission.

Commissions

- G3 Any matter, in respect of which the Board has the power of enquiry in terms of Rule G1.1 and/or determination in terms of Rule G1.2, may be dealt with, where appointed by the Board, by a Commission

- G4 A Commission shall comprise not less than three members of the Panel and any decision of a majority of them, subject to the rights of appeal in Rules G8, G9 and G10, shall be final and binding. Where the Board appoints a Commission it shall also appoint one of the Commission members to be the chairman of the Commission. The chairman of the Commission must be independent of the parties involved. In the case of a matter concerning Unacceptable Conduct or an allegation of same, the chairman of the Commission must be an advocate or solicitor of not less than 10 years standing.

Rules of Procedure

- G5.1 The Board may from time to time approve Rules of Procedure governing the conduct of proceedings prior to, of and before the Board or a Commission.
- G5.2 Every Commission, Club, Club Official and Player shall comply with any Rules of Procedure approved by the Board.
- G5.3 Rules of Procedure shall be deemed to be additions to these Rules and to which Rules A7.1 and A7.2 shall apply.

Powers of the Board and Commissions

- G6.1 Upon determining that a breach of or failure to fulfil the Rules has been established, the Board or, as the case may be, a Commission may:-
- G6.1.1 give a warning as to future conduct;
 - G6.1.2 give a reprimand;
 - G6.1.3 impose a fine;
 - G6.1.4 annul the result of an Official Match;
 - G6.1.5 order that an Official Match be replayed;
 - G6.1.6 impose a deduction of points;
 - G6.1.7 award an Official Match (with such deemed score as it thinks appropriate) to a Club;
 - G6.1.8 order the playing of an Official Match or Matches behind closed doors;
 - G6.1.9 order the closure of all or part of a Stadium for such period and for such purposes as it thinks appropriate;
 - G6.1.10 order the playing of an Official Match or Matches at such Stadium as it thinks appropriate;

- G6.1.11 subject to Rule G6.3, order that a Club be expelled from the League;
 - G6.1.12 withdraw or withhold the award of a title or award;
 - G6.1.13 order any Club, Club Official or Player to pay compensation to any Club, Player, person or party;
 - G6.1.14 order any Club, Club Official or Player to comply with any obligation or direction;
 - G6.1.15 cancel or refuse the Registration of any Player Registered or attempted to be Registered;
 - G6.1.16 order that a Club concerned be debarred from Registering Players for such period as it thinks appropriate;
 - G6.1.17 order that any person, persons or group of persons be prohibited from attending at such Official Match or Matches and for such period as it thinks appropriate;
 - G6.1.18 make such other direction, sanction or disposal, not expressly provided for in these Rules, as it shall think appropriate; and/or
 - G6.1.19 make such order as to expenses, including the expenses of the Board and/or, as the case may be, Commission and/or other party, as it thinks appropriate.
- G6.2 When imposing a direction, sanction or disposal the Board or, as the case may be a Commission, may apply such number and combination of the directions, sanctions and/or disposals provide for in Rule G.1 as it thinks appropriate, may make such provision for time to comply with any one or more of same as it thinks appropriate, may defer for such period or until such event as it shall think appropriate the decision on or imposition of a sanction or sanctions and shall be entitled to suspend the effect of any such direction, sanction or disposal for such period and/or on such conditions as it thinks appropriate.
- G6.3 The expulsion of a Club from the League shall not take effect unless and until it is sanctioned by a resolution passed at a General Meeting of the Company in accordance with the requisite majority specified in the Articles of Association.
- G6.4 In the case of an Adjudication or an Appeal, the Board or, as the case may be, a Commission, may exercise any of the powers in Rules G6.1.13, G6.1.14, G6.1.18 and/or G6.1.19 as it shall think appropriate in order to deal justly with the matter before it for determination.

Decisions

- G7.1 The Board or a Commission determining that there has been a breach of or failure to fulfill the Rules, imposing any penalty on any Club, Club Official or Player, or when determining an Adjudication or Appeal shall inform in writing each party of any such determination as soon as is reasonably practicable thereafter.
- G7.2 The Board may determine what, if any, publicity is to be given to a decision of the Board or a Commission.
- G7.3 Decisions of the Board or a Commission when or in connection with determining a matter in terms of Rule D1.2 shall, subject to any right of appeal to the SFA, be final and binding on the parties and the provisions of section 3(1) of the Administration of Justice (Scotland) Act 1972 shall not apply to any such determination.

Appeal to the SFA

- G8 Any Club or person who or which is the subject of an adverse determination by the Board or a Commission may, unless the Rules expressly state otherwise and provided the SFA Articles provide for a right of appeal to the SFA, appeal against such determination in accordance with the SFA Articles.
- G9 The procedures for lodging an appeal with the SFA and the powers of the SFA in relation to such appeals shall be as set out in the SFA Articles.
- G10 Where a right of appeal is validly exercised to the SFA the Board or, as the case may be, a Commission, shall provide the appellant and the SFA with written reasons for the decision appealed against

Representation

- G11 A Club, Club Official or Player appearing before the Board or a Commission may be represented by a solicitor or counsel or by such other representative as it or he may determine.

The Board

- G12 In this Section G of the Rules reference to the Board includes reference to any committee of the Board or person or persons exercising any delegated authority of the Board, whether in terms of the Articles of Association or otherwise, and/or appointed by the Board to discharge any function of the Board.

Advice

- G13 The Board and, where appointed by the Board, a Commission, may seek and obtain such legal and/or other advice and assistance as the Board or Commission shall

consider appropriate in relation to or concerning any matter in which the Board has the power of enquiry in terms of Rule G1.1and/or determination in terms of Rule G1.2.

SECTION H: MISCELLANEOUS

SFA Council

- H1 The Company shall be entitled to nominate representatives to serve as members of the Council of the SFA in accordance with the SFA Articles.

Dual Interests

- H2 The provisions regarding dual interests in the SFA Articles shall apply to the Clubs.

Employees Contracts

- H3 No Club shall directly or indirectly induce or attempt to induce any employee of another Club to terminate a contract of employment with that other Club (whether or not by breach of that contract) or directly or indirectly approach any such employee with a view to offering employment without the consent of that other Club. For the purpose of this Rule H3, "Club" means a member club of the SFA.

Severability

- H4 Each Rule shall be construed separately and, if any Rule or provision in these Rules may prove to be illegal, invalid or unenforceable for any reason, such illegality, invalidity or unenforceability shall not affect the remaining Rules which shall continue in full force and effect.

Club ceasing to play and be a member of the League

- H5 If any Club in the League ceases to operate or to be member of the League for any reason, its playing record in the League may be expunged and the number of relegation places from the League shall be reduced accordingly.

Registration of Ground

- H6.1 Each Club and the Candidate Club must, subject to Rule A2.7, register or be deemed to have registered its ground with the Secretary by not later than 1st June immediately preceding each Season. No Club shall play its Home games at any ground other than its Registered Ground without first obtaining the written approval of the Board. A Club's or Candidate Club's Registered Ground must be situated in Scotland unless otherwise agreed in writing by the SFA and the Board, save in the case of Berwick Rangers FC for whom approval to have its Registered Ground in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England shall be deemed to have been

granted prior to the date of adoption of the Rules. Once a Club or Candidate Club has registered its ground with the Secretary it shall not be required to re-register that ground for each succeeding Season in which it is eligible to participate in the League but shall be deemed, on a continuing basis, to have registered same on 1st June immediately preceding each such Season. A Club which changes its ground must register its replacement ground with the Secretary in accordance with this Rule H6.1.

H6.2 Any areas of a ground providing non-seated accommodation may not be utilised in any League Match.

H6.3 All registered grounds must have floodlights which give a lux value of between 1200 and 1600 lux or such other values as may be advised by the SFA or required by UEFA or FIFA from time to time.

H6.4 The dimensions of the field of play for all League Matches shall be as follows:-

	Minimum	Recommended	Maximum
Length	95 metres	105 metres	110 metres
Width	64 metres	68 metres	72 metres

Clubs must register their pitch dimensions with the League not less than one month prior to the start of each Season. No Club shall alter its pitch dimensions for any League Match during a Season unless with the prior written consent of the Board. The Board may at any time require a Club to submit a report from a qualified independent source certifying the pitch dimensions.

H6.5 Each Club shall ensure that the field of play at its Registered Ground and at any other ground at which it is the Home Club for a League Match:-

H6.5.1 is smooth and in good condition and repair; and

H6.5.2 is equipped with an efficient and effective drainage system so that it cannot become unplayable due to flooding.

H6.6 The Board may, without prejudice to any sanction that might be imposed on a Club for failure to comply with Rule H6.5, require the Club concerned to take such steps within such time and on such conditions as the Board shall specify, if the Board is not satisfied that the Club concerned is complying or has complied in all respects with Rule H6.5.

- H6.7 Each Club shall provide, maintain and use in such manner as to ensure its efficient and effective operation an adequate winter pitch protection system. All such systems must be of an underground or under pitch heated type. Such systems shall be fully utilised by the Home Club before any League Match where there is a reasonable possibility of its pitch otherwise being frozen or covered in snow or ice so as to ensure that the League Match is able to take place at the venue and on the date and time scheduled notwithstanding such possibility.
- H6.8 In the event of any inconsistency between the Rules and the provisions of the Stadia Handbook, the provisions of the Rules shall prevail.

Ground Safety, Behaviour at Matches and Damage to Stadia

- H7.1 All Clubs must have a valid and current safety certificate for its Registered Ground prior to the start of each Season and must maintain such certificate in full force and effect for the duration of each Season.
- H7.2 Each Club shall, unless a copy shall previously been provided, provide a copy of its safety certificate to the Secretary not less than one month prior to the start of each Season or as soon as available and shall thereafter provide to the Secretary a copy of any replacement, renewed, extended or amended certificate within one month of same being issued.
- H7.3 All Clubs shall appoint a Safety Officer who shall be or become a member of the Football Safety Officers' Association (Scotland).

Unacceptable Conduct

- H7.4.1 A person present at or in a stadium where an Official Match is being played engages in Unacceptable Conduct where their conduct is violent and/or disorderly.
- H7.4.2 Conduct is violent where there is (i) actual, attempted or threatened physical violence against a person or persons; or (ii) intentional damage to property.
- H7.4.3 Disorderly conduct includes (i) conduct which stirs up or sustains or is likely or designed to stir up or sustain, hatred or ill will against or towards a group of persons based on their membership or presumed membership of a group defined by reference to a category mentioned in Rule H7.4.5 or against an individual who is or is presumed to be a member of such group; (ii) using threatening, abusive or insulting words or conduct; or (iii) displaying any writing or other thing which is threatening, abusive or insulting.
- H7.4.4 Presumed in the context of Rule H7.4.3 means presumed by the person or persons engaged in the conduct.

H7.4.5 The categories referred to in Rule 7.4.3 are:-

- (i) female or male gender;
- (ii) colour, race, nationality (including citizenship) or ethnic or national origin;
- (iii) membership of a religious group or of a social or cultural group with a perceived religious affiliation;
- (iv) sexual orientation;
- (v) transgender identity; and
- (vi) disability.

H7.4.6 In Rule H7.4.5 religious group means a group of persons defined by reference to their religious belief or lack of religious belief, membership of or adherence to a church or religious organisation, support for the culture and traditions of a church or religious organisation and/or participation in activities associated with such a culture or such traditions. .

H7.4.7 In Rule H7.4.5(v) transgender identity means any one or more of transvestism, transsexualism, inter-sexuality or change of gender.

H7.4.8 In Rule H7.4.5(vi) disability means physical or mental impairment of any kind.

H7.5 The Home Club in any Official Match must ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, (i) good order and security; (ii) that policies and procedures have been adopted and are implemented to prevent incidents of Unacceptable Conduct; and (iii) that any incidents of Unacceptable Conduct are effectively dealt with, all at its Stadium on the occasion of an Official Match

H7.6 Each Club must ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that its Players, officials, supporters and any person exercising a function for or connected with the Club do not engage in Unacceptable Conduct at a Stadium on the occasion of an Official Match.

H7.7 Any failure by a Club to discharge a requirement to which it is subject by virtue of Rules H7.5 and/or H7.6 shall constitute a breach of these Rules.

H7.8 In any proceedings in terms of the Rules against a Club in which it is alleged that there has been a failure by that Club to discharge a requirement to which it is subject by virtue of Rules H7.5 and/or H7.6 it shall be for the Club concerned to prove that it was not reasonably practicable to do more than was in fact done or (as the case may be) that there was no better practicable means than was in fact used to discharge such requirement. Account shall be taken in such proceedings of the

effect of decisions and actions of the local police, public authorities and other Club taking part in an Official Match, in determining whether the requirements of Rules H7.5 and H7.6 have been discharged.

H7.9 The Board may from time to time prepare for approval by the Clubs in General Meeting Guidance for Clubs on Unacceptable Conduct, any amendment to such approved guidance to be subject to approval by the Clubs in General Meeting. In any proceedings in terms of the Rules against a Club in which it is alleged that there has been a failure by that Club to discharge a requirement to which it is subject by virtue of Rules H7.5 and/or H7.6 the Board or, as the case may be, a Commission shall when deciding whether such a requirement has been discharged, take into account whether the Club concerned has complied with any Guidance for Clubs on Unacceptable Conduct.

H7.10 Proceedings in terms of the Rules against a Club in which it is alleged that there has been a failure by that Club to discharge a requirement to which it is subject by virtue of Rules H7.5 and/or H7.6 may only be commenced where:-

H7.10.1 the Secretary has received from:-

H7.10.1.1 the police;

H7.10.1.2 the SFA acting on information received by it from the relevant Official Match referee or other match official;

H7.10.1.3 any representative of the Company attending the relevant Official Match on behalf of the Company; and/or

H7.10.1.4 the other Club which took part in the relevant Official Match,

a written complaint or other written communication which, in the opinion of the Board, provides grounds to believe that such a requirement may not have been discharged; or

H7.10.2 the Secretary has received or has been apprised of information which in the opinion of the Board, provides grounds to believe that such a requirement may not have been discharged and that the information is such that such proceedings are appropriate notwithstanding that a written complaint or other written communication has not been received from a person or party listed in Rules H7.10.1.1 to H7.10.1.4 (inclusive).

Damage to Stadia

- H7.11 In the event that any damage shall be caused to the fabric of the ground, including any fixtures and fittings at the ground, of a Home Club by the supporters of the Visiting Club, on the occasion of a League Match, Reserve League match or Under 19 match then the Visiting Club shall be obliged to indemnify the Home Club in the costs reasonably incurred by the Home Club in repairing and making good such damage.
- H7.12 If any dispute or difference shall arise between a Home Club and a Visiting Club as regards any claim by a Home Club for indemnity against a Visiting Club under and in terms of Rule H7.6 the Board, or if the Board so decides, a Commission, shall, upon application to the Board made by either Club, consider and adjudicate upon the matter. The determination of such dispute or difference and any determination made by the Board, or as the case may be Commission, shall, subject to any appeal to the SFA, be binding on each of the Clubs concerned.

Giant Screens and LED Perimeter Boards

- H8.1 Except with the prior written consent of the Board, giant screens or the like at any Club's ground shall not be used to relay to spectators closed circuit pictures of the Official Match at which they are present.
- H8.2 Any consent given hereunder shall be subject to the Code of Practice governing the use of giant screens in Official Matches or League Cup Matches forming Appendix 1 hereto.
- H8.3 The Clubs involved in an Official Match may arrange for the match to be relayed by closed circuit television to other locations provided the arrangement is or is in accordance with a policy on such matters approved by the Company in General Meeting and with the SFA Articles and UEFA and FIFA statutes.
- H8.4 LED perimeter boards or other such boards having the same or similar features, positioned at the side or near to the side of the pitch, which are used or which are capable of being used to display electronically generated graphics and/or images, whether moving or otherwise, may only be used by Clubs during Official Matches where their use is in accordance with the Code of Practice governing the use of LED perimeter boards forming Appendix 2 hereto.
- H8.5 Any failure to comply with Appendix 1 or Appendix 2 shall constitute a breach of these Rules.

Football Trust

- H9.1 The Company shall guarantee or otherwise secure or underwrite the indebtedness to the Football Trust of all Clubs in its membership (in the manner agreed with the Football Trust) including for the avoidance of doubt any Club promoted from the SFL from time to time, provided always that the indebtedness of

such Club was incurred on or prior to 29th April 1998. Where a Club is relegated to the SFL in accordance with Rule A2.1, the Company shall co-operate fully with the SFL to enable any indebtedness to the Football Trust to be in like manner guaranteed or otherwise secured or underwritten (in the manner agreed with the Football Trust) by the SFL in place of the League.

- H9.2 Any Club whose indebtedness to the Football Trust is at any time guaranteed or otherwise secured or underwritten by the Company agrees that in the event that any liability, cost or expense of the Company arises as a result, that it shall indemnify the Company against such liability, cost or expense and provide a full right of relief to the Company in respect thereof.

Inducement to break Contracts

- H10 No Club shall either directly or indirectly induce or attempt to induce any manager, coach, trainer or other person involved in the training or management of the team of another Club or a club in the SFL or in membership of the SFA to break a written contract of employment. Clubs may notify the Company in writing, of the period of all or any such persons' contracts of employment.
- H11 Any Club either directly or indirectly inducing or attempting to induce any manager, coach, trainer or other person involved in the training or management of the team of another Club or a club in the SFL or in membership of the SFA to breach a contract shall be dealt with by the Company as it shall see fit.

Directors

- H12 Subject to the Articles of Association, any person who is fit and proper to hold such office may be appointed as a Director. A person shall be deemed to be fit and proper unless:-
- H12.1 he is bankrupt or has made any arrangement or composition with his creditors generally;
- H12.2 he is of unsound mind and has been or is to be admitted to hospital as suffering from a mental disorder following an application for admission for treatment under the Mental Health (Scotland) Act 1984 or Mental Health Act 1983 or a Court having jurisdiction in the United Kingdom or elsewhere has ordered in matters relating to mental disorder his detention or the appointment of a *curator bonis* or any other person to exercise power with regard to his property or affairs;
- H12.3 he is under or is pending suspension imposed or confirmed by the SFA;

H12.4 he is listed in the Official Return of more than one club in full or associate membership of the SFA or in the case of the Chairman or Chief Executive he is listed in the Official Return of any such club;

H12.5 he is currently participating as a player or referee in association football.

Membership of League confers Membership of SFA

H13 In accordance with the SFA Articles and to the extent that it is not already a full or associate member of SFA, membership of the League confers registered membership of the SFA.

SECTION I: DEFINITIONS & INTERPRETATION

11 In these Rules, the following terms shall (unless the context otherwise requires) have the following meanings:

Act means the Companies Act 1985 including any statutory modification or reenactment thereof for the time being in force;

Adjudication means the adjudication by the Board or, where appointed by the Board, a Commission, of a dispute between parties where the Rules so provide and/or where the parties have agreed that the determination of such a dispute may or must be adjudicated by the Board;

Amateur Player means a player of a Club who is not a party to a Contract of Service with that Club;

Amateur Registration means the Registration of an Amateur Player;

Appeal means an appeal, provided for in the Rules, by a Player to the Board against the decision of a Club;

Appear means entering the field of play for a Club in a League Match, whether in the starting 11 or as a substitute and Appears, Appeared and Appearing shall be construed accordingly;

Articles of Association mean the Articles of Association for the time being of the Company;

Appeal Tribunal is a tribunal appointed in terms of Rule A6.14;

Associated with, in the case of an Amateur Player, means, up to and including 1st September 2005, having during any period been predominantly associated with a particular Club or any organisation or team closely associated for the purpose of training and developing young players for and with that Club, for the purposes of playing, training and being developed for playing. Football;

Board means the board of Directors of the Company or where the board of Directors of the Company has made an appropriate delegation in accordance with the Articles of Association the Chairman, Chief Executive or a committee of the Board;

Candidate Club means the one association football club, in accordance with the rules of the SFL, eligible for promotion from the SFL and admission to participate in the League in any Season and, except where the context otherwise requires, includes the owner and operator of that club;

Chairman means the Chairman for the time being of the Company;

Chief Executive means the Chief Executive for the time being of the Company;

Close Season means the period of the year outside the Season;

Club means an association football club, other than a Candidate Club, which is, for the time being, eligible to participate in the League and, except where the context otherwise requires, includes the owner and operator of such club;

Club Official means any director, secretary, official, representative, manager, agent or employee of a Club and any person having a function or duty or position involving authority or trust within a Club and includes, without prejudice to the foregoing generality, any person who is able to exercise control, whether directly or indirectly, over the Club and/or the majority of the board of directors of any such Club (whether or not such person is himself notified to the Registrar of Companies as holding the office of director of such Club);

Code of Conduct for Under 19 Players means Appendix 4 to these Rules;

Commission means a body of persons comprising members of the Panel appointed by the Board to undertake an enquiry and/or make a determination in terms of Section G of the Rules;

Company means The Scottish Premier League Limited;

Compensation means compensation payable to Club for the training and development of a Player in terms of Rule D11;

Compensation Tribunal means a tribunal convened by the Board in accordance with Rule D11.9;

Confidential Information means all information, details and data of any kind in connection with the business or finances of the Company or any Club being confidential or which might reasonably be regarded as being confidential to the Company or any Club of which in the case of the Company any Director or Club or, in the case of a Club, other Club or Director not appointed by that Club shall have gained knowledge in the course of or in connection with its membership or his Directorship of the Company;

Contract of Service means a contract of service for a Player in the standard form of the League and/or SFL and references to any particular type of Contract of Service shall be construed accordingly;

Development Contribution means an amount payable by one Club to another Club for the costs of the training and development of a young player in accordance with Rule D13;

Development Contribution Period means the period starting with the first day of the Development Contribution Year in which a Player's 11th birthday falls to the last day of the Development Contribution Year in which his 19th birthday falls;

Development Contribution Year means the period from and including 1 July in a calendar year to and including 30 June in the immediately succeeding calendar year;

Director means a director, including any alternate director, of the Company and the term Directorship shall be construed accordingly;

FIFA means the International Federation of Football Associations;

FIFA Quality Concept Handbook means the FIFA Quality Concept Handbook of test methods and requirements for artificial football turf dated February 2005 and any amendments thereto and/or any substitute such handbook from time to time published by or on behalf of FIFA;

FIFA Recommended 2 Star Standard means the artificial football turf and associated pitch design, specification, construction and performance laboratory and field tested standard of that name provided for in the FIFA Quality Concept Handbook and any amended, substituted or replacement standard as may, from time to time, be specified as the highest such standard by FIFA;

Financial Disclosure Requirements means appendix 3 to these Rules.

Financial Systems mean any method of recording receipts or expenditure including cash books, wages records and accounting systems;

First Team Squad means the list, for each Season, of players of a Club and any additional Players which are given to the Secretary;

Football means association football played in accordance with the Laws of the Game;

Force Majeure Event is an event, which is determined by an Appeal Tribunal to have been unforeseeable and unavoidable;

General Meeting means a general meeting of the Company;

Guidance for Clubs means guidance on Unacceptable Conduct issued from time to time by the Board to Clubs in accordance with Rule H7.9;

Home Club means the Club on whose ground any particular League Match should be or should have been played;

Insolvency Event means, in respect of a Club, where:-

- a. a manager, judicial factor, receiver or administrative receiver shall be appointed in respect of all or any part of its undertaking or assets;
- b. an administration order shall be made;
- c. a winding-up order shall be made;
- d. a resolution for winding up of the Club shall be passed;
- e. the Club shall enter into any arrangement with its creditors or some part of them, in respect of the payment of its debts or part of them, as a Company Voluntary Arrangement under the Insolvency Act 1986 or a Scheme of Arrangement under the Companies Act 1985 or any substituting amending or replacement legislation or any other arrangement or the like having the same or similar effect;
- f. a provisional liquidator shall be appointed; or
- g. any proceeding or step is taken or any Court order in any jurisdiction made which has the same or substantially similar effect to any of the foregoing;

Insolvency Process means a process or procedure comprising two or more Insolvency Events which occur either concurrently or consecutively;

Laws of the Game means the laws of the game promulgated by the International Football Association Board from time to time;

League or Scottish Premier League means the combination of association football clubs comprising the Clubs known as The Scottish Premier League;

League Cup means the Scottish Football League Cup Competition;

League Cup Match means a match in the League Cup;

League Cup Rules means the rules and regulations governing the League Cup;

League Match means a match designated as such by the Company and played in the League;

League Office means the Registered Office, for the time being, of the Company;

Match Officials means the referee and assistant referees and fourth official, if appropriate, in respect of any match;

Memorandum means the Memorandum of Association for the time being of the Company;

Membership Criteria means the criteria applying to admission to and membership of the League as set out in or referred to in Rule A2.5;

Official Match means a Football match played in the framework of Organised Football under the auspices of and organised by the Company and includes, without limitation, all League Matches, Reserve League Matches and Under 19 League Matches;

Organised Football means association football organised under the auspices of FIFA, the confederations of FIFA and national associations which are members of FIFA, but excluding friendly and trial Football matches;

Panel means the panel of persons appointed by the Board who may be appointed to a Commission;

Play means taking part as a player in an Official Match either in the starting eleven or as being named as a substitute and the words Plays, Played and Playing shall be construed accordingly;

Player means a player who is or has been a Professional Player or Amateur Player of a Club;

Player Passport means a Player Passport issued to a Player in accordance with FIFA regulations;

Professional Player means a Player of a Club who is party to a Contract of Service with that Club;

Professional Registration means the Registration of a Professional Player;

Qualifying Day means a day during the Development Contribution Period of a Player that the Player is Registered to or Associated with a Club and for which a valid claim has been determined by the Secretary in accordance with Rule D13.6 or the Board following an appeal in accordance with Rule D13.8;

Registered Ground means the ground of a Club or Candidate Club registered or deemed to have been registered in accordance with Rule H6.1 and the words register and registered shall, where the context so permits, be construed accordingly;

Registration means the registration of a Player with the League to a specified Club in accordance with Section D of the Rules

and the words Register and Registered shall be construed accordingly;

Registration Period means a fixed period for the Registration of Players by Clubs, determined by the Board in accordance with Rule D1.6;

Rules mean these rules;

Rules of Procedure mean rules of procedures prior to and before the Board or a Commission, made from time to time by the Board in accordance with Section G of the Rules;

Scottish Cup means the Scottish Football Association Challenge Cup Competition;

Scottish Cup Match means a match in the Scottish Cup;

Season means the period of the year commencing on the date of the first League Match and ending on the date of the last League Match or otherwise as determined by the Board;

Secretary means the Secretary of the Company;

Settlement Agreement means the Agreement dated 15th and 16th April 1998 between the Company, the SFL (acting by its Management Committee) and certain Clubs (as therein designed) relating *inter alia* to the formation of the League;

SFA means The Scottish Football Association Limited;

SFA Articles means the Articles of Association for the time being of the SFA;

SFL means the combination of association football clubs comprising the clubs known as the Scottish Football League;

SFL Rules means the Constitution, Rules and regulations for the time being of the SFL;

SPFA means the Scottish Professional Footballers' Association;

Stadia Handbook means the SFL Stadia Criteria Handbook in force and as amended from time to time or such other criteria handbook as may be adopted by the Company from time to time;

Status means being either a Professional Player or an Amateur Player;

Training Compensation means compensation paid or payable in terms of the FIFA regulations relating to training compensation or any replacement or substitute FIFA system of compensation to clubs for the training and development of young players;

Trialist means a player who is under assessment and evaluation by a Club as to his ability, fitness or the like to play association football for that Club in Official Matches and who is not Registered to that Club;

UEFA means the Union of European Football Associations;

UEFA Competitions shall mean the UEFA Champions League, UEFA Cup Winners' Cup, the UEFA Cup, the Inter Toto Cup and/or such other competition(s) as may be organised by UEFA from time to time;

Unacceptable Conduct has the meaning given in Rule H7.4;

Under 19 Player means a Player who had not attained the age of 18 years on 31 December of the year before the year in which the relevant Season commences;

Under 21 Player means a Player who had not attained the age of 21 years on 31 December of the year before the year in which the relevant Season commences; and

Visiting Club means the Club who should play or should have played any particular League Match on the ground of a Home Club.

Time

- 12 Wherever in these Rules the computation of a period of time or a number of days is involved, each of Saturday and Sunday is to be reckoned as a day.

Board and Chief Executive

- 13 Where a discretion, right or power is expressed in these Rules to be exercisable by the Board, such discretion, right or power may be exercisable by the Chairman or the Chief Executive in accordance with and to the extent of, any authority delegated to him pursuant to the Articles of Association.

General Meetings

- 14 The Chairman may, subject to the provisions of the Articles of Association and any requirements of the Act, regulate the proceedings of General Meetings as he thinks fit.

Designation of Rules by numbering and lettering

- 15.1 Rules shall be designated or referred to by a letter and a number. The letter identifies the section of the rules and the number identifies the numbered Rule within the Section.
- 15.2 References to a "Rule" shall, unless the context otherwise requires, mean a reference to the Rule so designated by

Section and number within such Section in these Rules in which the reference is made.

Headings

- 16 Headings and side-headings in these Rules are inserted for convenience only and shall not affect the construction of these Rules.

APPENDIX 1

Code of Practice for use of Giant Screens

- 1 This Code of Practice is designed to guide and provide a framework within which clubs may use Giant Screens for the benefit of enhancing spectators' entertainment at football grounds in Scotland.
- 2 The aim of the Code is to ensure that such Screens are used in a responsible manner by the Home Club, do not impact on the playing of the match, do not undermine the authority or affect the role of the Match Officials in the Match and do not encourage or incite any form of crowd disorder.
- 3 This Code of Practice may only be amended with the approval of the Company in General Meeting.
- 4 The Screens may only be located in a position with a ground, which does not interfere with the playing of a match within the ground in question or cause any distraction or interference to players and/or Match Officials.
- 5 The Home Club shall appoint a competent person or persons who shall act on such club's behalf in editing the pictures and sound to be transmitted via the Screen(s) and the Home Club shall be responsible for all actions of the person(s) appointed for this purpose. It shall be incumbent on the Home Club to ensure that the competent appointed person(s) are made aware of the requirements of this Code of Practice and ensure compliance at all times.
- 6 The following provisions govern the actual Use of the Screens:-
 - (a) "Live" action may be shown during the course of the match being played. Action replays are permitted during the course of play, and highlights, showing only the positive aspects of the match, may be shown at half-time and full-time.
 - (b) A Club wishing to show "live" action from a match being played outwith its stadium must seek the prior written consent of the Board, and such consent shall be given on such terms and conditions as the Committee may decide.
 - (c) No replays of any negative or controversial incidents may be shown, including actions of any player or official which may be capable of being considered as inciting the spectators or bringing the game into disrepute. Likewise, it shall not be permissible to replay pictures and/or sound of any incidents or matters which may highlight or bring into question the competence or judgment of any Match Officials.

- (d) No pictures or sound from those occupying the Technical Area may be shown.
- (e) The Screens shall not be used for any purpose, which might be deemed to criticise, undermine or in any way damage the reputation, standing or authority of any Director, Club Official or Player of any Club, representative of the SFA or League or of any Match Official. Clubs utilising such Screens shall do so in a responsible manner and shall not permit the transmission of any material via the Screen(s) which is capable of bringing the game into disrepute, offending public decency or is capable of inciting misbehaviour or disorder amongst spectators.
- (g) No League copyright material may be transmitted without the prior written consent of the Board.
- (h) In the event of the match within the stadium being the subject of title or competition sponsorship, then no material relating to a competing brand or company within the same product category or its associates may be screened without the prior written consent of the competition organiser.

APPENDIX 2

Code of Practice for Use of LED Perimeter Boards

1. Introduction

With the introduction of LED perimeter boards, the SPL has developed this Code of Practice to enable clubs to develop their commercial activities whilst maintaining the integrity of the sport for the players and spectators. The aim of this Code of Practice is to ensure that the use of LED perimeter boards do not impact upon the playing of the match, do not undermine the match officials and do not encourage or incite Unacceptable Conduct.

2. Awareness

The home club should appoint a competent person or persons to edit the visuals displayed on the LED perimeter boards and shall be responsible for their actions. The home club should ensure that the appointed person(s) are aware of these guidelines.

3. Offensive comments

No comment/display of an offensive nature may be shown at any time either pre, during or post match. This would include any graphics which may be deemed to criticise, undermine or damage the reputation of any club, player, match official, the SPL or the SFA. No material should be transmitted which is capable of bringing the game into disrepute, offending public decency or is capable of inciting any form of Unacceptable Conduct.

4. Unacceptable Perimeter Board Usage

The key premise is that the advertising movement must not distract from the game.

The following examples of visuals should not be used during a match.

- Continuous horizontal movement
- Video footage – e.g. television footage/live action
- Comments related to the match action or decisions made by the match officials

In-game betting messages are however permitted during the game.

Non-confrontational goal flashes are also permitted during the game.

5. Sporting Integrity

Penalty Kicks

All perimeter boards must be frozen at the point the ball is placed in the penalty spot. The boards shall remain static until 10 seconds after the penalty is either scored or saved or until the ball is out of play.

Red/Yellow Cards

Clubs may not use the issuing of red and yellow cards as commercial opportunity e.g. "This red card is sponsored by....."

Free Kicks

Where a wall of more than one man is erected for a free kick then the boards should be frozen.

Incidents in the game

Clubs/commercial partners may not refer to specific incidents in the game which may be viewed as contentious. For example a "Goal" flash would be acceptable however a derogatory comment relating to players and/or match officials would be unacceptable.

Opposition

There shall be no deliberate attempt to distract the opposition at any time through the use of perimeter board displays. For example altering brightness, speed, flash bursts during set pieces such as free kicks and corner kicks.

6. Safety Issues

The perimeter board structure must be built and installed in such a way that complies with all the stadium safety regulations and the Laws of the Game.

7. Commercial Integrity

Brightness

Brightness must only be altered for consistency not affect. No brand can be advantaged or disadvantaged by the use of light.

APPENDIX 3

Financial Disclosure Requirements

1. Clubs and the Candidate Club are required to comply with Criteria 7.1.1, 7.1.3, 7.2.1, 7.2.2 and 7.2.3 of the Legal and Administration Criteria in Section 7 and, subject to paragraph 2 of this Appendix 3, all of the Finance Criteria in Section 8 of The Scottish Football Association National Club Licensing Manual (“the Criteria”), as from time to time amended, varied or supplemented, as if the requirements of the Criteria applied to provision of the copies, documentation, verification and information set out in the Criteria required to be made out and satisfied to the Company on the same basis and to the same extent as the Criteria require to be made out and satisfied to The Scottish Football Association.
2. Criteria 8.1.4 of the Criteria shall be extended for the purpose of the Financial Disclosure Requirements to additionally require that no Payables shall be Overdue to any Club and the relevant Definition, SPL Requirement and Club Documents against Criteria 8.1.4 shall apply to Payables Overdue to any Club as they apply to Payables Overdue towards football clubs arising from transfer activity as at the specified date.
3. For all purposes in relation to the Criteria the Candidate Club in relation to any Season is to be treated as a Club and is required to comply and to have made out and satisfied the Company with respect to the Criteria as if, for the Season in which it became the Candidate Club for promotion in respect of the following Season, it was a Club in membership of The Scottish Premier League.
4. Subject to paragraph 6 of this Appendix 3, all copies, documentation, verification and information required to be submitted to the Company pursuant to these Financial Disclosure Requirements shall, unless the Board determines otherwise, be given by or on behalf of a Club and the Candidate Club to the Secretary. The Board may determine that it will not be necessary for a Club and the Candidate Club to give such copies, documentation, verification or information to the Secretary but instead to make same or any part of same available for inspection at a specified place. In the event that the Board determines that copies, documentation, certification or information is to be made available at a specified place then same shall be made available to such person or persons as may be designated by the Board or the Secretary on behalf of the Board by or on such date or dates and in such form as the Board or the Secretary on behalf of the Board may specify.
5. Subject to paragraph 6 of this Appendix 3, notwithstanding that the Board or the Secretary on behalf of the Board may have required copies, documentation, verification or information to be available for inspection at a specified place it shall be open to the Board or the Secretary on behalf of the Board, at any time

and any circumstances, to require that such copies, documentation, verification or information shall be sent in such form as the Board or the Secretary on behalf of the Board may specify to the Secretary.

- 6.1 With respect to Future Financial Forecasts (“Forecasts”) referred to at F.06 in section 8 of the Scottish Football Association National Club Licensing Manual the provisions of this paragraph 6 will apply.
- 6.2 Subject to a Club or the Candidate Club exercising its option to provide a Forecast to the Company by means of the Alternative Process provided for in paragraph 6.7 of this Appendix 3, all Forecasts will be sent to the Company by Clubs by secure postal or other delivery method or by hand. Forecasts shall be contained in sealed envelopes and shall be addressed to “The Secretary” and shall be marked “Private and Confidential – Addressee Only”.
- 6.3 Forecasts will be reviewed only by the Secretary and/or his nominated accounting and/or legal advisers.
- 6.4 The Secretary shall provide an oral report to the Board where information from or relating to a Forecast is required to be communicated to the Board. A Forecast will not be copied to or be available for inspection by any member of the Board.
- 6.5 All Forecasts provided to the Company in accordance with this Appendix 3 will remain under the control of the Secretary. Forecasts will be held in a locked box within the Company safe. The Secretary will be the only person with access to the locked box. Clubs are entitled, on giving reasonable notice, to inspect the secure method of retention of any Forecast provided by them in accordance with this Appendix 3.
- 6.6 Any Forecast provided by a Club in accordance with this Appendix 3 will, unless required for ongoing matters in relation to this Appendix 3, be destroyed within two years of receipt of such Forecast by the Secretary. The Secretary will advise the relevant Club in writing of the destruction of a Forecast so provided to the Secretary.
- 6.7 A Club shall be entitled to notify the Secretary in writing that where it has been required in terms of this Appendix 3 to provide a Forecast that such provision will take place at the offices of the Club concerned. Such written notification, in order for it to be effective, must be given to the Secretary before the date on which the Club concerned has been required to provide such a Forecast. In such circumstances the Secretary and/or his accounting and/or his legal advisers will attend at the premises of such Club to review the Forecast at the Club’s premises. Where a Club has exercised such option it must confirm in writing to the Secretary that it will retain the Forecast and make it available for future inspection by the Company Secretary and/or his nominated accounting and/or legal

advisers until the Club receives notification in writing from the Secretary that the Forecast may be destroyed by the Club.

7. The Board may require fulfilment by a Club or the Candidate Club with all or any part of the Criteria and/or the provision of copies, documentation, verification and/or information as may be required by the Criteria notwithstanding that The Scottish Football Association may not have required same.
8. In the Criteria all references to the General Purposes Committee and to the GPC shall be treated as references to the Board and all references to The Scottish Football Association shall be treated as references to the Company. Words and phrases defined in the Criteria shall, where the context so admits, have the same meaning in this Appendix 3.

APPENDIX 4**Code of Conduct for Under 19 Players (“the Code of Conduct”)**

Name of Club.....(“the Club”).

Address of Club.....

.....

Name of Player.....(“the Player”)

Date of Birth of Player.....

Address of Player.....

.....

Prior to signing this Code of Conduct and Registering the Player, full discussion has taken place and agreement has been reached between the Club, the Player and, for Players aged under 16 years, the Player’s parents/guardians as to the educational, technical and match programme to be provided by the Club.

The Player has the potential to become a footballer at the highest level in Scotland and will be Registered as a Player by the Club.

Both the Player and, for Players aged under 16 years, the Player’s parents/guardians understand that the Club is committed to the Player’s wellbeing, future development and realisation of potential, but that the level of achievement ultimately reached cannot be guaranteed.

In Registering the Player, the Club, the Player and the Player’s parents/guardians if appropriate agree to the following Code of Conduct.

The Club agrees to provide

- A safe environment in which the Player can learn and develop without fear of abuse
- Medical screening, monitoring and support for the Player
- A structured football learning programme, appropriate to the age, ability and growth of the Player
- Participation in football matches arranged or approved by the SPL and/or SFA
- Trained, screened and qualified coaching and other staff and facilities as determined by SPL Rules and / or the SFA Youth Initiative Regulations from time to time
- Guidelines to the Player, and if appropriate his parents/guardians, on the best ways for him / them to contribute to the Player’s football and personal development
- Educational support (in conjunction with the Player’s school if he is still at school) to ensure the continued academic and personal development of the Player
- Regular communication and reports to the Player, and if appropriate his parents / guardians, on the Player’s progress
- A code of conduct and rules of the Club

The Player agrees to

- Attend the Club regularly and punctually, behave with self-discipline and give notice of and reason for any absence
- Practice the techniques and skills taught by the Club and attempt to apply them in matches
- Participate in matches away from the Club only as authorised in advance by the Club
- If still at school, attend school regularly and punctually, complete school assignments and behave at school as at the Club
- Follow a lifestyle appropriate to development – spending time positively; eating, drinking, relaxing and sleeping sensibly
- Adhere to the Club's code of conduct and rules

If appropriate (Players under 16 years of age), the parents/guardians agree to

- Encourage and help the Player meet targets, including this Code of Conduct and the code of conduct and rules of the Club
- Support the Player without pressure, praise good work and refrain from criticising lapses
- Set a good example to the Player
- Respect the opportunity given to the Player and not approach or permit any other person to approach any other club about the Player during the currency of the Player's Registration
- Communicate with Club staff, keeping them informed about matters affecting the Player
- Permit the Player to play only in football matches with the Club or authorised in advance by the Club
- Adhere to the Club's code of conduct and rules

The Club, the Player and, if appropriate, the Player's parent/guardian understand that following the Player's Registration by the Club, Development Contribution (or other reimbursement of training costs) may be payable to the Club by any other club that in the future acquires the Player's Registration. The Player and the Player's parent/guardian have been provided with the current SPL Development Contribution amounts.

We, the undersigned, agree to this Code of Conduct

Name..... Signature.....
(on behalf of the Club)

Date.....

Name..... Signature.....
Player

Date.....

Name..... Signature.....
Parent/Guardian, if appropriate.

Date.....

ANNEX A

Guidance for Clubs on Unacceptable Conduct

Unacceptable Conduct at a Stadium on the occasion of an Official Match

SPL Rules H7.5, H7.6 and H7.7 describe the responsibilities of Clubs on this matter. They are included here for ease of reference.

H7.5 The Home Club in any Official Match must ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, (i) good order and security; (ii) that policies and procedures have been adopted and are implemented to prevent incidents of Unacceptable Conduct; and (iii) that any incidents of Unacceptable Conduct are effectively dealt with, all at its Stadium on the occasion of an Official Match

H7.6 Each Club must ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that its Players, officials, supporters and any person exercising a function for or connected with the Club do not engage in Unacceptable Conduct at a Stadium on the occasion of an Official Match.

H7.7 Any failure by a Club to discharge a requirement to which it is subject by virtue of Rules H7.5 and/or H7.6 shall constitute a breach of these Rules.

In considering any alleged failure to discharge the requirements of SPL Rules H7.5 or H7.6, resulting in a breach in terms of SPL Rule H7.7, the Board or, as the case may be, a Commission shall, take into account whether the Club has complied with this Guidance.

In determining whether all reasonably practicable steps have been taken by a Home Club it is recognised that stadium operations in the run up to and during an Official Match are subject to the control of the local police match commander and other decisions taken by the public authorities. Whether to intervene in the case of an incident of Unacceptable Conduct during the course of an Official Match will be subject to determination by the police, and not necessarily by the Home Club.

Guidance

The Club should

- issue a statement that it will not tolerate any form of Unacceptable Conduct. This statement should include details of the action that the Club will take against those who engage in such conduct and explain the types of behaviour which will constitute Unacceptable Behaviour.
- publish its statement in full in all matchday programmes and similar Club publications.
- display copies of its statement permanently and prominently throughout and at entrances to the stadium.
- replace any defaced copies as soon as reasonably possible and, in any event, before the next Official Match in the stadium.
- make announcements over its public address system condemning all forms of Unacceptable Conduct at matches.
- make it a condition of their season and matchday tickets that the holders do not engage in any form of Unacceptable Conduct.
- for Official Matches which have been designated as “All Tickets” and / or where the Home Club has issued tickets to the Visiting Club to sell to its own supporters:
 - the Home Club should take names and addresses and obtain consent to the disclosure of same to the Visiting Club of all those to whom tickets for the visiting support area are sold by the Home Club;
 - the Visiting Club should take names and addresses and obtain consent to the disclosure of same to the Home Club of all those to whom tickets for the visiting support area are sold by the Visiting Club;
 - the Home Club and Visiting Club should exchange details of those to whom they have sold tickets to the visiting support area if requested to do so.
- take disciplinary action against any official or employee who engages in Unacceptable Conduct.
- contact other SPL Clubs to ensure that they understand its policy regarding Unacceptable Conduct.
- encourage a common strategy between stewards and police for dealing with incidents of Unacceptable Conduct.
- as soon as reasonably possible and, in any event, before the next Official Match remove from its stadium any and all graffiti, propaganda or the like which encourages or promotes Unacceptable Conduct.

- develop pro-active programmes and make progress towards raising awareness of its campaign to eliminate Unacceptable Conduct in conjunction with, amongst others, supporters, schools, voluntary organisations, local authorities, local businesses, sponsors, police and players' representatives.

It is for each Club to apply the above guidance to its particular circumstances. It is also for each Club to compile its own record of compliance with the guidance.

ANNEX B**The Scottish Premier League Limited****Rules of Procedure****1. General Rules**

- 1.1 These Rules of Procedure have been made by the Board under and in terms of Rule G5.1 and they shall apply to pre and post hearing procedures and hearings in relation to:-
- 1.1.1 an alleged breach of or failure to fulfil the Rules;
 - 1.1.2 Appeals;
 - 1.1.3 an application for consent, approval, permission, waiver, period of grace or the like made in terms of the Rules;
 - 1.1.4 Adjudications;
 - 1.1.5 a Compensation Tribunal hearing an application for Compensation;
 - 1.1.6 an appeal in connection with Development Contribution;
 - 1.1.7 an appeal to an Appeal Tribunal in terms of Rule A6.13;
 - 1.1.8 any other proceedings or process where the Board considers it appropriate that they should apply.
- 1.2 Definitions of words and phrases in the Rules of the Scottish Premier League shall apply in these Rules of Procedure. In these Rules of Procedure the Board, including any sub committee of the Board, Commissions and other body appointed in terms of the Rules to determine any matter are referred to as a "Tribunal".
- 1.3 Any deviation from any provision of these Rules of Procedure and/or any other irregularity, omission, technicality or other defect in the procedures followed shall not invalidate any finding, procedure or decision unless it is shown to render the proceedings unreliable or to have caused a miscarriage of justice.
- 1.4 Notwithstanding these Rules of Procedure, a Tribunal shall have the power to regulate the hearing procedures adopted by it and in so doing any may deviate from the hearing procedures in part 2 of these Rules of Procedure as it considers appropriate and expedient so as to dispose of any matter before it justly and expeditiously.
- 1.5 A Tribunal may be assisted by the Secretary (or his substitute), other clerk, legal adviser and/or technical expert as shall be

considered expedient by the chairman of the Tribunal. The Secretary (or his substitute), legal adviser and/or technical expert shall be entitled to take such part in the proceedings, except that he or she shall not have a vote, prior to and at any hearing as the chairman shall think appropriate and shall be entitled, with the permission of the chairman, to be present and give advice to the Tribunal when the Tribunal undertakes its deliberations on any matter before it. Any advice given by any technical expert appointed to assist the Tribunal shall be disclosed to parties in advance of any determination being made by a Tribunal which takes account of such advice and parties shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to make representations on such advice before any such determination is made.

- 1.6 Except as otherwise provided in the Rules or in these Rules of Procedure the chairman of a Tribunal shall be entitled to determine any issue or matter of procedure arising prior to, during or in connection with any hearing.
- 1.7 The chairman of a Tribunal shall be entitled to make such order or orders as he may think appropriate and expedient in advance of any hearing or adjourned hearing requiring any person or party to attend at a hearing, to produce any document or provide any information to any hearing, to provide in advance of any hearing a written submission or outline of case or the like, to provide details of any witnesses who may be called at any hearing, to provide in advance, by such time or times as he may think appropriate, written statements of such witnesses and any documents or other materials as may be in the possession of such person or party, to disclose any or all of such to any other parties with an interest in the proceedings and any other order as he considers will assist in securing a just and expeditious disposal of any matter or issue before or which may be before the Tribunal.
- 1.8 The chairman of the Tribunal may make such enquiries or direct that such enquiries be made as regards the facts related any matter for consideration by the Tribunal and adduce such evidence secured by such enquiries to the Tribunal as he shall consider appropriate and expedient for the purpose of securing a just and expeditious disposal of any matter or issue before or which may be before the Tribunal.
- 1.9 In the event that a party to any proceedings before a Tribunal shall fail to comply with any order or requirement of the chairman of the Tribunal then the chairman shall be entitled to impose such sanction and/or make such default order, including an order granting any remedy or relief sought or dismissal of any claim made as shall seem appropriate to the chairman.
- 1.10 All hearings shall be conducted in private.

- 1.11 A Tribunal shall be entitled to adjourn or postpone a hearing as it sees fit.
- 1.12 Except with the express approval of the Board or the Chairman, no member of a Tribunal or any person or party appearing or attending, in any capacity, at a hearing before a Tribunal shall make any statement or disclosure to any third party concerning any event which took place at and any statement made or document or other materials considered during or in connection with such a hearing.
- 1.13 A Tribunal shall be entitled to determine any matter before it notwithstanding that a party invited or entitled to attend shall fail, decline or shall elect not to attend and/or present any evidence and/or make any representations at or to a hearing.

2. Hearing Procedures

- 2.1 At the commencement of any hearing, the chairman of the Tribunal shall confirm the identities of the persons admitted to the hearing and introduce the members of the Tribunal and of any clerk, legal adviser and/or technical expert assisting the Tribunal. The chairman shall confirm the nature of the matter or matters in issue before the Tribunal and confirm what documents and other materials are before the Tribunal. The chairman shall also outline the procedures to be followed during the course of the hearing including the order in which parties shall present their respective cases if more than one is present.
- 2.2 Where the Secretary (or his substitute) has gathered evidence in relation to the matter for determination by a Tribunal he shall present such evidence as the first evidence at a hearing.
- 2.3 Where any evidence has been secured as a consequence of enquiries made by or on behalf of the chairman, and he has determined that same shall be adduced, he shall make such evidence available to the Tribunal as the second evidence at any hearing.
- 2.4 Parties appearing before a Tribunal may present evidence by oral or written statement, produce original documents or copies, refer to them and call witnesses.
- 2.5 In any case where a witness does not attend at a hearing for whatever reason, the Tribunal shall be entitled to take account of that witness' evidence as is made apparent to it in any other form. This includes, for example, by telephone, teleconference, video, web conference, recording, affidavit, report or written statement. Witnesses who are not parties or officers of parties shall not be allowed to be present during the hearing except when they are to give evidence. After giving evidence, witnesses shall retire but shall be subject to recall by or with the permission of the chairman of the Tribunal.

- 2.6 A Tribunal shall not be bound by any formal rules of evidence and may accept evidence in any form. However it shall be entitled to accord to evidence such weight as seems to the Tribunal proper having regard to the quality of the evidence and the reliability and credibility of same.
- 2.7 The members of a Tribunal may ask such questions of any party or witness at any time. There shall be no cross-examination of witnesses by or on behalf of a party, except through or with the permission of the chairman of the Tribunal.
- 2.8 Generally, where a determination on a matter of principle or liability falls to be made by a Tribunal the determination of same shall be made and communicated to the party or parties concerned in advance of the consideration and determination of any issue of penalty, remedy, *quantum* or the like.
- 2.9 Prior to the parties being invited to leave the hearing, the parties shall be given the opportunity of making closing submissions in such order as shall seem most appropriate to the Chairman.
- 2.10 A Tribunal shall conduct its deliberations in private.
- 2.11 A Tribunal may reconvene and announce any decision orally to the party or parties.