

RULES OF THE CARLOW & DIST. FOOTBALL LEAGUE

APPEALS

Any decision made by the Executive/Disciplinary Committee may be appealed to the Leinster Football Association/FAI.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Rules of the Carlow & District Football League cannot be in conflict with the Rules that pertain at any given time, with that of the Leinster Football Association or the F.A.I. In such cases, the rules of the L.F.A and the F.A.I take precedence.

SYSTEM OF DISCIPLINE

During the course of each season the Disciplinary Committee meets each Monday night in the Seven Oaks at 8.30pm. Players sent off on the previous Sunday should attend or be represented at this meeting. All players sent off are subject to a suspension and imposition of a personal fine. The suspension must be served and fine paid before the player recommences playing. In reaching a Decision the Disciplinary Committee may have regard to the Player's previous record.

Extracts from the current FAI Rules

FAI RULE 78. MISCONDUCT BY PLAYERS

1. Including the automatic suspension incurred, the overall suspension imposed on any player receiving a direct red card shall be for:
 - a) at least one match for denying the opposing team a clear goal-scoring opportunity (particularly by deliberately handling the ball);
 - b) at least two matches for serious foul play (particularly in the case of the use of excessive or brute force);
 - c) at least two matches for unsporting conduct towards an opponent or a person other than a match official;
 - d) at least two matches for unsporting conduct towards a match official;
 - e) at least three matches for assaulting (deliberately pushing, pulling, , striking, butting, elbowing, punching, kicking etc. Touching is not an assault) an opponent or a person other than a match official;
 - f) at least six matches for assaulting by spitting at an opponent or a person other than a match official.
 - g) at least 12 months for assaulting (deliberately pushing, pulling, spitting, striking, butting, elbowing, punching, kicking etc. Touching is not an assault) a match official.

2. A fine may also be imposed in all cases.
3. The right is reserved to punish an infringement which has escaped the match official's attention.
4. A player whom the referee has reported as having committed an assault on a match official before, during or immediately after a match shall automatically stand suspended until the disciplinary process has been completed.
5. All suspensions imposed by affiliates relating to assaults on match officials must be notified by them immediately to the Disciplinary Control Unit of the FAI and to all other relevant bodies.

FAI RULE 79. MISCONDUCT BY OFFICIALS

1. The overall suspension imposed on any Official shall be for:
 - a) at least two matches for unsporting conduct towards a person other than a match official;
 - b) at least two matches for unsporting conduct towards a match official;
 - c) at least three matches for assaulting (deliberately pushing, pulling, striking, butting, elbowing, punching, kicking etc. Touching is not an assault) an opponent or a person other than a match official;
 - d) at least three months for assaulting by spitting at an opponent or a person other than a match official.
 - e) at least 12 months for assaulting (deliberately pushing, pulling, spitting, striking, butting, elbowing, punching, kicking etc. Touching is not an assault) a match official;
2. An official whom the referee has reported as having committed an assault on a match official before, during or immediately after a match shall automatically stand suspended until the disciplinary process has been completed.
3. A fine may also be imposed in all cases.
4. The right is reserved to punish an infringement which has escaped the match official's attention.
5. All suspensions imposed by affiliates relating to assaults on match officials must be notified by them immediately to the Disciplinary Control Unit of the FAI and to all other relevant bodies.

A player accumulating FOUR cautions will receive a Minimum Suspension of 1 game and fine of 25.

FAI RULE 80. MISCONDUCT BY MATCH OFFICIALS

1. Match Officials are subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the FAI Rules and FAI Referee Regulations. Match Officials shall be sanctioned as a minimum in accordance with Rule 79 but the disciplinary bodies may impose any other sanction they deem appropriate.

2. Sanctions issued against Match Officials must be notified immediately to the Disciplinary Control Unit of the FAI, the Referees Committee and to all other relevant bodies.

FAI RULE 81. BRAWL / FIGHTING

1. Involvement in a brawl / fight is sanctioned with a suspension for at least six matches.
2. Anyone who has tried merely to prevent a brawl / fight, shield others or separate those involved in a brawl is not subject to punishment.

FAI RULE 82. UNIDENTIFIED AGGRESSORS

If it is not possible to identify the perpetrator(s) of an offence, the body may sanction the club to which the aggressors belong.

FAI RULE 83. TEAM MISCONDUCT

1. The following constitute misconduct by a team and are sanctioned by a fine:
 - a) when at least five players are cautioned or sent from the field of play during one match;
 - b) when at least three players are sent off during one match;
 - c) when several players together make threats or show force against a match official.
2. When determining the amount of the fine, the type of competition shall be taken into account.

FAI RULE 84. INCITING HATRED AND VIOLENCE

A player or official who publicly incites others to hatred or violence may be sanctioned with a suspension and/or a fine.

FAI RULE 85. PROVOKING THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Any player or official who provokes the general public shall be suspended for two matches and sanctioned with a fine.

FAI RULE 86. INELIGIBILITY

1. If a player takes part in an official match despite being ineligible, his team shall be sanctioned by forfeiting the match and paying a fine. A sanction may also be imposed on a player and/or the person in charge of the team if they knew or ought to have known of the ineligibility.
2. If a player takes part in a friendly match despite being ineligible, his team shall be sanctioned by forfeiting the match and paying a fine.
3. Unregistered Players and Suspended Players are deemed to be ineligible.

FAI RULE 87. FAILURE TO PLAY AND ABANDONMENT

1. If a team refuses to play a match or refuses to continue playing one which it has begun, it shall be sanctioned with a fine and shall forfeit the match.

2. In serious cases, the team shall also be disqualified from the competition in progress and may be disqualified from future competitions.
3. Any player selected to play in any International or any other match arranged by the FAI or its Affiliates and who without good and sufficient cause refuses to comply with the arrangements for the playing of the match, or fails to play in such match, may be adjudged to be guilty of misconduct, and such player, or any Club which may be deemed to have encouraged such player to such misconduct, may be dealt with as the Disciplinary Bodies shall deem appropriate.

FAI RULE 88. OFFENSIVE BEHAVIOUR

Any Participant, who insults someone in any way, especially by using offensive gestures or language, may be sanctioned with a suspension and/or fine and/or a ban on performing any football related activity.

FAI RULE 89. RACISM

1. Any Participant, who publicly disparages, discriminates against or denigrates someone in a derogatory manner on account of race, colour, language, religion or ethnic origin, or perpetrates any other racist and/or contemptuous act, shall be subject to disciplinary sanction. The relevant disciplinary body shall consider and have the power to impose a suspension, fine and/or other sanction as deemed appropriate. In the case of individuals, the minimum suspension shall be for a period of five matches.
2. If spectators engage in racist behaviour, including chanting or displaying racist slogans at a match, the relevant disciplinary body shall sanction the affiliate or club which these spectators support. If the spectators cannot be identified as supporters of one or other club/affiliate the host club/affiliate maybe sanctioned.
3. Spectators engaging in racist behaviour may be subject to a disciplinary sanction.

FAI RULE 90. INTIMIDATION / THREATS

Anyone who intimidates a match official with serious threats shall be sanctioned with a fine and a suspension.

FAI RULE 91. COERCION

Anyone who uses violence or threats to pressurise a match official into taking certain action or to hinder him in any other way from acting freely shall be sanctioned with a fine and a suspension.

FAI RULE 92. DISCRIMINATION

The FAI shall not tolerate sexual or racially-based harassment or other discriminatory behaviour, whether physical or verbal, and such behaviour shall result in disciplinary action.

FAI RULE 93. BRINGING THE GAME INTO DISREPUTE

Any member who has brought the game of football or the FAI into disrepute by any means, written, verbal, by action or otherwise shall be sanctioned with a suspension and/or fine and/or a ban on performing any football related activity or other sanction deemed appropriate.

FAI RULE 94. DISPARAGING COMMENTS

Public comment of the following nature may result in disciplinary sanction:

1. Comments which are offensive or threatening in any way;
2. Comments causing damage to the game or bringing the game into disrepute;
3. Unsubstantiated allegations which question any person or bodies integrity or are disparaging in any way.

FAI RULE 95. PROTECTION AND WELFARE OF CHILDREN

1. All participants, clubs, leagues, divisional associations and other football bodies shall be bound by the FAI rules, codes of conduct and guidelines governing the protection and welfare of children, and breaches of such rules, codes and guidelines shall be subject to disciplinary sanction.
2. The disciplinary body may impose any sanction it deems appropriate.
3. Any act, statement, conduct or other matter which harms a child or children, or poses or may pose a risk of harm to a child or children, shall constitute behaviour which is improper and brings the game into disrepute.
4. Any participant who is the subject of a statutory inquiry in relation to any child welfare concern must stand down from all football activities pending the outcome of that inquiry and any subsequent internal disciplinary proceedings.

FAI RULE 96. FORGERY / FALSIFICATION

1. Anyone who, in football-related activities, forges a document or falsifies an authentic document or uses a forged or falsified document to deceive in contractual or legal relations shall be sanctioned with a suspension of at least six matches.
2. If the perpetrator is an official, the body shall impose a ban on taking part in any football-related activity for a period of at least twelve months.
3. A fine may also be imposed.

FAI RULE 97. CORRUPTION

1. Anyone who offers, promises or grants an unjustified advantage to a body or employee of the FAI, a match official, a player or an official on behalf of himself or a third party in an attempt to incite it or him to violate the rules of the FAI, the Confederations or FIFA shall be sanctioned:
 - a) with a fine, and/or;
 - b) with a ban on taking part in any football-related activity and/or;

- c) with a ban on entering any stadium.
2. Passive corruption (soliciting, being promised or accepting an unjustified advantage) shall be sanctioned in the same manner.
 3. In serious cases and in the case of repetition, sanction 1b) may be imposed for life.
 4. In any case, the disciplinary bodies may order the confiscation of any assets involved in committing the infringement which are within the remit of the FAI or of any assets which may be due to the offender from the FAI for any other football activities. These assets shall be used for football development programmes.

FAI RULE 98. DOPING

1. The Anti-Doping Rules of the Football Association of Ireland are the Irish Anti-Doping Rules as amended from time to time Doping and doping offences are sanctioned under the Irish Sport Anti-Doping Programme Rules and Procedures as provided by the Irish Sports Council.
2. Decisions of the Irish Sport Anti-Doping Disciplinary Bodies are recognised by the FAI and such decisions shall be rendered effective by the FAI.
3. In the event of any contradictions between national regulations and the FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations, the provisions set out in the FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations shall prevail

FAI RULE 99. MANIPULATING MATCH RESULTS

Anyone who conspires to influence the result of a match in a manner incompatible with sporting ethics shall be sanctioned with a suspension and a fine. The disciplinary body may also impose a ban on taking part in any football-related activity; in serious cases this sanction shall apply for life.

FAI RULE 100. BETTING / GAMBLING

Anyone who directly or indirectly bets, instructs someone to bet on their behalf, or provides others with information for the purpose of betting or gambling on a result, conduct or progress of a match or competition in which that person or his club is participating or has control over, shall be subject to disciplinary sanctions.

APPEALS

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Football Association or the F.A.I. In such cases, the rules of the L.F.A and the F.A.I take precedence.

RULES OF THE CARLOW & DIST. FOOTBALL LEAGUE 2010-2011

(To include amendments/alterations/changes passed at the Annual General Meeting of the League held on the 14th May 2010

DEFINITIONS:

As per F.A.I. and L.F.A. Rules:

“The Association” or “the FAI” shall mean the Football Association of Ireland.

“Days” shall exclude Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays.

“Domestic Competitive Match” shall mean all competitions within the League the Player is registered with.

“Manager” means the Official of a Club responsible for selecting a team

“Match Officials” means referees and assistant referees and includes reserve officials and fourth officials.

“Members” of The Association shall mean:

1. National Associations; Divisional Associations and Leagues who have affiliated to the FAI.
2. Clubs in Leagues who are currently affiliated to their Divisional/National Association.
3. Players who are currently registered to play for their Club on League Registration Forms obtainable from a member League.

“Participant” means an affiliated Association, League, Club, Club official, Player, Official, Match Official and all such persons who are from time to time participating in any activity sanctioned either directly or indirectly by The Association

“Legal Persons” means entities or bodies not being individuals

SECTION A

ADMINISTRATION/ORGANISATION

RULE 1. (a) (1) The sole object for which the Carlow and District Football League (herein afterwards referred to as the “League”) is established is the promotion of Association Football and Sport within the Leagues administrative area.

(2) For the sole purpose and no other purpose to do, perform and carry out all or any of the following acts or things namely:

(b) (1) To Build and erect construct, enclose, level, drain, fit up and maintain, dwelling houses, retail outlets, club-houses, stands, pavilions, football pitches, pitch and putt courses, snooker and billiard halls and any other kind of building erection, fixture or pitch, tennis courts, squash courts, swimming pools and (but so as not to restrict the generality of this object) walls, gates, fences, to construct and provide entrances, roads, footpaths, sewers and drains and to carry on the business of estate development in all its branches and generally to alter, develop and improve any lands or buildings thereon, and to carry out any of the works aforesaid on land of which the League is the freehold owner/leasehold owner.

(2) To borrow or raise or to secure the payment of money or to accept grants from any Local Authority or body in such a manner as the Executive Committee, acting as a body, may think fit and in particular by mortgage or charging by debenture or debenture stock perpetual or otherwise, the undertaking of all or any part of the property or assets of the League whether present or future.

(3) To purchase or otherwise acquire any lands, tenements and hereditaments of any tenure, whether subject or not to any charge or encumbrance and to hold or to sell, lease, let either furnished or unfurnished, alienate, mortgage, charge or otherwise deal with all or any of such lands tenements, hereditaments or any part thereof.

(4) To establish, furnish, manage and carry on in, upon or in connection with any ground, premises, or building belonging to or occupied by the League, restaurants, billiards rooms or other places of entertainment and refreshment or games rooms and in connection therewith to apply for licences for the sale of malt and spirituous liquors and all other kinds of liquor in respect of which the sale of which a licence is required by law and to apply for and obtain registration of the League as a club under the Registration of Clubs (Ireland) Act 1904-1962 as amended and to maintain a bar for the sale of every class, type and description of food provision (both solid and liquid, spirits, wines, mineral and artificial waters and other drinks) and carry-on the activities of merchants or caterers or whichever activities may seem to the League capable of being carried on in connection with or of the sole object of the League and to buy and sell and deal in every commodity necessary for any of the foregoing purposes.

(5) To acquire money by gift or subscription and to distribute same in and about the furtherance of all or any of the objects of the League and to raise or grant sums of money to be awarded towards or as prizes or otherwise in connection with any such matters as aforesaid on such terms as may be agreed by the Executive Committee acting as a body.

RULE 2. The “League” shall consist of a combination of football clubs, which have been affiliated to the Leinster Football Association and the Football Association of Ireland.

RULE 3. Membership of the League shall be open to clubs approved by the League Executive Committee acting as a body and who:

(a) Submit a completed official application for affiliation form giving an undertaking that their membership of the League is contingent on full participation

in all activities including social and fund raising ventures and undertaking to obey the Constitution and Rules of the League.

(b) Paid the annual affiliation fee, and

(c) Who are not under disciplinary action or suspension by any other League in the Country.

(d) The officials, representatives, players and members of each Club in membership shall be bound by the decisions of the Executive Committee and General Management Committee or any officially appointed sub-committees and such decisions shall be final and binding on all concerned subject to any existing rights of appeal to the Leinster Football Association and Football Association of Ireland.

RULE 4. The League shall be administered by an Executive Management Committee acting as a body, (with the assistance of a General Management Committee comprising of not more than six club representatives)

Rule 5. The Executive Committee shall comprise of members other than club representatives and which may, acting as a body, co-opt additional Officers for specific posts/duties. The Executive Committee shall have the power to appoint Committees who will assist in the achievement of the League’s objectives.

Rule 6. The League Management shall consist of the League Executive Committee, the General Management Committee and the Secretary of each club affiliated to the League for meetings other than General Meetings. Only one member per club can vote at Management meetings (A Club may nominate a representative for each junior and youth team actively involved in the official League programme). The Management shall be the general policy making body of the League:

(a) Having regard to the progress achieved in the development of the League the Executive Committee, acting, as a body shall at the appropriate time, appoint three Trustees. The Trustees shall remain in office until death or resignation unless removed by a General Meeting of the League.

Vacancies shall be filled by the Executive Committee acting as a body. The

real property and equity of the League shall be vested in the Trustees.

(b) Every Trustee, Hon. Officer and member of the General Management Committee of the League shall be indemnified by the League, against all costs, damages, compensation and expenses incurred in or about the discharge of his/her duties, except as accrued from their own wilful acts of default.

(c) The Executive Committee shall have sole authority to appoint League representatives to the Leinster Football Association, Football Association of Ireland and any other bona fide representative body involved in the promotion/administration of Association Football.

RULE 7. A quorum for any League Management meeting held in relation to the business of the League shall be one third of the full voting cohort in the League Management, which must include at least two officers of the League Executive Committee. The quorum for any meeting of the League Executive Committee shall be three and the quorum for a meeting of the General Management Committee shall be five

RULE 8. Meetings of the League Management shall be held at least once each month during the course of the season and the first item of business shall be the adoption of the minutes of the most recent ordinary meeting of the League Management.

(a) The Annual General Meeting of the League shall be held on or before the 31st May.

(b) The League Executive Committee, be recognised as the Management Committee of the League and shall operate on the principle of a body with collective responsibility. Any member of the Executive committee failing to attend three consecutive Executive Committee meetings without proper notification, will be deemed to be automatically removed from the Committee,

(c) The Annual General Meeting of the League shall consist of Executive Committee officers and General Management Committee members together with one voting representative from each club participating in the League. Representation at the A.G.M. is subject to current membership.

(d) A special or emergency meeting of the General Management Committee or the League Management may be called by the League Executive Committee acting as a body who shall give at least seven days notice local public notice of this meeting of the League Management. A special or emergency meeting of the League Management may be requested by way of petition signed by one-third of the clubs represented in the League Management and submitted by registered post to the League Secretary. The petition shall state the purpose of the meeting, the proposed

venue, date and time of the meeting. The notice will allow the League Secretary sufficient time to arrange for local publication of public notice at least seven days prior to the meeting and advise all other members of the Executive Committee of the meeting in writing.

RULE 9. At least seven days (public and/or written) Notice of the holding of the A.G.M. shall be given to clubs by the League Secretary together with an Agenda and a duly Audited copy of the Statement of Accounts of the League.

Rule 10. The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be to:

(a) Consider the minutes of previous A.G.M. and adopt same if considered satisfactory.

(b) Receive a Report from the League Secretary on the working of the League during the Season completed immediately prior to the A.G.M.

(c) Consider the Statement of Accounts.

(d) Complete Elections.

(e) Transact Any Other Business relevant to the A.G.M. subject to the consent of the chairman presiding.

Rule 11. A person attending the A.G.M. or any meeting of the League cannot represent more than one club. Club representatives together with the Executive officers and General Management Committees shall be collectively known as the League Management, which will be the policy making body of the League.

Rule 12. Nominations for positions on the Executive or the General Management Committee and Motions proposing Rule or Policy changes must be received in writing by the Secretary at least 14 days prior to the holding of the A.G.M. The Executive Committee, acting as a body shall nominate a P.O. Box number for the addresses or a neutral address. In either case, two Executive Members nominated by the Executive Committee, acting as a body, along with one member of the General Management Committee and one outside independent witness shall be present at the opening of the nominations. Procedural matters relating to Fixtures, Discipline, Finances, Registration etc. shall be decided solely by the Executive Committee and shall have like effect as the Rules and Policy of the League which are binding on the League, its clubs and club members.

Rule 13. In order to become operative and binding, any Rules or Policy changes passed at the A.G.M. and submitted through the Leinster Football Association to the League Sanction and Rules Committee of the Football Association of Ireland, Abbotstown, Dublin 15 immediately after the A.G.M. and before June 30th for sanction.

Rule 14. The Executive Committee shall have the power to decide on all

matters not provided for in the Rules of the League and Cup competitions, but must submit the decision to the next Annual General Meeting of the League for insertion of the Rules.

FINANCES

RULE 15. The finances, equipment, assets and investments of the League shall be controlled by the League Executive Committee acting as a body. No officer without prior agreement with the League Executive Committee and consent of the League Management present with full quorum.

RULE 16. All monies received must be lodged to the accounts of the League, which shall be controlled by the League Executive Committee. Any drawings from the accounts must be authorised by at least two members of the Executive Committee.

RULE 17. The Executive Committee and General Management Committee shall be allowed such sums as may be considered reasonable and necessary to meet approved expenses incurred while fulfilling their League functions. All expenses claims must be submitted in writing to the Treasurer, who is responsible for the safe and true keeping of details of Petty Cash, Receipts and Expenditure accounts.

RULE 18. The Executive Committee shall have sole responsibility for sponsorship, technology, trophy and land purchasing arrangements entered into on behalf of the League.

RULE 19. The Executive Committee may engage in services of any company or profession on a Consultancy/advisory basis for the purposes of improving, developing, securing or protecting the bona fides and assets of the League.

RULE 20. Clubs must pay all Fees, Levies and any other financial commitments due, in the legal tender pertaining at the time, by Club cheque, to the League Treasurer who shall issue an official receipt for all monies received. The Executive shall not accept responsibility for monies paid to any person other than the League Treasurer.

DISCIPLINARY

RULE 21. The Executive Committee either directly or through one of its sub-committees, shall have the power to deal, within the rules of the League and the F.A.I., with any member of League Management or Club for any infringement of the Rules of the League, or Rules of any competitions under the jurisdiction of the League, or any non compliance with any

of its decisions, or any matter it deems detrimental to the objectives and good conduct of the affairs of the League.

RULE 21A. The Disciplinary or General Management Committees of the League shall have the power to impose Censures, Fines and Suspensions on all members of clubs affiliated to the League. The decisions of either Committee are subject at all times to the right to appeal.

RULE 22. With the exception of the meetings of the League Management the Executive and Disciplinary Committee shall (unless extraordinary circumstances dictate otherwise) meet as indicated in the League Directory at an appointed place and time to consider appropriate matters.

The Disciplinary Committee may impose fines in accordance with Schedule A of the Rules or as directed by the Leinster Football Association or Football Association of Ireland.

RULE 22(A) CONDUCT/SUSPENSIONS As per F.A.I. Rule.

1. a) In the event of any player or players being sent off the field by the referee or Club officials being reported for misconduct of any kind, (other than assault on a referee) the referee shall transmit such name or names to the League but such player or players shall be automatically suspended from the next subsequent match . Further suspension/s and or fines can be imposed by the Disciplinary committee as per FAI Rules 78 - 100, whichever is relevant.

b) All suspensions relating to physical assaults on referees will be notified immediately to the General Secretary of the F.A.I.

c) All suspension of 12 months duration or longer will be notified immediately

to the C.E.O of the F.A.I... No suspension can be amended or cancelled without the express approval of the F.A.I.

d) A player whom the referee has reported as guilty of assault on him before, during or immediately after a match will automatically stand suspended

until the League has decided upon the case. In this connection, spitting at the referees is regarded as an assault also.

e) The minimum suspension on a player found guilty by a disciplinary body of assaulting a referee will be 12 months.

2. a) A player who is cautioned (receives a yellow card) in any game must be reported to the League concerned, and a record must be kept by that League.

b) A player who accumulates four cautions will be suspended for 1 game

and fined.

- c) Following the suspension, if the same player accumulates a further four cautions, he will be suspended for one game and fined.
- d) Any player who receives in excess of 12 cautions in any one season will receive a two (2) match suspension for the 12th caution and thereafter 3 matches for every 4 cautions.
- e) Any suspension or part thereof, which remains outstanding at the end of the season, must be served at the commencement of the following season.
- f) At the end of each season, players with up to 3 outstanding cautions will not have these cautions carried forward to the next season.

3. a) A player who is sent off (receives a red card) will be suspended for a minimum of one game. The penalty to come into effect in the next competitive game as per F.A.I. Rule.

F.A.I. Rule 113: Automatic Suspension:

- a) 1. An expulsion is the order given by the referee to someone to leave the field of play and its surroundings, including the substitutes' bench, during a match. The person who has been sent off may be allowed into the stands unless he is serving a stadium ban.
- 2. Expulsion takes the form of a red card for players including substitutes. The red card is regarded as direct if it sanctions offences as defined by Law 12 of the Laws of the Game; it is regarded as indirect if it is the result of an accumulation of two yellow cards.
- 3. In all FAI National League competitions, FAI National Cup Competitions and Divisional Associations Competitions, an expulsion automatically incurs a one match suspension from the subsequent match of the same competition. If it is not possible to impose the automatic one match suspension on a player in the current season, the automatic one match suspension shall be served in the next domestic competitive match.
- 4. In all other matches played under the auspices of the FAI an expulsion automatically incurs a one match suspension from the next domestic competitive match. A player sent from the field of play shall serve an automatic suspension at the same level of football i.e. a player sent from the field of play in a 1st team fixture may not serve an automatic suspension in a reserve team fixture or U20 fixture and vice-versa.
- 5. In all friendly matches sanctions imposed shall be applied as directed by the body making the decision.

6. An Official dismissed from the Technical area by the Referee must take no further part in the match by managing, directing, assisting or communicating

with his team in any way.

7. The automatic suspension applies notwithstanding the pending decision of the Disciplinary Committee explanation: Any player red carded in a fixture will be automatically suspended for the next competitive game. If it happens on a Friday evening, the Sunday fixture of the same week applies. The Disciplinary Committee at its meeting on the following Monday week can extend the suspension further depending on the Referees Report etc as per FAI Rules 78 - 100, which ever Rule is applicable. Players must serve their suspension with the team they were sent off in and remain suspended from all football, including youths, until that team completes the required number of games. Players sent off in a Junior fixture on a Friday are not allowed to play Youths the next day and players sent off in a Youths fixture on a Saturday are not allowed to play a Junior fixture on the next day, Sunday.

It is the clubs responsibility to suspend the player for the next competitive game as notification in most cases will not arrive until later, ignorance of the facts will be no defence.

b) Any suspension or part thereof which remains outstanding at the end of the season must be served at the commencement of the following season.

c) All of the foregoing suspensions are minimum penalties. The League may impose suspensions above this minimum depending on the nature of the offences committed.

d) All of the foregoing punishments may be appealed.

e) Match/s suspension/s - Only when a match is played is it sufficient to cover as a match suspension, with the exception, when a team fails to appear for the fixture, a match card is completed by the attending side, it is also sufficient to cover as a match suspension for the benefit of players of the attending club.

Rule 22(b). As per F.A.I. and F.I.F.A. Rules:

“A member/player suspended by the Association/League shall not, during the period of suspension, play or take part in any activity, match or fixture under the auspices of the Association/League.” Therefore a player suspended in the League cannot play any football until such time the team he was playing with at the time of his suspension, has played the required number of games. No substitution of youth/junior or any combination of junior or youth games is allowed.

RULE 23. In the event of the League being disbanded for whatever reason,

the assets of the League shall be liquidated and set off against any financial commitments entered into by the Executive Committee on behalf of the League. Any remaining surplus shall be apportioned between the Carlow and District Juvenile League and any existing League Clubs, which remain active for a period of one year after the dissolution of the League.

RULE 24. The Executive Committee, acting as a body shall have the power to suspend fixtures, re-fix matches, expel or censure otherwise any club guilty of infringing any of the Rules of the League subject always to the existing right of appeal.

RULE 25. The Executive Committee, acting as a body shall have the power to exclude any Club in the League, from all or some of the current or future season's competitions, whose conduct has been found prejudicial to sportsmanship, the securing of fair competition, or the development of Association Football within the League.

RULE 26. The Executive Committee or Disciplinary Committee of the League, acting as a body, may:

(a) Award points or order replays provided it does not conflict or override Rule 38.

(b) Make, amend, or delete rules governing Association Football with the Administrative jurisdiction of the League.

(c) Fine, suspend or otherwise punish individuals, teams or clubs under its jurisdiction.

(d) Accept or reject teams for competition.

(e) Appoint and select managers and other personnel to League and/or County representative teams.

(f) Make any decision it considers reasonable and necessary in the interests of Association Football within the administrative jurisdiction of the League.

RULE 27. Applications for admittance to the League must be made to the League Secretary not later than 1st May each year (unless stated otherwise).

Admittance to the League shall be decided upon by the Executive Committee acting as a body.

RULE 28. (a) The League Secretary in conjunction with the Chairman, and in prior consultation with the other Executive Officers, acting on a majority decision, shall arrange for the holding of meetings of the League Executive, General Management Committee and the League Management, at appropriate intervals during the season.

(b) On every Monday throughout the season, the Executive Committee and Disciplinary Committee shall meet at an appointed time and place as

per League Directory or publication through news media. The Executive Committee, acting as a body, may from time to time alter the time, dates and venues of meetings.

(c) Agenda for such meetings will be agreed by the Chairman and Secretary, after prior consultation with other Executive Members.

RULE 29. Clubs failing to attend a League Management meeting will (in the absence of a satisfactory written explanation to any Executive Member) be subject to disciplinary action. Clubs will be allowed two (2) routine excuses only for non attendance. One (1) from the start of the season up to 31st. December and the second from 1st January until the last League Management meeting of the season. Failure to attend two consecutive League Management meetings will result in the club having its attendance and nomination/voting rights suspended.

RULE 30. The League will not be liable for expenses incurred in the event of an official fixture not being played.

RULE 31. The League will not accept any responsibility for any injuries to players, club members or officials or supporters.

SECTION B

CLUBS

RULE 32. Clubs shall be responsible at all times for the behaviour of their officials, members and supporters.

RULE 33. (a) Each club shall prior to the 1st May of each year, register with the League Secretary the location of the ground, club colours together with full particulars of each officer of the club. The club representative must inform the League of any changes in club colours or location of grounds at the next meeting of the League Management.

(b) Each Club will be allowed a total of two routine match cancellations (“Free Sundays/Days”) during the season - one cancellation to be available up to the 31st December and the remaining cancellation available to the end of the season. All applications for match cancellations must be made on the official League Directory form, to League Secretary, at least 10 clear days prior to the scheduled date for the match. Applications for emergency cancellations must be made to the Director of Discipline. Each application for a match cancellation will be subject to Executive Committee acting as a body approval.

RULE 34. League clubs must place their grounds and facilities at the disposal of the League for representative or other games. Where the semi-final or final of any competition is assigned to a neutral venue the Club having responsibility for the venue will be responsible for pitch markings,

roping off of pitch, car parking arrangements, collection of match entrance fee.

Where match entrance fee is not charged the home club is entitled to arrange collection from attendance and retain proceeds for Club development and to defray expenses. In order to protect its officers and its assets, each Club will affect Public Liability insurances (on a year round year basis) in respect of the lands they occupy as leaseholders or owners. The policy must be extended to indemnify the Carlow and District Football League in like manner. A club failing to co-operate satisfactorily with the League under this rule will be liable for any expenses incurred by the League and may be subject to disciplinary action.

RULE 35. On the completion of the programme of League Fixtures the team attaining the greatest number of points (in each division) shall be declared the League or Divisional Champions and who will be entitled to receive the championship trophies. Trophies will also be presented to the Runners Up in each competition.

RULE 36. Any club receiving a League trophy will have responsibility for the care of the trophy until its return to the League Treasurer. In the event of the trophy being lost, stolen or damaged during its period of care the club will immediately report the matter (in writing) to the Executive Committee who will decide on the level of compensation payable and/or the acceptability of an alternative trophy and any disciplinary or legal action warranted.

RULE 37. (1) Premier Division - Any team failing to fulfil a league or cup fixture, when directed by the League by notice of a fixture programme in the local newspaper media, shall be fined 150, forfeit the points/ cup tie, deducted a further six points from the league table and be removed from the current season's Divisional Cup and where necessary the following season's

Divisional cup if the team has already been knocked out or completed the current seasons competition.

(2) Division One & Division 2 - Any team failing to fulfil a league or cup fixture, when directed by the League by notice of a fixture programme in the local newspaper media, shall be fined 150, forfeit the points/cup tie, deducted a further three points from the league table and be removed from the current season's Divisional Cup and where necessary the following season's

Divisional cup if the team has already been knocked out or completed the current seasons competition.

(3) Division 3 Any team failing to fulfil a league or cup fixture, when

directed by the League by notice of a fixture programme in the local newspaper media, shall be fined €150, forfeit the points/cup tie, be removed from the current season's Divisional Cup and where necessary the following season's Divisional cup if the team has already been knocked out or completed the current seasons competition.

(4) Seniors, Youths (U.17 & U.18) and Women's - Any team failing to fulfil a league or cup fixture, when directed by the League by notice of a fixture programme in the local newspaper media, shall be fined 70, forfeit the points/cup tie, be removed from the current season's Divisional Cup and where necessary the following season's Divisional cup if the team has already been knocked out or completed the current seasons competition.

Where a club attends alone for fixture the club shall pay the attending referees full expenses and submit a written claim (within 48 hours of game). The offending club will be responsible for all reasonable expenses incurred.

(5) When a team in any Division fails to fulfil two (2) league fixtures, the team is removed from the League and fined 200. The points/results for that team shall be expunged in full no matter at what stage in the season it happens.

RULE 38. Clubs failing to fulfil an away fixture shall be disciplined as per Rule 37 and home game shall be played away.

RULE 38 (b) Where a match has been abandoned by the Match Official for any reason other than the pitch has become unplayable or because of a serious injury to a player requiring an ambulance, following examination by the Disciplinary Committee of the Referees Report and evidence from both teams/players/officials, the team from which the player or manager or official or spectator that is deemed to have caused the match to be abandoned will forfeit the game or cup tie to the opposing team and no replays will be allowed.

RULE 39. Clubs are responsible to ensure that the players, selected from their club to represent the League in Representative games, must attend all trials and games for which they are selected. Suspended Clubs or players shall not be allowed to run or participate in any tournament or competition in or out of season.

RULE 40. All Registered Clubs must have prior League approval to run tournaments and the League shall draw up appropriate regulations before granting permission.

RULE 41. The Committee shall have power to expel any Club guilty of an attempt to induce a bona-fide registered player of another League Club to join them, or for misconduct or obstruction.

RULE 42. Clubs placing players under suspension shall notify the

League giving name(s) of individual(s) and particulars of suspension. There is no carry-over of 3 Yellow Cards/Disciplinary Points from one season to another, but suspensions for games shall carry over.

RULE 43. All clubs admitted to the League after 1st May 1993 shall, subject to the discretion of the Executive Committee, pay a special levy of €300.

RULE 44. Notwithstanding the current policy of the Executive Committee to accept, on a phased basis (to the 31st October of each year) the payment of League affiliation fees the Management Committee of each club is required to ensure that a debit balance does not continuously or regularly occur in the Club's account with the League.

RULE 45. Where a club is disbanded leaving payment due to the League, the primary responsibility for clearing the club debt will be with the Club officers who may use the assets of the Club (Cash and Bank Balances, nets, goals, jerseys and equipment) to pay off the debt. Otherwise registered players and officials of the club shall be held personally responsible for the said monies. The amount due shall be divided equally amongst the registered players and officials of the said club. Each registered player or official shall then be responsible for the payment of his portion of the monies before he can register with another club. This payment shall be in addition to any transfer or registration fee payable.

Rule 46. The Executive Committee may require details of the Balance Sheet, financial statements and bank statements of each club at the end of each season. Failure to submit such financial details as requested may result in immediate suspension of the Club from the League

SECTION C

REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS

RULE 47. (a) Players must be registered on official F.A./League Forms supplied by the Committee or downloaded from web. Forms must be signed and dated by each player. IN ORDER FOR A REGISTRATION FORM TO BE VALID ALL DETAILS OUTLINED ON THE FORM MUST BE COMPLETED (TOGETHER WITH DATE OF BIRTH AND PHOTO + SIGNED BY PARENT OR GUARDIAN IF PLAYER IS UNDER 18 YEARS) AND ACCOMPANIED BY THE APPROPRIATE REGISTRATION FEE FOR EACH PLAYER. Registration Forms must be sent to the Hon. Secretary of the League. An otherwise eligible player can take part in any fixture where the registration has been submitted to the Secretary two

(2) clear days prior to the game being played, Wednesday night prior to a

Saturday/Sunday fixture, Tuesday night for Friday fixture. A player is deemed registered from the date and time of postmark on the registration form. The Secretary of the League, after the registration for has been received; will on request, give to the representative of the club concerned, and a receipt for same. A player wilfully signing for more than one club without having received a transfer from his original club, shall be subject to disciplinary action. (Original Club shall mean the club first signed for in the current season). The registration of a player, who, at the time of posting of the Registration Form was ineligible to play for the club, shall be invalid for the purpose of Registration. No player shall be registered after the 31 march in each season.

(b) In the event of a cessation of the postal service, the League Executive, acting as a body, may make such arrangements as it considers necessary for the registration of players.

(c) It is the responsibility of each club Hon. Secretary to ensure that his/her player's registration forms, have in fact been received by the Secretary of the League. The League Executive cannot accept responsibility for registration, transfer or regarding forms that may have been mislaid or lost in the post.

(d) The Registration Fee, in respect of player signed must be paid to or received by the Secretary at the time of submission.

(e) As per F.A.I. RULE 33. REGISTRATION/TRANSFER PERIODS FOR AMATEUR GAME

1) The registration period for the Amateur game, other than the SFAI, shall be 1st June to the 31st of March inclusive for the winter season and 1st of December to the 30th of September inclusive for the Summer Season

2) The two transfer periods for the Amateur game shall be 1st June to 30th September inclusive and the 1st December to the 31st of January inclusive with the exception of(c)below. However, an Amateur Player may be signed on a Professional Contract for the Professional Game during the Professional Registration Periods

3) The transfer period for all football under the jurisdiction of the SFAI up to and including the Under 16 grade shall be 1st August to 15th October inclusive in the current season. The registration period shall be as defined by the SFAI from time to time.

4) If a player's registration/contract expires naturally at the end of his current season (i.e. 31st May Winter Season/ 30th November Summer Season) a Transfer Form is not required for the player to register with another club in another League. Players registered with clubs whose fixtures extend beyond the above dates are committed to these clubs until

those fixtures are completed.

(f) Dual registration is permitted subject to all of the following conditions:

1. Affiliated Leagues may allow dual registrations, but only for Youth teams (U/17 and U/18) in their Domestic competitions only and with the agreement of a maximum of three registering Junior/Intermediate Clubs, the player, and the League.

2. Clubs cannot dual register players from any club registered in another League or registered under S.F.A.I. Rules

3. Youth teams (U/17 and U/18) using Dual Registrations are prohibited from entering any Divisional Association or National Association competitions.

However the players are eligible for the Youths Inter - League and Oscar Traynor competitions.

4. Special dual registration rules must be implemented by the Affiliated League for a player to register with two or three Junior/Intermediate clubs from that Affiliated League

5. A dual registered player must have the approval of both his “primary” Club/s Secretary and “secondary” Club Secretary and the League. A dual registered player’s “primary” team is his Junior/Intermediate registered Club/team and his “secondary” team is his Youth Club/team, which must be specified on Registration Form

6. All dual registered players on a Club team must be from the community of that Junior/Intermediate Club team, i.e. parish, neighbourhood, towns land or adjacent club/s.

7. In cases where player/s are registered with the Club and also with another Affiliated Club, the applicable insurance shall be determined by which event the Club team or player is participating in or training for.

8. Any Player can be called upon to prove his legal age to the League. A birth certificate, Adoption Certificate, or Certificate of Naturalisation shall be sufficient for proof of age.

9. The expiration date of all Dual Registrations shall expire at the end of the Current Season in which the player is registered. The “Current season” is defined as per F.A.I. Rule

10. The player’s parents or guardian must sign both Registration Forms

11. The player/s and parents/guardians must be aware of all financial responsibilities they will incur with both teams, including but not limited to insurance, membership fees, affiliation fees, registration fees where applicable,

cost of gear, travel or coaching expenses for both clubs

12. Clubs/players participating in a League’s Youths Domestic competitions

under Dual Registration, only have the right of appeal as far as their Divisional Association. Dual registered players while playing with their “primary” team have full right of appeal as per F.A.I. Rules.

13. Players suspended (Red Carded) with their “primary” team, serve their suspension with the “primary team” and are available to play for the “secondary” team. Likewise players suspended (Red Carded) with their “secondary” team, serve their suspension with the “secondary” team and are available to play for the “primary” team.

14. Yellow cards/disciplinary points are calculated separately per team and not accumulated between both teams, therefore any suspension arising will be duly served with the appropriate team.

15. The League shall be the final arbitrator what Junior/Intermediate clubs may amalgamate to for a youths team.

16. The amalgamated youth’s team must not be named solely after one of the Junior/Intermediate clubs, but can adopt a combination of the Junior/Intermediate names in the youths team name or a completely neutral name if they so desire.

RULE 48. Transfers, with appropriate fee/fees, must be forwarded by post to the League Secretary, transfers must be brought to the notice of the League as soon as possible after receipt of transfer. All transfers must be on Official Forms supplied by the Executive Committee; either in book form or by downloads from League official website and must be signed by the Hon. Secretary. Players being transferred from one club to another in the same competition, will require the prior sanction of the League, before the player becomes eligible to compete in said competition, but the League can waive this latter condition, if at its opening meeting, a resolution to this effect is carried out by two-thirds of the competing clubs represented there at.

Rule 49. Players under suspension by the League shall not be allowed to transfer while under suspension.

FAI Rule 114. MATCH SUSPENSION

1. A suspension from a match is a ban on taking part in a future match or competition and on attending it in the area immediately surrounding the field of play.

2. The suspension is imposed in terms of matches, days or months.

3. Suspensions of 12 months duration or longer must be notified immediately to the Disciplinary Control Unit of the FAI and to all other relevant bodies by any affiliate handing down such a suspension. Such suspension shall be accompanied by a copy of the Referees Report. No such

suspension can be amended or cancelled without the express approval of the FAI and not before 12 months of the suspension has elapsed.

4. If the suspension is to be served in terms of matches, only those matches actually played count towards execution of the suspension. If a match is abandoned or forfeited, suspension is only considered to have been served if the team to which the suspended player belongs is not responsible for the facts that led to the abandonment or forfeiture of the match.

5. If a suspension is combined with a fine, the suspension may be prolonged until the fine has been paid in full.

6. A player must be eligible to have played in a match in order to have the suspension served.

7. Any suspension or part thereof which remains outstanding at the end of the season must be served at the commencement of the following season.

8. Suspensions can only be served in matches and on the terms as determined by the decision of the Disciplinary Bodies taking into account the competition rules applicable. A suspension may be deemed not served by a Disciplinary Body if a match has been rearranged for the primary purpose of enabling a player to complete a suspension.

9. All of the foregoing suspensions are the minimum penalties. The Disciplinary Bodies or Leagues may impose suspensions above this minimum depending on the nature of the offences committed.

10. All suspensions with the exception of the Automatic one match suspension may be appealed through the various Divisional Associations and in accordance with the Rules of the FAI, FIFA and UEFA.

11. Players or other technical staff, including managers under suspension are not permitted to be included in the list of officials on the Technical Bench. Breaches of this regulation will be reported to the Disciplinary Committee for further possible sanction.

12. Officials suspended by the Disciplinary Committee shall have the terms of the suspension clearly outlined to them in the notice of suspension.

RULE 50. Players who fail to pay individual fines or levies before recommencing playing shall be illegal for all competitions. The League Exec. Committee shall have the power to deal with any Club guilty of malpractice in the registration, transferring or the inducement of a player of another Club, or the inducement of player of another Club during the playing season.

SECTION D GRADING

RULE 51. The Executive Committee, acting as a body shall have power

to grade all clubs and place them in suitable competitions. If a club has been suspended by the F.A.I., L.F.A. or the Carlow and District Football League, the club shall be deemed to have lost the points or tie in all League or Cup Fixtures, which have been arranged for the period of their suspension.

RULE 52. Each player re-graded by the committee is re-graded on the definite understanding that he cannot assist any other club for the season without the consent of the Executive committee, and a transfer from his club.

RULE 53. In all applications for re-grading, the Club Hon. Secretary must give a true record of each player, together with the exact dates, and the name of the club or clubs the player, together with the exact dates, and the name of the club or clubs the player assisted in a higher grade, and the medals won by him. If any application be granted on insufficient information, same will be cancelled, and the Disciplinary Committee may take any action they may consider desirable with the offending club or players. All applications for re-grading must be made on the official forms supplied by the League and must be sent by post to the Hon. Registrar of the League on or before the 1st January each year.

RULE 54. Any player who has been re-graded by the Executive Committee will not be allowed to play in the current season in another League of the same status other than that to which he has been re-graded, without the said permission of the Executive Committee.

RULE 54 (a) Re-Instatements: A Bone-fide junior player shall be allowed play in matches, provided he has not played more than five (5) Senior games in the current season unless he has been reinstated by the League Executive Committee on official forms obtainable from the registrar of the League. Senior matches are those played in the F.A.I. Notional League, it's Reserve Division and subsidiary Competitions, F.A.I. Senior Cup, Intermediate Cup and Intermediate Divisions of Leagues, Leinster, Munster, Connaught, Ulster Senior Cups (except as winners of Junior Leagues invited to play in these Cups) and Cups or Leagues of similar status in other countries. A player may play another five (5) games before becoming ineligible. No more than three (3) applications for re-instatement can be submitted at any one Executive Meeting. No application for reinstatement can be made after transfer season ends on 31st January. When a player has been re-instated he shall not be free to play for his club until the Monday after his re-instatement has been passed.

RULE 55. A player who has won a winners medal in a higher division shall be eligible to play in a lower division. A player may be re-graded for the purpose of Club cup competitions if his regrading is in accordance with

the League Rules, and he is in all other respects eligible to take part in the competition.

RULE 56. A player shall not be prohibited by this rule from assisting another team of his own club in a higher division or Cup Competition; he must be regraded by the Executive Committee before playing again in a lower division or Cup Competition. A player may be re-graded only once on any one season. Any player infringing this rule shall be liable to be debarred from taking part in all competitions administered/controlled by the League.

RULE 57. The maximum number of players to be re-graded from any one team in any one season shall not exceed four players. This rule is not applicable to a team of players who may have been relegated from a higher division to a lower standard for a new season commencing. Such players receive an automatic re-grading provided that those players remain with that team. In the event of these players signing for another club then the normal re-grading procedure must be adopted.

RULE 58. The League Secretary shall notify the League Management of all re-grading.

RULE 59. That a new club shall not be permitted to Register players from a higher Division before 1st November.

RULE 60. New teams shall, following assessment by the Executive Committee acting as a body, be placed in a Division consistent with the team panel's previous honours and playing strength at time of registration or acceptance into the League.

SECTION E

TEAMS

Rule 61. (a) A team shall consist of not more than eleven players and not less than seven players, one of which must be a goalkeeper.

(b) a team shall consist of: (Juniors) Eleven players and up to five named substitutes. Substitutes to be made in accordance with F.I.F.A. Rules.

(Youths and U.17) Eleven players and up to five named substitutes.

Three substitutes may be used in all League and Cup fixtures.

RULE 62. Teams fielding more than eleven players shall be liable to be fined.

RULE 63. Teams arriving late for games shall be fined.

RULE 64. Teams arriving more than 15 minutes late shall be liable to loose points

RULE 65. Teams playing ineligible players (un-registered, or in the case of Youths League over-age players and O/35's under aged players) shall forfeit the game to their opponents and shall be fined in accordance with

Schedule “A” for each such player and other penalties at the discretion of the Disciplinary Committee. If both clubs play ineligible players, the game will be deemed to have been lost by both clubs and both clubs shall be liable as above.

RULE 66. Each team should, at all times, be under the control of a responsible person acceptable to the Committee.

RULE 67. A team failing to complete a Seasons programme of games shall not be re-admitted to the League for a period of 2 seasons at the discretion of the Executive Committee acting as a body only.

RULE 67 (a) All teams are seen to be treated equally, irrespective of their location.

(b) That all teams where possible teams should play each of the teams in their respective divisions in one half of the season before they play each other again, but no division should be delayed due to an opposing team not been available and therefore second rounds games should commence to comply with Rule 80

(c) A team’s automatic or by a play-off Promotion or Relegation to or from the Premier Division as and from Season 2009/2010 and thereafter, will be determined by the facilities the club has in place at the end of their playing season. For a team to gain promotion to participate in the Premier Division, Promotion/Relegation is determined by their standing/s on the officially published League Table and also following a home and away play-off between second from bottom of the Premier Division and second from top in Division 1 provided both teams meet the guidelines. The Executive Committee acting as a body has final determination on the matter. Guidelines and or Policies will be published at the commencement of each season

SECTION F GAMES/FIXTURES

RULE 68. The home Club shall provide a proper playing surface for matches. The pitch should be marked out in wet lime markings or other pitch marking paint including circle, arches, penalty area etc. and shall have corner flags 5ft above ground surface level, made from pliable plastic conduit only. Goalposts of standard dimensions and safety must be provided and shall have nets of good quality and condition and be properly fitted.

RULE 69. The Home Club shall be responsible for the safety of all players and officials and shall ensure proper and safe access to grounds. In the spirit of good sportsmanship the Away team official’s shall assist the Home Club in achieving same.

RULE 70. Each home team shall provide two playable footballs and each away team shall provide one playable football, in fixtures played on neutral grounds, both teams must provide two playable footballs. Pitches must be presented to the Referee 15 minutes before kick-off. Pitch must be fully marked with all arches.

RULE 71. Each club shall have fully equipped First Aid Kit at all official matches.

RULE 72. Each junior team must have sixteen numbered jerseys and each youth team eighteen numbered jerseys and shall be properly attired before entering the field of play. Teams failing to comply with this rule shall be fined in accordance with Schedule 'A'.

RULE 73. All players except goalkeepers must wear the registered colours of their club, goalkeepers must not wear the same colour as their opponents, but in the event of two opposing teams of players having similar colours, the Home team must change into other colours (these need not be registered colours) otherwise the fixture may not take place and the Home team shall lose the points.

RULE 74. In the case of abandoned or unfinished League game or failure to attend, the Disciplinary Committee shall investigate into the cause of same, and may order a replay or award the points.

RULE 75. The time for League matches to start shall unless an earlier start is agreed upon, by opposing Clubs, as fixed by the Hon. Fixtures Secretary. Games shall not start earlier (except by agreement between the opposing Clubs) than 11am.

RULE 76. (a) Three points shall be allowed for a win, and one point for a draw. In the event of any Club being equal on points, the League shall order a deciding match or two to be played. In the case of one match it shall be played on neutral grounds and FIFA extra time & penalty Rule will apply if necessary

(b) When a team resigns from the League, the points/results for that team shall be expunged in full no matter at what stage in the season it happens.

RULE 77. The payments to referees shall be fixed by the Football Association of Ireland Referees' Committee. Each Club shall bear an equal part of the match official's fees which must be paid before match kick-off.

RULE 78. The appointed Referee shall be in complete control of the game. Any action by any person whatsoever, against his authority will be severely punished by the Disciplinary Committee.

RULE 79. In the event of the appointed Referee not attending, the two clubs agreeing to one on the ground, or if a substitute is appointed by any

member of the Executive Committee, such a referee will be considered an Official for the time being. But both teams must agree, in writing, and duly witnessed, before commencement of the game. Referees' Cards must be filled in correctly and signed by the secretary or some other responsible official of the contesting Clubs at the beginning of the game with the full Christian and Surnames of the players and linesmen participating in each match, and if it is proved to the satisfaction of the Disciplinary Committee that a card has been incorrectly completed for the purpose of deceiving, the Committee may deduct the points won from the Club concerned or award the points to their opponents. Each team will be allowed to substitute up to three players in each game. The names of substitutes must be indicated on the match card and declared to the Referee before coming onto the field of play.

RULE 80 (a) The Executive Committee acting as a body shall, having regard to the need for the orderly completion of the Fixtures Programme have the discretion to direct the manner in which certain League or Cup fixtures/competitions or stages thereof may be brought to a conclusion.

(b) The structure of Divisions and related fixtures and Cups programme shall be decided by the Executive Committee acting as a body and shall be computerised using existing software. All fixtures adjustments and reallocation of dates will be made by computer (on a random basis) having regard to National, Regional and local fixtures priorities. Having regarded to the special needs of youths every reasonable effort will be made to conclude the youth's programme of fixtures not later than April 30th.

(c) Any changes to the Fixtures Programme must be agreed to by the Executive Committee acting as a body. The weekly fixtures programme will be made available not later than the preceding Saturday for publication. The Fixtures Secretary shall report to the Executive Committee on progress towards the orderly completion of the fixtures programme once a week or each fortnight whichever is the most practicable.

RULE 81. Referees are forbidden to travel in any vehicle, which has been hired or charged for the purpose of conveying a team to their match, and at which said Referee is to officiate.

SECTION G

PROTESTS AND APPEALS

RULE 82. (a) A protest should be sent by registered post to the Hon. League Secretary of the Carlow & District Football League and the Honorary Secretary of the body against whom the protest is made within four (4) days, excluding Saturday, Sunday, Bank or Public Holidays, after

the date on which the notification is given or sent to the Club/person and accompanied by a protest fee of 50 in the form of a crossed Cheque, Bank Draft, Postal or Money Order, which should be crossed and made payable to the Carlow & District Football League. Should cash be submitted it would render the protest invalid.

The Club/person must state in writing the substance of the protest and the pertinent evidence.

At the hearing of a protest, which must commence within fourteen days of receipt of delivery, excluding Saturday, Sunday, Bank or Public Holidays, the Post Office receipt for the registered letters with address details must be produced.

Failure to comply with the correct procedure as outlined above will result in disciplinary action taken by the Disciplinary/ Protest Committee.

No League Management or Executive member shall take part in any Protest/ Disciplinary hearing affecting a Club or player where that member may have a connection to the Club/player by way of being a member of that Club or through a relationship with that player.

The Disciplinary/ Protest Committee shall have power to grant personal hearings and to impose additional sanctions, i.e. deduct points or award a match or impose a fine if they are satisfied the protest, in their opinion, is frivolous or lodged to seek to gain the use of a player in an important fixture. The Hon. Secretary of the Carlow & District Football League shall notify all parties involved in a protest of the outcome by registered post within four days of the hearing, excluding Saturday, Sunday, Bank or Public Holidays.

Any of the parties can appeal the Carlow & District Football League decision to the LFA/ Football Association of Ireland in accordance with their rules.

Appeals cannot be submitted to the Carlow & District Football League against a League decision but can be submitted to the LFA in accordance with the Leinster Football Association new Rule 19, in accordance to Rule 85.

(b) Suspensions arising solely from the accumulation of cautions in a season are subject to the right of appeal, which shall be submitted only to the Leinster Football Association, National Sports Campus, Abbots, Dublin 15 in accordance with Rule 85. Copy of any such appeal to be simultaneously sent to the League Secretary.

RULE 83. Appeals relating to the suspension of a Club Member/Player or the imposition of a fine must be in accordance with Rule 82 (a) or Rule 85

RULE 84. Each appeal/protest must be accompanied by a fee, which shall, in all cases be forfeited where the protest is considered and not sustained.

The Committee may not refund any dismissed appeal/protest fee. All appeal/protest fees must be sent in accordance with Rule 82 (a) or Rule 85 Rule 85. Club Officials or Players dissatisfied with the decision of the League shall have the right to appeal to the Leinster Football Association, or the Football Association of Ireland in accordance according to their Rules which may be amended from time to time:

LFA RULE 22

1 Appeals must be sent by registered post within four days of the date on which the written notification of the decision being appealed against was received by the appellant. Appeals must be addressed to the Administrator of the Association. In the event of a postal dispute or similar emergency, the appellant shall contact the Administrator to ascertain what temporary alternative

arrangements have been put in place by the Association. The initial appeal documents must include a copy of the decision being appealed against and the appellant must indicate the date upon which such decision was received by the appellant. An exact copy of all documents submitted to the Divisional Association in connection with the appeal must be simultaneously sent by registered post to the body whose decision is the subject of the appeal..

2 It shall be accompanied by the appropriate appeal fee which may be determined by the Association at its last AGM, in the form of a Bank Draft, Postal or Money Order only which should be crossed and made payable to the Divisional Association. Should Cheque or Cash be submitted the appeal will be rendered invalid. This fee shall be refunded only if the appeal is fully successful.

3 The appellant must state in writing the substance of the appeal and supply the pertinent evidence.

4 The body against whose decision the appeal is made must send to the Divisional Association at least two (2) days before the hearing, a true copy of the minutes of the meeting in which the decision being appealed against was made and any proof of notification or delivery of such decision to the appellant. Such body shall also send reasons for making that decision, plus any other requested documentation or other documentation relevant to the appeal,. Failure to comply with the correct procedure as outlined above may result in disciplinary action being taken.

5 All appeal hearings shall commence within fifteen (15) days of receipt of the appeal, by the Divisional Association. The Divisional Association shall inform all parties to the appeal of the venue, date and time of the Appeal Committee hearing.

6 All parties in an appeal shall be notified by the Administrator of the Leinster Football Association within four days by fax and/or electronic mail and/or registered post, of the decision of the Appeals Committee. In urgent matters, the Chairperson may issue or direct the Administrator to issue an oral decision in advance of written notification.

7 In cases of urgency, the Divisional Association may amend the time limits indicated above, with the exception of the time limit to file an appeal, in order to facilitate an expedited appeals process.

8. Any party involved in the appeal, which fails to attend an Appeal hearing if requested to do so by the Appeal Committee may be subject to disciplinary action.

9 Any omissions or errors in this Rule will always be superseded by the Rules of F.A.I.

LFA RULE 23. HEARINGS

1 The appeals committee shall consist of a minimum three members of Council and a maximum of five, selected by the Administrator, one of whom shall act as Chairman.

2 No member of Council shall take part in any appeal affecting his Club or League directly or indirectly.

3 The committee hearings are deemed to be valid if a minimum of three selected members are in attendance.

4 The Appeals Committees shall decide by simple majority.

LFA RULE 24. REMIT OF THE APPEAL COMMITTEE

1 The Appeal Committee shall re-hear the case in question.

2 The Appeal Committee shall consider all evidence that it deems relevant to the case.

3. The Appeal Committee shall hear all witnesses' evidence that it considers relevant to the case.

4. The Appeal Committee shall have the power to uphold or reject the appeal and/or to replace or vary the decision of the previous decision making body, deduct points or award a match; if they are satisfied the appeal was frivolous or lodged to seek to gain the use of a player in a fixture, provided the decision of the Appeal Committee is not in conflict with any of the rules of the FAI, which shall take precedence at all times.

5. The Appeal Committee may adjourn or suspend proceedings for further deliberation or to seek further or additional evidence or expert advice,.

Following an adjournment the Appeal Committee must reconvene within ten days.

6 The Appeals Committee may, at its discretion, rectify any obvious calculation error or typographical error contained in its decision. Any request by a party for such a rectification must be submitted to the Divisional Association within five days of receipt of the decision in question.

LFA RULE 25. NOTIFICATION OF DECISIONS

1. The Divisional Association shall notify a copy of each decision to all parties to the procedure.
2. Decisions and other documents intended for players or officials may be addressed to the club, or other body concerned.
3. Decisions shall be communicated by fax and/or electronic mail and/or by registered post. A fax or electronic delivery report or registered post receipt is sufficient evidence that a decision has been properly notified.
4. Notification by the Divisional Association of the Appeals Committee shall be sent by fax and/or, electronic mail and/or registered post within four days (4) of the hearing.

LFA RULE 26. ENFORCEMENT OF DECISIONS

Decisions come into force as per the terms of the notified decision.

LFA RULE 27. FAILURE TO RESPECT DECISIONS

1. It shall be an offence not to comply with a decision of the Appeals Committee, and any party that fails to respect such a decision may be fined.
2. In addition to imposing a fine, the disciplinary bodies of the Divisional Association may grant a final deadline in which the party must comply with the decision. If the party does not comply with the decision within the final deadline, the disciplinary bodies may impose a further sanction, including an additional fine, deduction of points, relegation to a lower division, a transfer ban, or a ban on any football-related activity

LFA RULE 28. APPEALS BY A PLAYER:

In no circumstances can an appeal by a player against a decision of this association be reviewed except by appeal to the FAI and must be in accordance with the rules of that Association.

RULE 86. In the event of a protest or an appeal being lodged against the decision of the League, NO POINTS SHALL BE AWARDED or League or Cup-ties be played, pending on the result of such protest appeal.

RULE 87. The League Secretary shall receive all appropriate documents in connection with the players. A bona fide representative of a club may have access to the Registry of opponents only by appointment with the

League Secretary. The Club whose registry is to be inspected shall be notified prior to such inspection.

RULE 88. All protests lodged in connection with matches shall be dealt with by the appropriate Committee. At the hearing of such protest no member of either Club concerned, or any Club which, in the opinion of the Committee, is likely to be affected by the result of the investigation, shall be allowed to be present, except when summoned as a witness, or ordered to be present by the Committee. The date of investigation of protests shall be in accordance to Rule 82 (a).

RULE 89. The onus of proof of protest shall be with the protesting club, but the Committee may cause an investigation to be made if they consider such action necessary. The Disciplinary Committee shall not deprive a Club of points won unless it has been established that an ineligible player or players played in the match in question.

RULE 90. When a protest has been upheld, the fee shall be returned unless the decision to uphold has been reserved in the ultimate appeal if any. When a player protested against has been proved ineligible, the points/game must be awarded to the opposing Club, providing no ineligibility of a player of the opposing club has been shown in accordance with the rules, and subject to the Committee's discretion under Rule 20.

RULE 91. When both Clubs are proven to have played ineligible players, no points shall be allowed to either. In the case of protests other than against players, the Committee shall be allowed to have the power, to award points, order a replay, or make other decisions, as may be deemed by them to be proper.

RULE 92. In the case of abandoned or unfinished matches, should there be a cause of protest against any player or players being ineligible, such protest must be lodged per Rule 82 (a) after the match or matches have been abandoned, or unfinished, in accordance with Rule 74. A further period of 48 hours shall be afforded to the Club protested against, to lodge a cross protest.

RULE 93. Objections to ground, posts, ball or flags, must be lodged in writing, before the start of the game, with the Referee, who shall have the power to remedy, if possible, the objection before commencing the game. If the cause of the objection may not be removed, a formal protest in writing accompanied by the appropriate protest fee must be lodged in accordance with Rule 82 (a).

(a) A club failing to appear in answer to a protest, when called upon, or failing to give an explanation to their absence shall be fined, in accordance with Schedule A.

(b) All fines imposed by the Executive or Disciplinary Committee must be paid within seven days of receipt of notification. Failure to do so will result in fine being doubled.

SECTION H CUP COMPETITIONS

The Cup competitions shall be annual and open to teams competing in the League. The teams to compete in the various competitions shall be decided by the Executive Committee.

The final of the Shield competition shall be held no later than the Easter Weekend.

Carlow Challenge Cup -In this competition, draws shall commence with the teams in the lower divisions only in Round 1 and each next division be entered as the Rounds progress until finally teams from the Premier Division enter the draw.

RULE 94. Each club shall pay an entrance fee at the time of paying their League fees.

RULE 95. Each player must be a registered player of the club for which he proposed to compete for 14 days immediately prior to the match. Immediately after each draw the Hon. Fixture Secretary of the League shall advise each of the clubs drawn the name of the club it is drawn against and the time within which the tie must be played.

RULE 96 (a) As and from the commencement of Season 1998/99 and afterwards for all subsequent playing seasons, all Cup competition draws shall be held at League Management meetings. If a draw for a Cup competition is necessary between League Management meetings the draw shall be held at the Executive and Disciplinary meetings with at least two members of the League Management or clubs present.

(b) All Cup competition draws must be publicised, by all the means used by the League, immediately afterwards, but no later than 7 days.

RULE 97. The League Executive Committee shall have power to instruct clubs to play extra time in the event of draw matches. The Hon. Fixtures Secretary may invoke the F.I.F.A. rule governing the taking of kicks from the penalty spot to decide a tie.

RULE 98. The rules of the Carlow and District Football League shall apply as far as they are applicable to these competitions.

RULE 99. Where a semi-final of a competition is designated to be played at a neutral venue the home club will be responsible for the prematch arrangements including: -

(a) Pitch Markings, Corner Flags, Erection of Goals and Nets,

- (b) Pitch Access and car parking,
- (c) Where appropriate, making available of changing rooms for teams and match officials.
- (d) The home club is entitled to make a reasonable charge for admittance to the game and in recognition of the provision of the aforementioned facilities

may retain the proceeds in order to offset the expenses incurred in preparing and making available the facilities. The aforementioned provisions (Rule 98) will apply to the club having charge of the pitch and ancillary facilities.

RULE 100. Finals of competitions will be played at neutral venues decided by the Executive Committee acting as a body. Where the club is unable to organise the necessary arrangements the League will make the necessary arrangements without benefit to the home club.

RULE 101. A player who has been transferred and who assists a club or team in any one of the Cup Competitions cannot assist his new club or team in the same Cup competition League in the same season.

RULE 102. Where a player from a team in a lower division assists a higher divisional team in Divisional Cup competitions he cannot revert back to playing with the lower team in another of the Divisional Cup competitions, but is eligible to play League fixtures in the lower Division, from whence he first came.

RULE 103. Subject to the availability of match officials, every Cup tie shall be officiated at by officials from areas other than the areas represented by the Clubs competing in the tie.

RULE 104. In accordance with F.A.I. Rule 112

CAUTION (YELLOW CARD)

1. A caution (yellow card) is a warning from the referee to a player during a match to sanction offences as identified by Law 12 of the Laws of the Game. Cautions shall result in fines. One point shall be recorded against the player. Fines may be applied on an accumulative basis. A caution in any game must be reported to the League concerned and a record must be kept by that league. No caution may be appealed.
2. Two cautions received during the same match incur an expulsion and, consequently, an automatic suspension. The two cautions that incurred the red card are rescinded.
3. The following also incur a one (1) match suspension:
 - a) 4 cautions received in the season (4 Points);

- b) 8 cautions received in the season (8 Points);
- 4. The following incur a two (2) match suspension:
 - a) 12 cautions received in the season (12 Points);
- 5. The following incur a three (3) match suspension:
 - a) 16 cautions received in the season (16 Points);
 - b) Every four cautions following the 16th caution.
- 6. If an abandoned match is to be replayed, any caution issued during that match shall be annulled. If the match is not to be replayed, the cautions received by the team responsible for causing the match to be abandoned are upheld; if both teams are responsible, all of the cautions are upheld.
- 7. If a player is guilty of an offence as defined by Law 12 of the Laws of the Game and is sent off (direct red card), any other caution he has previously received in the same match is upheld and incurs the relevant suspension, fine and point as referred to above.
- 8. At the end of the season, players with up to three (3) cautions shall not have these cautions carried forward to the next season. A player's accumulated points total will be automatically brought back to zero.

SECTION I

PREMIER AND RESERVE PREMIER DIVISIONS

RULE 105. A player is deemed a first Premier team player after four (4) appearances on the field of play either as a player or a substitute.

RULE 106. No more than three (3) first Premier team players can be named on a match card in any one Premier Reserve League fixture.

RULE 107. A maximum of three (3) first team Premier players can be re-graded to Premier Reserve in accordance to Rules 52/53/54.

RULE 108. In Cup competitions all rules under "Section H, Cup Competitions" shall apply to teams in Premier and Premier Reserve Divisions.

RULE 109. Where a first Premier team is relegated the Reserve team will be relegated to a lower Division than the first Premier team.