

NWGFL Youth Local Rules 2026-27

LR4.1 New Clubs or new Teams from existing member Clubs, or teams re-applying, may be required to attend a meeting with the Management Committee and/or comply with any other League instructions with regards to their application.

LR4.2 At all age groups, new teams can be added at any time with the consent of the Management Committee.

LR5.1 No Member Club shall provide more than 25% of the Management Committee.

LR18.1 Any team shall not include more than three players who have played in two or more of the three consecutive senior fixtures immediately prior to the game in question.

For the purposes of this Rule, a more senior fixture is defined as a game in a higher division in the same age group.

LR18.2 Subject to FA Rule C dealing with players without a written contract, when a player desires a transfer, the Club the player wishes to transfer to shall submit a fully completed transfer form to the League accompanied by a fee as per the fees tariff. A transfer is not deemed complete until the Club seeking the transfer receives a registration confirmation from the Competition.

LR18.3 Further to Rule 18(N) above, in the case of an unregistered player or players the team may have the points gained in the match deducted from its total and may be fined and/or otherwise dealt with at the discretion of the Management Committee.

LR18.4 The maximum number of players who can be registered for a team at any one time are as follows:

11v11 20 players (with the exception of U17 & U18 divisions which will allow 25 players)

9v9 18 players

7v7 14 players

5v5 10 players

In exceptional circumstances additional player(s) will be allowed to be registered with prior permission of the Management Committee on such terms as they deem appropriate.

LR18.6 Players will not be permitted to transfer or de-register from when they are initially registered until 1st October. In exceptional circumstances players will be allowed to transfer or de-register in this period with prior permission of the Management Committee.

LR18.7 Further to 18.6, players will be permitted to transfer between teams outside of the transfer window if these teams are within the same club.

LR18.8 At Under 7, Under 8, Under 9, Under 10 and Under 11 all players who sign for a team at a Club are eligible to play for all of the teams that their Club fields at the relevant age group. However, a player may only play for one team on any one day.

LR18.9

Matches in this competition shall be played in the following format, according to age group:

U8 – 5 v 5, U9 – 5 v 5, U10 – 7 v 7, U11 – 7 v 7, U12 – 9 v 9, U13 – 9 v 9, U14 - 11 v 11, U15 – 11 v

11 and the U16 – 11 v 11.

LR 18.11 Further to Rule 18(A), all registrations must be completed on the Club Portal. Where a player is a match day registration that is not entered on the Club Portal prior to kick off, a Norfolk FA Youth Offline Consent Form must be fully completed, signed by the player and countersigned by an Officer of the Club. Furthermore, the Form must be countersigned by an Officer of the opposing Club. Details of the player registration must then be entered on the Club Portal by midnight on the day of the match. The player shall not play again on a subsequent match day until the player is registered and approved on the Club Portal.

Failure to comply with Rule may result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

LR 18.12 For a player's registration to be accepted and approved, there needs to be a head and shoulders photo of the player, with an accurate likeness, on their FAN profile. The photo must ONLY contain and be of the player. This image may be used for alleged ineligible player cases.

LR20.2 Kick off time shall be between 9.30am and 2.00pm with the home team having the right to determine the time, unless both teams agree to play at an alternative time and permission for this is given by the Management Committee.

LR20.5 Postponement of any scheduled fixture will only be permitted in the following circumstances:

- (i) Entry into a National or County FA Competition
- (ii) Providing 3 or more players for League Representative matches, County School teams or trials
- (iii) Any school activity under Rule 18(N)(i) involving 3 players or more
- (iv) Any official Scout parade i.e. St George's Day
- (v) On instruction from the Management Committee, League Secretary or Divisional Secretary
- (vi) Adverse weather conditions

With the exception of points v) and vi) above, at least 7 days' notice of any such postponement shall be given. Any supporting evidence requested, must be submitted for any request to be considered. Failure to give the required notice may result in a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

LR20.6 In the event of a team postponing a fixture under LR20.5(iii) the Club must provide to the Competition appropriate evidence within 7 days of the scheduled fixture.

LR20.7 Additionally, teams will be permitted to call off one league game per season, providing both the League and opposition are notified in the prescribed manner. This call off cannot be used for matches to be played after 1st April or for the purpose of participation in an external competition.

LR20.10 All matches to be played at venues which have a changing room with a toilet and basic hygiene facilities, which must include clean water which can be bottled. Failure to comply with this rule may result in a fine as per the fines tariff.

LR20.11 All venues must have emergency vehicle access, which must be kept open or, if locked, someone present must have a key to open it. Failure to comply with this rule may result in a fine as per the fines tariff.

LR20.12 In development football, during a match when the goal difference reaches 4, the losing team may field an additional player. If the goal difference reaches 6, the losing team may field another additional player (taking the total up to 2 additional players).

At the point the goal difference falls to 5, the losing team must withdraw one of their additional players. At the point the goal difference falls to 3 the losing team must withdraw their final additional player (this does not need to be the same player that was put on as the additional player).

LR20.13 Further to Rule 20(C) above, when giving notice of the particulars of a fixture the Officer of the Home Club must also provide details of the colour of kit that the team will be wearing, and the away team shall then ensure that they do not wear a kit that clashes with the home team. Failure to do so may result in the offending club being fined as per the fines tariff.

LR20.14 Further to Rule 20(E) above, where the Committee feel it is appropriate to do so, they shall have discretion to order that matches are played in an alternative format to home and away.

LR20.17 In the event of the home club being unable to fulfil a League match because of the inclement weather or ground conditions the home club shall before postponing the match and provided that the two teams have not already played the reverse League fixture ascertain from their opponents whether their ground is available and if it is the match shall be played on the ground of the opposing team. Any Club failing to comply with the rule may be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff

LR20.19 Further to Rule 20(C), notice of the full particulars must be given by the Sunday evening for a Saturday fixture, and Monday evening for a Sunday fixture.

LR20.20 Any postponement from April 1st onwards where one team is at fault, excluding weather & pitch conditions, will result in a charge being issued and the game awarded to the opponents regardless of mitigation.

LR20.21 Any away team travelling in excess of 50 miles, will not receive a kick off time earlier than 10am. Distance calculated using Google maps from home venue to away venue, taking SHORTEST distance possible.

LR20.22 Filming or photography at a fixture shall be prohibited if a team holds a league issued Media Exemption certificate. Media Exemption certificates last for one season and shall only be granted where a child is under looked after care, hold a court protection order, as determined by the county council social services team or similar. Evidence of looked after care or a court protection order is required and will be seen and verified by the league child welfare officer. Closed Circuit Television Recording is not applicable. Failing to comply with this rule entitles the team holding the media exemption certificate to abandon the fixture. The league will hold a list of all teams with a Media Exemption Certificate. The club holding the Media Exemption Certificate must advise of this in the notice of match particulars to the opposing team. The opposing team are expected to inform club/venue officials parents/guardians and spectators of this. Failure to comply with this Rule may result in a fine as per the fines tariff and the fixture being dealt with under SCORY rule 20E.4.

LR20.23 In addition to our current postponement stipulations, the following sanctions shall be applied:

- A) 1st postponement – sanction free providing it is used before April 1st – this will automatically be applied.
- B) 2nd postponement – 2-point deduction for U12 and upwards, & £10 fine. £10 fine for U7-U11
- C) 3rd postponement – award fixture for U12 and upwards, & £15 fine. £15 fine for U7-U11
- D) 4th and any subsequent postponements – award fixture for U12 and upwards, & £20 fine, plus a discussion over viability of how the team plans to avoid further postponements in order to complete the season. U7-U11 £20 fine plus discussion over viability to continue and to avoid further postponements.

In addition to the above, if Team A postpones a fixture vs Team B more than once in the same playing season, then the fixture is awarded to the non-defaulting team, regardless of being home or away.

LR20.24 All age groups, for all fixture types, to complete Team Sheets as prescribed by the competition, and exchanged with the opposition no later than 15 minutes prior to kick off. This can be done in physical form or electronically. Teams will be required to retain team sheets for the duration of the season and will be required to send to the league committee, if requested.

Team sheets will be available on NWGFL.net

Any team failing to comply with this rule, provides incomplete or inaccurate information may be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

LR 20.25 Further to Rule 20E 3, the defaulting team must inform their Divisional Secretary of the postponement within 3 hours of the scheduled kick off and ensure the postponement form is submitted by midnight on the day of the fixture.

LR22.1 Further to Rule 22(D), in the event of a team completing 75% or more, but not all, of its fixtures, then the remaining points shall be awarded to the teams that the defaulting team should have played. No goals shall be awarded.

LR22.2 Automatic promotion shall be applied for the first 2 Teams and automatic relegation shall be applied for the last 2 Teams in each division except as provided for hereunder, subject to the provisions of Rule 2(L).

1. Should one or more Teams withdraw from any one division after the Playing Season has commenced an equal number of Teams to those

withdrawing in that division shall not be automatically relegated.

2. Vacancies occurring after the conclusion of the Playing Season may be filled in any of the following ways:

- (a) retention of otherwise relegated Team(s); or
- (b) additional promotion of the next ranked Team(s) from the division below; or
- (c) election

3. Should either or both of the leading Teams in any of the divisions have a Team in the next higher division, promotion shall fall, at the discretion of the General Meeting, to the next highest Team or Teams in the division concerned.

4. Should either or both of the relegated Teams in any of the divisions have a Team in the next lower division, relegation shall fall, at the discretion of the General Meeting, to the next lowest Team or Teams in the division concerned.

LR23.1 Further to Rule 23(B) it is ultimately the responsibility of the home Club to provide a Referee. In the event of the home team failing to do so they may be fined in accordance with Fines Tariff.

The non-appointment of a Referee shall not be deemed sufficient cause for the match not being played.

LR23.2 At every match, the home Club shall ensure that a whistle is available for use by the Referee and flags for use by the Assistant Referee.

LR23.3 Further to Rule 20(E) above, where the committee consider it appropriate, they can determine that match official's fees and expenses shall be paid equally by both teams.

Fines Tariff

Rule Number	Description	Maximum Fine
LR 18.4	Failure to have the minimum number of players registered 14 days prior to the season commencing	£25
LR 18.11	Failure to correctly complete registration process	£40
LR 20.2	Failure of Home team to gain permission from divisional secretary to a kick off time change	£30
LR 20.10	Failure to ensure a venue has the stated changing & hygiene criteria	£100
LR 20.11	Failure to ensure emergency vehicular access without delay	£100
LR 20.13	Failure to ensure no kit colour clash on a match day	£50
LR 20.17	Failure to check the availability of an opponent's venue before postponing	£50
LR20.24	Failure to exchange or complete accurately a team sheet	£50
LR 23.1	Failure to provide a Referee	£50
LR 23.2	Failure to provide a whistle and or Assistant Referee flags.	£25