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*The Scottish
Football League*

THE SCOTTISH FOOTBALL RESERVE LEAGUE CONSTITUTION AND RULES

1. TITLE

This combination of clubs shall be known as "The Scottish Football Reserve League".

2. OBJECTS

The object of The Scottish Football Reserve League is to provide competitions at reserve level for its members and for this purpose it shall make such arrangements as are deemed desirable subject to the permission of The Scottish Football Association.

3. MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be open to the Reserve teams of all First, Second and Third Division clubs of The Scottish Football League.

4. CONTROL

The Scottish Football Reserve League shall be governed by The Scottish Football League's Management Committee. The Committee shall have full power in all matters concerning the League and its competitions and its decisions shall be binding on all clubs in League membership, subject to the right of appeal provided by the terms of Rule 76.3 of The Rules of The Scottish Football League and Articles 66 and 133.1 of the Articles of Association of The Scottish Football Association.

RESERVE LEAGUE COMPETITION RULES

5. COMPETITIONS

5.1 The Management Committee shall in each season conduct and control a competition to be called The Scottish Football Reserve Division (East and West Sections) in which all clubs in the respective Divisions will play each other. These competitions will commence on the opening date of the playing season and will be completed by 15th May or any approved extension to the playing season.

5.2 Any match which, for any reason, is not completed may be regarded as a completed match or may be replayed for the full 90 minutes, at the sole discretion of the Management Committee.

6. FIXTURES

6.1 The format of The Scottish Football Reserve Division (East and West Sections) and the programme of fixtures shall be decided annually by the Management Committee, taking into account the number of clubs participating in each section in the season in question.

6.2 The list of fixtures compiled by the Chief Executive/Secretary shall be approved by the Management Committee and all clubs shall be bound to fulfil them as scheduled, except when permission is obtained for a variation.

6.3 The dates on which fixtures shall be played shall be arranged by the Management Committee. The hour of kick-off shall be agreed mutually by the clubs concerned.

7. CHAMPION CLUBS

7.1 In the Sectional competitions, the club gaining the highest number of points - three points shall be awarded for a win and one point for a draw - shall be awarded a trophy or other award determined by the Committee. If two or more clubs are equal on points, the winner shall be decided by goal difference. In the event of the goal difference also being equal, the club scoring the highest number of goals will be deemed the winner. Should the clubs score the same number of goals, however, they shall play a deciding game or games in such manner and under such conditions as the Committee may decide.

- 7.2** The winners of the Reserve League (East) and (West) Sections will each be presented with a trophy which must be returned when required by the League in like good order and condition in which it was received. The winners in both Sections will also receive such awards as the Management Committee may decide.
- 7.3** It shall be the responsibility of the winning clubs to arrange appropriate insurance cover for the trophies throughout the period when they are held by the clubs.
- 8. ADMISSION MONIES**
The home club in all matches shall retain the entire gate receipts and pay all necessary expenses in the running of the match with the exception of the match officials' fees and expenses, which shall be paid by The Scottish Football League.
- 9. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS**
- 9.1** In Reserve League Championship matches, clubs may play an unlimited number of trialist players, provided that the club, where applicable, has sought and obtained the written permission of the player's minor grade club on each occasion that it wishes to play him, and that the player is otherwise eligible to participate in the match.
- 9.2** Clubs playing a player in these circumstances must indicate the fact by adding the words "not registered" after such player's name and address, place and date of birth, previous club, and the country in which he last played in the list of players to be handed to the referee prior to the match.
- 9.3** In the Reserve League Championship, a player may participate as a trialist in any number of matches, subject to him being otherwise eligible to do so.
- 9.4** The terms of Scottish Football League Rule 47 with regard to the eligibility of players who are temporarily transferred shall similarly apply to the Reserve League Championship Competition.
- 9.5** If a player participates in a Reserve League Championship match, such player being ineligible to play in the match as a result of his suspension by The Scottish Football Association or for any other reason, the Club for which the player participates in the Reserve League Championship match shall be liable to such penalty as the Management Committee may decide.

RESERVE LEAGUE CUP COMPETITION RULES

- 10. FORMAT**
- 10.1** The Management Committee shall organise a Reserve League Cup competition which is open to all members of The Scottish Football League.
- 10.2** The format of the Reserve League Cup competition will be at the discretion of the Committee and intimated to clubs on an annual basis. In all rounds of the competition which are played on a knock out basis, if the scores are equal at the end of the ninety minutes, an extra thirty minutes will be played and, if still undecided, the winner shall be ascertained by taking kicks from the penalty mark as laid down by the International Board.
- 10.3** All ties will be played on dates decided by the Management Committee. The venue for the Final Tie will be decided by the Management Committee.
- 10.4** The Management Committee shall have full power to conduct and control the competition and amend the Competition Rules as appropriate.
- 11. ADMISSION MONIES AND SHARE OF GATE**
- 11.1** In the Reserve League Cup competition, after deduction of 15% to cover match expenses to be retained by the ground club, any proceeds will be divided on a 50/50 basis.
- 11.2** Unless it is mutually agreed beforehand by the clubs concerned to waive admission charges, the minimum ground admission charges in all matches shall be £1.00 for adults and 50 pence for juveniles/Senior Citizens.

12. TROPHY

- 12.1** The winners of the Reserve League Cup competition will be presented with a trophy which must be returned when required by the League in like good order and condition in which it was received. The winners and runners-up in the competition will also receive such awards as the Management Committee may decide.
- 12.2** It shall be the responsibility of the winning club to arrange appropriate insurance cover for the trophy throughout the period when it is held by the club.

13. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

- 13.1** In all Reserve League Cup matches, a minimum number of six players, registered in accordance with Article 100 of the Articles of Association of The Scottish Football Association, must be used. The balance of the players required in the match may comprise trialist players, provided that the club, where applicable, has sought and obtained the written permission of the player's minor grade club on each occasion that it wishes to play him, and that the player is otherwise eligible to participate in the match.
- 13.2** No Club shall play, or list as a named substitute, any player who, in the same season, has already played or been a named substitute for another Club in the Competition.
- 13.3** Clubs playing trialists must indicate the fact by adding the words "not registered" after such player's name and address, place and date of birth, previous club, and the country in which he last played in the list of players to be handed to the referee prior to the match.
- 13.4** It shall be the responsibility of each Club participating in the Competition to ensure that its players are eligible to play in any Reserve League Cup match.
- 13.5** If a player participates in a Reserve League Cup match, such player being ineligible to play in the Cup match as a result of his suspension by The Scottish Football Association or for any other reason, the Club for which the player participates in the Reserve League Cup match shall be liable to such penalty as the Management Committee may decide.
- 13.6** Any Club infringing this Rule may be disqualified from the Competition and the tie awarded to its opponents.
- 13.7** The terms of Scottish Football League Rule 47 with regard to the eligibility of players who are temporarily transferred shall similarly apply to the Reserve League Cup Competition.

GENERAL

14. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

- 14.1** All Reserve League Championship and Reserve League Cup matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game and the Rules of The Scottish Football League.
- 14.2** Disciplinary matters relating to field offences shall be dealt with in accordance with the Disciplinary Procedures of The Scottish Football Association.

15. REGISTERED GROUND

- 15.1** All Reserve League Championship and Reserve League Cup matches must be played at a club's registered ground or at a designated ground which has a playing surface, floodlighting and changing accommodation that is of an acceptable standard to The Scottish Football League.
- 15.2** It should also be noted that Reserve League Championship and Reserve League Cup matches **will be permitted to be played on artificial grass surfaces.**

16. SUBSTITUTE PLAYERS

16.1 Clubs may field substitutes in any Reserve League Championship or Reserve League Cup match, in accordance with the terms of Scottish Football League Rule 29.

16.2 Substitutions can only be made when play is stopped for any reason and the referee has given permission

16.3 Should any nominated player or substitute sustain an injury or due to extenuating circumstances be unable to participate after the submission of the list of players to the referee and prior to kick-off, he may be replaced at the discretion of the referee provided the opponents are informed prior to kick-off. Any alterations made to a completed list of players pursuant to Rule 17 must be formally endorsed in writing by an accredited club official and signed by the referee as evidence of his consent pursuant to this paragraph 16.3.

17. LIST OF PLAYERS TO BE HANDED TO REFEREE

Clubs must hand copies of a list of names of players participating in any Reserve League Championship or Reserve League Cup match to the referee and a representative of its opponents in the presence of the referee in accordance with the terms of Scottish Football League Rule 29.

18. ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS FOR VISITING CLUBS

The ground club shall forward to the visiting club ten complimentary tickets for the Directors' Box seven days prior to the date of all Reserve League Championship or Reserve League Cup matches (unless circumstances do not permit this). No member of the committee or player of the visiting club shall be entitled to enter the home club's ground etc. without a ticket.

19. REPORTS OF RESULTS

19.1 Clubs must forward to the Chief Executive/Secretary within three days of each match, the full names of all players who took part in any Reserve League Championship or Reserve League Cup match, together with the result. Clubs failing to comply, or making any error therein or any omissions therefrom shall be liable to such penalty as the Management Committee may decide.

19.2 Notwithstanding the terms of sub-paragraph 19.1, teamlines for all Reserve League and Reserve League Cup matches must be submitted to The Scottish Football League by telefax or any other electronic means by 11.00 a.m. of the day following the tie or the match.

20. MATCH OFFICIALS

20.1 Match Officials shall be appointed by The Scottish Football Association for all Reserve League Championship and Reserve League Cup matches.

20.2 The League shall pay the fees and expenses of all match officials appointed to officiate at all Reserve League Championship and Reserve League Cup matches.

20.3 Teamlines for all Reserve League Cup ties and Reserve League matches **must** be submitted to The Scottish Football League by telefax or any other electronic means by 11.00 a.m. of the day following the tie or the match.

21. MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

Any matter not provided for in these Rules shall be subject to the decision of the Management Committee, taking into account the provisions of the abovementioned section entitled "Control".