

MATCHDAY REQUIREMENTS

2025 / 2026

An Officer of the home Club must give notice of full particulars of the location of, and access to, the Ground and time of kick-off to the Match Officials and an Officer of the opposing Club at least five clear days prior to the playing of the match.

The home Club shall inform their opponents if appointed Assistant Referees are not available and of any abnormal route situations.

The home Club is responsible for advising of footwear requirements when confirming match arrangements. Ground and changing rooms must be open at least 45 mins before kick off.

The home Team must provide goal nets, corner flags and at least two footballs fit for play which should be delivered to the referee in their dressing room at least 30 minutes before the scheduled kick off.

At least 30 minutes before the kick off, both sides shall meet with the referee and exchange Team Sheets showing the Club details, date, competition, and team colours. It will also show the forenames and surnames of all players selected, including substitutes, against the number of the shirt they will be wearing. Players (and subs) **not** named may **not** take part in that Competition Match.

The Teams taking part in a Competition Match shall identify a Team captain who may wear an armband and shall have a responsibility to offer support in the management of the on-field discipline of their teammates.

Goal nets must be suitably anchored to the ground.

Regulation corner posts must be used.

Refreshments for BOTH teams and Match Officials **MUST** be provided by the home Club at half time unless these are declined before the game.

The RESPECT handshake will be held before EVERY match played in the Competition.

The minimum number of Players which will constitute a Team for a Competition Match is 7.

Any Club with more than one Team in the Competition shall always fulfil its fixture, within the Competition, in the following order of precedence: - First Team, Reserve Team, A Team.

Any Club unable to fulfil a fixture or where a Competition Match has been postponed for any reason must notify the Competition Fixtures Secretary, Referees Appointments Secretary, the secretary of the opposing Club and the Match Officials. This also applies to all postponed or cancelled fixtures. If a game is postponed due to weather conditions, the League form shall be completed and returned within 7 days of the postponement.

Where a dugout and technical area is provided only named subs and no more than three Club Officials are allowed in the dugout area (over 16's only). Only one person is allowed to stand in the technical area at any one time and then only to convey instructions to their team. If there is no dug-out but there is a technical area only two persons can stand in that area to convey instructions to their team. If there is no dug-out or technical area, then all persons must stay behind the barrier throughout the match. On a 3G pitch, where there is a barrier, then supporters can be allowed inside the cage, if there is no barrier then only players, managers, substitutes, physio etc will be allowed inside the cage with ALL supporters remaining outside.

BOTH Clubs shall notify/SMS the result of each Competition Match to the Competition within 30 minutes of the finish of the match, and the team shall be posted onto the full time system within 48 hours (excluding Sundays) of the match.