

REGULATIONS AND CLUB INFORMATION

Season 2015/16



nifl

**NORTHERN IRELAND
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Vice-Chairman - Brian Adams

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Brian Adams
Gerard Lawlor
Colin Russell
Peter Dornan
Colin Kennedy

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OFFICE BEARERS

SEASON 2015-2016

Danske Bank Premiership

Chairman	Gerard Lawlor
Vice-Chairman	Stephen Bell

NIFL Championship

Chairman	Colin Russell
Vice-Chairman	Denis Clarke

NIFL Youth League

Chairman	Robbie Walker
Vice Chairman	David Strain



NIFL PREMIERSHIP CONTACTS

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Ballinamallard Utd FC

Ferney Park
Enniskillen Road
Ballinamallard
BT94 2HH

Secretary

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 Bellanaleck
 BT92 2AE

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Tel: 02891 871378
 Mob: 07736390233
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1st Choice

Shirt - Blue
 Shorts - Blue
 Socks - Blue

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Dark Blue
 Shorts - Dark Blue
 Socks - Dark Blue



Ballymena United FC

The Showgrounds
Warden Street
Ballymena
BT43 4DR

Secretary

Don Stirling
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 Ballymena
 BT42 2BD

Main Representative

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 Email: taggarts@btinternet.com

1st Choice

Shirt - Light Blue
 Shorts - Light Blue
 Socks - Light Blue

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Yellow
 Shorts - Navy Blue
 Socks - White

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BT38 7BA

Mob: 07765898850
peterclarke431@btinternet.com

1st Choice

Shirt - Orange
Shorts - Black
Socks - Orange

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - White
Shorts - White
Socks - White



Cliftonville FC

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Belfast
BT2 8PU

Mob: 07900 086595
Email: gerard@cliftonvillefc.net

1st Choice

Shirt - Red
Shorts - Red
Socks - Red

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Yellow
Shorts - Yellow
Socks - Yellow



Coleraine FC

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Coleraine
BT52 2DY

Secretary

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Limavady

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BT52 1UG

Mob: 07711 180614
Email: colin@mckendryfabri-
cations.com

Colours

1st Choice

Shirt - Blue/White
Shorts - Blue
Socks - Blue

2nd Choice

Shirt - Red/Black
Shorts - Black
Socks - Red or Black



Crusaders FC

Seaview
St. Vincent Street
Belfast
BT15 3QG

Secretary

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Mob: 07968 814239
Email: stephenbell2009@live.co.uk

Colours

1st Choice

Shirt - Red/Black
Shorts - Black
Socks - Black

2nd Choice

Shirt - White
Shorts - White
Socks - White

NIFL PREMIERSHIP CONTACTS



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 Dungannon
 BT71 6QT

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 Mob: 07801 447580
 Email: krboyd@hotmail.co.uk

1st Choice

Shirt - Blue
 Shorts - Blue
 Socks - Blue

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Yellow
 Shorts - Blue
 Socks - Yellow



Glenavon FC

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 BT15 5TX

Tel: 02890 775050
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 Email: teer@hotmail.co.uk

1st Choice

Shirt - Blue
 Shorts - White
 Socks - Blue

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Orange
 Shorts - Black
 Socks - Black



Glentoran FC

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Email: chairman@glentoran.com

Colours

1st Choice

Shirt - Red/Green
Shorts - Black
Socks - Red

2nd Choice

Shirt - Burgundy/Black
Shorts - Black
Socks - White



Linfield FC

Windsor Park
Donegall Avenue
Belfast
BT12 6LW

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Colours

1st Choice

Shirt - Blue
Shorts - White
Socks - Red

2nd Choice

Shirt - Orange
Shorts - Orange
Socks - Orange

NIFL PREMIERSHIP CONTACTS



Portadown FC

**Shamrock Park
Portadown**

Secretary

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Main Representative

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1st Choice

Shirt - Red
Shorts - Red
Socks - Red

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - White
Shorts - White
Socks - White



Warrenpoint Town FC

**Milltown
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Secretary

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Chairman

John Bird
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Greenpark Road
Rostrevor
BT34 3HF

Mob: 07707926961
Email: jbird23@hotmail.co.uk

1st Choice

Shirt - Sky Blue/White
Shorts - Sky Blue
Socks - Sky Blue

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Red/White
Shorts - Red
Socks - Red

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(2.0TFSi)



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NIFL CHAMPIONSHIP 1 CONTACTS

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Annagh Utd FC



Annagh Utd FC
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BT62 3RB

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Mob: 07710 638563

Colours

1st Choice
Shirt - Red
Shorts - Red
Socks - White

2nd Choice
Shirt - White
Shorts - White
Socks - White

Ards FC



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1a Hawthorne Court
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Tel: 02891 814970
Mob: 07803271216
Email: admbrian@aol.com

Colours

1st Choice
Shirt - Red
Shorts - Blue
Socks - White

2nd Choice
Shirt - Light Blue/Navy
Shorts - Navy
Socks - Navy

NIFL CHAMPIONSHIP 1 CONTACTS



Armagh City FC

Holm Park
Ardmore Recreation
Center
Ballinahonemore Road
Armagh

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 Armagh

Tel: 02837 528752
 Mob: 07979812153
 Email: philipbud@aol.com

1st Choice

Shirt - Black/Blue
 Shorts - Black
 Socks - Black

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Orange
 Shorts - White
 Socks - White



Ballyclare Comrades FC

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Harrier Way
Ballyclare
BT39 9BB

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 BT39 9DT

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1st Choice

Shirt - Red
 Shorts - Red
 Socks - Red

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - White
 Shorts - Black
 Socks - Blue



Bangor FC

Bangor Fuels Arena
1a Hawthorne Court
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1st Choice

Shirt - Yellow
Shorts - Royal Blue
Socks - Royal Blue

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Royal Blue/Yellow
Shorts - Royal Blue
Socks - Royal Blue



Dergview FC

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Email: tnet@live.co.uk

Tel: 02881 670370
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1st Choice

Shirt - Black/White
Shorts - Black
Socks - White

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Red
Shorts - Red
Socks - Red

NIFL CHAMPIONSHIP 1 CONTACTS



Donegal Celtic FC

Donegal Celtic Football Club
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BT11 9PE

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Chairman

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 BT11 9PE

Tel: 02890 629810

1st Choice

Shirt - Green/White
 Hoops
 Shorts - White/Black
 Socks - White/Black

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Green/Black
 Shorts - Green
 Socks - Green



H&W Welders FC

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 BT4

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1st Choice

Shirt - Amber
 Shorts - Black
 Socks - Amber

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - White
 Shorts - Blue
 Socks - Red



Institute FC

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YMCA Grounds
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Email: inchbill@gmail.com

Colours

1st Choice

Shirt - Sky Blue
Shorts - Sky Blue
Socks - Sky Blue

2nd Choice

Shirt - Burgundy
Shorts - Burgundy
Socks - Burgundy



Knockbreda FC

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Chairman

Steven Perry

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Colours

1st Choice

Shirt - Yellow
Shorts - Black
Socks - Yellow

2nd Choice

Shirt - Black
Shorts - Black
Socks - Black

NIFL CHAMPIONSHIP 1 CONTACTS





Larne FC

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 Larne
 BT40 1TZ

Mob: 07960888359
 Email: archiesmyth2@aol.com

Colours

1st Choice
 Shirt - Red
 Shorts - White
 Socks - Red

2nd Choice
 Shirt - Black
 Shorts - Black
 Socks - Black



Lisburn Distillery FC

New Grosvenor Stadium
57 Ballyskeagh Road
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Lisburn
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Colours

1st Choice
 Shirt - White
 Shorts - White
 Socks - White

2nd Choice
 Shirt - Black
 Shorts - Black
 Socks - Black



Loughgall FC

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Secretary

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Colours

1st Choice
Shirt - Blue
Shorts - Blue
Socks - White

2nd Choice
Shirt - Red
Shorts - Red
Socks - Red



Lurgan Celtic FC

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Lurgan

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Colours

1st Choice
Shirt - Green/White
Shorts - White
Socks - Green/White

2nd Choice
Shirt - Yellow
Shorts - Green
Socks - Yellow



NIFL CHAMPIONSHIP 2 CONTACTS

Banbridge Town FC	22
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1st Choice

Shirt - Red/Black
Shorts - Black/White
Socks - Black/White/Red

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - White/Black/Red
Shorts - Black/White
Socks - Black/White/Red



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BT80 OBR

Tel: 02886 735852
Mob: 07719574412

1st Choice

Shirt - Blue
Shorts - Blue
Socks - Blue

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Red
Shorts - Red
Socks - White

NIFL CHAMPIONSHIP 2 CONTACTS



Dollingstown FC

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Secretary

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Chairman

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BT63 5SJ

Tel: 02838 330441
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1st Choice

Shirt - Royal Blue/White
Shorts - Blue
Socks - Blue

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Orange/Black
Shorts - Black
Socks - Orange



Dundela FC

**Dundela FC
Wilgar Park
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Chairman

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1st Choice

Shirt - Green
Shorts - Green
Socks - Green

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Red
Shorts - Red
Socks - Red



Glebe Rangers FC

Riada Stadium
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Chairman

Davy John McBride
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Ballymoney
BT53 6TJ

1st Choice

Shirt - Red/White
Shorts - Royal Blue
Socks - Red

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Orange
Shorts - Orange
Socks - Orange

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Limavady Utd FC

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Chairman

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Limavady
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1st Choice

Shirt - Royal Blue/White
Shorts - White
Socks - Blue

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Red/White
Shorts - Red
Socks - White

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1st Choice
 Shirt - Blue
 Shorts - Blue
 Socks - Blue

Colours

2nd Choice
 Shirt - Yellow
 Shorts - Black
 Socks - Black



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1st Choice
 Shirt - Green
 Shorts - Green
 Socks - Green

Colours

2nd Choice
 Shirt - Black
 Shorts - Black
 Socks - Black



Portstewart FC

Portstewart FC
Mullaghacall
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Portstewart

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Colours

1st Choice

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Shorts - Sky Blue
Socks - Sky Blue

2nd Choice

Shirt - White
Shorts - Black
Socks - Black



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Colours

1st Choice

Shirt - Green
Shorts - Black
Socks - Black

2nd Choice

Shirt - Red
Shorts - Red
Socks - Green

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1st Choice

Shirt - White
 Shorts - Black
 Socks - Black

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Blue
 Shorts - Blue
 Socks - Blue



Sport & Leisure FC

Sport & Leisure FC
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1st Choice

Shirt - Red/Black
 Shorts - Black
 Socks - Black

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Black
 Shorts - Black
 Socks - Black



Tobermore United FC

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Tobermore

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Maghera BT46 5BS

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Mob: 07999 511750
raymondjcbeatty@hotmail.com

Colours

1st Choice
Shirt - Red/Black
Shorts - Black
Socks - White

2nd Choice
Shirt - Navy
Shorts - Navy
Socks - Navy



Wakehurst FC

Mill Meadow
Bridge Street
Castledawson

Secretary

Irene Allen
3 Foxhill
Ballymena
BT43 5JB

Tel: 028 25642219
Mob: 07708 059936
Email: ireneallen14@hotmail.co.uk

Main Representative

Andrew Erwin
3 Fountain Crescent
Lisburn
BT28 3WB

Mob: 07715453688
andrewerwin@hotmail.co.uk

Additional Contact

Douglas Stevenson
60 Lisnafillan Road
Gracehill
Ballymena
BT42 LJA

Mob: 07887 628800
Email: douglasstevenson@hotmail.com

Media Officer

TBC

Chairman

Ian Gregg
12 Parkmount Road
Ballymoney Road
Ballymena

Mob: 07703211614
Email: ian@raineygregg.co.uk

Colours

1st Choice
Shirt - Black & White
Shorts - Black
Socks - Black

2nd Choice
Shirt - Blue
Shorts - Blue
Socks - Blue



RESERVE LEAGUE CONTACTS

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Ballinamallard United II FC

Ferney/Fisher Park
Enniskillen Road
Ballinamallard
BT94 2HH

Tel: 02866 388600
Email: ferneypark@aol.com

Secretary

Robbie Walker
41 Heather Glen
Trory, Ballinamallard,
County Fermanagh
BT94 2FJ

Mob: 07917 361518
Email: robertwalker3@hotmail.co.uk

Main Representative

Robbie Walker
41 Heather Glen
Trory
Ballinamallard
County Fermanagh BT94 2FJ

Mob: 07917 361518
Email: robertwalker3@hotmail.co.uk

Additional Contact

Scott Robinson
22 Owenskerry Lane
Brookborough
County Fermanagh

Mob: 07968 160108
Email: scottuk22@hotmail.co.uk

1st Choice

Shirt - Blue
Shorts - Blue
Socks - Blue

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt: Green
Shorts: Green
Socks: Green



Ballymena United Reserves FC

The Showgrounds
Warden Street
Ballymena
BT43 7DR

Tel: 02825 659490
Fax: 02825 659490
Email: stirlingtrophies@btconnect.com

Secretary

Don Stirling
37 Queen Street
Ballymena
County Antrim
BT42 2BD

Tel: 02825 659490
Fax: 02825 659490
Mob: 07802 814733

Main Representative

Jonny Irwin
25 Hiltonstown Road
Portglenone
County Antrim
BT44 8EG

Mob: 07866 752290
Email: jonny1928@gmail.com

Additional Contact

Paul Harbinson
43 Riverview
Ballyclare
County Antrim
BT39 9FF

Tele: 02893 340681
Mob: 07733 105833
Email: pharbinson@hotmail.com

1st Choice

Shirt - Sky Blue
Shorts - Navy
Socks - Sky Blue

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Yellow
Shorts - Navy Blue
Socks - White

NIFL RESERVE CONTACTS



Carrick Rangers Reserves FC

The Loughshore Hotel
Arena
Taylor's Avenue
Carrickfergus
County Antrim, BT38 7AF

Tel: 07713 103746
Email:
info@carrickrangers.co.uk

Secretary

David Hilditch
Bluebell Cottage
Glenfall Mews
Gleno, County Antrim,
BT40 3FD

Mob: 07713 103746
Email: davyhilditch@gmail.com

Main Representative

Darren Watters
15 Shannagh Park
Greenisland
County Antrim,
BT38 8XE

Mob: 07814 438402
Email: darrenw693@gmail.com

Additional Contact

Phil Lewis
53 Hillview Road
Carrickfergus,
County Antrim
BT38 8GY

Mob: 07793 003632
Email: phil.lewis39@hotmail.co.uk

1st Choice

Shirt - Orange
Shorts - Black
Socks - Orange

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - White
Shorts - White
Socks - White



Cliftonville Olympic FC

Solitude
Cliftonville Street
Belfast
BT14 6LP

Tel: 028 9074 8635
Fax: 07053 635438
Email:
secretary@cliftonvillefc.net

Secretary

George Walsh
55 Ponsonby Avenue
Belfast
BT15 2LS

Mob: 07748 301159
Email: secretary@cliftonvillefc.net

Main Representative

John Rogan

Mob: 07850 350726
Email: john@twnonline.net

Additional Contact

Michael Press

Mob: 07920 142151
Email: michael.press@antalis.co.uk

1st Choice

Shirt - Red
Shorts - Red
Socks - Red

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Yellow
Shorts - Yellow
Socks - Yellow



Coleraine Reserves FC

The Showgrounds
Ballycastle Road
Coleraine
BT52 2DY

Tel: 028 7035 3655
Email:
secretary@colerainefc.com

Secretary

Trevor Hogg
3 Woodvale Road
Portstewart
County Londonderry BT55 7HY

Tel: 02870 833677
Mob: 07791 626347
Email:
jtrevor.hogg@btinternet.com

Main Representative

Trevor Hogg
3 Woodvale Road
Portstewart
County Londonderry BT55 7HY

Tel: 02870 833677
Mob: 07791 626347
Email:
jtrevor.hogg@btinternet.com

Additional Contact

Jonathan Law
15 Strathard Close
Coleraine,
County Londonderry
BT51 3ES

Mob: 07707 331465

1st Choice

Shirt - Blue/White
Shorts - Blue
Socks - Blue

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Red/Black
Shorts - Black
Socks - Red



Crusaders Reserves FC

Seaview
St. Vincent Street
Belfast
BT15 3QG

Tel: 028 9037 0777
Fax: 028 9077 1049
Email: ncrues@aol.com

Secretary

Norman Coleman
3 Courthall House
Sally Gardens, Newtownabbey
County Antrim, BT36 5GP

Tel: 02895 734512
Fax: 02890 771049
Mob: 07742 894067
Email: ncrues@aol.com

Main Representative

Norman Coleman
3 Courthall House
Sally Gardens, Newtownabbey
County Antrim, BT36 5GP

Tel: 02895 734512
Fax: 02890 771049
Mob: 07742 894067
Email: ncrues@aol.com

Additional Contact

Gavin Arthur
78 Northwood Road
Belfast

Mob: 07922 646278
Email: gavinarthur11@aol.com

1st Choice

Shirt - Red/Black
Shorts - Black
Socks - Black

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - White
Shorts - White
Socks - White



Dungannon Swifts II FC

Junior Stadium
Black Lane,
Mullaghanagh
Dungannon,
County Tyrone
BT71 7AY

Email:
info@dungannonswiftsfc.co.uk

Secretary

Trevor Douglas
68 Stewart Avenue
Cookstown, County Tyrone
BT80 8LH
Mob: 07983 335079
Email: dougie50@msn.com

Main Representative

Dixie Robinson
34 Chestnut Hill
Coalisland, County Tyrone

Mob: 07894 729433
Email: dixie_191@hotmail.com

Additional Contact

Simon Graham
7 Laghey Court
Killyman, Dungannon
County Tyrone, BT71 6XD

Tel: 02887 724291
Mob: 07919 105803
Email: secretary@dungannonswiftsfc.co.uk

1st Choice
Shirt - Blue
Shorts - Blue
Socks - Blue

Colours

2nd Choice
Shirts - Yellow
Shorts - Blue
Socks - Yellow



Glenavon Reserves FC

Mourneview Park
Mourneview Avenue
Lurgan
BT66 8EW

Tel: 028 3832 2472
Fax: 028 3832 7694
Email:
football@glenavonfc.com

Secretary

Julie Twinem
17h Ardmillan Drive
Rathcoole, Newtownabbey
County Antrim, BT37 9BA

Tel: 02838 322472
Mob: 07912 687302
Email: julie0245@hotmail.com

Main Representative

Adrian Teer
15 Waterloo Park South
Belfast
BT15 5HX

Tel: 02890 775050
Mob: 07710 732560
Email: teer1@hotmail.co.uk

Additional Contact

Mark Ferguson,
35 Glenburn Park,
Bangor,
County Down,
BT20 5RG,

Mob: 07825 251276
Email: markferguson1979@hotmail.co.uk

1st Choice
Shirt - Blue
Shorts - White
Socks - Blue

Colours

2nd Choice
Shirt - Orange
Shorts - Black
Socks - Black



Glentoran II FC

**The Oval
Parkgate Drive
Belfast
BT4 1EW**

Tel: 028 9045 6137
Fax: 02890 732956

Secretary

Ricky Rea
The Oval, Parkgate Drive,
Belfast
BT4 1EW

Tel: 02890 456137

Mob: 07870 575171
Email: secretary@glentoran.com

Main Representative

Jason Cummings
The Oval, Parkgate Drive
Belfast
BT4 1EW

Mob: 07718 181602

Email: j.cummings@hotmail.co.uk

Additional Contact

Jason Hill
The Oval, Parkgate Drive
Belfast,
BT4 1EW

Mob: 07515 891718

1st Choice

Shirt - Green/red/black
Shorts - Black
Socks - Red

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Black/Maroon
Shorts - Black
Socks - Green



Linfield Swifts FC

**Midgley Park,
Windsor Park
Donegall Avenue
Belfast
BT12 6LW**

Tel: 028 90244198
Fax: 028 90 242761
Email: ken@linfieldfc.com

Secretary

Irvine Woods
17 Hillside
Spa, Ballynahinch
Co. Down
BT24 8PS

Tel: 028 97 565764
Fax: 028 90242761
Mob: 07711 873595
Email: irvinewoods@msn.com

Main Representative

Irvine Woods
17 Hillside
Spa, Ballynahinch
BT24 8PS

Tel: 028 97 565764
Fax: 028 9024 2761
Mob: 07711 873595
Email: irvinewoods@msn.com

Additional Contact

Alan Dornan
93 Orangefield Avenue
Belfast, BT5 2QA

Tel: 02890 282703
Fax: 02890 242761
Mob: 07929 147699
Email: alandornan@hotmail.co.uk

1st Choice

Shirt - Blue
Shorts - White
Socks - Red

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Orange
Shorts - Orange
Socks - Orange

NIFL RESERVE CONTACTS



Portadown Reserves FC

Shamrock Park
Brownstown Road
Portadown
BT62 3PZ

Tel: 028 3833 2726
Fax: 028 3833 2726
Email:
portssecretary@yahoo.co.uk

Secretary

Bill Emerson
13 Renmore Avenue
Portadown
BT62 3DH

Tel: 028 3833 1971
Fax: 028 3833 2726
Mob: 07729 804542
Email: portssecretary@yahoo.co.uk

Main Representative

Cheryl Coaton
14 Ashfield Manor
Portadown
BT62 4BJ

Mob: 07821 411472
Email: cherylcoaton@aol.co.uk

Additional Contact

Gary McCullough

Mob: 07793 655375
Email: garymac27265@icloud.com

1st Choice

Shirt - Red
Shorts - Red
Socks - Red

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - White
Shorts - White
Socks - White



Warrenpoint Town Reserves FC

Milltown
65b Upper Dromore Road
Warrenpoint
BT34 3PN

Tel: 02841 773800
Fax: 02841 773800

Secretary

Brian Reid
Unit 1, Milltown Ind. Estate
Greenan Road, Warrenpoint
County Down, BT34 3FN

Mob: 07803 135131
Email:
breidwarrenpointtfc@outlook.com

Main Representative

Kyle Rendall
7 Windmill Avenue
Ballynahinch, County Down
BT24 8PF

Mob: 07545 254818
Email: kylarendall34@gmail.com

Additional Contact

John Bird
23 Greendale Crescent
Greenpark Road
Rostrevor,
County Down

Mobile: 07707 926971

1st Choice

Shirt - Sky Blue/White
Shorts - Blue
Socks - Blue

Colours

2nd Choice

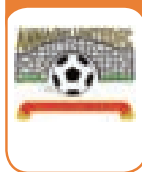
Shirt - Red/White
Shorts - Red
Socks - Red/White



YOUTH LEAGUE CONTACTS

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NIFL YOUTH CONTACTS



Annagh United Youth

Tandragee Road
Portadown
County Armagh,
BT63 3BP

Secretary

Nigel Armstrong
1 Riverview,
Portadown
County Armagh

Mob: 07740 628123
Email: nasports@hotmail.com

Main Representative

John McDowell
30 Mayesfield Villas
Gifford Road,
Portadown
BT63 5FJ

Mob: 07710 560027
Email:
mcdowelljohn09@gmail.com

Additional Representative

Uel Woolsey

Mob: 07856 354266

Preferred Kick Off Time

11.30am

Colours

1st Choice
Shirt-White
Shorts-Black
Socks-White

2nd Choice
Shirt-Yellow
Shorts-Black
Socks-Yellow



Ards Youth

Billy Neill Playing Fields,
341 Comber Greenway,
Castlereagh,
BT16

Secretary

Jim Bailie
41 Sunningdale Park
Bangor
County Down

Tel: 02891 460412
Mob: 07843 226111
Email: jbailie54@yahoo.co.uk

Main Representative

Paul Ferguson
7 Ravenhill Lane
Newtownards,
County Down

Tel: 02891 818030
Mob: 07823 446990
email:fergie804@googlemail.com

Additional Representative

Brian Adams
111 Belfast Road
Newtownards,
County Down

Tel: 02891 814970
Mob: 07803 271216
Email: admbrian@aol.com

Preferred Kick Off Time

2.00pm

Colours

1st Choice
Shirt- Red/Blue
Shorts -Blue
Socks-White

2nd Choice
Shirt-White
Shorts-Red
Socks-Red



Ballinamallard Utd Youth

**Bawnacre Centre,
Castle Street,
Burfits Hill,
Irvinestown,
Co. Fermanagh
BT94 1EE**

Tel: 02868 621177

bawnacre@fermanagh.gov.uk

Secretary

Noel Dykes
Carry House,
21 Lettermoney Road
Ballycassidy, Ballinamallard
County Fermanagh
BT94 2LY

Tel: 02866 329047

Mob: 07761 610627

Email: noeldykes@btinternet.com

Main Representative

Robbie Walker
41 Heather Glen
Trory, Ballinamallard
County Fermanagh
BT94 2FJ

Tel: 028 6632 7899

Mobile: 07714 400387

Email: robertwalker3@hotmail.co.uk

Additional Representative

Derek Sharpe
8 Cherry Walk
Chanterhill
Enniskillen
County Fermanagh
BT74 4BJ

Mob: 07872 916528

Email: dwsharpe11@hotmail.com

Preferred Kick Off Time

2.00pm

1st Choice

Shirt - Royal Blue
Shorts - Royal Blue
Socks - Royal Blue

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Green
Shorts - Green
Socks - Green



Ballyclare Comrades Colts

**Greenisland PF,
Newtownabbey
County Antrim**

Secretary

David Cahill
56 Huntingdale Grange
Ballyclare, BT39 9XY

Tel: 02893 324865

Mob: 07886 635456

Email: cahilldv@aol.com

Main Representative

Trevor McCann
5 Greenview Court
Ballyclare, Co. Antrim
BT39 9DT

Tel: 02893 323155

Mob: 07845 076325

Email: trevormccann@yahoo.co.uk

Additional Representative

Nicky Buchanan
36 Ballyalton Park
Newtownabbey,
County Antrim
BT37 0ET

Mob: 07590 329055

Email: nicholas.buchanan@study.beds.co.uk

Preferred Kick Off Time

2.00pm

1st Choice

Shirts - Red/white
Shorts - Red
Socks - Red

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Blue
Shorts - Black
Socks - Blue



Ballymena United III

The Showgrounds
Warden Street
Ballymena

Secretary

Don Stirling
37 Queen Street
Ballymena
BT42 2BD

Main Representative

Jonny Irwin
25 Hiltonstown Road
Portglenone, County Antrim
BT44 8EG

Tel: 028 2565 9490

Tel: 028 2565 9490
Fax: 028 2565 9490
Mob: 07802 814733

Email: stirlingtrophies@btconnect.com

Mob: 07866 752290

Email: jonny1928@gmail.com

Additional Representative

Clifford Adams
9 Fenaghy Road
Galgorm, Ballymena,
County Antrim
BT42 1JR

Mob: 07800 646871

Email: cliffy.adams@yahoo.co.uk

Preferred Kick Off Time

12.00pm

Colours

1st Choice

Shirt - Sky Blue
Shorts - Navy
Socks - Sky Blue

2nd Choice

Shirt - Yellow
Shorts - Navy Blue
Socks - White



Carniny Youth

Ballymena Showgrounds
Warden Street
Ballymena,
County Antrim
BT43 7DR

Secretary

William O'Flaherty
4 Loughan Hill,
Ballymena
County Antrim
BT43 5LR

Main Representative

William O'Flaherty
4 Loughan Hill,
Ballymena
County Antrim
BT43 5LR

Tel: 02825 638510

Mobile: 07850 669666

Email:
carninybilly@hotmail.co.uk

Mobile: 07850 669666

Email:
carninybilly@hotmail.co.uk

Additional Representative

Ian Morton
10 The Paddock,
Ballymena
County Antrim,
BT42 1RN

Mob: 07721 596775

Email: morti1007@gmail.com

Preferred Kick Off Time

2.00pm

Colours

1st Choice

Shirt-Red
Shorts-Red
Socks-Red

2nd Choice

Shirt-Black
Shorts-Black
Socks-Black



Carrick Rangers Colts

Taylor's Avenue,
Carrickfergus
County Antrim

Secretary

David Hilditch
Bluebell Cottage
Glenfall Mews,
Gleno,
County Antrim
BT40 3FD

Mob: 07713 103746
Email: davyhilditch@gmail.com

Main Representative

Phil Lewis
53 Hillview Road,
Carrickfergus
County Antrim
BT38 8GY

Mob: 07793 003632
Email: phil.lewis39@hotmail.co.uk

Additional Representative

Darren Watters
15 Shannagh Park
Greenisland
County Antrim
BT38 8XE

Mob: 07814 438402
Email: darrenw693@gmail.com

Preferred Kick Off Time

1:00pm

Colours

1st Choice

Shirt-White
Shorts-White
Socks-White

2nd Choice

Shirt-Orange
Shorts-Black
Socks-Orange



Cliftonville Strollers

Solitude,
Cliftonville Street
Belfast, BT14 6LP

University of Ulster
Playing Fields
Jordanstown,
Newtownabbey

Tel: 02890 748635
Fax: 07053 635438

Secretary

George Walsh
55 Ponsonby Avenue
Belfast
BT15 2LS

Mob: 07748 301159
Email: secretary@cliftonvillefc.net

Main Representative

John Rogan
10 Dunmore Mews
Belfast

Mob: 07850 350726
Email: john@twonline.com

Additional Representative

Ryan Doherty

Mob: 07734 372070

Preferred Kick Off Time

1.30pm

Colours

1st Choice

Shirts - Red
Shorts - Red
Socks - Red

2nd Choice

Shirt - Yellow
Shorts - Black
Socks - Yellow

NIFL YOUTH CONTACTS



Coleraine Colts

**University of Ulster
Playing Fields**
Cromore Road, Coleraine
County Londonderry,
BT52 1SA

Secretary

Trevor Hogg
3 Woodvale Road
Portstewart
Co. Londonderry
BT55 7HY

Tel: 028 70833367

Email: jtrevor.hogg@btinternet.com

Main Representative

Trevor Hogg
3 Woodvale Road
Portstewart
County Londonderry
BT55 7HY

Tel: 02870 833367

Additional Representative

Paul Gaston

Preferred Kick Off Time

2.00pm

1st Choice

Shirts - Blue/White
Shorts - Blue
Socks - Blue

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Red/Black
Shorts - Black
Socks - Red

Mob: 07734 936048



Crusaders Colts

**Seaview
Shore Road
Belfast,
BT15 3QG**

Secretary

Michael Long
5 Woodland Drive
Rushpark, Newtownabbey
County Antrim, BT37 9QD

Mob: 07885 517777

Fax: 02890 771049

Email: mic_crues@hotmail.co.uk

Main Representative

Michael Long
5 Woodland Drive
Rushpark, Newtownabbey
County Antrim, BT37 9QD

Mob: 07885 517777

Email: mic_crues@hotmail.co.uk

Additional Representative

Gary Finn
35 Innisfayle Gardens
Belfast
BT15 4GJ

Preferred Kick Off Time

11:00am

1st Choice

Shirt - Red/Black
Shorts - Black
Socks - Black

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - White/Black
Shorts - White
Socks - White

Mob: 07834 355678

Email: finnary9@gmail.com



Dundela Youth

**Wilgar Park,
Wilgar Street
Belfast**

Secretary

Jim Walker
16 Stormount Crescent
Belfast
BT5 4NT

Tel: 02890 738574
Mob: 07930 107396
Email: jnrwalker@gmail.com

Main Representative

Austin Grant
34 Grangewood Manor
Belfast
BT16 1GJ

Mob: 07835 985720
Email: grant536@btinternet.com

Additional Representative

Owen Forsythe

Mob: 07766 055969
Email: oforsythe@hotmail.co.uk

Preferred Kick Off Time

11.00am

Colours

1st Choice

Shirt - Green
Shorts - Green
Socks - Green

2nd Choice

Shirt - Red
Shorts - Red
Socks - Red



Dungannon Swifts Youth

**Junior Stadium,
Black Lane
Dungannon,
County Tyrone**

Secretary

Ciaran O'Kane
21 Riverglade Manor
Lurgan
County Armagh

Mob: 07724 539182
Email: l_lions67@hotmail.com

Main Representative

Darren Boyd
Bush Villas
Dungannon
County Tyrone

Mobile: 07764 615477

Additional Representative

Simon Graham
7 Laghey Court
Killyman, Dungannon
County Tyrone, BT71 6XD

Tel: 02887 724291
Mob: 07919 105803
Email: secretary@dungannonswiftsfc.co.uk

Preferred Kick Off Time

2.00pm

Colours

1st Choice

Shirt - Yellow
Shorts - Blue
Socks - Blue

2nd Choice

Shirt - Blue
Shorts - Blue
Socks - Blue

NIFL YOUTH CONTACTS



Glenavon III

**Gordon Playing Fields,
Lurgan
County Armagh**

Secretary

Julie Twinem
17h Ardmillan Drive,
Rathcoole,
Newtownabbey, County Antrim,
BT37 9BA

Tel: 02838 322472
Mob: 07912 687302
email: julie0245@hotmail.com

Main Representative

Adrian Teer
15 Waterloo Park South
Belfast
BT15 5HX

Tel: 02890 775050
Mob: 07710 732560
Email: teer1@hotmail.co.uk

Additional Representative

Mark Ferguson,
35 Glenburn Park,
Bangor, County Down,
BT20 5RG

Mob: 07825 251276
Email: markferguson1979@hotmail.co.uk

Preferred Kick Off Time

2.00pm

1st Choice

Shirt-Blue
Shorts-White
Socks-Blue

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Orange
Shorts - Black
Socks - Black



Glentoran Colts

**D Blanchflower PF
Holywood Road,
Belfast**

Secretary

William Cameron
13 Hillsborough Drive
Belfast
BT6 9DS
Tel: 02890 285818

Mob: 07541 056553
william.cameron2@ntlworld.com

Main Representative

Jason Cummings
C/O The Oval
Parkgate Drive
Belfast
BT4 1EW

Mob: 07495 606673
Email: j.cummings@hotmail.co.uk

Additional Representative

Nichola Kelly
12 Lindsay Way
Belfast
BT7 1TS

Mob: 07521 036206
Email: nichola.kelly@hotmail.com

Preferred Kick Off Time

2.00pm

1st Choice

Shirt - Green/Red/Black
Shorts - Black
Socks - Red

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Black/Maroon
Shorts - Black
Socks - Green

Institute Colts



**Riverside Stadium,
Drumahoe
County Londonderry**

Tel: 02871 302129

Secretary

Andrew Russell
8 Hazenbank
Drumahoe
County Londonderry
BT47 3SF

Mob: 07890 824156
Email: andrew.russell@nifrs.org

Main Representative

William Anderson
Grange
Inch Island, County Donegal

Tele: 02871 375214
Mob: 07838 113310
Email: inchbill@gmail.com

Additional Representative

Jonathan Burgess
31 Gortmonly Road
Magheramason
Londonderry
BT47 2RZ

Mob: 07803 077389
Email: blueeagleproductions@hotmail.co.uk

Preferred Kick Off Time

11:00am

Colours

1st Choice

Shirt - Sky Blue
Shorts - Sky Blue
Socks - Sky Blue

2nd Choice

Shirt - Burgundy
Shorts - Burgundy
Socks - Burgundy

Knockbreda FC



**Breda Park
31 Upper Braniel Road
Belfast
BT5 7TX**

Secretary

Colin Russell
47a Church Road
Castlereagh
Belfast, BT6 9SA

Tel: 02890 401255
Mob: 07815 863080
Email: russellccx2@yahoo.co.uk

Main Representative

Stephen Perry
170 Groomsport Road
Bangor
County Down, BT20 5PL

Mob: 07737 203218
Email: scperry1963@me.com

Additional Representative

Craig Morrow
106 University Street
Belfast
BT7 1EU

Tel: 02890 251009
Mob: 07570 794531
Email: cramor1@aol.com

Preferred Kick Off Time

10:30am / 11:30am

Colours

1st Choice

Shirt - Yellow
Shorts - Black
Socks - Yellow

2nd Choice

Shirt - Sky Blue
Shorts - Amber
Socks - Sky Blue

NIFL YOUTH CONTACTS



Linfield Rangers

Blanchflower Stadium
Hollywood Road,
Belfast

Secretary

David Strain
 17 Glencroft Drive
 Comber
 Co. Down, BT23 5UW

Main Representative

David Strain
 17 Glencroft Drive
 Comber, County Down
 BT23 5UW

Tel: 028 9187 8943
 Mob: 07775 953053
 Email: david.strain1964@btinternet.com

Tel: 02891 878943
 Mob: 07775 953053

Additional Representative

Bryan McCarroll
 22 Tedburn Park
 Belfast
 BT14 8AQ

Tel: 02890 283211
 Mob: 07736 463011
 Email: bryan.mccarroll@drdni.gov.uk

Preferred Kick Off Time

2.00pm

1st Choice

Shirt: Blue
 Shorts: White
 Red: Red

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt: Red
 Shorts: Blue
 Socks: White



Lisburn Distillery III

Ballymacoss Playing Fields
Limetree Avenue
Knockmore Road
Lisburn

Secretary

Peter Mills
 220 Glenwood Court
 Lisburn
 BT28 3UF

Main Representative

John Duffy
 29 Kylemore Park
 Belfast
 BT14 6SA

Tele: 02892 669161
 Mob: 07803 767132
 Email: petermills0210@yahoo.com

Tel: 028 9071 7777
 Email: john.duffy7@btinternet.com

Additional Representative

Colin Hopkins
 C/O Lisburn Distillery FC
 New Grosvenor Stadium,
 Lambeg, Lisburn
 BT27 5TE

Mob: 07971 036785
 Email: ldfcsecretary@virginmedia.com

Preferred Kick Off Time

2.00pm

1st Choice

Shirt - White
 Shorts - Black
 Socks - Black

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Red
 Shorts - Navy
 Socks - Navy

Lurgan Celtic Youth



**Gordon Playing
Fields, Lurgan**

Secretary

Cieran Marshall
C/O Celtic Supporters Club
Church Place,
Lurgan
County Armagh

Mob: 07821 190766
Email: marshallcieran@gmail.com

Main Representative

John Devlin
39 Markville
Bleary, Co. Armagh
BT63 5SU

Mob: 07716 977185

Additional Representative

John O'Neill
7 McGreavy Drive
Derrymacash
Lurgan, County Armagh
BT66 6LS

Tel: 02838 321683
Mob: 07889 971595
Email: lurganceltic@gmail.com

Preferred Kick Off Time

11.00am

1st Choice

Shirt - Green/White
Shorts - White
Socks - White

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Yellow
Shorts - Green
Socks - Yellow

Newington YC



**Grove Playing Fields,
Belfast**

Secretary

Damian Cole
11 Bellevue Manor
Newtownabbey
County Antrim,
BT36 7SQ

Mob: 07738 698135
email: damiancole@newingtonfc.com

Main Representative

Colum Burns
6 Hollybrook Grove
Newtownabbey
County Antrim, BT36 4ZR

Tel: 02890 343834
Mob: 07793 811632
Email: colum@pcdecorators.com

Additional Representative

Tony Curley

Mob: 07834 555567
Email: tonycurl@hotmail.com

Preferred Kick Off Time

2.00pm

1st Choice

Shirt - Green
Shorts - Green
Socks - Green

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - Black
Shorts - Black
Socks - Black

NIFL YOUTH CONTACTS



Newry City AFC

**The Showgrounds,
Greenbank, Newry
Co Down, BT34 2QU**

info@newrycityafc.co.uk

Secretary

Artie Kavanagh
c/o Newry City AFC,
Showgrounds,
Greenbank, Newry
Co Down, BT34 2QU

07989530789
am-kavanagh@hotmail.co.uk

Main Representative

Arthur Kavanagh
2 Blaney Crescent
Newry, County Down
BT34 2AS

Tel: 02830 252192
Mob: 07989 530789
Email: am-kavanagh@hotmail.co.uk

Additional Representatives

Barry Traynor
9 Station Close
Millvale Road,
Newry
County Down, BT35 7LW

Mob: 07525 652537
Email: barrytraynor@hotmail.co.uk

Preferred Kick Off Time

11:00am

1st Choice

Shirt: Blue/White
Shorts: White
Socks: White

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt: White/Blue
Shorts: White
Socks: White



Portadown III

**Kernan Park
Kernan Road
Portadown,
County Armagh**

Secretary

Bill Emerson
13 Renmore Avenue
Portadown
BT62 3DH

Tel: 028 3833 1971
Fax: 028 3833 2726
Mob: 07729 804542
Email: portsssecretary@yahoo.co.uk

Main Representative

Cheryl Coaton
14 Ashfield Manor
Portadown
County Armagh
BT62 4BJ

Mob: 07821 411472
Email: cherylcoaton@aol.co.uk

Additional Representative

Chris Wright
25 Bachelors Avenue
Portadown
County Armagh

Mob: 07919 404222
Email: chriswrightifa@gmail.com

Preferred Kick Off Time

11:00am

1st Choice

Shirt - Red
Shorts - Red
Socks - Red

Colours

2nd Choice

Shirt - White
Shorts - White
Socks - White



St Oliver Plunkett Youth

Lenadoon Park
Lenadoon Avenue
Belfast

Secretary

Neil McKee
78 Creeslough Park
Belfast,
BT11 9HJ

Main Representative

Eamon McGonigle
16 Benbradagh Gardens
Belfast
BT11 9JS

Mob: 07789 266232
Mob: 07553 372625
Email: neilmckee@btinternet.com

Mob: 07751 862716
Email: eamonmcgon@hotmail.co.uk

Additional Representative

Peter Murray
7 Moor Park Drive
Belfast
BT10 0QQ

Mob: 07751 520011
Email: petermurray30@hotmail.com

Preferred Kick Off Time

11:00am

Colours

1st Choice

Shirt - Black/White
Shorts - Black
Socks - Black

2nd Choice

Shirt - Yellow
Shorts - Blue
Socks - Yellow



Warrenpoint Town Youth

Milltown,
Upper Dromore Road,
Warrenpoint,
County Down
BT34 3FN

Secretary

Brian Reid
Unit 1, Delilites
Milltown Industrial Estate,
Warrenpoint,
County Down, BT34 3PN

Main Representative

Ian Stewart
8 Beechill Park Avenue
Belfast
BT8 7PR

Mob: 07803 135131
breidwarrenpointffc@outlook.com

Mob: 07930 759777
Email: istewart@irishfa.com

Additional Representative

Brendan Magennis
59 Adavoyle Road,
Killeavy
Newry, County Down
BT35 8SN

Mob: 07772 660652
Email: helen@magennis.plus.com

Preferred Kick Off Time

10:00am

Colours

1st Choice

Shirt - Sky Blue/White
Shorts - Sky Blue
Socks - Sky Blue

2nd Choice

Shirt - Red/White
Shorts - Red
Socks - Red



NORTHERN IRELAND FOOTBALL LEAGUE LTD
PREMIERSHIP RULES & REGULATIONS
SEASON 2015/16

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DEFINITIONS

League	The Northern Ireland Football League
NIFL Premiership	The top tier of the Northern Ireland Football League
IFA	The Irish Football Association
Articles of Association	Means the Articles of Association of the Irish Football Association
Close Season	Means the period of the year outside the Season
WADA	World Anti Doping Agency
UKAD	United Kingdom Anti Doping
Member Club	Means any club which from time to time is a member of NIFL Premiership
NIFL Championship	Means the 2nd tier of the Northern Ireland Football League.
Laws of the Game	Means the Laws of the Game of Association Football as approved by the International FA Board
FIFA	Federation Internationale de Football Associations
Participation Agreement	An agreement entered into by the member clubs with the NIFL Premiership Management Committee

CONSTITUTION

1. Title

- (a) For the purposes of Football Competitions the NIFL Premiership shall be composed of three Sections:
- (i) A Premiership Section which shall consist of no more than 12 senior clubs who have obtained a Domestic Club License, or in the case of a promoted club a Championship licence which will be acceptable for the first season following promotion from NIFL Championship 1, in accordance with the IFA Articles of Association, and to be known as the NIFL Premiership;
 - (ii) A Reserve Section which shall consist of the Reserve teams of the clubs in the NIFL Premiership.
 - (iii) A Youth Section. From Season 2016/17 priority for membership of the NIFL Youth League will be afforded to the youth teams of clubs in membership of the NIFL Premiership and NIFL Championship.
- (b) Membership of the NIFL Premiership shall constitute an agreement between the NIFL Premiership and each Club to be bound by and comply with
- (i) FIFA Regulations
 - (ii) The NIFL Articles of Association
 - (iii) The Rules of the NIFL Premiership
 - (iv) The Rules and Articles of the Irish Football Association,
 - (v) Comply with Domestic club Licensing Scheme,
 - (vi) The Laws of the Game,
 - (vii) The Rules and Regulations of any body of which the NIFL Premiership is a Member,
 - (viii) The relevant Participation Agreement to be determined by the NIFL Board.
 - (ix) The terms of any commercial or broadcast agreement entered into by the NIFL Premiership, and the terms of any Cup or other Competitions conducted or controlled by the League, each of the aforesaid as altered, revoked or added to from time to time.
 - (x) WADA/UKAD Code
- (c) Each member (club) shall be the legal entity fully responsible for the football team participating in the NIFL and such entity (which may be a legal company, limited liability company, private members club (Registration of clubs order 1996) or other like unincorporated association) shall have been in membership of the Irish Football Association for a period of at least one year.
- (i) **Procedures for club to change its legal entity**
If any club wishes to change its legal entity, which is the recognised member of the Irish Football Association and the NIFL Premiership or NIFL Championship Divisions 1&2, it must submit full details of the proposed change to the IFA Football Committee and the NIFL Board.

- All of the following rules apply in order to change a legal entity:
- (a) Any application to transfer a club's membership of the Irish Football Association to a new entity must be submitted in writing and by Special Delivery post to the Chief Executive, Irish Football Association, and the Managing Director, Northern Ireland Football League, at the registered offices of the IFA and the NIFL.
 - (b) A club's membership of the Irish Football Association may only be transferred to the new entity with the advance written permission of the Football Committee. Each case will be considered on its own individual merits.
- (ii) **Sanction for club experiencing an Insolvency Event**
- If any club in membership of the NIFL Premiership or NIFL Championship Divisions 1 & 2 formally suffers, undergoes or enters into one of the following insolvency events that club shall be deducted 10 points:
1. Administration (Creditor Driven) – normally Bank or large unsecured creditor.
 2. Administration (Club Driven) – appointment by the Directors to avoid other legal action e.g. Winding up order.
 3. Fixed Charge Receivership – appointment by secured creditor only on fixed assets e.g. property.
 4. Have a winding up order made in respect of the club e.g. HM Revenue & Customs.
 5. Company Voluntary Arrangement – proposed in advance of or as a response to legal action by an unsecured creditor.
 6. Have any proceeding or step taken or any court order made which has a substantially similar effect to any of the foregoing.
- (iii) **Where a club takes or suffers such action set out in Rules (ii) above;**
- (a) Prior to 1 March the points deduction shall apply immediately;
 - (b) After 1 March but before the completion of all league matches rule (iv) shall apply;
 - (c) When all league matches have been completed, the points deduction shall apply to the following season and said club shall commence that season on minus 10 points.
- (iv) **Where the circumstances set out in Rule (iii) (b) apply and at the end of that Season, having regard to the number of points awarded (ignoring any potential deduction):**
- (a) Should the club be relegated the points deduction will apply in the next following season; or

- (b) Should the club not be relegated the points deduction will apply in that season and that club's points total and final league position for that season shall be recalculated accordingly.

For the avoidance of doubt, when a club is subject to more than one of the events in (ii) during a process of compromising its creditors (for example Administration followed by a Company Voluntary Arrangement), the club shall only be deducted one set of 10 points, such deduction to apply with effect from the first insolvency event.

Notwithstanding the above, if a club suffers, undergoes or enters into a separate, distinct and further insolvency event as per (ii) above, a further 10 point deduction shall be applied.

- (v) The League shall serve a club with written notice of the points deduction.
- (vi) A club may appeal against an automatic deduction of points in accordance with Article 14 of the IFA Articles of Association.

2. HMRC Reporting

a) **Provision of Authority**

Each club must have provided to the Irish Football Association prior to the commencement of the season, an original irrevocable authority (which shall not be time constrained) in the form prescribed by the Irish Football Association and signed by a director and the company secretary of the Club (Chairman and Club Officer for Member's Clubs), addressed to HMRC authorising HMRC to provide to the Irish Football Association information relating to amounts of PAYE, NIC and VAT payable, paid and overdue from the Club to HMRC from time to time including, by way of example and without limitation, the amount of Arrears (if any), the existence of and current position in respect of any Time to Pay Agreement and if a club defaults on any such agreement. The Irish Football Association shall be entitled to forward to HMRC the Authority without having to seek the consent of the club.

b) **Current HMRC Debt**

Any Club which has not within 28 (twenty eight) days of the relevant due date paid to HMRC the amounts due to be paid to HMRC to discharge:

- (i) The Club's full liability for PAYE & NIC due in respect of any and all employees or former employees of the Club for the immediately preceding payment period;
- (ii) The Club's full liability for VAT due in respect of goods and services charged to the Club for the immediately preceding payment period;

And/or

- (iii) Defaults on the terms of any Time to Pay Agreement;

- a. That club shall be subject to a registration embargo such that it shall not be permitted

to register any professional player with that Club without the prior written permission of the Irish Football Association CEO for the period that the club is subject to a default event.

i, ii and iii above are all classed as default events.

c) Disputed Amounts

Any amount which HMRC claims to be due to it but which has been formally contested by the Club shall not be considered as due to HMRC for the purposes of these regulations until such time as a final determination is made on HMRC's claim.

3. Membership Fees

- a) The Annual Subscription of each Club to the NIFL Premiership shall be £1500.
- b) All Annual Subscriptions shall be paid on or before the 31st July in each year to the NIFL who shall have notified each Club that the subscription is due.
- c) Any Club whose subscription is not paid by 31st July shall not be entitled to participate in any competition organised by the NIFL Premiership or be represented at any meeting until same shall have been paid.

4. Dual Interests in Clubs

This rule should be read in conjunction with the IFA Football Regulation 44.

- (a) Except with prior written consent of the NIFL Board, no club, or nominee of a Club, may at one time either directly or indirectly:
 - (i) Hold or acquire or deal in the securities or shares of another Club, or
 - (ii) Be a member of another Club, or
 - (iii) Be involved in any capacity whatsoever in the management or administration of another Club, or
 - (iv) Have any power whatsoever to influence the management or administration of another club.
- (b) Except with the prior written consent of the NIFL Board, no person, whether absolutely or as a trustee either alone or with one or more associates, may at one time, either directly or indirectly:
 - (i) Hold or acquire or deal in the securities or shares of more than one club, or
 - (ii) Be a member of more than one Club, or
 - (iii) Be involved in any capacity whatsoever in the management or administration of more than one Club, or
 - (iv) Have any power whatsoever to influence the management or administration of more than one Club.

- (c) For the purposes of Paragraph (b) of this Rule 'person' includes any body corporate and a partnership.
- (d) In considering whether to give any such consent the NIFL Board shall have regard to the need to promote and safeguard the interests and public profile of Association Football, its players, spectators and others concerned with the game and shall have regard also to the Constitution and Rules of the NIFL and those bodies to which the NIFL is affiliated.
- (e) For the purposes of this Rule an 'Associate' means:-
 - (a) If the person referred to in Paragraph (b) of this Rule is an individual:
 - (i) A close relative of that individual, including that individual's spouse, parents, step-parent, child, step-child, uncle, aunt, nephew or niece, or a child or step-child, of such parent or spouse or anyone else of close relationship to the individual who in the opinion of the NIFL Premiership is or is likely to be acting in conjunction with the individual.
 - (ii) Any Company of which the individual is a director or over which the individual is able to exercise control or influence.
 - (iii) Any individual who is an employee or partner of that individual or a close relative of any such employee or partner.
 - (b) If the person referred to in Paragraph (b) of this Rules or any associate of that person is a body corporate:
 - (i) Any other body corporate associated with either through the holding of shares in it or by reason of control by contact or other form of agreement and
 - (ii) Any director or employee of that body corporate or any close relative of such director or employee, and
- (c) Where any person has an agreement or arrangement, whether legally binding or not, with any other person in relation to the exercise of their voting power in a Club or in relation to the holding or disposal of the interest of the Club, that other person.
- (d) For the purposes of Paragraph (c) above, the word 'person' shall fall to be defined under reference to Paragraph (c) above.

5. Clubs Ceasing to be Members

If any club is expelled, or resigns from the NIFL Premiership without the consent of the NIFL Premiership the players who are registered with that club shall be granted 'free agent' status in accordance with the FIFA regulations governing the Status and Transfer of Players. Clubs failing to notify the NIFL Managing Director on or before 31st March of their intention to discontinue membership of the Premiership shall forfeit the sum of £5000 from any monies due to the funds of the NIFL and shall also be liable as the NIFL Premiership shall determine to pay their proportional share of any loss that may result to the League in the ensuing season by reason of the failure of such Club to give notice of withdrawal by the date aforementioned.

6. Notices

A notice may be given by the NIFL Premiership to any Club or any Club representative either personally or by sending it by email or by post to the registered address supplied by the club or representative for the giving of notices. Where a notice is sent by post service the notice shall be deemed to be effected by properly addressing, prepaying and posting a letter containing the notice, and to have been effected at the expiration of 24 hours after the letter containing the same was posted.

7. League Competitions

- a) The League shall, each Season, conduct and in every respect control a football competition to be called the NIFL Premiership.
- b) The NIFL Premiership shall consist of 12 teams who shall play each other on three occasions (either 2 at 'home' and 1 'away' or vice versa as determined by the fixture schedule).
- c) When all teams have completed 33 matches the league shall be split into two sections. Teams ranked in positions 1 to 6 shall comprise Section A and teams ranked in positions 7 to 12 shall comprise Section B. Points achieved during the first phase of 33 matches are carried forward to the second phase. Teams shall then compete in a further 5 matches (ie one match against all other teams within their respective sections).
- d) The venues for these final matches shall be determined by the previous meetings in the initial 33 matches to provide, where possible, a balance of fixtures which ensures all teams complete two matches at 'home' and two matches 'away' against the teams in their respective sections.
- e) After 38 matches have been played by all clubs the clubs finishing from 3rd to 7th position (3rd to 6th in Section A and the top team in Section B) will participate in a play off system as follows:

Quarter Final (Match A)

6th placed club v Winner of 'bottom 6 section' i.e. 7th placed team

Semi Finals

3rd placed club v Winner of Match A

4th placed club v 5th placed club

Final

Winner of Semi Final 1 v Winner of Semi Final 2

The winner of these play offs will qualify for the UEFA Europa League.

- f) Should the winner of the Irish Challenge Cup finish in 3rd to 7th position then there will be no quarter final in the play offs and remaining clubs finishing in 3rd to 7th position will play against each other in the following format with their league position determining their ranking:

Semi Finals

1. 1st ranked club v 4th ranked club
2. 2nd ranked club v 3rd ranked club

Final

Winner of Semi Final 1 v Winner Semi Final 2

- g) Should a club finishing in 3rd to 7th position not receive a UEFA licence then they will not be permitted to participate in the play offs for UEFA Europa League qualification. In this event there will be no quarter final in the play offs and the remaining clubs finishing in 3rd to 7th position will play against each other in the following format with their league position determining their ranking:

Semi Finals

3. 1st ranked club v 4th ranked club
4. 2nd ranked club v 3rd ranked club

Final

Winner of Semi Final 1 v Winner Semi Final 2

- h) In the event of any other scenario the NIFL Premiership Management Committee shall schedule the play off competition as it considers appropriate.
- i) The play offs for the UEFA Europa League shall be played on a knockout basis. All ties shall be played to a finish. If at the end of normal playing time the scores are equal then two periods of fifteen (15) minutes each way will be played. If there are no goals scored during extra time the tie shall be decided by kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the conditions approved by the International FA Board.
- j) In all ties, of the play offs for the UEFA Europa League, the gate receipts after payment of the costs pertaining to referees, professional security company, turnstiles, ambulance/first aid cover, hospitality and ticketing shall be equally divided between the two (2) competing clubs. (The home club shall ensure that copies of the receipts for such costs are furnished to the away team upon request)
- k) NIFL Premiership Management Committee reserves the right to The NIFL Reserve League shall consist of 12 teams who shall play each other on three occasions (either 2 at 'home' and 1 'away' or vice versa as determined by the fixture schedule.

8. Ranking of Teams

- a) Teams shall be awarded 3 points for a win, 1 point for a draw and 0 points for a defeat. In the case of equality of points teams shall be ranked in accordance with the following criteria:
- i. Goal Difference (Goals scored less goals conceded in all matches)
 - ii. Goals scored in all matches
 - iii. Superior points gained in matches between the teams in question

- iv. Superior goal difference in matches between the teams in question
- v. Drawing of lots by the NIFL Premiership Management Committee

- b) At the end of the season the club finishing at the top of the NIFL Championship shall be promoted to the NIFL Premiership and the club finishing bottom of the NIFL Premiership shall be relegated to the NIFL Championship.
- c) The club finishing in second bottom position in the NIFL Premiership shall be obliged to play in a play-off against the highest ranked club, with a Championship Licence, finishing in 2nd – 6th position in the NIFL Championship and the winner of the play-off, which will be on a 'home' and 'away' basis with away goals to count double, will be promoted to or remain in (as the case may be) the NIFL Premiership.
- d) However, if none of the clubs finishing in 2nd – 6th position in the NIFL Championship conform to the Championship Club Licence criteria the play-off match will not be required and in such circumstances the 11th placed team in the NIFL Premiership shall remain in the NIFL Premiership.
- e) If the winners of the NIFL Championship do not conform with the Championship Club Licence criteria they will not be promoted to the NIFL Premiership, in this instance the highest ranked club finishing in 2nd – 6th position in the NIFL Championship which conforms with the Championship Club Licence Criteria would then play against the team finishing bottom of the NIFL Premiership and the winner of that play-off, which will be on a 'home' and 'away' basis', will be promoted to or remain in (as the case may be) the NIFL Premiership.
- f) If the two teams involved in the play off score the same number of goals over the two legs, the team which scores more away goals will be declared the winner.
- g) The loser of the play-off will be relegated to or remain in (as the case may be) the NIFL Championship.
- h) If at the end of the second match of the play-off the scores are equal then that game will be played to a finish by the playing of extra time of 15 minutes each way and by the taking of penalty kicks if necessary in accordance with the Laws of the Game.
- i) The play-off matches to determine the final composition of the NIFL Premiership and the NIFL Championship shall be played on a date to be determined by NIFL Premiership Management Committee who will be responsible for all arrangements in respect of the play-off matches which will be played under the jurisdiction of the NIFL Premiership.
- j) The first match shall be played at the ground of the NIFL Championship Club whilst the second match shall be played at the ground of the NIFL Premiership Club, unless otherwise agreed and confirmed in writing to the NIFL by both competing teams.
- k) If none of the clubs finishing in the top 6 positions of the NIFL Championship comply with the Championship Club Licence criteria then there will be no promotion to the NIFL Premiership in respect of that season.
- l) Notwithstanding the above criteria in respect of promotion and relegation the NIFL Premiership Management Committee shall have the power to maintain a full membership of 12 teams in each Season, which may in exceptional circumstances require the selection of the top 12 ranked teams who conform with the Domestic/ Championship Club Licence criteria.

THE NIFL PREMIERSHIP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

9. NIFL Premiership Management Committee

- a) The NIFL Premiership Management Committee shall be formed in accordance with the appropriate Articles of the Association and shall have powers to deal with all matters delegated to it by the Board.
- b) The Committee shall appoint annually a Chairman and Vice-Chairman who may serve for a period not exceeding two years. A Chairman retiring after a period of two years may not seek election either to the office of chairman or that of Vice-Chairman until a further period of two years has elapsed.

A club which is entitled to appoint one representative to the NIFL Premiership Management Committee shall do so not later than the 1st June in each year and the Secretary of the club shall notify such appointment, including dates of birth, in writing to the NIFL Premiership within one week from election. Clubs shall also be entitled to appoint an additional representative who will be permitted to attend any meeting of the NIFL Premiership Management Committee in the event of the regular representative, for whatever reason, being unable to attend. Such additional representative must be notified no later than 1st June. Any representatives so appointed may only retain their position as long as they remain a representative of the club that appointed them.
- c) 50% of any members present at any meeting of any Committee or Sub-Committee shall form a quorum.
- d) The NIFL Premiership Management Committee may appoint Sub-Committees as appropriate and delegate power to them. Any Sub-Committee so formed shall, in the exercise of the power so delegated, conform to any regulations that may be imposed upon them by the Committee appointing them.
- e) The NIFL Premiership may call upon clubs, members and players of clubs to produce any books, letters, documents and other evidence the Committee may require.

10. NIFL Premiership Powers

- a) The NIFL Premiership Management Committee shall have full power to act as it thinks fit, including power to suspend, fine or expel any club, club official or player guilty of a criminal offence, misconduct, infringing or failing to observe the Rules of the NIFL Premiership or acting in a manner which could be construed as bringing the game into disrepute and contrary to the best interests of the NIFL Premiership as a whole. The NIFL Premiership Management Committee shall also have powers to deal with any other matter not provided for in the Rules.

This rule will not apply to any field offences or any other matter which would normally be dealt with by the Irish Football Association.
- b) All clubs participating in any Competition under the auspices of the NIFL Premiership shall as a prerequisite of entry into such Competitions agree to be bound by this Rule.

11. Youth League Committee

The NIFL Premiership shall delegate to the Youth League Committee, which shall consist of one representative from each club in membership of the League, all or any power it thinks fit in connection with the organisation and management of the said Leagues, including the power to formulate rules, to appoint its own officers (who shall not be deemed officers of the NIFL Premiership) and to delegate any of their power to sub-committees appointed from their own number.

OFFENCES, INQUIRIES AND COMMISSIONS THEREON, DISPUTES AND APPEALS

12. Inquiry into and Punishment of Offences

- a) The NIFL Premiership Management Committee, and any Commission or Sub-Committee duly appointed by the Board shall have power of enquiry into all financial arrangements between clubs and players, and into all matters constituting or pertaining to breaches or a breach of Regulations of the NIFL Premiership, and they shall be entitled for that purpose to require the attendance of all officials, players and other persons and for the production of all books, letters and other documents.
- b) The NIFL Premiership irrespective of whether or not it shall have appointed a Commission or Sub-Committee to hold an inquiry shall have full power to deal with all clubs, officials, and players which they shall deem guilty of having offended against or committed a breach of the Regulations of the NIFL Premiership, and they shall be entitled to take such action and award such punishments either by way of reprimand, fine, suspension, expulsion or any other form of punishment as they may think fit in the circumstances.

Note – This rule will not apply to any field offences or any other matter which would normally be dealt with by the IFA Disciplinary Committee.

13. Commissions and Reports

- a) The NIFL Premiership Management Committee may at any time appoint a Commission or Sub-Committee consisting of such number of persons as they deem the circumstances warrant for the purpose of inquiring into any matter appertaining to the NIFL Premiership or its affairs.
- b) The NIFL Premiership Management Committee or any duly appointed Commission or Sub-Committee shall be entitled to publish in the public press or in any other manner they shall think fit report of their proceedings, acts, resolutions, and findings whether the same shall or shall not reflect on the character or conduct of any club, official or player and all evidence tendered on such inquiries, and all such inquiries and reports shall be privileged and every such club, official, player or spectator shall be deemed to have assented to such inquiry and to such publication, and to regard the same as privileged in law. On any inquiry such order may be made as to payment of expenses by clubs, players, or officials as the NIFL Premiership may think fit.

14. Misconduct in Pre-arranging Results/Gambling on NIFL Premiership matches

- a) Any club, official or player offering or receiving a payment or any form of inducement from any other person or organisation to win, lose or draw a match shall be deemed guilty of misconduct and shall be liable to a fine of £5000 and shall be subject to such further sanction as the NIFL Premiership Management Committee shall see fit.
- b) All players, technical staff and club officials are forbidden from taking part, either directly, or indirectly, in betting, gambling, lotteries and similar events and transaction connected with football matches under the control and organisation of the NIFL Premiership.
- c) The NIFL Premiership Management Committee shall have the power to investigate any such allegations brought to their attention and to impose such sanctions as they consider appropriate.

15. Protests

- a) Protests by all clubs must be received by the Managing Director of the NIFL per Special Delivery post, bearing postmark, within four days after the cause of the protest, accompanied by a deposit of £100 which shall be forfeited in all cases where the Protest has not been sustained. A copy of the Protest must also be sent by the appellant club by Special Delivery to the club protested against, if appropriate, bearing postmark within four days (excluding Sundays) after the cause of the Protest.
- b) Upon receipt of a Protest the NIFL Premiership Management Committee shall, in accordance with Rule 12, appoint a Sub Committee or a Commission consisting of a minimum of three persons to hear and determine the Protest. No person shall sit on a Protest which involves himself/herself or any club in which he/she may have an interest. All Protests shall be heard, where possible, within fourteen days of receipt of the Protest.
- c) In the case of a Protest, if the NIFL has any doubts as to the qualification of any player taking part in any competition it shall have power to call upon such player, or the clubs to which he belongs or for which he played, to prove that he was qualified according to the Rules and Regulations of the NIFL Premiership, and failing satisfactory proof shall deduct three points in the competition from the offending club or may disqualify it from the competition, and may expel, fine or otherwise deal with the offending player as they think fit.
- d) A club may be represented at the hearing of a Protest or Inquiry by one or more of its members. Any person summoned to attend a Protest or Inquiry must attend personally.
- e) All questions of eligibility or qualification of clubs or players, or of the application of the Laws of the Game, or of the Articles of Association or Rules shall be referred for a ruling to the NIFL Board.

16. Appeals against Decisions of the NIFL Premiership

All appeals against a decision of the NIFL Premiership must be made to the IFA in accordance with the relevant IFA Articles of the Association.

MATCHES

17. Matches and Kick-off times

- a) Matches may be played on natural turf or artificial turf, provided that such artificial turf meets the "FIFA Recommended 1-Star Standard".
The owner of the artificial turf and the home club must be in receipt of a valid FIFA Certificate.
The NIFL Premiership cannot be held responsible for any damages to third parties resulting from the use of artificial turf.
- b) All matches shall be played under the Laws of the Game as approved by the International Football Association Board and in accordance with the Articles and Rules of the IFA and also of the NIFL Premiership. All NIFL Premiership matches shall be played on the dates scheduled at the commencement of the season, except:
 - i. When otherwise directed by the NIFL Premiership Management Committee; or when
 - ii. A club is engaged on a Thursday in a competitive fixture under the auspices of UEFA (either 'home' or 'away') and wishes to rearrange its fixture scheduled on the subsequent Saturday (ie two days later) to the following Sunday, Monday or Tuesday; or when
 - iii. Irish Cup ties take precedence.
- c) In the event of a home club wishing to change from a the date of a scheduled fixture, advance notice must be served in writing to both the Secretary of the away club and the NIFL Managing Director four (4) weeks prior to the scheduled date of the tie. The NIFL Premiership Fixture Sub Committee shall consider all such requests and determine whether or not such requests are approved or rejected.
- d) However, notwithstanding the above, no match shall be played on a Sunday unless the two (2) participating clubs are in agreement.
- e) Matches shall not be played out of sequence unless with the prior approval of the NIFL Premiership.
- f) The kick-off time for all Saturday matches shall be 3.00 pm unless otherwise directed by the NIFL Premiership Management Committee, or agreed by the two competing clubs and approved by the NIFL Premiership.
- g) In the event of a home club wishing to change kick off time of a scheduled fixture, advance notice must be served in writing to both the Secretary of the away club and the NIFL Managing Director four (4) weeks prior to the scheduled date of the tie. The NIFL Premiership Fixture Sub Committee shall consider all such requests and determine whether or not such requests are approved or rejected.
- h) The kick-off time for all midweek matches (including Friday fixtures) shall be 7.45 pm unless otherwise directed by the NIFL Premiership or agreed by the two competing clubs and approved by the NIFL Premiership. This does not include Public Holidays or

Bank Holidays.

- i) Reserve League Fixtures which incur a round trip of less than 80 miles will be scheduled for a Wednesday night.
In the event of clubs wishing to change from a Wednesday, the written agreement of both clubs must be served in writing by both clubs to the NIFL Managing Director four (4) weeks prior to the scheduled date of the tie.
- j) Reserve League fixtures which incur a round trip in excess of 80 miles will be scheduled for a Saturday afternoon.
In the event of clubs wishing to change from a Saturday, the written agreement of both clubs must be served in writing by both clubs to the Managing Director four (4) weeks prior to the scheduled date of the tie.
- k) All Reserve League fixtures must be played on the dates appointed for them unless both clubs and the NIFL Managing Director agreed to a rearrangement. Clubs failing to comply with this rule shall be fined in a sum of £250 and shall forfeit three points, such points shall be accredited to the opposing team and a score line of 3 goals to nil awarded to their opponents.
- l) Also, in the event of a Reserve team failing to fulfil an arranged fixture the appropriate Committee shall be empowered to grant compensation to the other club for actual expenses incurred for such match. A club failing to fulfil an arranged match for the second time in the current season shall be dismissed from membership of the Reserve League.

18. Postponed or Abandoned Matches

Postponed or abandoned matches shall be played on a date to be determined by the NIFL Premiership Fixtures Sub Committee.

19. International Duty

- a) In the event of a club having two or more players selected and/or on standby to represent their National Association representative team(s), in matches recognised by the FIFA International Calendar, they shall be permitted to request a postponement of their scheduled fixture during the period of release in respect of such International Duty. Furthermore, a club whose goalkeeper is selected for such International Duty shall also be permitted to request a postponement due to the specialist position.
- b) In the event of a club having three or more players selected and/or on standby to represent their National Association representative team(s) in matches not recognised on the FIFA International Calendar or Development and Schools FA squads, they shall be permitted to request a postponement of their scheduled fixture during the period of release in respect of such International Duty. Furthermore, a club whose goalkeeper is selected for such International Duty shall also be permitted to request a postponement due to the specialist position.
- c) The NIFL Premiership Fixtures Sub Committee shall consider all such requests and determine whether or not such requests are approved or rejected.

20. Substitute Players

- a) A club may at its discretion use three substitute players at any time in any match, except to replace a player who has been dismissed from the game by the Referee. The substitutions can be made in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of the Game.
- b) Only three substitutions by each side will be permitted in any match and clubs may nominate up to a maximum of five substitute players prior to the commencement of the match.
- c) A substitute player shall be construed as taking part in the game for which he was nominated only if he has actually played in such game.
- d) Should any nominated player or substitute sustain an injury or become otherwise incapacitated after the submission of the team sheet to the referee and before the kick-off he may be replaced provided that the referee and the opposing club are informed prior to kick-off.

21. Player Identification

- a) Squad numbers must be assigned to all players. These numbers must be retained and used on shirts throughout the season. The players shirts must be clearly named and numbered on the back and must correspond exactly with the referees card handed to the referee before any match under the jurisdiction of the NIFL Premiership, and the team captain shall wear a distinguishing armband to indicate his status.
- b) Clubs shall be fined a minimum of £50, for each offence, where they fail to observe this rule.

22. Completion of Team Sheet

- a) Each Club shall complete the official team sheet including the names of players and club officials and their functions taking part in each match (including the name of the nominated substitutes) and submit to the 4th Official not later than 75 minutes prior to kick-off. In respect of the Reserve League the official team sheet must be submitted to the Referee not later than 45 minutes prior to kick off. Players' names must correspond with the numbers assigned on the official team sheet. The Secretary or other responsible official shall verify the accuracy of the information provided by signing the team sheet.
- b) The home club shall be responsible for distributing copies of the official team sheet to both clubs and also to the representatives from the media not later than 45 minutes prior to kick off.
- c) Any club failing to provide such documentation by the stipulated deadlines will be fined in the sum of £50 for each offence.

23. Kit Approval

- a) Details of club playing kit(s), including the goalkeeper's kit(s), colours shall be notified by clubs to the NIFL on the official club information questionnaire which shall be

completed annually and returned not later than 30 June.

- b) In addition each club shall deliver to the referee's dressing room a sample of their playing kit (shirts, shorts and socks) including goalkeeper kit not later than 75 minutes prior to kick-off. In the case of a clash of colours the referee shall have the right to request clubs to change any item of their presented kit. In such cases the away team shall change as directed by the referee.
- c) In accordance with the Laws of the Game clubs must have the availability of additional kit should any item of the kit sustain blood coverage.

24. Late Start

The NIFL Premiership Management Committee may fine clubs for late start of matches in the sum of £500 except in exceptional circumstances. Referees must report late starts to the NIFL.

25. Weak Teams

Each club shall play its full strength team in all matches under the jurisdiction of the NIFL Premiership unless some satisfactory explanation is offered to the Committee. In the event of the explanation not being deemed satisfactory the Committee shall inflict a fine on the club of not less than £1000.

26. Objection to Ground, etc.

Any objection to the field of play or goal posts, which must include adequate netting, must be lodged with the Referee before the game is started, and the Referee shall have power to have such objections made right before the match is started.

27. Pitch Inspections

- a) In case of unfavourable weather conditions the Home Club must request the NIFL for an early inspection not later than four hours before kick-off. The Match Referee or an alternative Referee appointed by the NIFL must inspect the ground at least three hours or more previous to the advertised time of kick-off and shall decide as to the fitness of the ground not later than three hours prior to the pre-arranged time of kick-off, his decision being final after consultation with the Club Secretary and the NIFL.
- b) No game shall be postponed without an inspection by a referee appointed by the NIFL, who shall take due cognizance of local advice and the travelling supporters.
- c) Notwithstanding the above, in the event of extreme weather conditions the NIFL Managing Director, in consultation with the NIFL Premiership Chairman, may declare any match or matches postponed without a formal pitch inspection.
- d) Where possible the officially appointed match referee should carry out the pitch inspection but if he/she should not be available for an inspection then the NIFL will appoint an alternative official from a panel approved by the committee, who will decide on the state of the pitch. If obviously 'playable' he will then declare his decision.

- e) It is agreed that in addition to the £5 fee an allowance of £5 per hour be paid up until 2pm when the referee would be due to arrive at the ground in normal circumstances. This will only apply when the match referee has had to travel 30 miles or more (single journey/one way). Any distances shorter than this would result in the match referee returning home following the inspection and travel back to the ground at the normal time and he would of course be entitled to add this extra travel and £5 inspection fee onto his expenses for the game.
- f) The Referee, Assistant Referees and 4th Official shall be paid half match fee and expenses for a postponed match which they have arrived at and inspected.

28. Referee to wait before abandoning a match

- a) In the case of matches where it is found necessary to stop play owing to weather conditions the referee must wait for a period of 15 minutes before deciding upon abandonment.
- b) If through any cause a match has been abandoned before the completion of the full playing time the Committee shall have power at its discretion to allot the points according to the goals scored at the time of such abandonment, or order the unfinished time to be played, or to order the match to be re-played in its entirety, on a subsequent date to be fixed by the NIFL Premiership Management Committee under such terms and conditions as it may impose.

29. Medals

The NIFL Premiership shall award up to twenty medals to the winning clubs for presentation to their players each of whom shall have taken part in a minimum of 12 games constituting the NIFL Premiership. Additional medals may be purchased by the clubs concerned, if so warranted and the Committee shall consider all such requests.

30. Trophies

The club declared Champions shall receive a trophy, which shall at all times remain the property of the NIFL and must be returned in good order when requested by the NIFL. It is the responsibility of the Champion Club to abide by the conditions imposed by the NIFL Premiership Insurers in respect of the safe keeping of the trophy throughout the period it is held by the club and arrange appropriate insurance cover for the trophy throughout the period when it is held by the Club.

FINANCE

31. Admission to Grounds

- (a) The admission policy for all NIFL Premiership matches shall be determined by the NIFL Premiership Management Committee annually
- (b) Each club shall furnish the NIFL a list of no more than 15 directors that shall receive a Director's pass. The bearer shall be entitled to admission to the ground, Director's Box and Board Rooms at matches in which their club are participating under the jurisdiction of the NIFL, excluding semi-finals and finals.
The NIFL Premiership at its discretion may issue passes to any other persons as it sees fit.

32. Gate Receipts

- a) The admission charges to the ground in all NIFL Premiership matches shall be retained by the home clubs, unless otherwise determined by the NIFL Premiership Management Committee.
- b) In any match where admission to the ground is by ticket, all revenue generated from the sale of tickets by the away team shall be paid to the home team within 7 days following the date on which the match was played together with a reconciliation of unsold tickets.
- c) Non payment shall result in an automatic increase of 10% of the monies due to the home club for up to 7 days late payment and 20% between 7 to 14 days late payment. All other cases shall be referred to the Committee who will deal with the matter as they consider appropriate.

33. Season Tickets

Clubs may issue season tickets for admission to all home "League" matches, unless otherwise directed.

34. Fines

- a) All fines imposed by the NIFL Premiership, unless appealed against, shall be paid within 21 days from the date of the letter imposing the fine unless a payment plan has been agreed with the club.
- b) Otherwise offending clubs will be fined £50 per week or part of a week that a fine is outstanding.
- c) If any club fails to make any payment to the NIFL Premiership in accordance with the requirements of these rules NIFL shall be empowered to deduct the amount of any such payment(s) from any money payable to the debtor club.

REGISTRATIONS AND TRANSFERS

35. IFA Professional Game Player Registration Regulations

All players must be registered in accordance with the IFA Professional Game Player Registration Regulations and the NIFL Player Registration/Eligibility Guidelines.

36. Squad Size Limits

- a) From 1 June 2016 clubs will be permitted to register a maximum of twenty (20) players aged 21 and over. Clubs will be permitted to register an unlimited number of players under the age of 21.
- b) The NIFL will provide a schedule on the implementation and introduction of Squad Size Limits not later than 1 January 2016.

37. Salary Cost Protocol

All players must be registered in accordance with the Salary Cost Protocol regulations.

38. Undisclosed Payments

- a) It is strictly forbidden to make any payment to a player, either directly or via a related party, which has not been detailed in the official players' contract, lodged with the Irish Football Association, or not documented in line with related party transactions outlined in Sections 5 and 6 of the Salary Cost Protocol regulations.
 - b) The Board or Managing Director of the NIFL or its appointees may at any time, in order to:
 - satisfy itself as to the accuracy of the contractual / registration information provided to it by a club;
- and / or to
- consider any suspicion of undisclosed payments made by or on behalf of a club carry out such investigations, interviews and/or audits it considers (in its sole and absolute discretion) appropriate and if deemed necessary / applicable shall pass the case, including all evidence relied on to the IFA Disciplinary Committee, when a club has acted in a manner which brings the game of Association Football into disrepute..
- c) In any investigation, any person if requested shall:
 - i) provide the NIFL or its appointees with all information, documents and/or records that the NIFL or its appointees considers relevant to an investigation;
 - ii) cooperate fully with any interview process carried out by the NIFL or its appointees;
 - iii) verify the accuracy (or otherwise) of any information or document provided;
 - iv) provide written confirmation of all offers made to a player regardless of whether the player subsequently concludes a professional contract or amateur registration with the club;

- d) Where a party to an investigation fails to comply with i) to iv) above, that party shall be liable to be fined not less than £5,000 and the investigation shall continue with a reasonable adverse inference being drawn from any failure to comply with i) to iv) above.
- e) An investigation into any suspected breach must be initiated within a period of two seasons from the suspected season of any such breach.
- f) For the avoidance of doubt, this provides the scope to initiate an investigation into any suspected breach having occurred in the two seasons prior to any current season.
- g) Similarly, following the close of any investigation, the case can be reopened should new information become available which alters the status of previous conclusions within this same two season period.
- h) The standard of proof to be applied is that of comfortable satisfaction. That is to say that the Committee does not have to be satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt but should be more than satisfied that, on balance, the allegation is made out. The more serious the allegation, the less likely it is that the event occurred and therefore the higher the threshold of satisfaction.

39. Ineligibility of Players

Failure to comply with any of the conditions relating to a registration will render the player ineligible to play for the club concerned as not being a bona-fide player.

40. Penalty for Playing Unregistered or Ineligible Players

- a) Any club playing an ineligible player or players in any match under the auspices of the NIFL Premiership shall be fined, in the case of each Premiership club a sum of £500 per player for the first offence and £50 for subsequent offences involving the same player. In the case of each Reserve League Club and Youth League Club a sum of £250 per player for the first offence and £25 for subsequent offences involving the same player. In addition should the match(es) in question result in a win for the offending team, or end in a draw, then such points shall be forfeited by the offending club and its opponents awarded three points in respect of that match and a score-line of 3-0 recorded in its favour.
- b) Should the match(es) in question result in a defeat for the offending team a scoreline of 3-0 shall be recorded in the favour of their opponents. Notwithstanding the above the winning team shall not be disadvantaged if the original scoreline was of greater benefit to that teams goal difference.
- c) Should both clubs play an ineligible player or players in any match under the auspices of the NIFL Premiership then both clubs will be fined, in the case of each Premiership club a sum of £500 per player for the first offence and £50 for subsequent offences involving the same player. In the case of each Reserve League club a sum of £250 per player for the first offence and £25 for subsequent offences involving the same player. In addition, neither club will be awarded any points for the fixture and both clubs shall have a minus three (-3) goal difference recorded against them.

- d) Nothing in these Regulations shall entitle the NIFL Premiership to deduct points or impose fines for registration committed by any club during any previous season. (For the purpose of all NIFL Premiership regulations a season will be deemed to end on 31st May in each year).

MISCELLANEOUS

41. Condition of Membership of Clubs comprising the NIFL Premiership

- a) All clubs in membership of the NIFL Premiership acknowledge that they are bound by the rules of the NIFL Premiership and the decisions of its committees which are final and binding, except insofar as an appeal may lie to the appropriate committee of the IFA.
- b) Clubs shall be obliged to sign a participation agreement and to abide by the conditions contained therein.
- c) Any club not adhering to this rule or the terms of the agreement shall be dealt with as the NIFL Premiership Management Committee consider appropriate.

42. Registration of Ground

- a) Each club shall register its ground with the NIFL and no club shall register another ground without first obtaining the consent of the NIFL.
- b) Ground sharing will only be approved at the discretion of the NIFL Premiership.
- c) Clubs must register their pitch dimensions with the NIFL Premiership prior to the start of each Season, which at all times must adhere to the Laws of the Game.
- d) Each club shall take all reasonable steps to maintain its pitch in good order.

43. Club Grounds

- a) Clubs placing their enclosures at the disposal of the NIFL for all matches do so on the understanding that all their members must pay for admission into the grounds on the days of such matches. Each club shall be bound to place its grounds at the disposal of the NIFL Premiership when required and a rental fee of 10% on net gate receipts (or in the case of semi-finals aggregate gate receipts) shall be paid to the host club (s).
- b) No ground rent will be payable to a competing club in any final tie.
- c) Clubs must place their grounds, without charge and subject to permission from the ground owner, at the disposal of the NIFL Premiership at least on one occasion during each season for the purpose of playing a benefit match for League funds should such be found necessary, or the NIFL Premiership may call upon each club to contribute equally such amount to the NIFL Funds as they may deem advisable.

44. Technical Areas

- a) Each club shall provide separate areas adjacent to the pitch for the sole use of team officials, medical staff and substitute players for both teams in accordance with the

Laws of the Game Such areas shall be clearly marked 'Home' and 'Away', shall have direct access onto the pitch, shall be located equidistant from the halfway line on the same side of the pitch (unless not possible), shall be under cover and a maximum of 11 persons (five substitute players and six club officials) only shall be permitted.

- b) Any player who is dismissed from the field of play shall proceed immediately to the dressing room.
- c) Smoking is not permitted in the Technical Area. Any club found in breach of this will be dealt with by the NIFL Premiership.

45. Playing Kit

- a) Each club in any NIFL Premiership Competition shall register its playing kit colours with the NIFL on a kit approval form to be provided by the league. In all cases the first choice (home) kit and the second choice (away) kit must provide an alternative colour of all garments. In the event of a clash of colours the visiting team shall change. Goalkeepers must wear a playing kit which distinguishes them from the other players and the match officials.
- b) In the event of two clubs whose registered playing kits are the same having to play a match on a neutral ground both clubs shall change their kits unless otherwise agreed.
- c) Neither the home strip shirt nor the away strip shirt shall be of a colour or design alike or similar to the outfits of the Match Officials.

46. Ball boys

- a) The colours of clothing worn by ball boys must not clash with the colours of either of the competing clubs.
- b) Clubs may utilise a multiball system to the immediate replacement of a matchball when it has left the field of play. Clubs who adopt this procedure must ensure that the system is used consistently for the duration of the match, and for both teams, unless directed otherwise by the referee.

47. Referees

- a) The NIFL Premiership shall keep a list of Referees whose names have been approved by and also registered with the Association, or persons designated by the NIFL Premiership. Referees shall be appointed by the NIFL. Once an appointment has been made no objections to such appointment can, under any circumstances, be entertained by the NIFL Premiership. In the event of the Referee or an Assistant Referee having to retire during the progress of the match, the 4th Official will assume responsibility of the referee (retired official) to completion.
- b) A Referee appointed to act in a match must notify the NIFL Premiership of his or her acceptance or otherwise in writing within three days after the notification of his or her appointment and shall return the official team sheet and details of the match to the NIFL Premiership immediately following the match as directed by the NIFL Premiership.

48. Official Match Ball

The official match ball to be used in all matches shall be the ball approved by the NIFL and supplied to the clubs at the commencement of the Season. Additional match balls, if required, may be purchased from the NIFL.

49. Half-time Interval

In all matches the half time interval shall be 15 minutes.

50. Processional Entry and Fair Play Handshake

The match officials shall lead both teams on to the field of play five minutes prior to kick-off time. The teams shall line up either side of the officials, at the half way line and the visiting team shall move towards the home team, when both teams will shake hands with all match officials and players

51. Match Observers

The NIFL Premiership may appoint match observers to any match played under its jurisdiction and such match observers shall be required to complete a report as determined by the NIFL Premiership. All match observers must be independent of any club in membership of the NIFL Premiership or NIFL Championship, and must not hold a position in another football organisation which may be deemed a conflict of interest. A list of Match Observers approved annually by the NIFL Premiership Management Committee. The NIFL Premiership Management Committee shall provide guidelines to each club on how Match Observers should be facilitated at matches.

52. League Structure

The NIFL Board may at any time during the present season implement and make changes to the league format and structure which would then become effective prior to the commencement of the following playing season and nothing in these rules and regulations will so prevent the board from introducing and formulating any such structure provided that the board hereby undertakes to enter into a full consultation exercise with the member clubs of the league before any such changes are made.

53. Alterations to Rules

Alterations to these rules shall only be considered during the closed season. Any club wishing to have a proposal considered, must forward same in writing to the NIFL Premiership no later than 31st May.



NIFL CHAMPIONSHIP
RULES & REGULATIONS
SEASON 2015/16

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CONSTITUTION

1. Title

- a) For the purposes of Football Competitions the NIFL Championship shall be composed of two divisions comprised of fourteen (14) clubs in each division:
- b) Membership of the League shall constitute an agreement between the League and each Club to be bound by and comply with:
 - I. FIFA Regulations
 - II. The NIFL Articles of Association
 - III. The Rules of the NIFL Championship,.
 - IV. The Rules of the Irish Football Association,
 - V. The Laws of the Game,
 - VI. The Rules and Regulations of any body of which the League is a member,
 - VII. The terms of any commercial or broadcast agreement entered into by the League,
 - VIII. The relevant Participation Agreement to be determined by the NIFL Board.
 - IX. The terms of any Cup or other Competitions conducted or controlled by the League, whether each of the aforesaid is altered, revoked or added to from time to time.
 - X. WADA/UKAD Code
- c) Each member (club) shall be the legal entity fully responsible for the football team participating in the NIFL and such entity (which may be a legal company, limited liability company, private members club (Registration of clubs order 1996) or other like unincorporated association) shall have been in membership of the Irish Football Association for a period of at least one year.
 - I. Procedures for club to change its legal entity

If any club wishes to change its legal entity, which is the recognised member of the Irish Football Association and the Premiership or Championship Divisions 1 & 2, it must submit full details of the proposed change to the IFA Football Committee and the NIFL Board.

All of the following rules apply in order to change a legal entity:

- (a) Any application to transfer a club's membership of the Irish Football Association to a new entity must be submitted in writing and sent by Special Delivery post to the Chief Executive, Irish Football Association, and the Managing Director, Northern Ireland Football League, at the registered offices of the IFA and the NIFL.
- (b) A club's membership of the Irish Football Association may only be transferred to the new entity with the advance written permission of the IFA Football Committee. Each case will be considered on its own individual merits.

II. Sanction for club experiencing an Insolvency Event

If any club in membership of the NIFL Premiership or NIFL Championship Divisions 1 & 2 formally suffers, undergoes or enters into one of the following insolvency events that club shall be deducted 10 points:

1. Administration (Creditor Driven) – normally Bank or large unsecured creditor.
2. Administration (Club Driven) – appointment by the Directors to avoid other legal action e.g winding up order.
3. Fixed Charge Receivership – appointment by secured creditor only on fixed assets e.g property.
4. Have a winding up order made in respect of the club e.g HM Revenue & Customs.
5. Company Voluntary Arrangement – proposed in advance of or as a response to legal action by an unsecured creditor.
6. Have any proceeding or step taken or any court order made which has a substantially similar effect to any of the foregoing.

III. Where a club takes or suffers such action set out in Rule (II) above;

- (a) Prior to 1 March the points deduction shall apply immediately;
- (b) During the normal playing season but after 1 March, but before completion of all league fixtures, rule (IV) shall apply;
- (c) When all league fixtures have been concluded the points deduction shall apply in respect of the following season such that the club commences that season on minus 10 points

IV. Where the circumstances set out in Rule (III) (b) apply and at the end of that season, having regard to the number of points awarded (ignoring any potential deduction):

- (a) Should the club be relegated the points deduction will apply in the following season; or
- (b) Should the club not be relegated the points deduction will apply in that season and that club's points total for that season shall be recalculated accordingly and the final league position determined.

For the avoidance of doubt, when a club is subject to more than one of the events in (II) during a process of compromising its creditors (for example Administration followed by a Company Voluntary Arrangement), the club shall only be deducted one set of 10 points, such deduction to apply with effect from the first insolvency event.

Notwithstanding the above, if a club suffers, undergoes or enters into a separate, distinct and further insolvency event as per (II) above, a further 10 point deduction shall be applied.

- V. The league shall serve a club with written notice of the points deduction.
- VI. A club may appeal against an automatic deduction of points in accordance with Article 14 of the IFA Articles of Association.

2. Membership Fees

- a) The Annual Subscription of each Club to the League shall be £800.
- b) All Annual Subscriptions shall be paid on or before the 31st August in each year to the Managing Director of the League who shall have notified each Club that the subscription is due.
- c) Any Club whose subscription is not paid by 31st August shall not be entitled to be represented at any meeting until same shall have been paid and will be fined £100 for every month or part month that the subscription has not been paid.

3. Dual Interests in Clubs

- (a) Except with prior written consent of the NIFL Board, no club, or nominee of a Club, may at one time either directly or indirectly:
 - (i) Hold or acquire or deal in the securities or shares of another Club, or
 - (ii) Be a member of another Club, or
 - (iii) Be involved in any capacity whatsoever in the management or administration of another Club, or
 - (iv) Have any power whatsoever to influence the management or administration of another club.
- (b) Except with the prior written consent of the NIFL Board, no person, whether absolutely or as a trustee either alone or with one or more associates, may at one time, either directly or indirectly:
 - (i) Hold or acquire or deal in the securities or shares of more than one club, or
 - (ii) Be a member of more than one Club, or
 - (iii) Be involved in any capacity whatsoever in the management or administration of more than one Club, or
 - (iv) Have any power whatsoever to influence the management or administration of more than one Club.
- (c) For the purposes of Paragraph (b) of this Rule 'person' includes anybody corporate and a partnership.
- (d) In considering whether to give any such consent the NIFL Board shall have regard to the need to promote and safeguard the interests and public profile of Association Football, its

players, spectators and others concerned with the game and shall have regard also to the Articles and Rules of the NIFL and those bodies to which the NIFL is affiliated.

(e) For the purposes of this Rule an 'Associate' means:-

1. If the person referred to in Paragraph (b) of this Rule is an individual:
 - a. A close relative of that individual, including that individual's spouse, parents, step-parent, child, step-child, uncle, aunt, nephew or niece, or a child or step-child, of such parent or spouse or anyone else of close relationship to the individual who in the opinion of the NIFL Board is or is likely to be acting in conjunction with the individual.
 - b. Any Company of which the individual is a director or over which the individual is able to exercise control or influence.
 - c. Any individual who is an employee or partner of that individual or a close relative of any such employee or partner.
2. If the person referred to in Paragraph (b) of this Rule or any associate of that person is a body corporate:
 - a. Any other body corporate associated with either through the holding of shares in it or by reason of control by contract or other form of agreement and
 - b. Any director or employee of that body corporate or any close relative of such director or employee, and
3. Where any person has an agreement or arrangement, whether legally binding or not, with any other person in relation to the exercise of their voting power in a Club or in relation to the holding or disposal of the interest of the Club, .
4. For the purposes of Paragraph (c) above, the word 'person' shall fall to be defined under reference to Paragraph (c) above.

4. Notices

A notice may be given by the League or the NIFL Championship Management Committee to any Club or any Club representative either personally or by sending it by email or by post to the registered postal or email address supplied by the Club or representative for the giving of notices. Where a notice is sent by post, service of the notice shall be deemed to be effected by properly addressing, prepaying and posting a letter containing the notice, and to have been effected at the expiration of 24 hours after the letter containing same was posted.

NIFL CHAMPIONSHIP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

5. NIFL Championship Management Committee

- (a) The affairs of the League shall be vested in a Committee hereinafter called the NIFL Championship Management Committee which shall have full power to act as it thinks fit, including power to suspend, fine or expel any club, club official or player guilty of a criminal offence, infringing or failing to observe the rules of the League or acting in a manner which could be construed as bringing the League into disrepute and contrary to the best interests of the League as a whole. The NIFL Championship Management Committee shall also have power to deal with any other matters not provided for in the rules and such authority shall also be vested in an Executive Committee as elected by the NIFL Championship Management Committee.

Note – This rule will not apply to any field offences or any other matter which would normally be dealt with by the IFA Disciplinary Committee.

- (b) The NIFL Championship Management Committee shall consist of one representative from each club in membership of the League and each club shall also be required to nominate a second representative (or deputy) who shall be entitled to attend any meeting of the NIFL Championship Management Committee in the absence of his/her club's original nominee.

50% of any members present at any meeting of any Committee or Sub-Committee shall form a quorum.

- (c) The NIFL Championship Management Committee shall cause Minutes to be made in books provided for the purpose:
- I. Of all the names of members of the NIFL Championship Management Committee present at each meeting thereof and of any Committee appointed by the NIFL Championship Management Committee, and
 - II. Of all resolutions and proceedings at all meetings of the NIFL Championship Management Committee and of any Committee appointed by the NIFL Championship Management Committee.

6. NIFL Championship Executive Committee

- a) The Committee at its first meeting after the conclusion of the playing season in each year shall elect from its number six members to form an Executive Committee with full powers to act and decide on any matter arising between meetings of the NIFL Championship Management Committee pertaining to the League.
- b) The Chairman and the Vice-Chairman shall be ex-officio on all Committees and the Chairman shall have a casting vote in cases of equality of voting.

- c) If at any meeting neither be present within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for holding a meeting the representatives present shall choose one from their number to be chairman.

OFFENCES, INQUIRIES AND COMMISSIONS THEREON, DISPUTES AND APPEALS

7. Inquiry into and Punishment of Offences

- a) The NIFL Championship Management Committee, and any Commission or Sub Committee duly appointed by the Board shall have power of enquiry into all financial arrangements between clubs and players, and into all matters constituting or pertaining to breaches or a breach of regulations of the NIFL Championship, and they shall be entitled for that purpose to require the attendance of all officials, players and other persons and for the production of all books, letters and other documents.
- b) The NIFL Championship irrespective of whether or not it shall have appointed a Commission or Sub-Committee to hold an inquiry shall have full power to deal with all clubs, officials and players which they shall deem guilty of having offended against or committed a breach of the Regulations of the NIFL Championship, and they shall be entitled to take such action and award such punishments either by way of reprimand, fine, suspension, expulsion or any other form of punishment as they may think fit in the circumstances.

Note - This rule will not apply to any field offences or any other matter which would normally be dealt with by the IFA Disciplinary Committee.

8. Commissions and Reports

- a) The NIFL Championship Management Committee may at any time appoint a Commission or Sub-Committee consisting of such number of persons as they deem the circumstances warrant for the purpose of inquiring into any matter appertaining to the NIFL Championship or its affairs.
- b) The NIFL Championship Management Committee or any duly appointed Commission or Sub-Committee shall be entitled to publish in the public press or in any other manner they shall think fit a report of their proceedings, acts, resolutions, and findings whether the same shall or shall not reflect on the character or conduct of any club, official or player and all evidence tendered on such inquiries, and all such inquiries and reports shall be privileged and every such club, official, player or spectator shall be deemed to have assented to such inquiry and to such publication, and to regard the same as privileged in law. On any inquiry such order may be made as to payment of expenses by clubs, players, or officials as the NIFL Championship may think fit.

9. Offences by Clubs, Players etc. Illegal Inducements:

Any club, official or player either directly or indirectly inducing or attempting to induce a player of another club to leave the club for which he is registered for any purpose whatsoever shall be deemed guilty of misconduct and shall be liable to be expelled, fined or otherwise dealt with by the NIFL Championship Management Committee as they shall see fit, in accordance with the FIFA regulations governing the Status and Transfer of Players. A club found to have induced a player from another club to sign a transfer form shall be fined £500.

10. Misconduct in pre-arranging Results/Gambling on NIFL Championship Matches

- a) Any club, official or player offering or receiving a payment or any form of inducement from any other person or organisation to win, lose or draw a match shall be deemed guilty of misconduct and shall be liable to a fine of £2000 and shall be subject to such further sanction as the NIFL Championship Management Committee shall see fit.
- b) All players, technical staff and officials are forbidden from taking part, either directly or indirectly, in betting, gambling, lotteries and similar events and transactions connected with football matches under the control and organisation of the NIFL Championship.
- c) The NIFL Championship Executive Committee shall have the power to investigate any such allegations brought to their attention and to impose such sanctions as they consider appropriate.

11. Protests and Appeals:

- a) Protests by all clubs must be received by the Managing Director of the NIFL per Special Delivery, bearing postmark, within four days after the cause of the protest, accompanied by a deposit of £100 which shall be forfeited in all cases where the protest has not been sustained. A copy of the protest must also be sent by the appellant club by Special Delivery to the club protested against, if appropriate, bearing postmark within four days (excluding Sundays) after the cause of the protest.
- b) All appeals against decisions of the NIFL Championship Management Committee must be lodged in accordance with the Articles of the Irish Football Association.
- c) Upon receipt of a protest the NIFL Championship Management Committee shall, in accordance with Rule 8, appoint a Sub Committee or a Commission consisting of a minimum of three persons to hear and determine the protest. No person shall sit on a protest which involves himself/herself or any club in which he/she may have an interest. All protests shall be heard, where possible, within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the protest.
- d) In the case of a protest, if the NIFL has any doubts as to the qualification of any player taking part in any competition it shall have power to call upon such player, or the club

to which he belongs or for which he played, to prove that he was qualified according to the Rules and Regulations of the League, and failing satisfactory proof shall where relevant deduct three points per match in the competition from the offending club or may disqualify it from the competition, and may expel, fine or otherwise deal with the offending player as they think fit.

- e) All questions of eligibility or qualification of clubs or players, or of the application of the Laws of the Game, or of the Articles of Association or Rules shall be referred for decision to the NIFL Board.

COMPETITION

12. Matches

- a) Matches may be played on natural turf or artificial turf, provided that such artificial turf meets the "FIFA Recommended 1-Star Standard".
The owner of the artificial turf and the home club must be in receipt of a valid FIFA Certificate.
The NIFL Championship cannot be held responsible for any damages to third parties resulting from the use of artificial turf
- b) All matches shall be played under the Laws of the Game as approved by the International Football Association Board and in accordance with the Articles and Rules of the IFA and also the NIFL Championship. All NIFL Championship matches shall be played on the dates scheduled at the commencement of the season, except:
 - i. When otherwise directed by the NIFL Championship Management Committee; or when
 - ii. Irish Cup, Intermediate Cup or Divisional Association Cups take precedence; or when
 - iii. Agreed by the two competing clubs and approved by the NIFL Managing Director.
- c) No club shall be permitted to request a free Saturday except in the case of exceptional circumstances which must be notified to and approved by the NIFL Managing Director.
- d) Each club shall play home and away fixtures in the League Competition and all matches shall be played under the rules and regulations of the League and in accordance with the Laws of the Game.
- e) Clubs failing to comply with this rule shall be fined in a sum of £250 and shall forfeit 3 points, such points shall be accredited to the opposing team and a scoreline of 3 goals to nil awarded to their opponents. Also, in the event of a club failing to fulfil an arranged match the appropriate Committee shall be empowered to grant compensation to the other club for actual expenses incurred for such match. A club failing to fulfil an arranged match for a second time in the current season may be dismissed from membership of the League.

- f) Clubs may bring forward fixtures scheduled on or before the last Saturday in March provided that both clubs confirm their agreement in writing no later than 5 days prior to the proposed date for the fixture and that the new arrangements meet the approval of the NIFL Managing Director.
- g) Any match not completed may be ordered to stand as a completed fixture, or the unfinished time may be ordered to be played, or the fixture ordered to be replayed in its entirety as the Management Committee or Executive Committee may see fit.
- h) Postponed or abandoned matches shall be played on a date to be determined by the NIFL Championship Chairman and Managing Director

13. Kick Off Times

- a) The hour of kick-off for all Saturday fixtures shall be 3.00pm unless otherwise directed by the NIFL Championship Management Committee, or agreed by the two competing clubs and approved by the NIFL Championship.
- b) Where clubs do not have adequate floodlighting, kick-off time shall be 2.00pm during the months of November, December and January in each season.
- c) The kick-off times for all other matches shall be arranged by the NIFL Managing Director, unless otherwise agreed by the two clubs competing and approved by the NIFL Managing Director.
- d) Clubs failing to start at the appointed time may be fined at the discretion of the NIFL Championship Management Committee.

14. Pitch Inspections

- a) In the event of unfavourable weather conditions the home club must request the NIFL for an early inspection and must also notify their opponents not later than four (4) hours before kick-off. The match referee or an alternative referee appointed by the NIFL must inspect the ground at least three (3) hours or more previous to the advertised time of kick-off and shall decide as to the fitness of the ground, his/her decision being final after consultation with the Club Secretary and the NIFL
- b) No game shall be postponed without an inspection by a referee appointed by the NIFL, who shall take due cognizance of local advice and the travelling team and supporters.
- c) In the event of the home club failing to request an early inspection the NIFL Championship Management Committee shall be empowered to grant compensation to the visiting club for actual expenses incurred for such match.
- d) Should the match referee deem the ground unfit for play then he/she shall be paid half

the match fee and travelling expenses actually incurred by the home club. Should another league appointed referee deem the ground unfit for play then he/she shall be paid £5 plus travelling expenses actually incurred.

15. Referees Fees

- a) The fee payable to referees shall be such sum as decided by the IFA Board together with the appropriate rate for travelling expenses actually incurred. In all league fixtures the home club shall retain the gate receipts and shall be responsible for all expenses including the referees' fees and travelling expenses properly incurred.
- b) The league shall furnish the clubs with a Referees Expenses Form which clubs should complete after each home fixture and submit to the league no later than 5 days following the fixture. Any club failing to provide such documentation by deadline will be fined in the sum of £10.

16. Ranking of clubs

Teams shall be awarded 3 points for a win, 1 point for a draw and 0 points for a defeat. In the case of equality of points teams shall be ranked in accordance with the following criteria:

- i. Goal Difference (Goals scored less goals conceded in all matches)
- ii. Goals scored in all matches
- iii. Superior points gained in matches between teams in question
- iv. Superior goal difference in matches between teams in question
- v. Drawing of lots by the NIFL Premiership Management Committee.

17. Promotion and Relegation

- a) At the end of the season the club finishing at the top of the NIFL Championship 1 shall be promoted to the NIFL Premiership and the club finishing bottom of the NIFL Premiership shall be relegated to the NIFL Championship.
- b) The club finishing in second bottom position in the NIFL Premiership shall be obliged to play in a play-off against the highest ranked NIFL Championship club, with a Championship Club Licence, who has finished in 2nd – 6th position and the winner of the play-off, which will be on a 'home' and 'away' basis with away goals to count double, will be promoted to or remain in (as the case may be) the NIFL Premiership.
- c) If however the winners of the NIFL Championship do not conform with the Championship Club Licence criteria they will not be promoted to the NIFL Premiership, but the highest ranked NIFL Championship club finishing in 2nd -6th place which complies with the Championship Club Licence criteria would then play against the team finishing bottom of the NIFL Premiership and the winner of that play-off, which will be on 'home' and 'away' basis with away goals to count double, will be promoted to or remain in (as the case may be) the NIFL Premiership. If at the end of the second match of the play-off scores are

equal then that game will be played to a finish by the playing of extra time of 15 minutes each way and by the taking of penalty kicks if necessary.

- d) The loser of the play-off will be relegated or remain in (as the case may be) the NIFL Championship.
- e) The play-off matches to determine the final composition of the NIFL Premiership and the NIFL Championship shall be played on dates to be determined by the NIFL Premiership Management Committee who will be responsible for all arrangements in respect of the play-off matches which will be played under the jurisdiction of the NIFL Premiership.
- f) The first match shall be played at the ground of the NIFL Championship Club whilst the second match shall be played at the ground of the NIFL Premiership Club unless otherwise agreed and confirmed in writing to the NIFL by both competing clubs.
- g) Promotion and Relegation shall also apply between divisions of the NIFL Championship. The clubs finishing in 12th, 13th and 14th positions in Section 1 of the NIFL Championship in season 2015/16 shall be relegated to Section 2 and the top club in Section 2 of the NIFL Championship shall be promoted to Section 1.
- h) The club finishing in 11th position in Section 1 of the NIFL Championship shall be obliged to play in a play-off against the club finishing 2nd in Section 2 of NIFL Championship and the winner of the play-off, which will be on a 'home' and 'away' basis with away goals to count double, will be promoted to or remain in (as the case may be) the NIFL Championship Section 1.
- i) If however the winners of Section 2 of the NIFL Championship do not conform with the Championship Club Licence Criteria they will not be promoted to the NIFL Championship Section 1, in this instance the 2nd placed club would then play in a play-off against the team finishing in 12th position of Section 1 and the winner of that play-off, which will be on 'home' and 'away' basis with away goals to count double, will be promoted to or remain in (as the case may be) the NIFL Championship Section 1.
- j) If however the club finishing 2nd in Section 2 of the NIFL Championship does not conform with the Championship Club Licence criteria there shall be no play off.
- k) Notwithstanding the above criteria in respect of promotion and relegation between divisions of the NIFL Championship the NIFL Championship Management Committee shall have the power to ensure a full membership of 12 teams for Season 2016/17, which may in exceptional circumstances require the selection of the top 12 ranked teams who conform with the Championship Club Licence criteria.
- l) The clubs finishing in 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th position in Section 2 of the NIFL Championship in Season 2015/16 shall be relegated. The relegated clubs shall be accepted as a member of an intermediate league nominated by the IFA Football Committee.

- m) The club finishing in 10th position in Section 2 of the NIFL Championship in Season 2015/16 shall be relegated provided at least one club is eligible for promotion to the NIFL Championship according to the procedures set out in paragraph (o) below. In this instance the relegated club will assume the vacant position, in the relevant Premier Division, created by the promoted club which shall be guaranteed subject to compliance with the receiving league's rules.
- n) Alternatively the relegated club shall be at liberty to make an application for membership of another intermediate league prepared to accept them.
- o) Promotion to Section 2 of the NIFL Championship shall be determined by means of a play-off between clubs that have applied for membership by 31 December, whose ground meets NIFL Championship criteria by 30th April in the year seeking promotion and that have won their respective intermediate leagues highest division (Northern Amateur Football League, Northern Ireland Intermediate League, Ballymena & Provincial League or the Mid Ulster Football League) in the year seeking promotion. The format of the play-off between applicant clubs shall be decided by the IFA Football Committee.
- p) Where there is only one such eligible applicant club, that club will replace the club finishing in 10th position in Section 2 of the NIFL Championship.

Note - Where any club believes that it will be in a position to qualify for promotion from either the Northern Amateur Football League, Northern Ireland Intermediate League, Ballymena & Provincial League or the Mid Ulster Football League to the NIFL Championship at the end of the current season they must apply by 31st December and meet the criteria by 30th April.

- q) Ground sharing is permitted, but not in order to gain promotion or to avoid relegation. A ground sharing agreement in respect of the club seeking promotion's registered ground must have been in place for at least one full season prior to making application for membership of the NIFL Championship and must be for a minimum of one year from the date of membership.
- u) The NIFL Championship Management Committee must approve any existing ground share agreement.
- v) Where there is a ground share primacy of fixtures must be defined in the ground share agreement.

18. Resignation

Any club may resign from the League providing it notifies the Managing Director of the League by special delivery not later than 1 April of their intention to discontinue membership at the end of the current season.

19. Expulsion

If any club is expelled, or resigns from the NIFL Championship without the consent of the NIFL Championship the players who are registered with that club shall be granted 'free agent' status in accordance with the FIFA Regulations governing the Status and Transfer of Players. Clubs failing to notify the NIFL Managing Director on or before 31st March of their intention to discontinue membership of the Championship shall forfeit the sum of £1000 from any monies due to the funds of the NIFL and shall also be liable as the NIFL Championship shall determine to pay their proportional share of any loss that may result to the League in the ensuing season by reason of the failure of such Club to give notice of withdrawal by the date aforementioned.

20. Substitute Players

- a) A club may at its discretion use three substitute players at any time in any match, except to replace a player who has been suspended from the game by the referee. The substitutions can be made in accordance with the Laws of the Game.
- b) Only three substitutions by each side will be permitted in any match and clubs may nominate up to a maximum of five substitute players prior to the commencement of the match.
- c) A substitute player shall be construed as taking part in the game for which he was nominated only if he is required to play.
- d) Should any nominated player or substitute sustain an injury or become otherwise incapacitated after the submission of the team sheet to the referee and before the kick-off he may be replaced provided that the referee and the opposing club are informed prior to kick-off.

21. Player Identification

The players' shirts must be clearly numbered on the back and must correspond exactly with the referee's card handed to the referee before any match under the jurisdiction of the League, and the team captain shall wear a distinguishing armband to indicate this.

22. Completion of Referee's Card

- a) Secretaries or other responsible persons acting for competing clubs shall forty five minutes prior to kick-off notify in writing the names of players taking part in each match under the jurisdiction of the league (including the name of the nominated substitute or substitutes and club officials and their functions) to the referee, and also to the representative of their opponents in the presence of the referee in his dressing room; and the list shall also indicate the colour of the goalkeeper's shirt.
- b) Clubs failing to do so will be fined in the sum of £50.

23. Late Start

The NIFL Championship Management Committee shall fine clubs for late start of matches in the sum of £250 except in exceptional circumstances. Referees must report late starts to the League.

24. Weak Teams

Each club shall play its full strength team in all matches under the jurisdiction of the League unless some satisfactory explanation is offered to the NIFL Championship Management Committee. In the event of the explanation not being deemed satisfactory the Committee shall inflict a fine on the club of not less than £100.

25. Objection to Ground

Any objection to the field of play or goal posts, which must include adequate goal nets, must be lodged with the referee before the game is started and the referee shall have power to have such objections made right before the match is started.

26. Medals

The NIFL Championship Management Committee may, at its discretion, award 16 medals to the winning clubs for presentation to their players each of whom shall have taken part in at least 50% of the games constituting the NIFL Championship. Additional medals may be purchased by the clubs concerned, if so warranted and the NIFL Championship Management Committee shall consider all such requests.

FINANCE

27. Admission to Grounds

- a) The admission policy for all NIFL Championship matches shall be determined by the NIFL Championship Management Committee annually.
- b) Each club may furnish the NIFL Championship a list of no more than 12 directors that shall receive a Directors pass. The bearer shall be entitled to admission to the ground and Directors Box at matches in which his/her club are participating under the jurisdiction of the NIFL Championship, excluding semi finals and finals.

26. Share of Gates

The admission charges to the ground in all League matches shall be retained by the home club, unless otherwise stated.

29. Fines

- a) All fines imposed by the NIFL Championship Management Committee, unless appealed against, shall be paid within twenty one (21) days from the date of the letter imposing the fine unless a payment plan has been agreed with the club.
- b) Otherwise offending clubs will be fined £50 per week or part of a week that a fine is outstanding.
- c) If any club fails to make any payment to the League in accordance with the requirements of these rules the League shall be empowered to deduct the amount of any such payment(s) from any money payable to the debtor club.

REGISTRATIONS AND TRANSFERS

30. NIFL Player Registration/Eligibility Guidelines

All players must be registered in accordance with the IFA Professional Game Player Registration regulations and the NIFL Player Registration Guidelines.

31. Undisclosed Payments

- a) It is strictly forbidden to make any payment to a player, either directly or via a related party, which has not been detailed in the official players' contract or registration, lodged with the Irish Football Association or the NIFL, or not documented in line with related party transactions outlined in b) and c) below.
- b) A party is related to a club/entity if:
 - i) directly or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, the party:
 - a) controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with, the entity (this includes parents, subsidiaries and fellow subsidiaries;
 - b) has an interest in the entity that gives it significant influence over the entity; or
 - c) has joint control over the entity;
 - ii) the party is an associate of the entity;
 - iii) the party is a joint venture in which the party is a venture;
 - iv) the party is a member of a key management personnel of the entity or its parent;
 - v) the party is a close member of the family of any individual referred to in i) or iv)
 - vi) the party is an entity that is controlled, jointly controlled or significantly influenced by, or for which significant voting power in such entity resides with with, directly or indirectly any individual referred to in iv) or v); or
 - vii) the party is a post-employment benefit plan for the benefit of employees of the entity, or of any entity that is a related party of the entity.

Close members of the family of an individual are those family members who may be expected to influence, or be influenced by, that individual in their dealings with the entity. They may include:

- a) The individual's domestic partners and children;
 - b) Children of the individual's domestic; and
 - c) Dependents of the individual or the individual's domestic partner.
- Control is the power to govern the financial and operating policies of an entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities.

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the entity, directly or indirectly, including any director (whether executive or otherwise) of that entity.

- c) A related party transaction is a transfer of resources, services or obligations between related parties, regardless of whether a price is charged.
Any related party transaction involving partners must be documented by the club in writing to the IFA and NIFL. These shall include, but not be limited to:
 - A player in any other paid service within the club (e.g. coach, barman)
 - Payments made to players by club directors, management committee or staff members
 - Payments made to players by companies or organisations owned or controlled by club directors, management committee or staff members
 - Payments made to players by sponsors
 - Payments made to players by supporters clubs, trusts or organisations
- d) The Board or Managing Director of the NIFL or its appointees may at any time, in order to:
 - satisfy itself as to the accuracy of the contractual / registration information provided to it by a club;
 and / or to
 - consider any suspicion of undisclosed payments made by or on behalf of a club carry out such investigations, interviews and/or audits it considers (in its sole and absolute discretion) appropriate and if deemed necessary / applicable shall pass the case, including all evidence relied on to the IFA Disciplinary Committee, when a club has acted in a manner which brings the game of Association Football into disrepute.

In any investigation, any person if requested shall:

 - i) provide the NIFL or its appointees with all information, documents and/or records that the NIFL or its appointees considers relevant to an investigation;
 - ii) cooperate fully with any interview process carried out by the NIFL or its appointees;
 - iii) verify the accuracy (or otherwise) of any information or document provided;
 - iv) provide written confirmation of all offers made to a player regardless of whether the player subsequently concludes a professional contract or amateur registration with the club;

Where a party to an investigation fails to comply with i) to iv) above, that party shall be liable to be fined not less than £5,000 and the investigation shall continue with a reasonable adverse inference being drawn from any failure to comply with i) to iv) above. An investigation into any suspected breach must be initiated within a period of two seasons from the suspected season of any such breach.

For the avoidance of doubt, this provides the scope to initiate an investigation into any suspected breach having occurred in the two seasons prior to any current season. Similarly, following the close of any investigation, the case can be reopened should new information become available which alters the status of previous conclusions within this same two season period.

The standard of proof to be applied is that of comfortable satisfaction. That is to say that the Committee does not have to be satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt but should be more than satisfied that, on balance, the allegation is made out. The more serious the allegation, the less likely it is that the event occurred and therefore the higher the threshold of satisfaction.

32. Ineligibility of Players

Failure to comply with any of the conditions relating to a registration will render the player ineligible to play for the club concerned as not being a bona-fide player. Any club wishing to lodge a protest may do so in accordance with Rule 9.

33. Penalty for Playing Unregistered or Ineligible Players:

- a) Any club playing an ineligible player or players in any match under the auspices of the NIFL Championship may be fined a maximum of £250 per player for the first offence and £25 for subsequent offences involving the same player. In addition should the match(es) in question result in a win for the offending team, or end in a draw, then such points shall be forfeited by the offending club and its opponents awarded three points in respect of that match and a scoreline of 3-0 recorded in its favour.
- b) Should the match(es) in question result in a defeat for the offending team a scoreline of 3-0 shall be recorded in the favour of their opponents. Notwithstanding the above the winning team shall not be disadvantaged if the original score was of greater benefit to that teams goal difference.
- c) Should both clubs play an ineligible player or players in any match under the auspices of the NIFL Championship then both clubs will be fined a sum of £250 per player for the first offence and £25 for subsequent offences involving the same player. In addition, neither club will be awarded any points for the fixture and both clubs shall have a minus three (-3) goal difference recorded against them.
- d) Nothing in these regulations shall entitle the NIFL Championship to deduct points or impose fines for registration committed by any club during any previous season. (For the purpose of all NIFL Championship regulations a season will be deemed to end on 31st May each year).
- e) For the purposes of these regulations an ineligible player is a player who has not been properly registered, or who has played whilst under suspension, or who has otherwise played in contravention of the rules of the competition in which he has taken part.

MISCELLANEOUS

34. Condition of Membership of Clubs comprising the NIFL Championship

- a) All clubs in membership of the NIFL Championship acknowledge that they are bound by the rules of the NIFL Championship and the decisions of its committees which are final and binding, except insofar as an appeal may lie to the appropriate committee of the IFA.
- b) Clubs shall be obliged to sign a participation agreement and to abide by the conditions contained therein. Any club not adhering to this rule or the terms of the agreement shall be dealt with as the NIFL Championship Management Committee consider appropriate.

35. Registration of Ground

- a) Each club shall register its ground with the NIFL and no club shall register another ground without first obtaining the consent of the NIFL
- b) Any club which requires a ground share agreement should provide written notice to the NIFL Championship Management Committee no later than 31 March of the preceding season.
- c) Clubs must register their pitch dimensions with the NIFL prior to the start of each Season, which at all times must adhere to the Laws of the Game. Each club shall take all reasonable steps to maintain its pitch in good order.

36. Playing Kit

- a) Each club in the NIFL Championship shall register its playing kit colours with the NIFL not later than 20 July each year on a kit approval form to be provided by the league. In all cases the first choice (home) kit and the second choice (away) kit must provide an alternative colour of all garments and must be submitted with the kit approval form. All clubs must also observe the sponsor advertising regulations which may be revised annually by the NIFL Championship Management Committee. In the event of a clash of playing kit the away team shall change. In accordance with the Laws of the Game if tape or similar material is applied externally it must be the same colour as that part of the stocking it is applied to.
- b) In accordance with the Laws of the Game the clubs must have the availability of additional kit should any item of the kit sustain blood coverage.

37. Official Match Ball

The official match ball to be used in all matches shall be the ball approved by the NIFL and supplied to the clubs at the commencement of the season. Additional match balls, if required, may be purchased from the NIFL.

38. Half-Time Interval

In all matches the half-time interval shall be 15 minutes.

39. League Structure

The NIFL Board may at any time during the present season implement and make changes to the league format and structure which would then become affective prior to the commencement of the following playing season and nothing in these rules and regulations will so prevent the board from introducing and formulating any such structure provided that the board hereby undertakes to enter into a full consultation exercise with the member clubs of the league before any such changes are made.

40. Alterations to Rules

Alterations to these rules shall only be considered during the closed season. Any club wishing to have a proposal considered, must forward same in writing to the NIFL Managing Director no later than 31st May.



YOUTH LEAGUE RULES & REGULATIONS SEASON 2015/16

1. Title

- a) For The purposes of the football competitions the NIFL Youth League shall be comprised of two divisions with 12 clubs in each division.
- b) Membership of the NIFL Youth League shall constitute an agreement between the NIFL Youth League and each club to be bound by and comply with:
 - i. FIFA Regulations
 - ii. The NIFL Articles of Association
 - iii. The Rules of the NIFL Youth League
 - iv. The Rules and Articles of the Irish Football Association
 - v. The Laws of the Game
 - vi. The Rules and Regulations of any body of which the NIFL Youth League is a member.

2. NIFL Youth League Committee

- a) The control and management of the Youth League shall be vested in a Youth League Committee which shall have full power to act as it thinks fit, including power to fine any club, club official or player guilty of a criminal offence, misconduct, infringing or failing to observe the rules of the NIFL Premiership or acting in a manner which could be construed as bringing the game into disrepute and contrary to the best interests of the league as a whole. The Youth League Committee shall also have power to deal with any other matters not provided for in the rules and such authority shall also be vested in its Youth Executive Committee.

Note - This rule will not apply to any fixed offences or any other matter which would normally be dealt with by the Irish Football Association.

- b) The Youth League Committee shall consist of one representative from each club in membership of the League and each club shall also be required to nominate a second representative (or deputy) who shall be entitled to attend any meeting of the Youth League Committee in the absence of his /her club's original nominee. A club not attending any meeting of the NIFL Youth League shall be fined in the sum of £50 per meeting at the discretion of the Youth League Executive Committee.
- c) The representatives shall elect a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year and shall submit their names to the IFA Premiership for approval. The Chairman, or in his absence the Vice-Chairman, shall preside as Chairman of the Youth League Committee meetings. If at any meeting neither be present within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for holding a meeting the representatives present shall choose one from their number to be Chairman.
- d) The Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be ex-officio on all committees.

- e) The Chairman shall have a casting vote in cases of equality of voting. The Youth League Committee may make rules or alterations thereto, as to all business duties, management or otherwise which may be required and same shall become operative seven days after posting to members and shall remain operative until the end of the season or until adopted or annulled.
- f) A representative from each of seven (7) clubs shall form a quorum.
- g) The NIFL Youth League Committee shall cause minutes to be made and sent electronically to member clubs :
 - i. of all appointments of officials made by the Youth League Committee
 - ii. of all the names of members of the Youth League Committee present at each meeting thereof and of any Committee appointed by the Youth League Committee, and
 - iii. of all resolutions and proceedings at all meetings of the Youth League Committee and of any Committee appointed by the Youth League Committee.
- h) Every member of the Youth League Committee present at any meeting shall sign his/her name for attendance records.
- i) The Youth League Committee at its first meeting after the Annual General Meeting of the Northern Ireland Football League in each year shall elect from its number seven members to form a Youth League Executive Committee with full powers to act and decide any matter arising between meetings pertaining to its league.
- j) The Youth League Committee shall organise and arrange competitions as it thinks fit, and shall have power to organise and provide rules for any additional competitions, either on a knock out or on a league basis, as it considers appropriate.

3. Ranking of Teams

- a) Each club shall play home and away fixtures in the Youth League competition; and all matches shall be played under the rules and regulations of the Irish Football Association and of the NIFL Premiership and in accordance with the Laws of the Game.
- b) Teams shall be awarded 3 points for a win, 1 point for a draw and 0 points for a defeat. At the end of the Youth League Championship the club scoring the largest number of points shall be declared the champion club of the league.

In the case of equality of points teams shall be ranked in accordance with the following criteria:

- i. Goal difference (Goals scored less goals conceded in all matches)
- ii. Goals scored in all matches
- iii. Superior points gained in matches between the teams in question

- iv. Superior goal difference in matches between the teams in question

The Youth League reserve the right to order a 'play off' match(es) at any time to determine the ranking at the completion of the league season should (a) to (d) above result in equality.

- c) Promotion and Relegation shall apply between the two divisions of the NIFL Youth League. The bottom two clubs in Section A of the Youth League shall be relegated to Section B and the top two clubs in Section B of the NIFL Youth League shall be promoted to Section B.

4. Matches

- a. Matches may be played on natural turf or artificial turf, provided that such artificial turf meets the "FIFA Recommended 1-Star Standard".
The owner of the artificial turf and the home club must be in receipt of a valid FIFA Certificate.
The NIFL cannot be held responsible for any damages to third parties resulting from the use of artificial turf.
- b. All matches shall be played under the Laws of the Game as approved by the International Football Association Board and in accordance with the Articles and Rules of the IFA and also of the NIFL Youth League. All NIFL Youth League matches shall be played on the dates scheduled at the commencement of the season, except:
 - i. When otherwise directed by the NIFL Youth League Committee; or when
 - ii. A club requests in writing a postponement of a fixture for exceptional circumstances.
 - iii. National Cup and/or Divisional Association Cup ties take precedence.
- c. Matches shall not be played out of sequence unless with the prior approval of the Youth League Committee.
- d. In the event of a home club wishing to change from a Saturday, agreement must be first reached with its opponents and subsequently approval obtained from the Youth League. The fixture can only subsequently revert to a Saturday with the agreement of both clubs and the Youth League Committee.
- e. Clubs failing to comply with this rule shall be fined in a sum of £200 and shall forfeit three points, such points shall be accredited to the opposing team and a score line of 3 goals to nil awarded to their opponents. Also, in the event of a club failing to fulfil an arranged fixture the appropriate Committee shall be empowered to grant compensation to the other club for actual expenses incurred for such a match. A club failing to fulfil an arranged match for a second time in the current season shall be dismissed from membership of the Youth League.

- f. Any match not completed may be ordered to stand as a completed fixture, or the unfinished time may be ordered to be played, or the fixture ordered to be replayed in its entirety.
- g. Postponed or abandoned matches shall be played on a date to be determined by the NIFL Managing Director.

5. REGISTRATIONS

NIFL Player Registration/Eligibility Guidelines

- a) All players must be registered in accordance with the IFA Amateur Game Player Registration Regulations and the NIFL Player Registration/Eligibility Guidelines.
- b) No player will be eligible to take part in the competition who is 18 years of age before the 1st day of January in the year in which the competition commences.
- c) Professional players are not permitted to play in the NIFL Youth League.

6. Ineligibility of Players

Failure to comply with any of the conditions relating to a registration will render the player ineligible to play for the club concerned as not being a bona-fide player.

7. Penalty for Playing Unregistered or Ineligible Players

- i. Any club playing an ineligible player or players in any match under the jurisdiction of the Youth League shall be fined in a sum of £50 per player for the first offence and £10 per player for subsequent offences.
- ii. Should the match(es) in question result in a defeat for the offending team a scoreline of 3-0 shall be recorded in the favour of their opponents. Notwithstanding the above the winning team shall not be disadvantaged if the original scoreline was of greater benefit to that teams goal difference.
- iii. Should both clubs play an ineligible player or players in any match under the auspices of the NIFL Youth League then both clubs will be fined, in a sum of £50 per player for the first offence and £10 for subsequent offences involving the same player. In addition, neither club will be awarded any points for the fixture and both clubs shall have a minus three (-3) goal difference recorded against them.
- iv. Nothing in these Regulations shall entitle the NIFL Premiership to deduct points or impose fines for registration committed by any club during any previous season. (For the purpose of all NIFL Premiership regulations a season will be deemed to end on 31st May in each year).

8. SUBSTITUTE PLAYERS

- a) A club may at its discretion use three substitute players at any time in any match, except to replace a player who has been dismissed from the game by the Referee. The substitutions can be made in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of the Game.
- b) Only three substitutions by each side will be permitted in any match and clubs may nominate up to a maximum of five substitute players prior to the commencement of the match.
- c) A substitute player shall be construed as taking part in the game for which he was nominated only if he has actually played in such game.
- d) Should any nominated player or substitute sustain an injury or become otherwise incapacitated after the submission of the team sheet to the referee and before the kick-off he may be replaced provided that the referee and the opposing club are informed prior to kick-off.

9. PLAYER IDENTIFICATION

The players shirts must be clearly numbered on the back and must correspond exactly with the teamsheet handed to referee before any match under the jurisdiction of the League, and the team captain shall wear a distinguishing armband to indicate this.

10. COMPLETION OF TEAM SHEET

Each club shall complete an official team sheet including the names of players and club officials and their functions taking part in each match (including the names of the nominated substitutes) and submit to the referee not later than 45 minutes prior to kick off.

11. EXPENSES

In all Youth League fixtures the home club shall be responsible for all expenses including the referee's fee and travelling expenses.

12. RESULTS

- a) The home club shall be responsible for the communication of the match result to the Results Co-ordinator.
- b) Any club who does not provide match results to the Results Co-ordinator or does not meet required deadline will be fined in the sum of £25.
- c) All results for the previous week must be communicated to results co-ordinator by 5:15pm on the Saturday in question.

13. REFEREES

Should the official referee fail to turn up the clubs shall agree upon a referee and such fixture shall stand as a competitive match. Should clubs fail to agree, then a coin must be tossed to determine the match referee.

14. CLUBS CEASING TO BE MEMBERS

- a) Any club may resign from Youth League, but only after all their fixtures have been completed for the current season and any fines outstanding have been paid. Any club decision to leave Youth League must be communicated in writing to league secretary by 30th June in any given season.
- b) If any club is expelled, or resigns from the Youth League without the consent of the Youth League Committee, it shall forfeit the sum of not less than £500 to the funds of the Association.
- c) Any club with sufficiently inferior match results throughout a season should be considered for withdrawal from Youth League so as to maintain high standards and sustain a benchmark for member clubs to attain.

15. APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

- a) Applications for membership must be received by the League by special delivery not later than 1st July in each year. Should the number of teams within the league be insufficient, the Youth League Committee will have the discretion to extend this deadline.
- b) Any team not affiliated to an NIFL Premiership/Championship club will pay an entry fee each year of £100.00 + vat.
- c) All clubs must be affiliated through their respective divisional association for up and coming season by the required deadline.

16. INTERNATIONAL DUTY

- a) In the event of a club having two or more players selected to represent their National Association representative team(s), in matches recognised by the FIFA International Calendar, they shall be permitted to request a postponement of their scheduled fixture during the period of release in respect of such International Duty. Furthermore, a club whose goalkeeper is selected for such International Duty shall also be permitted to request a postponement due to the specialist position.
- b) In the event of a club having three or more players selected and/or on standby to represent their National Association representative team(s) in matches not recognised

on the FIFA International Calendar or Development and Schools FA squads, they shall be permitted to request a postponement of their scheduled fixture during the period of release in respect of such International Duty. Furthermore, a club whose goalkeeper is selected for such International Duty shall also be permitted to request a postponement due to the specialist position.

17.ALTERATIONS TO THESE RULES

Alterations to these rules shall only be considered during the closed season. Any club wishing to have a proposal considered, must forward same in writing to the NIFL Managing Director no later than 31 May.

It shall be entirely at the discretion of the Managing Director to consider all such requests and determine whether or not such requests are approved or rejected.



The Northern Ireland Football League Cup

Rules Season 2015/16

1. Competition Name:

- a. The competition shall be called the Northern Ireland Football League (NIFL) Cup.

Organising Committee:

- b. The control and organisation of the competition shall be vested in the NIFL Cup Committee.

Participating Clubs:

- c. Only the clubs in membership of the NIFL Premiership and NIFL Championship shall participate in the Competition.

Awards:

- d. Prize money shall be distributed to participating clubs as determined by the NIFL Premiership Management Committee annually and shall be subject to sponsorship being secured for the Competition. The Club winning the trophy will retain it for one year. The trophy shall remain the property of the NIFL.

2. Competition Format

- a. The competition shall be played on a knockout basis. All ties shall be played to a finish. If at the end of normal playing time the scores are equal then two periods of fifteen (15) minutes each way will be played. If there are no goals scored during extra time the tie shall be decided by kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the conditions approved by the International FA Board.
- b. There shall be two (2) entry levels with the NIFL Championship Clubs entering in Round 1 and the NIFL Premiership Clubs entering in Round 2.
- c. The twelve (12) NIFL Premiership Clubs and the top four (4) NIFL Championship Clubs shall be seeded in Round 2.
- d. In principle the Club that is first drawn in the ballot shall play at their registered home venue in all matches up to and including the semi finals. However, the first drawn Club may forfeit home advantage with the agreement of their opponents and in such circumstances written confirmation of same must be notified to the secretary by both clubs not later than five (5) days following the date of the relevant draw. Furthermore, in the event of only one of the clubs drawn in any tie having floodlights the match shall be played at that ground.

3. Qualification of Players

Only players who have been registered by their clubs in accordance with the IFA Professional Game Player Registration Regulations and the NIFL Player Registration/Eligibility Guidelines shall be eligible to compete in the competition and no player will be eligible to play for more than one club at any stage in the competition.

4. Colours of Clubs

In the event of a clash of colours in matches prior to the semi finals the visiting club shall change. In the semi finals and final ties both clubs shall change unless otherwise agreed by the clubs concerned or as directed by the NIFL Cup Committee.

5. Admission Charges

In all matches up to and including the Final admission charges will be set as the NIFL Premiership Management Committee/NIFL Board/NIFL Cup Committee may determine annually.

6. Financial Regulations

- a. In all ties previous to the Final, the gate receipts after payment of the costs pertaining to referees, hospitality, professional security company, turnstiles, ambulance/first aid cover and ticketing shall be equally divided between the two (2) competing clubs. (The home club shall ensure that copies of the receipts for such costs are furnished to the away team upon request)
- b. Payment shall be made to the away team within 7 days following the date on which the match was played, except when the match has been designated as an 'all ticket' match. In such circumstances, all revenue generated from the sale of tickets by the away Club shall be paid to the home Club within 7 days following the date on which the match was played together with a reconciliation of unsold tickets (the Home Club shall then make payment to the Away Club within seven (7) days of receiving such revenue.
- c. Non payment by the deadlines for either the Home or Away Clubs shall result in an automatic increase of 10% of the monies due for up to seven (7) days late payment and 20% between seven (7) to fourteen (14) days late payment. All other cases shall be referred to the committee who will deal with the matter as they consider appropriate.
- d. Members' tickets shall not be valid for any tie played in this competition.
- e. In the Final 20% of the net profit shall be payable to the NIFL, and the balance divided equally between the two competing clubs.
- f. All money generated from the sale of tickets in respect of the final must be submitted by the respective clubs to the league within fourteen (14) days following the date of the match together with a reconciliation of unsold tickets. Non-payment by this deadline shall result in an automatic increase of 10% of the monies due for up to seven (7) days late payment and 20% between seven (7) to fourteen (14) days late payment. All other cases shall be referred to the committee who will deal with the matter as they consider appropriate.
- g. In respect of the use of facilities in the final tie 10% of net gate receipts shall be paid to the host club except in the case that the host club is participating in the Final.

7. Match Official Fee

In all ties previous to the Final Referees fees and expenses shall be paid at the appropriate rate by the 'home' club.

8. Half-time interval

The half-time interval in all matches shall not exceed fifteen (15) minutes.

9. Processional Entry and Fair Play Handshake

The match officials shall lead both teams together on to the field of play five minutes prior to kick-off time. The teams shall line up either side of the officials, at the half way line and the visiting team shall move towards the home team, when both teams will shake hands.

10. Unforeseen Circumstances

- a) The NIFL Cup Committee shall be empowered to take decisions on all matters not provided for in these rules and such decision shall be final.
- b) Should a club be disqualified from the competition at any stage and for any reason whatsoever the club concerned shall forfeit all claims to any monetary award to which it may have otherwise been entitled.
- c) Clubs competing in the Final of the competition at a neutral venue are advised to inspect the ground facilities, and especially the seating at such venues, prior to and immediately after each game so that any damage caused can be identified as soon as practicable.



Player Registration Guidelines

SEASON 2015/16

REGISTRATIONS AND TRANSFERS

1. Restrictions on all except bona-fide Players

A bona-fide player (amateur or professional) of a club is one who has signed the necessary registration documents (such signature to be verified by an accredited officer and duly witness. The accredited officer and witness shall not be the same person). No player may play in any competition under the auspices of the NIFL Premiership unless and until he has been so registered and it shall be the responsibility of all clubs playing in any match organised by the NIFL Premiership to ensure that its players are eligible to play in any such match.

Failure to do so constitutes misconduct and the defaulting club(s) shall be liable to such penalties as indicated in the respective league rules.

2. Registration of Players

- (a) The registration period (from 10th June until midnight on 1 September and from 2nd January until midnight on 1 February will apply to the NIFL Premiership, Championship and Reserve League clubs. All players, both professional and amateur must be registered during one of the official registration periods. Youth team players are unaffected by the registration periods and amateur players may register to participate in the NIFL Youth League at any time between 1st June and 31st March. For the avoidance of any doubt a professional player is not eligible to participate in the NIFL Youth League.
- (b) Professional players who were not bound by an employment contract before expiry of the registration period may be registered outside the aforementioned registration period provided that such player has not made more than the permitted number of moves as per (c) below and their registration is received by the IFA prior to 12 noon on 31st March of the current season.
- (c) Players may be registered for a maximum of three clubs during the period from 1st July until 30th June of the following year. During this period, the player is eligible to play in official matches for two clubs only.

Players returning to their former clubs after a loan period must leave and return in the registration periods in order to be eligible to play in the NIFL Premiership, Championship or Reserve League.
- (d) No player under 16 years of age may be registered as a professional player.
- (e) Players wishing to be transferred to another country may do so at any time provided that the registration period is open in that Country.

Similarly players cannot be registered for senior clubs in Northern Ireland unless the registration period is open. The IFA is not permitted to request an International Transfer Certificate outside a registration period (Except as provided for in Rule 2 (b) and clubs

must submit properly completed registration forms in order to effect a request for an International Transfer Certificate.

No International Transfer Certificate can be sought or granted for a player under 18 years of age. The following three exceptions to this rule apply:

- (1) The player's parents move to the country in which the new club is located for reasons not linked to football; or
- (2) The transfer takes place within the territory of the European Union (EU) and the player is aged between 16 and 18. In this case, the new club must fulfil the following minimum obligations:
 - (i) It shall provide the player with an adequate football education and/or training in line with the highest national standards.
 - (ii) It shall guarantee the player an academic and/or school and/or vocational education and/or training, in addition to his football education and/or training, which will allow the player to pursue a career other than football should he cease playing professional football.
 - (iii) It shall make all necessary arrangements to ensure that the player is looked after in the best possible way (optimum living standards with a guest family or in club accommodation, appointment of a mentor at the club etc.).
 - (iv) It shall, on registration of such a player, provide the relevant Association with proof that it is complying with the aforementioned obligations; or
- (3) The player lives no further than 50km of that border. The maximum distance between the player's domicile and the club's quarters shall be 100km. In such cases, the player must continue to live at home and the two Associations concerned must give their explicit consent.
- (4) Every international transfer according to Rule 2 (e) (2) and every first registration according to Rule 2 (e) (3) is subject to the approval of the sub-committee appointed by the FIFA Players' Status Committee for that purpose. The application for approval shall be submitted by the association that wishes to register the player. The former association shall be given the opportunity to submit its position. The sub-committee's approval shall be obtained prior to any request from an association for an International Transfer Certificate and/or a first registration. Any violations of this provision will be sanctioned by the Disciplinary Committee in accordance with the FIFA Disciplinary Code. In addition to the association that failed to apply to the sub-committee, as well as on the clubs that reached an agreement for the transfer of a minor.

3. Licence for Migrant Workers

Players who are nationals of a country not in membership of the European Union require a licence (which shall be issued by the UK Border Agency) in order to obtain employment as a Professional player within the United Kingdom. A copy of the licence must be forwarded to the IFA and the player shall not become eligible to play until such licence has been received by the IFA.

Details of the criteria and application procedures for migrant workers can be found on the

IFA website or upon request.

It is the responsibility of each club to determine the nationality of each player in relation to this rule.

4. Registration Forms

Registration forms shall be amateur and professional and shall contain all such information for the guidance of the player as shall apply to his particular status. The documents of Registration and of Transfer of Registration of a player must be in the forms approved and issued by the IFA. All such information shall be treated as private and confidential and an exact copy of his Agreement must be handed to the player at the time of signing the said Agreement entered into with his club.

In any dispute between the player and the club the remuneration and any other benefits contained in the Agreement shall be deemed to be the player's complete entitlement.

5. Period of Registration for Amateur Players

- (a) The minimum length of a registration shall be from its effective date until the end of the season, while the maximum length shall be two years.

Period of Registration/Agreement for Professional Players

- (b) The minimum length of a contract shall be from its effective date until the end of the season, while the maximum length of a contract shall be five years. Contracts of any other length shall only be permitted if consistent with national laws. Players under the age of 18 may not sign a professional contract for a term longer than three years. Any clause referring to a longer period shall not be recognised.

A copy of each agreement, including all financial details between the player and the club (in accordance with the conditions of Salary Cost Protocol), must be forwarded to the IFA by Special Delivery post, email or fax.

A Player shall be free at the end of his contractual agreement to seek registration with any club of his choice.

6. Registration Procedure

(a) Professional Players

In order to register a Professional player the appropriate registration form duly signed by the player and the club desiring registration must be forwarded to the IFA by Special Delivery post, email or fax.

Email: registrations@irishfa.com

Facsimile: 028 9068 3925

Such registrations must be received and found to be in order not later than 12 noon on the day preceding any match.

For matches scheduled on a Sunday or Monday such players must be registered by 12 noon on the preceding Friday.

(b) Amateur Players

In order to register an Amateur Player the appropriate registration form duly signed by the player and the club desiring registration must be forwarded to the NIFL by Special Delivery post, email or fax.

Email: registrations@niflfootballleague.com

Facsimile: 028 9068 7094

Such registrations must be received and found to be in order not later than 12 noon on the day preceding any match.

For matches scheduled on a Sunday or Monday such players must be registered by 12 noon on the preceding Friday.

7. Transfers of Registration/Cancellation

- (a) The transfer of the registration of a player from one club to another must be made in writing on the Official Transfer Form issued by the IFA, duly signed by both clubs and the player concerned forwarded in accordance with the procedures detailed in Rule 6 to the IFA or NIFL for approval and registration.

A professional player's registration may also be cancelled at any time by mutual consent on the official cancellation form issued by the IFA duly signed by the club and player and forwarded in accordance with the procedures detailed in Rule 39.

- (b) Approval will not be given to any transfer which stipulates when or against whom the player may or may not play.

8. Transfer Fees

Unless otherwise mutually agreed and committed to writing at the time of such transfer of registration at least 50% of the transfer fee plus VAT at the standard rate must be paid on the date of signing, and any balance outstanding must be paid in full within six months of the registration of the transfer, and at the end of the six month period should any balance remain outstanding then the defaulting club shall no longer be permitted to use the services of such player until the full amount outstanding has been paid. Similarly the same restriction shall apply where a club has mutually agreed in writing to pay a transfer fee by instalments and subsequently defaults with such payments. The offended club shall inform the NIFL Premiership in writing of the circumstances and the Secretary shall notify the offending club accordingly.

9. Temporary Transfers Re: Players on Loan

Temporary transfers of registration for players on loan from one club to another shall be made on the appropriate Loan Agreement Form to be provided by the IFA.

Only a professional player may be loaned and a loan agreement form must be signed by the player and both clubs.

All temporary transfers should observe the registration periods and shall also be subject to the following terms and conditions:

- (a) The minimum loan period shall be the time between two (2) registration periods.
- (b) Upon the expiry of the loan period the player shall automatically return to his original club;
- (c) A player whose registration is temporarily transferred shall be permitted to play only for the borrowing club during the period of such transfer and shall not be permitted play in matches against the parent club
- (d) It shall be the responsibility of the club registering the player on loan (borrowing club) to ensure that the necessary insurance cover is provided should the player become injured during his period of loan. In the event that no such insurance is procured the club may be liable for all costs associated with such injury, which shall be determined by the NIFL Premiership.
- (e) The loaning club shall be permitted to recall a player temporarily transferred to another club at any time during an official registration period and in such circumstances a cancellation of the loan agreement shall be attested by both clubs and the player concerned.

10. Reacquisition of Amateur Status

A player registered as a professional may not re-register as an amateur until at least 30 days after his last match as a professional.

11. Right of Approach

A Club intending to conclude a contract with a player who is at present under written contract with another club is obliged to inform the club and the player in writing before commencing negotiations with either of them.

The player shall only be free to conclude a contract with another club if his contract with his present club has expired or will expire within six months.

All correspondence in this regard must be sent by special delivery post to the player, the club and to the Irish Football Association..

Any club wishing to register a player whose contract with his current club will expire within six months shall be permitted to register such player under a pre contract agreement to commence on the day following the expiry of his current contract, in accordance with the procedures detailed in Rule 6. Club secretaries shall be permitted to request details of the expiry dates of any player's registration.

Any club found making an illegal approach to a player of another club will be fined in the sum of £5000 with £4000 going to the club that has lost the player, and £1000 going to the NIFL.

Any club wishing to lodge a complaint with the League with regard to an alleged illegal approach shall submit such complaint in writing by special delivery post accompanied by a fee of £100. At the same time a copy of the complaint must be forwarded by special delivery post to the club complained against.

12. Registration Disputes

In the event of a dispute between a player (professional or amateur) and a club, details should be submitted, by the aggrieved party, to the IFA Player Registration Sub Committee, who shall act as the Dispute Resolution Body.



Salary Cost Protocol Regulations

Season 2015/16

1. Allowable Income

The definition of allowable income is provided in ANNEXE 1. The figure to be inserted into each part of the allowable income calculation will be based on the average of the previous two full years audited financial statements of the club.

This calculation has to be carried out for each separate category of allowable income. The calculation of allowable income must be formally agreed and confirmed in writing by, the Irish Football Association prior to the commencement of the summer registration period.

2. Percentage Cap

The percentage cap applicable to any particular season will be communicated to the clubs by the Irish Football Association.

For season 2015/16 clubs will be assessed via direct linkage to the position of defined key creditors i.e. Bank Loans, Overdrafts, Directors Loans/Accounts or any Other Loans (hereafter 'Key Creditors') as stated in the audited financial statements of the club for the financial year ending in 2014.

Clubs will be capped in line with a percentage of Key Creditors vs. Allowable Income (2 year average) as follows:

Key Creditors position representing up to 24.99% of AI	- 60%
Key Creditors position representing 25% to 49.99% of AI	- 55%
Key Creditors position representing 50% to 99.99% of AI	- 50%
Key Creditors position representing 100% and above of AI	- 45%

3. Bonuses and Expenses

Bonus and expense payments may form part (or all) of the total cost to a club for engaging any player. Such payments must be managed by each club and fall within the total allowable figure agreed for player expenditure costs following the 'key creditors' calculation as per 2 above.

At the conclusion of each playing season, a breakdown (by month) confirming bonus and expense payments made to **all** professional players and any amateur players forming part of the first team squad for the year 1 June - 31 May must be detailed on a template to be provided by the IFA.

Additionally at the conclusion of the playing season, clubs will also be required to submit monthly payroll information confirming their total salary spend on professional players engaged by the club during the year 1 June - 31 May.

The total of bonus and expense payments confirmed will be added to the total contract value of all professional contracts submitted by the club for that season.

The resultant figure is the total player expenditure cost to the club.

Any players paid expenses must be reimbursed via a vouched expense claim form. The Club must retain all expense records in a format acceptable to HM Revenue and Customs.

Player Pool Bonuses – where team bonuses (which are not individually contracted) are paid to all professional players within a playing squad resulting from competition success i.e. Irish Cup winners, qualification for Europe etc. this player expenditure cost must be declared to the IFA immediately at the conclusion of the applicable season. This expenditure will be netted off from the corresponding allowable income prize money to be included within the calculation to be performed for the subsequent season.

4. Assessment and Monitoring

Monitoring of ongoing total player expenditure costs will be carried out by the Irish Football Association through a live player registrations database and the end of season bonus/expense payment review.

Each player will have a finite value defined and agreed for each season of his contract, or part thereof. The value per player will be based on the contractual documentation submitted by the club.

These values shall be defined in Gross payment terms ONLY.

Should a new player registration contract value exceed the agreed fixed cap for total player expenditure costs then such player's registration with that club shall be refused until such times as the club has reduced its cumulative total accordingly by the release of existing players.

When the addition of bonuses and expenses are made to contractual costs, in line with 3 above, the club must still remain within the agreed fixed cap for total player expenditure costs.

It is entirely the responsibility of the club to monitor such costs and to ensure compliance.

Where a club is found to have exceeded its agreed overall figure for player expenditure costs by:

0%-1.5% - Considered an acceptable deviation in any season.

Greater than 1.5%

Season 1 - Any sum in excess of agreed total player expenditure costs to be deducted from agreed total player expenditure costs for next season.

Season 2 - Any sum in excess of agreed total player expenditure costs will be doubled with that figure to be deducted from agreed total player expenditure costs for next season.

Season 3 - Any sum in excess of agreed total player expenditure costs will incur a 3 point deduction for next season.

Season 2 and Season 3 sanctions will be applicable only where breach occurs in consecutive years.

5. Related Party

A party is related to a club/entity if:

- a) directly or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, the party:
 - i) controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with, the entity (this includes parents, subsidiaries and fellow subsidiaries;
 - ii) has an interest in the entity that gives it significant influence over the entity; or
 - iii) has joint control over the entity.
- b) the party is an associate of the entity;
- c) the party is a joint venture in which the entity is a venturer;
- d) the party is a member of the key management personnel of the entity or its parent;
- e) the party is a close member of the family of any individual referred to in a) or d)
- f) the party is an entity that is controlled, jointly controlled or significantly influenced by, or for which significant voting power in such entity resides with, directly or indirectly, any individual referred to in d) or e); or
- g) the party is a post-employment benefit plan for the benefit of employees of the entity, or of any entity that is a related party of the entity.

Close members of the family of an individual are those family members who may be expected to influence, or be influenced by, that individual in their dealings with the entity.

They may include:

- a) The individual's domestic partners and children;
- b) Children of the individual's domestic; and
- c) Dependants of the individual or the individual's domestic partner.

Control is the power to govern the financial and operating policies of an entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities.

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the entity, directly or indirectly, including any director (whether executive or otherwise) of that entity.

6. Related Party Transactions

A related party transaction is a transfer of resources, services or obligations between related parties, regardless of whether a price is charged.

Any related party transaction involving players must be documented by the club in writing to the Irish Football Association. These shall include, but not be limited to:

- A player in any other paid service within the club (e.g. coach, barman)
- Payments made to players by club directors, management committee or staff members
- Payments made to players by companies or organisations owned or controlled by a club directors, management committee or staff members
- Payments made to players by sponsors
- Payments made to players by supporters clubs, trusts or organisations

The above list is not exhaustive and all clubs must also adhere to the principles detailed in section 5 above.

A club may at any time submit a written request to the NIFL to put all instances of doubt or uncertainty to the NIFL Board for decision. Any practice or procedure which, in the opinion of the NIFL, is calculated to defeat in anyway the overriding objective of these requirements will be deemed to have been deliberately concealed unless previously documented by the club in writing.

Clubs and players must declare that any other paid employment and the duration of such employment either within the club or via a related party transaction, is not dependent on the individual's engagement as a player for the club in question.

Where such paid employment is dependent on the individual's engagement as a player for the club then any such amounts shall be considered as 'salary' for the purposes of the calculation above.

7. Monthly Management Declaration

Clubs are required to submit a monthly management declaration which shall self certify if payments have been made, and/or are up to date for:

- Players
- Other employees
- Current HMRC payment
- Historical HMRC repayment schedule
- Statement in relation to creditor position since last monthly return

8. Promoted Clubs

Clubs coming under the scope of this criterion for the first time, i.e. becoming a member of the NIFL Premiership via promotion, shall have its allowable income calculated, in line with the allowable income streams detailed in **ANNEXE 1**, on a projection based approach.

This application of this principle shall include the following matters:

- Most recent sets (preferably two) of management accounts must be provided
- Projections shall be based on data within management accounts
- Any projected increases (e.g. gate receipts, sponsorship etc) will be modelled against known data from other recently promoted clubs
- Other known sources of confirmed income (e.g. IFA prize money, TV monies) shall be allowable
- All other projected sources are disallowable unless the club is actually in receipt of the monies at the time of the calculation

Should the club remain in the NIFL Premiership for a second successive season then the second year projections shall be based solely on the audited financial statements from the clubs first year of membership.

9. Matters not provided for

Matters not provided for in these regulations will be decided upon by the NIFL Board.

ANNEXE 1 - DEFINITIONS OF ALLOWABLE INCOME

All allowable income referred to below is after deduction of VAT

Gate receipts / season tickets / members' fees

Actual amounts received.

Where season tickets are sold covering more than one season, income should be declared pro rata for the relevant season.

Advertising / Sponsorship

Actual amounts received less the cost of purchasing any items to provide advertising/ sponsorship. For example, if an event is sponsored for £10,000 and the cost of holding the event is £4,000 then the allowable income is £6,000. Any costs less than £250 can be ignored for the purposes of establishing the allowable income.

If a loss is incurred then this will be deducted from the total of allowable income.

Television income

All income received which can be classified as televised income (excluding that associated with any international fixture) is allowable.

Match day programmes

The total of all programme sales less the cost of producing the programme.

Prize Money

All prize money generated from progress in Cups or from league position is allowable.

Donations

All donations received which are provided without conditions are allowable. Donations for specific purposes e.g. youth development are not to be classified as allowable income.

Profit/loss from player transfer activity

This refers to the profit or loss on transfer activity during the year. It is the difference between receipts from transfers out and payments made for transfers in and is calculated on a cash receipts basis. All amounts are to include receipts/payments relating to training and development compensation for U21 and U23 players. For example:

If total player transfer receipts are £10,000 and total player transfer payments are £4,000 then allowable income is £6,000.

If total player transfer receipts are £10,000 and total player transfer payments are £15,000 then allowable income is reduced by £5,000.

Profit from bar sales

This refers to the gross profit made from bar sales. It is the difference between bar sales and the cost of those items sold.

Direct salary/wages of bar staff must also be deducted as a cost in this calculation.

If a gross loss is incurred then this will be deducted from the total of allowable income.

Profit from tuck shop

This is the gross profit made from tuck shop sales. It is the difference between tuck shop sales and the cost of those items sold.

If a gross loss is incurred then this will be deducted from the total of allowable income.

Profit from souvenir sales/merchandising/sport shop

This is the gross profit made from souvenir sales. It is the difference between souvenir sales and the cost of those items sold.

If a gross loss is incurred then this will be deducted from the total of allowable income.

Gaming machine profit

This is the income earned from gaming machines. It is the difference between gaming machine income and the rent/lease cost of the machine.

If a loss is incurred then this will be deducted from the total of allowable income.

Pool/snooker tables

This is the pool/snooker table profit. It is the income generated from the pool/snooker tables less the cost of any repairs and maintenance to the tables.

If a loss is incurred then this will be deducted from the total of allowable income.

Cigarette machine

This is the income generated from the cigarette machine less any cost of having the machine in place (e.g. rental/lease cost).

If a loss is incurred then this will be deducted from the total of allowable income.

Corporate hospitality

All income generated from corporate hospitality is allowable, but the cost of providing the hospitality must also be deducted. For example, if the income from corporate hospitality is £20,000 but the cost of providing the hospitality is £12,000, then the allowable income is £8,000.

If a loss is incurred then this will be deducted from the total of allowable income.

Car parking

All income generated from car parking is allowable.

Bass interest subsidy

Any income received from Bass as an interest subsidy is allowable.

Entertainment

All income generated from through entertainment is allowable unless it was arranged for a specific purpose (e.g. youth development). However, the cost of providing the entertainment must be deducted. For example, if the income from entertainment is £20,000 but the cost of providing that entertainment is £12,000, then the allowable income is £8,000.

If a loss is incurred then this will be deducted from the total of allowable income.

Profits from functions

All income generated from other functions is allowable unless it was arranged for a specific purpose (e.g. youth development). However, the cost of holding the function must be deducted. For example, if the income from a function is £20,000 but the cost of holding that function is £12,000, then the allowable income is £8,000.

If a loss is incurred then this will be deducted from the total of allowable income.

Interest

Any interest received is allowable.

Profit on sale of a fixed asset (excluding players)

This will not be classified as allowable income.

Ground rents

Any income received by a club for renting its ground or facilities is allowable.

UEFA prize money

Amounts received from UEFA as prize money is allowable income after team participation costs have been deducted.

Bingo/other games profit

All income generated from bingo/other games is allowable unless it was arranged for a specific purpose (e.g. youth development). However, the cost of providing the games (e.g. cost of prizes) must be deducted.

Community football centre receipts

All incomes received under this classification are allowable.

Fund raising

All amounts received through fundraising activities are allowable unless the fundraising is organised for a specific and identifiable purpose (e.g. youth development, ground repairs, purchase of new facilities).

Bad debts

All bad debts will be deducted from the total of allowable income

Grants

These will not be classified as allowable income.

Shares

Income as a direct consequence of share issues is acceptable provided such issues are in line with national legislation and provided such income is not generated for a specific and identifiable purpose.

ANNEXE 2 - DEFINITION OF THE TOTAL COST OF A PLAYER

This is defined as the total of the following for each player:

- Gross wages (this includes employee national insurance contributions and PAYE)
- Employers national insurance contributions
- Employers pension contributions
- Performance or Appearance related bonus payments
- Benefits in kind
- Relocation costs
- Loan payments to clubs
- Signing on fees
- Termination of contract fees
- Payments made to players for mileage and travel expenses
- Image Rights payments
- All other amounts paid to, or on behalf of, any player in order for that player to be registered to play, or actually to play, for any club



SEASON FIXTURES 2015/16

Month

June

01 (Monday)	Womens' Cup - R2
06 (Friday)	UCL - Final
13 (Saturday)	UEFA Euro Qualifier - Northern Ireland -v- Romania
22 (Monday)	Womens' Cup - R3
26 (Friday)	CAFA Womens' Cup Semi-finals
	MU Ladies Cup - R1
30 (Tuesday)	UCL - Q1 - 1st leg

July

01 (Wednesday)	UCL - Q1 - 1st leg
02 (Thursday)	UEL - Q1 - 1st leg
07 (Tuesday)	UCL - Q1 - 2nd leg
08 (Wednesday)	UCL - Q1 - 2nd leg
09 (Thursday)	UEL - Q1 - 2nd leg
14 (Tuesday)	UCL - Q2 - 1st leg
15 (Wednesday)	UCL - Q2 - 1st leg
16 (Thursday)	UEL - Q2 - 1st leg
20 (Monday)	Womens' Cup - R3
21 (Tuesday)	UCL - Q2 - 2nd leg
22 (Wednesday)	UCL - Q2 - 2nd leg
23 (Thursday)	UEL - Q2 - 2nd leg
28 (Tuesday)	UCL - Q3 - 1st leg
29 (Wednesday)	UCL - Q3 - 1st leg
30 (Thursday)	UEL - Q3 - 1st leg
31 (Friday)	CAFA Womens' Cup Final
	MU Ladies Cup Semi finals

August

01 (Saturday)	
03 (Monday)	Womens' Cup - Semi-finals
04 (Tuesday)	UCL - Q3 - 2nd leg
05 (Wednesday)	UCL - Q3 - 2nd leg
06 (Thursday)	UEL - Q3 - 2nd leg
08 (Saturday)	NIFL Premiership - MD1

	NIFL Championship 1 - MD1
	NIFL Championship 2 - MD1
	MU Gerald Kennedy Cup - R1
11 (Tuesday)	UEFA Super Cup
	MU Gerald Kennedy Cup - Quarter Finals
12 (Wednesday)	NIFL Premiership - MD2
	NIFL Championship 1 - MD2
	NIFL Championship 2 - MD2
15 (Saturday)	NIFL Premiership - MD3
	NIFL Championship 1 - MD2 (cont.)
	NIFL Championship 2 - MD2 (cont.)
	CAFA Steel & Sons Cup - R1
	MU Gerald Kennedy Cup Semi-finals
	MU Bob Radcliffe Cup - Preliminary Round
18 (Tuesday)	UCL - Play off - 1st leg
	NIFL League Cup - Round 1
	MU Cup - Preliminary Round
19 (Wednesday)	UCL - Play off - 1st leg
20 (Thursday)	UEL - Play off - 1st leg
21 (Friday)	MU Gerald Kennedy Cup Final
22 (Saturday)	Irish Cup - R1
	NIFL Premiership - MD4
	NIFL Championship 1 - MD3
	NIFL Championship 2 - MD3
25 (Tuesday)	UCL - Play off - 2nd leg
26 (Wednesday)	UCL - Play off - 2nd leg
27 (Thursday)	UEL - Play off - 2nd leg
28 (Friday)	MU Ladies Cup Final
29 (Saturday)	NIFL Premiership - MD5
	NW Senior Cup - QF
	CAFA Steel & Sons Cup - R2
	MU Bob Radcliffe Cup - R1
31 (Monday)	Womens' Cup Final (provisional)

September

01 (Tuesday)	NIFL League Cup - Round 2
04 (Friday)	UEFA Euro Qualifier - Faroe Islands -v- Northern Ireland
05 (Saturday)	UEFA U21 Euro Qualifier - Northern Ireland -v- Scotland NIFL Premiership - MD6 (subject to FC approval) NIFL Championship 1 - MD4 NIFL Championship 2 - MD4
07 (Monday)	UEFA Euro Qualifier - Northern Ireland -v- Hungary
08 (Tuesday)	UEFA U21 Euro Qualifier - Iceland -v- Northern Ireland NW Senior Cup - QF
09 (Wednesday)	Womens' Cup Final (reserve date)
12 (Saturday)	Junior Cup - R1 NIFL Premiership - MD7 NW Craig Memorial Cup - R1 CAFA Steel & Sons Cup - R3 MU Bob Radcliffe Cup - R2
15 (Tuesday)	UCL - MD1
16 (Wednesday)	UCL - MD1
17 (Thursday)	UEL - MD1
19 (Saturday)	Junior Cup - R1 (cont.) NIFL Premiership - MD8 NIFL Championship 1 - MD5 NIFL Championship 2 - MD5 MU Cup - R1
22 (Tuesday)	NW Senior Cup - SF CAFA Senior Shield - R1
26 (Saturday)	NIFL Premiership - MD9 NW Craig Memorial Cup - R2 CAFA Steel & Sons Cup - R4 CAFA Junior Shield - R1 (a) MU Shield - R1 MU Bob Radcliffe Cup - Quarter finals
29 (Tuesday)	UCL - MD2
30 (Wednesday)	UCL - MD2

October

01 (Thursday)	UEL - MD2
03 (Saturday)	Irish Cup - R2
	Youth Cup - R1
	NIFL Premiership - MD10
	NIFL Championship 1 - MD6
	NIFL Championship 2 - MD6
	CAFA Junior Shield - R1 (b)
07 (Wednesday)	NIFL League Cup - Round 3
08 (Thursday)	UEFA Euro Qualifier - Northern Ireland -v- Greece
10 (Saturday)	NIFL Premiership - MD11
	NIFL Championship 1 - MD7
	NIFL Championship 2 - MD7
11 (Sunday)	UEFA Euro Qualifier - Finland -v- Northern Ireland
13 (Tuesday)	UEFA U21 Euro Qualifier - Northern Ireland -v- FYR Macedonia
14 (Wednesday)	NIFL League Cup - Round 3
17 (Saturday)	Junior Cup - R2
	NIFL Premiership - MD12
	NIFL Championship 1 - MD8
	NIFL Championship 2 - MD8
20 (Tuesday)	UCL - MD3
21 (Wednesday)	UCL - MD3
22 (Thursday)	UEL - MD3
24 (Saturday)	Intermediate Cup - R1
	NIFL Premiership - MD13
	NIFL Championship 1 - MD9
	NIFL Championship 2 - MD9
	CAFA Junior Shield - R2
	MU Shield - R2
27 (Tuesday)	NW Senior Cup Final
	CAFA Senior Shield - R2
	MU Cup - R2 (part 1)
31 (Saturday)	Youth Cup - R2
	NIFL Premiership - MD14
	NW Craig Memorial Cup - Semi-finals

CAFA Steel & Sons Cup - R5

MU Cup - R2 (part 2)

November

03 (Tuesday)	UCL - MD4
04 (Wednesday)	UCL - MD4
05 (Thursday)	UEL - MD4
07 (Saturday)	Irish Cup - R3 NIFL Premiership - MD15 NIFL Championship 1 - MD10 NIFL Championship 2 - MD10
09 (Monday)	Possible International Date
10 (Tuesday)	Possible International Date MU Bob Radcliffe Cup - Semi-final
11 (Wednesday)	Possible International Date MU Bob Radcliffe Cup - Semi-final
12 (Thursday)	Possible International Date UEFA U21 Euro Qualifier - France -v- Northern Ireland
13 (Friday)	Possible International Date
14 (Saturday)	Possible International Date NIFL Premiership - MD16 NIFL Championship 1 - MD11 NIFL Championship 2 - MD11 NW Junior Cup - R1 CAFA Junior Shield - R3 MU Shield - R3
15 (Sunday)	Possible International Date
16 (Monday)	Possible International Date
17 (Tuesday)	Possible International Date UEFA U21 Euro Qualifier - Northern Ireland -v- Ukraine
18 (Wednesday)	NIFL League Cup - Quarter Finals
21 (Saturday)	Intermediate Cup - R2 Junior Cup - R3 NIFL Premiership - MD17
24 (Tuesday)	UCL - MD5

25 (Wednesday)	UCL - MD5
26 (Thursday)	UEL - MD5
27 (Friday)	CAFA Steel & Sons Cup - Semi-final
28 (Saturday)	NIFL Premiership - MD18
	NIFL Championship 1 - MD12
	NIFL Championship 2 - MD12
	MU Youth Cup
30 (Monday)	CAFA Steel & Sons Cup - Semi-final
December	
01 (Tuesday)	CAFA Senior Shield Semi-finals
05 (Saturday)	Irish Cup - R4 (Championship clubs enter)
	Youth Cup - R3
	NIFL Premiership - MD19
08 (Tuesday)	UCL - MD6
09 (Wednesday)	UCL - MD6
10 (Thursday)	UEL - MD6
12 (Saturday)	Intermediate Cup - R3
	NIFL Premiership - MD20
	NW Junior Cup - R2
	CAFA Junior Shield - R4
	MU Shield - R4
15 (Tuesday)	NIFL League Cup - Semi Finals
19 (Saturday)	NIFL Premiership - MD21
	NIFL Championship 1 - MD13
	NIFL Championship 2 - MD13
25 (Friday)	CAFA Steel & Sons Cup Final
26 (Saturday)	NIFL Premiership - MD22
	NW Craig Memorial Cup Final
	NW Bob Radcliffe Cup Final

January

01 (Friday)	NIFL Premiership - MD23
02 (Saturday)	MU Youth Cup
	NIFL Championship 1 - MD14
	NIFL Championship 2 - MD14

09 (Saturday)	Irish Cup - R5 (Premiership clubs enter) Junior Cup - R4
12 (Tuesday)	CAFA Senior Shield Final MU Cup - Quarter finals
16 (Saturday)	Youth Cup - QF NIFL Premiership - MD24 NIFL Championship 1 - MD15 NIFL Championship 2 - MD15
23 (Saturday)	NIFL Premiership - MD25 Intermediate Cup - R4 NW Junior Cup - R3 CAFA Junior Shield - R5 MU Shield - Quarter finals
30 (Saturday)	NIFL Premiership - MD26 NIFL Championship 1 - MD16 NIFL Championship 2 - MD16 MU Youth Cup - Quarter finals

February

06 (Saturday)	Irish Cup - R6 Junior Cup - R5 NIFL Championship 1 - MD17 NIFL Championship 2 - MD17
09 (Tuesday)	MU Cup - Semi final
10 (Wednesday)	Youth Cup - Semi-finals MU Cup - Semi final
12 (Friday)	NIFL Premiership - MD27
13 (Saturday)	Intermediate Cup - R5 NIFL League Cup - Final NIFL Championship catch up date
15 (w/c)	MU Shield - Semi-final
16 (Tuesday)	UCL - 1st Knockout round - 1st leg
17 (Wednesday)	UCL - 1st Knockout round - 1st leg
18 (Thursday)	UEL - 1st Knockout round - 1st leg
20 (Saturday)	NIFL Premiership - MD28

	NIFL Championship 1 - MD18
	NIFL Championship 2 - MD18
23 (Tuesday)	UCL - 1st Knockout round - 1st leg
24 (Wednesday)	UCL - 1st Knockout round - 1st leg
25 (Thursday)	UEL - 1st Knockout round - 2nd leg
27 (Saturday)	Junior Cup - QF
	NIFL Premiership - MD29
	NIFL Championship 1 - MD19
	NIFL Championship 2 - MD19
	MU Youth Cup - Semi final
29 (w/c)	MU Shield Semi-final

March

05 (Saturday)	Irish Cup - QF
	NW Junior Cup - R4
	NIFL Championship catch up date
	CAFA Junior Shield - R6
08 (Tuesday)	UCL - 1st Knockout round - 2nd leg
09 (Wednesday)	UCL - 1st Knockout round - 2nd leg
10 (Thursday)	UEL - 2nd Knockout round - 1st leg
12 (Saturday)	NIFL Premiership - MD30
	NIFL Championship 1 - MD20
	NIFL Championship 2 - MD20
	Intermediate Cup - QF
	MU Youth Cup - Semi final
15 (Tuesday)	UCL - 1st Knockout round - 2nd leg
16 (Wednesday)	UCL - 1st Knockout round - 2nd leg
17 (Thursday)	UEL - 2nd Knockout round - 2nd leg
18 (Friday)	Youth Cup Final
19 (Saturday)	NIFL Premiership - MD31
	NIFL Championship 1 - MD21
	NIFL Championship 2 - MD21
21 (Monday)	Possible International Date
22 (Tuesday)	Possible International Date
	MU Cup Final

23 (Wednesday)	Possible International Date
24 (Thursday)	Possible International Date
25 (Friday)	Possible International Date
26 (Saturday)	Possible International Date
	NIFL Premiership - MD 32
	NIFL Championship 1 - MD22
	NIFL Championship 2 - MD22
27 (Sunday)	Possible International Date
28 (Monday)	Possible International Date
29 (Tuesday)	Possible International Date
	UEFA U21 Euro Qualifier - Scotland -v- Northern Ireland
	NIFL Premiership - MD33
	NIFL Championship catch up date

April

02 (Saturday)	Irish Cup - Semi-finals
	NIFL Championship 1 - MD23
	NIFL Championship 2 - MD23
04 (Monday)	Junior Cup - Semi-finals
05 (Tuesday)	UCL - Quarter final - 1st leg
06 (Wednesday)	Intermediate Cup - Semi-finals
	UCL - Quarter final - 1st leg
	CAFA Junior Shield - Semi-final
	MU Cup Youth Cup Final
07 (Thursday)	UEL - Quarter final - 1st leg
	CAFA Junior Shield - Semi-final
09 (Saturday)	NIFL Premiership - MD34
	NIFL Championship catch up date
12 (Tuesday)	UCL - Quarter final - 2nd leg
13 (Wednesday)	UCL - Quarter final - 2nd leg
14 (Thursday)	UEL - Quarter final - 2nd leg
16 (Saturday)	NIFL Premiership - MD35
	NIFL Championship 1 - MD24
	NIFL Championship 2 - MD24
19 (Tuesday)	NIFL Premiership - MD36

22 (Friday)	NW Junior Cup - Semi-final
23 (Saturday)	NIFL Premiership - MD37
	NIFL Championship 1 - MD25
	NIFL Championship 2 - MD25
26 (Tuesday)	UCL - Semi final - 1st leg
27 (Wednesday)	UCL - Semi final - 1st leg
	CAFA Junior Shield Final
28 (Thursday)	UEL - Semi final - 1st leg
29 (Friday)	NW Junior Cup - Semi-final
30 (Saturday)	NIFL Premiership - MD38
	NIFL Championship 1 - MD26
	NIFL Championship 2 - MD26

May

02 (Monday)	Junior Cup Final
03 (Tuesday)	UCL - Semi final - 2nd leg
04 (Wednesday)	UCL - Semi final - 2nd leg
05 (Thursday)	UEL - Semi final - 2nd leg
06 (Friday)	Intermediate Cup Final
	NIFL Premiership Play Off - 6th v 7th
07 (Saturday)	Irish Cup Final
10 (Tuesday)	NIFL Play Off Semi Finals
14 (Saturday)	NIFL Play Off Final
18 (Wednesday)	UEL - Final
20 (Friday)	NW Junior Cup Final
28 (Wednesday)	UCL - Final
June	
06 (Saturday)	UCL Final



LEAGUE HONOURS

Danske Bank Premiership 2014/15

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Crusaders	38	25	7	6	93	43	+50	82
2 Linfield	38	21	9	8	67	46	+21	72
3 Glenavon	38	20	6	12	82	65	+17	66
4 Portadown	38	17	11	10	65	56	+9	62
5 Cliftonville	38	16	13	9	71	47	+24	61
6 Glentoran	38	16	10	12	67	51	+16	58
7 Ballymena United	38	15	6	17	62	75	-13	51
8 Coleraine	38	13	7	18	48	55	-7	46
9 Ballinamallard United	38	10	9	19	40	71	-31	39
10 Dungannon Swifts	38	8	13	17	38	56	-18	37
11 Warrenpoint Town	38	6	12	20	50	76	-26	30
12 Institute	38	4	9	25	36	84	-48	21

Belfast Telegraph Championship 1 2014/15

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Carrick Rangers	26	19	5	2	54	22	32	62
2 Bangor	26	18	6	2	71	32	39	60
3 Ards	26	16	8	2	61	30	31	56
4 HW Welders	26	15	5	6	59	37	22	50
5 Larne	26	13	3	10	52	36	16	42
6 Dergview	26	8	9	9	40	43	-3	33
7 Armagh City	26	9	5	12	38	48	-10	32
8 Knockbreda	26	9	3	14	31	43	-12	30
9 Ballyclare Comrades	26	8	4	14	46	48	-2	28
10 Lisburn Distillery	26	8	4	14	38	58	-20	28
11 Loughgall	26	7	6	13	36	54	-18	27
12 Donegal Celtic	26	5	9	12	35	42	-7	24
13 PSNI	26	6	5	15	27	64	-37	23
14 Dundela	26	3	4	19	34	65	-31	13

Belfast Telegraph Championship 2 2014/15

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Lurgan Celtic	28	19	6	3	68	21	47	63
2 Annagh United	28	18	4	6	73	46	27	58
3 Limavady United	28	17	5	6	67	32	35	56
4 S&L Swifts	28	16	5	7	50	34	16	53
5 Newington YC	28	15	5	8	40	29	11	50
6 Moyola Park	28	14	6	8	58	44	14	48
7 Dollingstown	28	12	7	9	53	39	14	43
8 Portstewart	28	12	6	10	43	40	3	42
9 Queens University	28	11	7	10	48	34	14	40
10 Tobermore United	28	9	7	12	48	45	3	34
11 Banbridge Town	28	7	7	14	38	70	-32	28
12 Glebe Rangers	28	6	6	16	45	64	-19	24
13 Wakehurst	28	6	4	18	28	68	-40	22
14 Coagh United	28	3	6	19	29	72	-43	15
15 Ballymoney United	28	2	5	21	26	76	-50	11

NIFL Reserve League 2014/15

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Linfield Swifts	33	24	6	3	112	35	77	78
2 Coleraine Reserves	33	24	3	6	92	46	46	75
3 Cliftonville Olympic	33	22	3	8	85	31	54	69
4 Dungannon Swifts R	33	16	6	11	61	65	-4	54
5 Glentoran II	33	14	6	13	71	69	2	48
6 Ballymena United R	33	15	3	15	59	64	-5	48
7 Institute Reserves	33	14	3	16	64	67	-3	45
8 Glenavon Reserves	33	14	2	17	70	77	-7	44
9 Crusaders Reserves	33	11	7	15	44	53	-9	40
10 Ballinamallard United II	33	9	4	20	51	78	-27	31
11 Portadown Reserves	33	6	5	22	46	95	-49	23
12 Warrenpoint Town R	33	3	4	26	31	106	-75	13

NIFL Youth League Section A

		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Linfield Rangers	20	17	2	1	62	14	48	53
2	Cliftonville Strollers	20	16	0	4	64	27	37	48
3	Crusaders Colts	20	11	3	6	44	33	11	36
4	Ballymena United III	20	11	2	7	40	39	1	35
5	Glentoran Colts	20	8	3	9	50	48	2	27
6	Glenavon III	20	6	3	11	55	54	1	21
7	Institute Colts	20	5	6	9	40	51	-11	21
8	Dungannon Swifts Youth	20	6	2	12	44	77	-33	20
9	Lisburn Distillery III	20	6	1	13	28	52	-24	19
10	Coleraine Colts	20	4	5	11	40	51	-11	17
11	Ballinamallard United III	20	4	5	11	36	57	-21	17

NIFL Youth League Section B

		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Portadown III	18	13	1	4	72	23	49	40
2	Ballyclare Comrades Colts	18	9	6	3	53	30	23	33
3	Newington YC U18	18	10	2	6	43	32	11	32
4	St. Oliver Plunkett	18	9	0	9	32	33	-1	27
5	Knockbreda Youth	18	7	4	7	41	44	-3	25
6	Newry City AFC Youth	18	7	4	7	36	39	-3	25
7	Carrick Rangers Colts	18	7	3	8	47	46	1	24
8	Carniny Youth	18	6	2	10	31	62	-31	20
9	Annagh United Youth	18	5	1	12	25	64	-39	16
10	Ards Youth	18	4	3	11	36	43	-7	15

PREMIERSHIP WINNERS

2008–09	Glentoran
2009–10	Linfield
2010–11	Linfield
2011–12	Linfield
2012–13	Cliftonville
2013–14	Cliftonville
2014–15	Crusaders

CHAMPIONSHIP 1 WINNERS

2008–09	Portadown
2009–10	Loughgall
2010–11	Carrick Rangers
2011–12	Ballinamallard United
2012–13	Ards
2013–14	Institute
2014–15	Carrick Rangers

CHAMPIONSHIP 2 WINNERS

2009–10	H&W Welders
2010–11	Warrenpoint Town
2011–12	Coagh United
2012–13	Knockbreda
2013–14	Armagh City
2014–15	Lurgan Celtic

IRISH LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS

1890–91	Linfield	1927–28	Belfast Celtic
1891–92	Linfield	1928–29	Belfast Celtic
1892–93	Linfield	1929–30	Linfield
1893–94	Glentoran	1930–31	Glentoran
1894–95	Linfield	1931–32	Linfield
1895–96	Distillery	1932–33	Belfast Celtic
1896–97	Glentoran	1933–34	Linfield
1897–98	Linfield	1934–35	Linfield
1898–99	Distillery	1935–36	Belfast Celtic
1899–1900	Belfast Celtic	1936–37	Belfast Celtic
1900–01	Distillery	1937–38	Belfast Celtic
1901–02	Linfield	1938–39	Belfast Celtic
1902–03	Distillery	1939–40	Belfast Celtic
1903–04	Linfield	1940–47	NOT PLAYED
1904–05	Glentoran	1947–48	Belfast Celtic
1905–06	Cliftonville	1948–49	Linfield
1906–07	Linfield	1949–50	Linfield
1907–08	Linfield	1950–51	Glentoran
1908–09	Linfield	1951–52	Glenavon
1909–10	Cliftonville	1952–53	Glentoran
1910–11	Linfield	1953–54	Linfield
1911–12	Glentoran	1954–55	Linfield
1912–13	Glentoran	1955–56	Linfield
1913–14	Linfield	1956–57	Glenavon
1914–15	Belfast Celtic	1957–58	Ards
1915–19	NOT PLAYED	1958–59	Linfield
1919–20	Belfast Celtic	1959–60	Glenavon
1920–21	Glentoran	1960–61	Linfield
1921–22	Linfield	1961–62	Linfield
1922–23	Linfield	1962–63	Distillery
1923–24	Queen's Island	1963–64	Glentoran
1924–25	Glentoran	1964–65	Derry City
1925–26	Belfast Celtic	1965–66	Linfield
1926–27	Belfast Celtic	1966–67	Glentoran

IRISH LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS

1967–68	Glentoran	1981–82	Linfield
1968–69	Linfield	1982–83	Linfield
1969–70	Glentoran	1983–84	Linfield
1970–71	Linfield	1984–85	Linfield
1971–72	Glentoran	1985–86	Linfield
1972–73	Crusaders	1986–87	Linfield
1973–74	Coleraine	1987–88	Glentoran
1974–75	Linfield	1988–89	Linfield
1975–76	Crusaders	1989–90	Portadown
1976–77	Glentoran	1990–91	Portadown
1977–78	Linfield	1991–92	Glentoran
1978–79	Linfield	1992–93	Linfield
1979–80	Linfield	1993–94	Linfield
1980–81	Glentoran	1994–95	Crusaders

PREMIER DIVISION

1995–96	Portadown
1996–97	Crusaders
1997–98	Cliftonville
1998–99	Glentoran
1999–2000	Linfield
2000–01	Linfield
2001–02	Portadown
2002–03	Glentoran
2003–04	Linfield
2004–05	Glentoran
2005–06	Linfield
2006–07	Linfield
2007–08	Linfield

FIRST DIVISION

1995–96	Coleraine
1996–97	Ballymena United
1997–98	Newry Town
1998–99	Distillery
1999–2000	Omagh Town
2000–01	Ards
2001–02	Lisburn Distillery
2002–03	Dungannon Swifts
2003–04	Loughgall
2004–05	Armagh City
2005–06	Crusaders
2006–07	Institute
2007–08	Loughgall



SECOND DIVISION

2002–03	Ballinamallard United
2003–04	Coagh United
2004–05	Tobermore United
2005–06	Portstewart
2006–07	Ballyclare Comrades
2007–08	Dergview

IFA INTERIM INTERMEDIATE LEAGUE

2008–09	H&W Welders
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