

BETFRED CUP



***LEAGUE CUP
COMPETITION
REGULATIONS***

THE SCOTTISH PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE CUP COMPETITION REGULATIONS

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Any word or phrase used in these Regulations which is defined in the Articles or Rules and which is not defined in these Regulations has, unless the context requires otherwise, the defined meaning ascribed to it in the Articles or Rules.
- 1.2 Where, in these Regulations, reference is made to a Regulation by number the reference is to a Regulation of these Regulations.
- 1.3 In these Regulations references to Clubs and clubs includes clubs from another Recognised League (as defined).
- 1.4 A reference to a Club or club in these Regulations includes, unless the context requires otherwise, the owner and operator of such Club or club.
- 1.5 In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires:
 - 1.5.1 "**Competition**" means The Scottish Professional Football League Cup;
 - 1.5.2 "**Extra Time**" has the meaning given to it in Clause 4.5;
 - 1.5.3 "**Home Club**", which includes club, means the Club/club on whose ground the Match should be or should have been played, or where ground sharing is in operation or the Clubs/clubs play at a neutral venue, the Club/club whose name appears first;
 - 1.5.4 "**Matches**" means matches and ties played or to be played in the Competition;
 - 1.5.5 "**Penalty Kicks**" means kicks taken from the penalty mark in accordance with the procedures laid down by the International Football Association Board's Laws of the Game;

- 1.5.6 **"Regulations"** means the Regulations of the Scottish Professional Football League, as amended from time to time;
- 1.5.7 **"Rules"** means the rules of the Scottish Professional Football League, as amended from time to time;
- 1.5.8 **"Visiting Club"**, which includes club, means the Club/club which should play or should have played any Match on the ground of the Home Club and where ground sharing is in operation or the Match is to be played or is played at a neutral venue, the Club/club whose name appears second.

2 **Title**

The Competition shall be known as "The Scottish Professional Football League Cup" ("the Competition") or by any other title, including by branding, naming, sponsorship or the like, given to it from time to time by the Board.

3 **Board Powers**

- 3.1 The Board shall have full power to conduct, operate and control the Competition in terms of these Regulations.
- 3.2 In respect of the Semi-Finals and Final and pursuant to Regulations 4.19, 10.7 and 10.8, the Board shall have full power to determine the venue, ticket pricing and number of tickets to be allocated to each participating Club/club.
- 3.3 In the event that any matter or thing shall arise in relation to the Competition which is not provided for in these Regulations or if any conflict shall arise between a matter provided for in the Rules and these Regulations then the Board shall be entitled to make whatever arrangements and determinations and give such directions to Clubs/clubs and others as the Board shall think appropriate in order to ensure the efficient operation and completion of the Competition.

4 **Competition Format and Participants**

General

- 4.1 The Competition shall take place and be governed by these Regulations and by the Rules and Regulations of the Scottish Professional Football League and shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game. All Clubs and Players participating in the Competition shall be bound by and comply with these Regulations (and any rule, regulation, direction, decision or determination issued pursuant to these Regulations).

Participants

- 4.2 The Competition shall be contested by all Clubs in the League in the relevant Season and by the champion club of each of the Scottish Highland Football League and the Scottish Lowland Football League ("Recognised Leagues") in the immediately preceding season, subject that, in the event that a Club shall have been relegated from the League through the Pyramid Play-Off Competition at the end of the immediately preceding Season then such relegated Club, in substitution for the relevant champion club of the Scottish Highland Football League or the Scottish Lowland Football League in the immediately preceding season, which shall have been promoted to the League and which will be a Club competing in terms of this Regulation 4.2, shall be eligible to participate in the Competition.

Draws and Ballots

- 4.3 The Board shall, in its sole discretion, determine the arrangements and methodology of the balloting to be held in respect of each round of the Competition with a view to fulfilling the Competition principles set out in these Regulations.

Rounds

- 4.4 The Competition shall be played in numbered rounds designated as follows "[Number] Round" and "[Quarter Final/Semi Final/Final] Round".

Basis of Competition

- 4.5 In all rounds, other than the First Round, the Competition shall be conducted on a 'knockout' basis with the winner being the Club or club with the greater number of goals at full-time. If the scores are equal at full time or no goals have been scored, an extra thirty minutes (15 minutes each way) of extra time will be played ("**Extra Time**") and, if the scores are still equal or still no goals have been scored at the end of Extra Time, the winner shall be determined by taking Penalty Kicks.
- 4.6 If Penalty Kicks are required, the Match referee determines which goal will be used as follows:
- 4.6.1 if the Match referee determines that either goal could be used for the Penalty Kicks, then, in the presence of the two captains, the referee shall toss a coin to decide which goal will be used; or
- 4.6.2 if for reasons of safety/security, condition of the field of play, lighting or other reason, the Match referee determines that a particular goal shall be used for the Penalty Kicks, such decision shall be final and require no justification.
- 4.7 Following the procedure set out in Regulation 4.6, the Match referee shall toss a coin and the Club/club that wins the toss shall decide whether to take the first or second Penalty Kick.

First Round – Group Stage

- 4.8 The Clubs and clubs participating in the First Round shall be the thirty-eight Clubs of the League which are not, in relation to the relevant Season, participating in UEFA owned and operated competitions and the 2 other clubs which are eligible to participate in the Competition in terms of Regulation 4.2. An aggregate of 40 Clubs and clubs shall comprise 8 groups ("Groups"); each of 5 Clubs and/or club(s). This First Round shall be known as the "Group Stage", or such other title as shall be determined from time to time by the Board. The 40 Clubs and clubs participating in the Group Stage shall be seeded by the Board at its sole discretion based broadly on the respective performances of their

first teams in League and Play-Off Competitions and other league competitions in which clubs participated in and immediately following the previous Season and seasons. Clubs and clubs will each be allocated by the Board, in its sole discretion, to one of the 8 Groups based broadly on a North and South regional basis and so as to achieve, so far as reasonably practicable, an even distribution of Clubs and clubs based on seeding across the 4 Groups in each of the North and South regions.

4.9 Each Club and club in each Group will play each other once in a 'round robin' format so that each Club and club will play 4 Group Matches, 2 as the Home Club and 2 as the Visiting Club, in the Group Stage.

4.10 In the Group Stage the Club or club in each Group Match having scored the greater number of goals at full-time, i.e. after 90 minutes plus added time, shall be allocated 3 points and the Club or club having scored the lesser number of or 0 goals shall be allocated 0 points.

4.11 In the event that at full time in a Group Match the score is tied or there have been no goals scored then each Club or club shall be allocated 1 point and Penalty Kicks shall be taken with the winners of the Penalty Kick competition being awarded 1 bonus point.

4.12 When each of the Clubs and clubs participating in each of the Groups shall have played 4 Matches the winner of each Group shall be determined on the basis that the Club or club with the greatest allocated points in the group shall be the Group winner. In the event that 2 or more Clubs or clubs are equal on points at the top of a Group the Group winner shall be determined by the application of the following criteria in the following order:-

(i) overall goal difference, with the greatest positive goal difference ranking highest;

(ii) most goals scored;

(iii) most away goals scored;

(iv) most matches won;

(v) most Away matches won; and

(vi) drawing of lots using a procedure determined by the Board.

The higher or earlier criteria will first be applied and lower or later criteria will only be applied where a higher or earlier criteria has failed to identify the Group winner. Where there are more than 2 Clubs or clubs to be differentiated based on these criteria and at any stage one or more of such Clubs or clubs is lower on the application of the criteria of 2 or more Clubs or clubs then such lower Club(s) or club(s) 'drops out' at that stage of the application of the criteria and no further criteria is applied to it to determine the Group winner. The results of any Penalty Kick competition shall be excluded from determining the rankings of Clubs pursuant to this Regulation 4.12. The score at full time shall be taken as the final score.

4.13 When each of the Clubs and clubs participating in each of the Groups shall have played 4 Matches the 4 runners up across all of the Groups shall be determined on the basis that the 4 Clubs or clubs with the 4 greatest numbers of points gained across all of the Groups shall be the 4 Group runners up. In the event that 2 or more Clubs or clubs are equal on points at the bottom of such group of Group runners up the Club(s) or club(s) which shall be the remaining Group runners up shall be determined by the application of the following criteria in the following order:-

(i) overall goal difference, with the greatest positive goal difference ranking highest;

(ii) most goals scored;

(iii) most away goals scored;

(iv) most matches won;

(v) most Away matches won; and

(vi) drawing of lots using a procedure determined by the Board.

The higher or earlier criteria will first be applied and lower or later criteria will only be applied where a higher or earlier criteria has failed to identify the Group runner up. Where there are more than 2 Club(s) or club(s) to be differentiated based on these criteria and at any stage one or more of such Clubs or clubs is lower or later on the application of the criteria of 3 or more Club(s) or club(s) then such lower or later Club(s) or club(s) 'drops out' at that stage of the application of the criteria and no further criteria is applied to it to determine which are the 4 Group runners up. The results of any Penalty Kick competition shall be excluded from determining the rankings of Clubs pursuant to this Regulation 4.13. The score at full time shall be taken as the final score.

Second Round

- 4.14 The 8 Group winners and 4 Group runners up identified as set out in the preceding Regulations shall qualify and be eligible to play in the Second Round of the Competition as shall the 4 Clubs taking part in UEFA owned and operated competitions in the relevant Season.
- 4.15 In the Second Round of the Competition, the 16 Clubs and clubs qualified and eligible to participate in this Second Round shall be included in a 'seeded' ballot to determine which two Clubs or clubs (one seeded and one unseeded) will play against each other in each of the 8 Second Round Matches. The Clubs or clubs which will be seeded in the Second Round of the Competition shall be the 4 Clubs participating in UEFA owned and operated competitions during the relevant Season which did not participate in the First Round of the Competition and the 4 highest ranked Clubs or clubs which were winners of one of the Groups in the First Round of the Competition. The 4 such seeded Group winners shall be determined in the first instance by the 4 Group winners which scored the highest number of points in their respective Groups. In the event that 2 or more Clubs or clubs are equal on points at the bottom of such 4 Group winners the remaining

Club(s) or club(s) which shall be seeded in the Second Round of the Competition shall be determined by the application of the following criteria in the following order:-

- (i) overall goal difference, with the greatest positive goal difference within each respective Group ranking highest;
- (ii) most goals scored within each respective Group;
- (iii) most away goals scored within each respective Group;
- (iv) most matches won within each respective Group;
- (v) most Away matches won within each respective Group; and
- (vi) drawing of lots using a procedure determined by the Board.

The higher or earlier criteria will first be applied and lower or later criteria will only be applied where a higher or earlier criteria has failed to identify the additional 4 seeded Clubs or clubs. Where there are more than 2 Club(s) or club(s) to be differentiated based on these criteria and at any stage one or more of such Clubs or clubs is lower or later on the application of the criteria of 3 or more Club(s) or club(s) then such lower or later Club(s) or club(s) 'drops out' at that stage of the application of the criteria and no further criteria is applied to it to determine which are the 4 seeded Group winners. The results of any Penalty Kick competition shall be excluded from determining the rankings of Clubs pursuant to this Regulation 4.15. The score at full time shall be taken as the final score.

- 4.16 The ballot shall be organised by the Board on the basis that in each of the 8 Matches in the Second Round a seeded Club or club will play against an unseeded Club or club and the ballot shall determine which shall be the Home Club and which the Away Club. In the case of each Match in the Second Round of the Competition the Club or club drawn in the ballot first shall be the Home Club. The Clubs or clubs will play a single Match at the ground of the Home Club. The 8 winners from the Second Round will qualify to play in the Quarter Final Round.

Quarter Finals

- 4.17 In the Quarter Final Round of the Competition, the 8 Clubs and clubs qualified and eligible to participate in this Quarter Final Round shall be included in an 'unseeded' ballot to determine which two Clubs or clubs will play against each other in each of the 4 Quarter Final Round Matches. In the case of each such Match the Club or club drawn first shall be the Home Club. The Clubs will play a single Match at the ground of the Home Club. The 4 winners from the Quarter Final Round will qualify to play in the Semi Final Round.

Semi Finals

- 4.18 In the Semi Final Round of the Competition, the 4 Clubs and/or clubs qualified and eligible to participate in this Semi Final Round shall be included in an 'unseeded' ballot to determine which two Clubs or clubs will play against each other in each of the 2 Semi Final Round Matches. In the case of each such Match the Club or club drawn first shall be the Home Club. The Clubs or clubs will each play a single Match at a neutral venue or venues determined by the Board. The 2 winners from the Semi Final Round will qualify to play in the Final Round.

Final

- 4.19 The winner of each of the Semi Finals shall contest the Final. The Final shall be played at a neutral venue determined by the Board.

5 Matches

- 5.1 The half time interval in all Matches shall be of fifteen minutes' duration.
- 5.2 All Matches, including any re-scheduled Match, will be played on a date and at a time and venue determined by the Board.

- 5.3 In the event that the Board considers it appropriate the Board shall be entitled to schedule and/or re-schedule the date and time of any Match and to determine the venue and/or change the venue for any Match.
- 5.4 Both teams shall enter the field of play together in Matches along with the Match Officials no later than five minutes prior to the scheduled kick-off time.
- 5.5 All kick-offs must adhere to the time fixed by the Board. Clubs/clubs and Match referees must report any delays to the Board. Any Club/club causing a kick-off to be delayed by 15 minutes or more from the time advertised without sufficient reason (as determined by the Board in its absolute discretion) will be liable to a fine of up to a maximum of £5,000 for a first offence and for a second or subsequent offence occurring within two years of the first offence shall be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of Section G of the Rules.
- 5.6 No Match shall be postponed except on the instructions of the appointed Match referee, the pitch inspector or the Board.
- 5.7 If a Match is postponed other than by the Board, such postponement shall be reported to the Secretary immediately by the appointed Match referee.
- 5.8 If a Match is postponed by the Board (other than the Semi Final and Final Rounds), it shall be the obligation of the Home Club to immediately notify the appointed Match Officials of such postponement. In the case of the Semi Finals and Final, it shall be the Company's obligation.
- 5.9 Each Club or club shall play in all Matches in the Competition in which it is scheduled to play by the Board and at any rescheduled date, time and/or venue as determined from time to time by the Board.
- 5.10 The Board shall have power to waive or allow with conditions the use either in advance or retrospectively of any stadium for a Match where a Club or club is the Home Club

notwithstanding any inability or failure of such Club or club to comply with any provision of the otherwise applying Rules.

- 5.11 Any Club or club without just cause failing to fulfil its fixture obligations in respect of a Match on the appointed date or dates shall be liable to be disqualified and/or subject to such other punishment as the Board may determine.
- 5.12 Without prejudice to any sanctions which may be imposed for a breach of these Regulations, a Club failing to fulfil a fixture obligation shall be liable to pay compensation for any expenses reasonably incurred by the opposing Club as a result of the failure. The amount of such compensation will be at the discretion of the Board which will consider every such case on its merits.
- 5.13 It is the responsibility of the Home Club or club to ensure that a qualified medical practitioner, failing which, a qualified paramedic, is in attendance throughout any Match in the Competition. In the case of Matches at neutral venues, the Semi Final and Final Rounds, it shall be the responsibility of the venue organiser in consultation with the Company to so ensure.

6 Players

- 6.1 Only up to three nominated substitutes for any one Club/club may Play in a Match, except in the event that Extra Time is played in any Match, where in such case a Club shall be permitted to use an additional substitute, a fourth in total, during such period of Extra Time. A Player who has been substituted may not Play in that Match again.
- 6.2 An authorised Official of each Club/club participating in a Match, must deliver to the Match referee, with a copy to an appropriate Official of the opposing Club/club, a 'Scottish Professional Football League - Match Information Form', in a form from time to time approved for use by the Board, with the match details and match commencement team information sections completed which specifies the Players who will Play in that Match for that Club, including the name(s) of the Club's nominated

substitute(s), not less than 75 minutes before the scheduled kick-off time. Clubs/clubs shall be entitled to specify up to 18 such Players on such form. The completed form delivered to the referee and copied to the opposing Club/club shall state:

6.2.1 the Competition in which the match is to be played, the Clubs/clubs which will participate in the Match and the date, time and place of the scheduled Kick-off;

6.2.2 the full names of the Players who may Play for the Club/club in the Match, their squad numbers, if any, their dates of birth and the designated team captain; and

6.2.3 as the first Player listed, the Player who will fulfil the role of goalkeeper in the starting 11.

6.3 The completed form shall also state:-

6.3.1 the colour of the goalkeeper shirt which will be worn by any Player who will Play as the goalkeeper for that Club/club at any stage during such Match;

6.3.2 the colour(s) of shirts which will be worn by all outfield Players who will Play for that Club/club in the relevant Match; and

6.3.3 the names and, in each case, the position held at the Club/club, of the up to six persons who may, in addition to the substitutes, occupy positions in the technical area of the relevant Club/club during the Match.

6.4 Any Club or club failing to carry out these provisions will be dealt with at the discretion of the Board.

6.5 Any substitutions during the Match must be recorded by the Club or club on the substitution slips and handed to a Match Official prior to each substitution taking place.

6.6 If any Player (or substitute Player) named in a Match Information Form referred to in Regulation 6.2 (“**Match Form**”) is injured or otherwise incapacitated after the delivery

of that Match Form to the Match referee but before the scheduled kick-off time, the Club/club may add the name of another League Registered Player to the Match Form as a Player or a substitute Player provided that:

- 6.6.1 the Club/club's doctor (or if unavailable, another doctor), has certified that the injury or incapacity is such that the Player in question cannot reasonably be expected to play;
- 6.6.2 if the Player in question has been named in the starting 11 they may only be replaced by any of the seven substitutes listed on the initial Match Form. The substitute in question may only then be replaced by a League Registered Player not listed on the initial Match Form, so that the quota of substitutes is not reduced;
- 6.6.3 if the Player in question has been named as one of the seven substitutes, they may only be replaced by a League Registered Player not listed on the initial Match Form; and
- 6.6.4 if the Player in question is a goalkeeper and no substitute goalkeeper has been named on the initial Match Form, the Player may be replaced by a League Registered player not listed on the initial Match Form.

Any amendment to the Match Form pursuant to this Regulation 6.6 shall be immediately communicated by the relevant Club/club to the Match referee, an appropriate Official of the opposing Club/club and to the media. The Club/club concerned must, upon request, provide the Company with the necessary medical certificates.

- 6.7 Six team Officials plus the Club Doctor, and up to seven substitute Players are allowed to occupy positions in the technical area allocated for their Club/club. i.e. a total of 14 persons. The names of all such persons and their functions must be listed on the Match Form pursuant to Regulation 6.2.

6.8 No more than three substitutes from each team shall warm up at any one time in the area designated by the Match referee. The team fitness coach (as indicated on the Match Form) may join the Players warming up and is responsible for the implementation of any instructions from the Match referee.

6.9 Substitutes who are warming up in the area designated pursuant to Regulation 6.8 shall wear colours sufficient to distinguish them from those worn by the Players participating in the Match.

7 Player Colours and Numbers

7.1 At least 7 days prior to all Matches, excluding the Semi Finals and Final, the competing Clubs/clubs shall notify each other and the Secretary of the kit it intends its Players to wear in the Match. Such notification shall be made using the SPFL Match Kit Form and include the kit to be worn by the goalkeeper.

7.2 If the Secretary determines that there is, or is likely to be, a clash of colours, the Secretary in consultation with the Scottish FA Head of Referee Operations (being the head of the Scottish FA refereeing department by whatever name called), will determine, in accordance with the provisions of this Regulation 7, which colours should be worn by the Clubs/clubs scheduled to compete in the Match. The Secretary will notify the competing Clubs/clubs of the colours to be worn in the Match no later than 48 hours prior to the Match.

7.3 Notwithstanding Regulations 7.1 and 7.2, in the event of any dispute with regard to the playing kit to be worn by either Club/club the Match referee's decision as to whether there is a clash of colours shall be final.

7.4 When two competing Clubs/clubs having the same or similar first choice colours engage in a Match, the Visiting Club shall play in its second or third choice playing kit which must be different and distinct from the Home Club's first choice playing kit.

7.5 In the event of a clash of colours on Match day and the Visiting Club not having with them an alternative registered playing kit, then the Visiting Club will require to play in the Home Club's alternative colours and/or shorts and/or socks or, in the event there is still a colour clash, a combination of the Visiting Club's alternative colours and the Home Club's alternative colours.

7.6 In the event of a clash of colours on a Match day when Clubs/clubs are playing at a neutral venue including the Semi Final and Final, both or either competing Clubs/clubs

may be required to change to second/third choice colours and/or shorts and/or socks, if directed by the Secretary.

- 7.7 The colour of the goalkeeper shirts must, in all cases, be clearly distinguishable from the colours of the shirts worn by all outfield Players of both competing Clubs/clubs and the Match Officials.
- 7.8 The Players' jerseys and shorts must be clearly numbered and the numbers must be distinct in colour from the remainder of the Players' kit.
- 7.9 Players participating in a Match and substitutes shall be numbered in accordance with the Match Form delivered to the Match referee pursuant to Regulation 6.2. There must be no change of numbers of or by Players during a Match.
- 7.10 Any Club/club in breach of or failing to fulfil these Regulations, including any club which is a member of a Recognised League and which participates in the Competition and thereby agrees to be bound by these Regulations and the Rules in so far as relating to and applying to this Competition, shall be liable to be dealt with and sanctioned in accordance with the terms of Section J of the Rules.

8 Eligibility of Players

- 8.1 Except in the case of a player of a club from another Recognised League taking part in the Competition, to be eligible to Play in the Competition Players must be League Registered.
- 8.2 In the case of players of clubs from Recognised Leagues to be eligible to Play in the Competition they must be eligible to Play for the club participating in the Competition in the Recognised League and must be registered with the Scottish FA.
- 8.3 No Club or club shall Play, or list as a named substitute, any Player or player who, in the same Season, has already played in a Match by entering the field of play whether in the starting eleven or by being used as a substitute by another Club or club in the Competition.
- 8.4 It is the responsibility of each Club and club participating in the Competition to ensure that its Players are eligible to Play in any Match.
- 8.5 Trialists are not eligible to Play in the Competition.

8.6 Any Club or club in breach of or failing to fulfil these Regulations, including any club which is a member of a Recognised League and which participates in the Competition and thereby agrees to be bound by these Regulations and the Rules in so far as relating to and applying to this Competition, shall be liable to be dealt with and sanctioned in accordance with the terms of Section J of the Rules.

9 **Trophy and Awards**

9.1 The winners of the Competition shall hold the trophy and when it is handed over to the winner, that Club or club shall return same to the Secretary if and when required and in any case prior to the commencement of the next Season's Competition in the like good order and condition in which it was received.

9.2 It shall be the responsibility of the winning Club or club to arrange appropriate insurance cover for the trophy throughout the period when it is held by the Club or club.

9.3 The winners and runners-up in the Competition will receive such awards as the Board may decide.

9.4 The Board has full discretion to refuse to present a Player of a participating Club or club with an award (including a medal, trophy, token or other form of prize), which represents their achievement as runner-up and which they would otherwise be entitled to receive, at any time after the official presentation of such award if the Player refused or failed to collect the award at the appropriate time of its presentation.

10 **Admission Charges and Shares of Gates**

10.1 Subject to Regulation 10.4, in all rounds of the Competition, excluding the Semi Finals and Final Round, the Board Minimum Recommended Prices of Ground Admission or the actual minimum admission price, whichever is the greater for adults, juveniles and senior citizens shall, after deducting 15% by the Home Club, be divided equally between the two Clubs participating in each Match. Prior to the commencement of the Competition in each Season, the Board shall fix the Minimum Recommended Prices of

Ground Admission or if the Board does not so fix the Minimum Recommended Prices of Ground Admission same shall be deemed to be those which applied in the immediately preceding Competition. Unless and until altered by the Board the Minimum Recommended Prices of Ground Admission shall be as stated below. The share of admission money in terms of this Regulation must be paid to the Visiting Club within ten days of the date of the relevant Match. Any Club failing to pay, detail or return as before provided, or any Club or club failing immediately to report non-payments of receipts due to it, shall be dealt with as the Board may think fit.

- 10.2 Where Clubs/clubs in different divisions and/or Recognised Leagues are in opposition against each other, the applicable Board Minimum Recommended Prices of Ground Admission shall be the prices applicable to the Club/club in the higher division.
- 10.3 Attendance statistics on forms provided by the League must be sent by the Home Club to the Secretary within three days of each Match. Clubs/clubs failing to comply, or making any error therein or any omissions therefrom shall pay a fine of such amount as the Board may determine. In the case of the Semi Final and Final Rounds, it shall be the responsibility of the Company to record such information.
- 10.4 Any Club or club wishing to charge less than the Board Minimum Recommended Prices of Ground Admission must obtain the consent of its opponent prior to the Match taking place and the agreed admission prices shall be divided as provided in Regulation 10.1.
- 10.5 In all rounds of the Competition, excluding the Semi Final and Final Rounds, Clubs and clubs shall only be entitled to deduct a limit of 10% of the total number of spectators admitted to a Match subject to such limit not exceeding 1,000 persons. The numbers in excess of this figure must be returned in the gross gate and divided in the ratio of 75% adult, 25% juvenile and senior citizens of the Board Minimum Recommended Prices of Ground Admission.
- 10.6 Payment for tickets sold by a Visiting Club or club together with the details of tickets sold, and the return of unsold tickets, must be made to the Home Club within ten days of the date of the Match taking place. Any Club or club failing to pay, detail or return as

before provided, or any Club or club failing at once to report non-payments of receipts due to it, shall be dealt with as the Board may think fit.

10.7 For each Match in the Semi Final Round of the Competition:

10.7.1 the ticket pricing and number of tickets to be allocated to each participating Club/club shall be determined by the Board;

10.7.2 15% (or such lesser percentage as the Company may be able to agree) of the gross admission receipts after deduction of the applicable VAT shall be paid to the neutral venue owner and operator as payment for the hire of the stadium and associated services;

10.7.3 following the payment specified at Regulation 10.7.2, the Match expenses and costs incurred by the Company or for which the Company is liable shall then be deducted from the remaining balance and applied in the discharge and/or reimbursement of such expenses and costs;

10.7.4 the Company shall retain 5% of the remaining balance following the payments specified at Regulations 10.7.2 and 10.7.3; and

10.7.5 following all payments specified in this Regulation 10.7 the remaining net admission receipts after all such deductions, payments etc. shall have been made and/or allowed for shall be divided equally amongst the four competing Clubs or clubs which participated in the Semi Final Round of the Competition.

10.8 For the Final Match of the Competition:

10.8.1 the ticket pricing and number of tickets to be allocated to each participating Club/club shall be determined by the Board;

10.8.2 20% (or such lesser percentage as the Company may be able to agree) of the gross admission receipts after deduction of the applicable VAT shall be paid to the neutral venue owner and operator as payment for the hire of the stadium and associated services;

10.8.3 following the payment specified at Regulation 10.8.2, the Match expenses and costs incurred by the Company or for which the Company is liable shall then be deducted from the remaining balance and applied in the discharge and/or reimbursement of such expenses and costs;

10.8.4 the Company shall retain 5% of the remaining balance following the payments specified at Regulations 10.8.2 and 10.8.3; and

10.8.5 following all payments specified in this Regulation 10.8 the remaining net admission receipts after all such deductions, payments etc. shall have been made and/or allowed for shall be divided equally amongst the four competing Clubs or clubs which participated in the Semi Final Round of the Competition.

10.9 In the Semi Final and Final Rounds, payments for tickets sold by each competing Club or club together with details of tickets sold, and the return of unsold tickets, must be made to the League within ten days of the date of the Match. The League shall be entitled to offset all TV and sponsorship revenues relating to the Matches due to the Club or club against all sums due by the Club or club to the League in terms of this Regulation. Any Club or club failing to pay any balance due to the League or detail or return as before provided within 10 days of receipt by the Club or club of said revenues from the League shall pay a penalty of £3,000 to the League together with interest on all sums due to the League and such interest shall be calculated on a daily basis at a rate of 5% per annum over the Bank of Scotland base rate compounded monthly on the first day of each calendar month.

10.10 VAT shall be chargeable in addition to all sums provided for in this Regulation 10 which are payable to the Company or to the Club/club or other stadium operator which provided the neutral venue.

11 **Admission Arrangements for Visiting Clubs and clubs**

11.1 The Home Club shall forward to the Visiting Club 'without charge' tickets, in the numbers set out below, so that they will be in the hands of the Visiting Club on or before the fifth day before the Match (unless under circumstances which render this impracticable) - 10 for Directors' Box, 40 for the Stand.

11.2 No Official or Player of the Visiting Club shall be entitled to enter the Home Club's Ground without a ticket.

12 **Division of Receipts in Abandoned and Replayed Matches**

12.1 In the event of any Match up to and including the Quarter Final Round, being abandoned unfinished owing to causes over which neither competing Club or club has any control,

or being ordered to be replayed, the entire gate receipts of the replayed Match, after deduction of 15% by the Home Club, will be divided equally between the two competing Clubs or clubs.

12.2 In the event of a Semi Final Match being abandoned unfinished owing to causes over which neither competing Club or club has any control, or being ordered to be replayed, the entire receipts of the replayed Semi Final Match, after paying the expenses of the Company in relation to the Match as determined by the Board, shall be pooled and equally divided among the four competing Clubs or clubs.

12.3 In the event of the Final being abandoned unfinished owing to causes over which neither competing Club or club has any control, or being ordered to be replayed, the entire receipts at the replayed Final, after deduction of the expenses of the Company in relation to the Match as determined by the Board will be divided equally between the two competing Clubs or clubs.

13 **Neutral Venues**

13.1 In the event of a neutral venue being used other than in the Semi Final Round and Final Round of the Competition, the Club or third party providing the stadium, unless otherwise mutually agreed between the Club or clubs taking part in the Match, the Company and Club or third party providing the stadium, will be entitled to such percentage of the Match revenue as agreed with the Company taking into account the entire receipts for the Stands, Enclosures and Ground admissions, less the expenses of the Company in relation to the Match as determined by the Board.

14 **Financial Records**

14.1 All Clubs/clubs shall keep detailed financial records and the Board may arrange for an inspection of all such records and/or require delivery of copies of such records within a time specified, with particular reference to turnstile arrangements.

15 **Prohibited Conduct**

15.1 Any Club or club, Official, Player or agent acting on any of their behalf's or the Associate of any of them, offering or receiving whether directly or indirectly any payment, benefit, consideration, concession, bonus or any other inducement, to or from another Club or club, Official, Player or agent acting on any of their behalf's or the Associate of any of them or any other person or party other than, in the case of an Official or Player, their own Club under and in terms of their contract of service, to influence the result or any other aspect of a Match shall, subject to the terms of these Regulations, be in breach of these Regulations and be liable to such sanction(s) and/or condition(s) which the Board or a Commission shall determine in accordance with Section J of the Rules.

16 **Full Strength Teams**

16.1 Each Club or club shall play its full strength first team in all Matches, unless some explanation which is satisfactory to the Board is provided. In the event of the explanation not being deemed satisfactory, the Club or club concerned shall be deemed in breach of this Regulation and shall be dealt with in accordance with Section J of the Rules.

17 **Match Officials**

17.1 The Match Officials for all Matches shall be appointed by the Scottish FA.

17.2 By accepting the appointment for a Match, each Match Official shall be deemed to have given any consent which may be necessary for the purposes of Part II of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 or any statutory modification or re-enactment for the time being in force, for the recording and broadcasting of that Match by or on behalf of the League

- 17.3 The level and all other terms of payment for remuneration of Match Officials shall be determined by the Board.
- 17.4 The League shall pay the fees and expenses of the Match Officials in all Matches.
- 17.5 The Match referee shall have power to decide as to the fitness of the ground, its pitch and surrounds in all Matches and each Home Club or club in respect of any Match must take every reasonable precaution to keep its ground in a playable condition.
- 17.6 Referees shall, at the request of the Secretary, or with the consent of the Secretary at the request of either of the competing Clubs or clubs, visit the ground on a date and time before the advertised time of kick-off. Referees shall, in these circumstances, adjudicate on the fitness of the ground and take any appropriate decisions and the Home Club and Secretary shall be notified accordingly.
- 17.7 Match Officials shall normally be present at their appointment at least one and a half hours prior to the advertised time of kick-off, in the event of an earlier inspection being required.
- 17.8 By accepting the appointment for a Match, or to carry out a pitch inspection, each Match Official shall be deemed to accept that he or she is classified as self-employed with regard to accounting for payments due in respect of fees paid to him or her by the Company.
- 17.9 Except by decision of the Board, the consent of the Match referee must be obtained before the kick-off can be altered from the advertised time on the day of a Match.
- 17.10 Referees must immediately report late starts of Matches and late arrivals of assistant referees and/or themselves to the Secretary.
- 17.11 The Match Officials shall have both teams prepared to enter the field of play together five minutes prior to the kick-off time.

17.12 The Match Officials must, in a timely fashion and in any event within 24 hours, report in writing to the Scottish FA and to the Secretary, all instances with details of misconduct and/or Unacceptable Conduct of Players, Officials or spectators in accordance with Scottish FA Rules and Regulations and the Rules relating to Unacceptable Conduct.

17.13 Within two hours of the end of a Match the referee of that Match shall send a Match Report by email from the ground at which such Match was played to the Secretary and to the Scottish FA containing details of the result of the Match, the participating Clubs' Match Forms, the substitutes used and the name of any scorers.

18 **Footballs**

18.1 A new ball of FIFA first grade quality shall be used for each Match. For so long as a ball or balls is/are provided by the League to any of the participating Clubs, each Home Club must ensure that (i) the ball(s) supplied is/are the ball(s) used in Matches and (ii) shall have available for use if necessary a match ball and a sufficient number (being not less than two) of reserve balls, at least one of which shall be an orange or yellow coloured ball.

19 **Commercial Arrangements**

19.1 In connection with the Competition, the Company acting through the Board shall have power to conclude and administer contracts with commercial sponsors, broadcasters, publishers and others.

19.2 Such contracts shall include, but not be restricted to:

19.2.1 sponsorship of the Competition;

19.2.2 Transmission, Radio Transmission, Other Transmission and recording by any means of the Matches;

- 19.2.3 commercial exploitation of the League's name, badge, emblem, and trademark in connection with the Competition; and
 - 19.2.4 publications including sound and video recordings relating to the history and fixtures of the Competition.
- 19.3 The Clubs and the clubs participating in the Competition and each of them agree to centrally pool and market their rights, facilities and properties relating to and concerning, Radio Transmission and Transmission of Matches for exclusive exploitation by the Company of Radio Transmission and Transmission of Matches.
- 19.4 Subject that a Club or club shall not, other than in respect of contracts entered into by the Company relating to Radio Transmission or Transmission of Matches, be obliged to comply with this Regulation 19.4 if to do so would result in that Club or club being in breach of a contractual obligation entered into prior to the Company determining to enter into the contract concerned, the Clubs and clubs and each of them shall license and otherwise provide to the Company the use of such of their other rights, facilities and properties as may be required by the Company to enable the Company to enter into and/or fulfil the Company's obligations under and in terms of contracts concerning or relating to the Competition.
- 19.5 The Company shall be entitled, for the purposes of contracts entered into or to be entered into by the Company in relation to the Competition, to sub-license, package or otherwise deal in or with any rights, facilities and properties licensed or otherwise provided to the Company by the Clubs and clubs and each of them.
- 19.6 The Company shall not grant or purport to grant any exclusive right or rights in relation to Other Transmission of Matches, which would have the object or effect, whether intentionally or otherwise, of preventing or inhibiting the Clubs or clubs or any of them from exercising any rights available to them, which they are not expressly prohibited from exercising in terms of these Regulations.

- 19.7 Except pursuant to a contract entered into by the Company in relation to the Competition, each of the Clubs and clubs shall in respect of a Match played at their Home Ground procure that there shall not be any Radio Transmission and/or Transmission of all or any part of that Match without the approval of the Board.
- 19.8 The Clubs and clubs and each of them shall not by act or omission infringe any exclusive rights granted by the Company in a contract entered into by the Company in relation to Radio Transmission and/or Transmission of a Match or Matches or otherwise cause any breach thereof to occur.
- 19.9 The Clubs and clubs and each of them shall not grant or purport to grant any exclusive right or rights or generally enter into or accept any obligation in relation to Other Transmission of Matches which has or would have the effect, whether intended or otherwise, of preventing, restricting or inhibiting the Company from or disadvantaging the Company in competing with the Club or club or any third party in the Other Transmission of Matches.
- 19.10 Where a Club or club shall be involved in the broadcasting and/or transmitting by means of Other Transmission outwith the British Isles of moving pictures of all or any part of a Match, other than pursuant to a contract entered into by the Company in relation to the Competition, it shall use its best endeavours to procure, including by use of legal proceedings at its own instance, that no broadcasting and/or transmission which is or would be prohibited within the British Isles by these Regulations shall be broadcast and/or transmitted by any person or party, whether with or without the permission of the Club or club concerned, within, to or which shall be capable of being received in the British Isles.
- 19.11 Except pursuant to a contract entered into by the Company in relation to the Competition, there shall not, without the approval of the Board, be any Other Transmission, within the British Isles, of moving pictures of all or any part of a Match within any period provided for in a contract entered in to by the Company in relation to

or in connection with the Competition and in any event not, in the case of a Match played on a Saturday until midnight on the next day and on any other day until midnight on that day.

- 19.12 Clubs and clubs may enter into commercial arrangements or sponsorship agreements relating to their participation in the Competition provided always that Clubs and clubs ensure that such arrangements or agreements do not conflict with these Regulations, the Rules and/or any commercial arrangements or sponsorship agreements negotiated by the Board on behalf of the Company in relation to or in connection with the Competition.
- 19.13 All commercial income received by the Company in terms of any contract referred to in this Regulation shall be Other Revenue.
- 19.14 The Company shall not contract in a contract entered into by the Company in relation to the Competition so as to require any Home Club or club to provide, for central exploitation, more than 12 trackside advertising spaces or equivalent at a Match.
- 19.15 Without prejudice to the generality of this Regulation 19 each Club and club must, if required by a/the sponsor of all or part of the Competition, make available the following rights, facilities and properties:
- (a) admit the sponsor to its ground for the purpose of photographing any Match;
 - (b) subject to Regulation 19.14 of these Regulations, make available perimeter advertising boards in appropriate positions and/or such time and exposure on LED Perimeter Boards all as the Board may determine;
 - (c) acknowledge the sponsor on the cover of a Match day programme;
 - (d) acknowledge the sponsor in at least one public address announcement prior to the Match;

- (e) make available one page of advertising or editorial material in the Match day programme;
- (f) provide 10 (or in the case of Semi Final and Final Rounds such greater number as the Board may determine) complimentary tickets and tickets at face value as directed by the Board in terms of any sponsorship agreement or agreements;
- (g) provide suitable hospitality for the sponsors and their guests as directed by the Board in terms of the sponsorship agreement or agreements, and
- (h) provide any other rights, facilities and properties which the Board may require it to provide so as to enable the Company to comply with any sponsorship agreements concluded.

20 **Media Co-operation Requirements**

20.1 At every Match which is televised or in respect of which moving pictures are to be recorded by or on behalf of the Company, Home Clubs are required to:

- (a) grant access to reporters, technicians, cameramen, interviewers and others working with or for television, radio and other broadcast media partners with which the Company has a commercial contract in relation to the Competition or who are working under a contract with and for the Company to the tunnel and trackside area prior to kick-off for the purpose of approaching Players and Club or club Officials on the football management and coaching staff of Clubs and clubs for interviews during this period (N.B. the decision whether to speak to such media remains with the individuals themselves and Club or club may require that any interview requests are directed through their PR or operations staff) and ensure that branded backdrop boards provided by or on behalf of the Company are suitably located for such interviews; and
- (b) make reasonable provision for the representatives of the Visiting Club's official website.

20.2 At every Match which is televised or in respect of which moving pictures are to be recorded by or on behalf of the Company, Clubs and/or clubs are required to:

- (a) ensure that all television and other interviews in front of a camera recording moving images for broadcast take place in front of the branded backdrop boards provided by or on behalf of the Company;
- (b) ensure that its Players participate in the pre-Match "Handshake", if any, and for live televised Matches allow at least one cameraman pitch access for the duration of the handshake; and
- (c) make available at least one Official on the football management or coaching staff of the Club or club and at least one Player who Played in the Match for interview after the Match within 30 minutes of the final whistle, giving priority to broadcast media partners of the Company with which the Company has a contract for the purposes of these Regulations which is broadcasting live (N.B. the Company's media guidelines to Clubs and clubs provide that post-Match interviews should take place within 10 minutes of the final whistle).

21 **Application of Rules**

21.1 Rules A3-A18 (inclusive), B1-B3 (inclusive), C46-C49 (inclusive), F1& F2, G1, G3-G5 (inclusive), G7, G9-15 (inclusive), G28, G46-47 (inclusive), G52-G64 (inclusive), G68-G85 (inclusive), Section H (all), I33-I41, I52-I54, Section J (all), Appendices 1, 2 and 5 and Annexes 1 (Clubs only), 5, 6 and 8 (Clubs only) shall apply to the Competition with Matches in the Competition substituted for League Matches and Play-Off Matches.

Board Minimum Prices for Ground Admission for League Cup

Group Stage

Adult - £12.00; Juveniles and Senior Citizens - £6;

All Other Rounds (excluding Semi Final and Final)

The Premiership – Adult - £18.00; Juveniles and Senior Citizens - £12.00;

The Championship - Adult - £12.00; Juveniles and Senior Citizens - £6.00;

League One - Adult - £10.00; Juveniles and Senior Citizens - £5.00;

League Two, the Scottish Highland Football League and the Scottish Lowland Football League - Adult - £9.00; Juveniles and Senior Citizens - £4.50.