Association Rules

Season 2017-2018

ENGLISH SCHOOLS' FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION
Patron: HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, KG

CONSTITUTION

Date of constitution (last amended): 1 July 2017

1. Name
The name of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation ("the CIO") is English Schools' Football Association. The English Schools' FA is affiliated to The Football Association.

2. National location of principal office
The principal office of the CIO is in England.

3. Objects
The objects of the CIO are:
(1) The mental, moral and physical development and improvement of school children and students up to twenty years of age through the medium of association football.
(2) To further such other purposes which may be charitable according to the law of England and Wales as the Trustees see fit from time to time.

4. Powers
The charity trustees have powers to do anything on behalf of the CIO which is calculated to further its objects or is conducive or incidental to doing so. In particular, the charity trustees' powers include power to:
(1) Borrow money and to charge the whole or any part of its property as security for the repayment of the money borrowed. The CIO must comply as appropriate with sections 124 and 125 of the Charities Act 2011 if it wishes to mortgage land;
(2) Buy, take on lease or in exchange, hire or otherwise acquire any property and to maintain and equip it for use;
(3) Sell, lease or otherwise dispose of all or any part of the property belonging to the CIO. In exercising this power, the CIO must comply as appropriate with sections 117 and 119-123 of the Charities Act 2011;
(4) Employ and remunerate such staff as are necessary for carrying out the work of the CIO. The CIO may employ or remunerate a charity trustee only to the extent that it is permitted to do so by clause 6 (benefits and payments to charity trustees and connected persons) and provided it complies with the conditions of those clauses;
(5) Deposit or invest funds, employ a professional fund-manager, and arrange for the investments or other property of the CIO to be held in the name of a nominee, in the same manner and subject to the same conditions as the trustees of a trust are permitted to do by the Trustee Act 2000;
(6) Set and monitor budgets
(7) To appeal for and accept donations, subscriptions, covenants, sponsorships and legacies to be held on trust for the purposes of the CIO provided that the charity trustees shall not undertake any permanent trading activities in raising funds for the charitable objects hereof;
(8) To appoint and employ a chief executive and other appropriate staff. The chief executive will serve on Council as a non-voting member;
(9) To commission, promote, publish, distribute and sell books, plans, pamphlets, facsimiles, photographs, models and other publications of

every description provided that he same are in support and furtherance of the objects of the CIO

5. Application of income and property

(1) The income and property of the CIO must be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects.

a. A charity trustee is entitled to be reimbursed from the property of the CIO or may pay out of such property reasonable expenses properly incurred by him or her when acting on behalf of the CIO.

b. A charity trustee may benefit from trustee indemnity insurance cover purchased at the CIO's expense in accordance with, and subject to the conditions in section 189 of the Charities Act 2011

(2) None of the income or property of the CIO may be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise by way of profit to any member of the CIO. This does not prevent a member who is not also a charity trustee receiving:

a. A benefit from the CIO as a beneficiary of the CIO;

b. Reasonable and proper remuneration for any goods or services supplied to the CIO.

c. reimbursement from the property of the CIO, at the sole discretion of the charity trustees, for costs incurred in hosting events on behalf of the CIO, including but not limited to the annual general meeting (AGM) and competitions, and travelling to CIO events and competitions

(3) Nothing in this clause shall prevent a charity trustee or connected person receiving any benefit or payment which is authorised by clause 6.

6. Benefits and payments to charity trustees and connected persons

(1) General provisions

No charity trustee or connected person may:

a. Buy or receive any goods or services from the CIO on terms preferential to those applicable to members of the public;

b. Sell goods, services or any interest in land to the CIO;

c. Be employed by, or receive any remuneration from, the CIO;

d. Receive any other financial benefit from the CIO;

Unless the payment of benefit is permitted by sub-clause (2) of this clause, or authorised by the court of the prior written consent of the Charity Commission ("the Commission") has been obtained. In this clause, a 'financial benefit' means a benefit, direct or indirect, which is either money or has a monetary value.

(2) Scope and powers permitting trustees' or connected persons' benefits

a. A charity trustee or connected person may receive a benefit from the CIO as a beneficiary of the CIO provided that a majority of the charity trustees do not benefit in this way.

b. A charity trustee or connected person may enter into a contract for the supply of services, or goods that are supplied in connection with the provision of services, to the CIO where that is permitted in accordance with, and subject to the conditions in, section 185to 188 of the Charities Act 2011.

c. Subject to sub-clause (3) of this clause a charity trustee or connected person may provide the CIO with goods that are not supplied in connection with services provide to the CIO by the charity trustee or connected person.

d. A charity trustee or connected person may receive interest on money lent to the CIO at a reasonable and proper rate which must not be more than the Bank of England base rate (also known as the base rate).
e. A charity trustee or connected person may receive rent from premises let by the charity trustee or connected person to the CIO. The amount of rent and the other terms of the lease must be reasonable and proper. The charity trustee concerned must withdraw from any meeting at which such a proposal or the rent or other terms of the lease are under discussion.
f. A charity trustee or connected person may take part in the normal trading and fundraising activities of the CIO on the same terms as members of the public.
g. A charity trustee may receive benefits from sponsorship deals entered into by the CIO provided any such benefit is incidental and the sponsorship deal is in the best interests of the CIO without the incidental benefits which may be provided to charity trustees.

(3) Payment for supply of goods only – controls

The CIO and its charity trustees may only rely upon the authority provided by sub-clause 6(2)c of this clause if each of the following conditions is satisfied:

a. The amount or maximum amount of the payment for the goods is set out in a written agreement between the CIO and the charity trustee or connected person supplying the goods ("the supplier").
b. The amount or maximum amount of the payment for the goods does not exceed what is reasonable in the circumstances for the supply of the goods in question.
c. The other charity trustees are satisfied that it is in the best interests of the CIO to contract with the supplier rather than with someone who is not a charity trustee or connected person. In reaching that decision the charity trustees must balance the advantage of contacting with a charity trustee or connected person against the disadvantages of doing so.
d. The supplier is absent from the part of any meeting at which there is discussion of the proposal to enter into a contract or arrangement with him or her or it with regard to the supply of goods to the CIO.
e. The supplier does not vote on any such matter and is not to be counted when calculating whether a quorum of charity trustees is present at the meeting.
f. The reason for their decision is recorded by the charity trustees in the minutes.
g. A majority of the charity trustees then in office are not in receipt of remuneration or payments authorised by clause 6.

(4) In sub-clauses (2) and (3) of this clause:

a. The CIO includes any company in which the CIO:
    i. holds more than 50% of the shares; or
    ii. controls more than 50% of the voting rights attached to the shares; or
    iii. has the right to appoint one or more directors to the board of the company;
b. "connected person" includes any person within the definition set out in clause 30 (interpretation).

7. Conflicts of interest and conflicts of loyalty

A charity trustee must:

(1) Declare the nature and extent of any interest, direct or indirect, which he or she has in a proposed transaction or arrangement with the CIO or in any transaction or arrangement entered into by the CIO which has not previously been declared; and

(2) Absent himself or herself from any discussion of the charity trustees in which it is possible that a conflict of interest will arise between his or her duty to act solely in the interests of the CIO and any personal interest (including but not limited to any financial interest).

Any charity trustee absenting himself or herself from any discussions in accordance with this clause must not vote or be counted as part of the quorum in any decision of the charity trustees on the matter.

8. Liability of members to contribute to the assets of the CIO if it is wound up

If the CIO is wound up, the members of the CIO have no liability to contribute to its assets and no personal responsibility for settling its debts and liabilities.

9. Membership of the CIO

(1) For the avoidance of doubt, the members of the CIO are, the members of the unincorporated charity known as 'The English Schools' Football Association' as at the date of incorporation (who shall retain their membership category unless it is necessary for the charity trustees to assign them to a new membership category in line with the CIO's constitution), and such other persons as are admitted to membership by the charity trustees in accordance with the CIO's constitution.

(2) Membership categories:

1. County Schools' Football Associations
2. District Schools' Football Associations, all age ranges
3. District Schools' Football Associations, secondary only
4. District School Football Associations, primary and/or middle only
5. Associate

together the 'Associations'.

(3) Admission of new members

a. Eligibility

Membership of the CIO shall be open to Schools' Football Associations in England, subject to the approval of Council. Membership of the CIO shall only be conferred upon those Districts and County Schools' Football Associations that opt into the centrally managed discipline system which is operated by the CIO and that observe the regulations of the disciplinary procedures set by the CIO. District Schools' Football Associations must communicate any disciplinary matters to their County Schools' Football Association. All District and County Schools' Football Associations must also comply with the CIO's child welfare regulations from time to time in order to become a member.

District Schools' Football Associations shall affiliate to their respective County Schools' Football Association and to the CIO. County Schools' Football Associations may only take in to affiliated membership those District Schools' Football Associations already in membership with the CIO.

Schools and colleges will automatically be affiliated to their County Schools' Football Association. They must also affiliate to their local District Schools' Football Association (where one catering for the age group(s) of their pupils exists). Failure to do this would invalidate their County Schools' Football Association affiliation & membership of the CIO.

Where no local District Schools' Football Association is in existence and it is not practical for one to be formed, individual schools will be allowed to seek affiliated membership to their respective County Schools' Football Association for a period no longer than one season, during which time affiliation to a District Schools' Football Association should be arranged. The period of one year may be extended with the approval of the Council Members who will review the situation annually.

Where a dispute exists over any individual school seeking affiliated membership with a local District Schools' Football Association, subject to the approval of the charity trustees, such schools will be allowed to seek affiliated membership to their respective County Schools' Football Association, for a period of no longer than one season, during which time the dispute must be dealt with. Such circumstances must be recorded centrally by the CIO.

b. **Associate Membership**

Charity trustees reserve the right to accept into Associate Membership those Federations which concern themselves only with the supplementary organisation of football for young people of school age.

c. Federation of Member Schools' Football Associations

A Federation shall be concerned only with County Schools' Football Associations and District Schools' Football Associations in affiliated membership with the CIO.

No Association shall be allowed to affiliate to a Federation unless it is in affiliated membership with its respective County Schools' Football Association.

No individual school shall be allowed to affiliate to a Federation direct but it must seek affiliation to the CIO in accord with rule 9(2).

A Federation shall only concern itself with competitions which are in addition to the programme of competitions in being and organised by those County Schools' Football Associations within the geographical area covered by the Federation. Such competitions should be based on: (i) A County Schools' Football Association XI, (ii) A District Schools' Football Association XI, (iii) Individual Schools' XI's. Individual schools and District Schools' Football Associations wishing to take part in Federation activities can only do so if they have already intimated that they are taking part in the respective competitions provided by County and District Schools' Football Associations or have the permission of the County and District Schools' Football Associations to do so. Such competitions will need to be registered by the Federation.

The geographical area covered by a Federation must be agreed with the Council of the CIO and no extension of this area shall take place without the further sanction of the Council of the CIO.

(4) Admissions procedure

a. Before being accepted as a member all Associations must satisfy the Council that they are properly constituted Associations, are playing football according to the Laws of the Game of the International Football Association Board, provide the chief executive with a return, where necessary, setting forth the schools in its membership, and must complete the membership form, as instructed, at least seven days before the AGM.

b. The Council shall have the right to refuse to accept the membership of any new Association which covers any part of the same areas as that of an Association that is already a member.

c. No existing Association shall be allowed to extend further into an area covered by another Association without the express permission of the Council.

d. All member Associations must agree to abide by the Rules of the CIO.

e. A member Association shall be governed by regularly elected officers and management committee – the election of such to take place at the Association's annual general meeting convened for that purpose.

f. A member Association should have its own banking account. Its funds may be used to assist charitable objects or institutions, but shall not be employed to promote the interest of any political or religious organisation.

g. A section of a member Association, with specific responsibilities for football, maybe accepted into affiliated membership with the CIO, subject to it having no geographical conflict with existing member Associations and fully recognising the CIO as its regulatory body in all matters appertaining to schools' football.

h. No member Association, or school affiliated to that member Association shall compete in any competition which is not recognised and registered by Council, or play against any non-member association, or team, without the sanction of the Council.

i. Member Associations shall not administer competitions involving schools or member Associations outside their own area without prior sanction of the Council.

j. Member Associations may sanction the participation of schoolchildren of both sexes in matches under their control, where the match restricts players to those under 18 years of age at midnight between 31st August and 1st September in any playing season.

k. A member Association shall, on request, accept as a member any school or college with full time pupils, and within its geographical area.

l. Schools and colleges in membership with the CIO through a member Association must seek permission from the Council to participate in non-CIO activities.

m. All member Associations that run representative teams MUST have a named welfare officer who is fully compliant with The Football Association's, and the CIO's, welfare officer requirements.

n. Teachers shall abide by the bye-laws laid down by charity trustees from time to time with regard to eligibility, disqualification and association with professional clubs.

o. Players, and their member Associations and all other members shall abide by the bye-laws laid down by charity trustees from time to time with regard to eligibility, disqualification and association with professional clubs.

p. Players and officials are allowed to take part in schools' football on condition that they observe the rules of the CIO and the relevant rules, regulations and bye-laws of The Football Association, and every member Association is required to observe and enforce such rules.

(5) Transfer of membership

Membership of the CIO cannot be transferred to anyone else except in the case of an individual or corporate body representing an organisation which is not incorporated, whose membership may be transferred by the unincorporated organisation to a new representative. Such transfer of membership does not take effect until the CIO has received written notification of the transfer.

(6) Duty of members

It is the duty of each member of the CIO to exercise his or her powers as a member of the CIO in the way he or she decides in good faith would be most likely to further the purposes of the CIO.

(7) Termination of membership

a. Membership of the CIO comes to an end if:
   - (i) where a member that is an organisation, that organisation ceases to exist; or
   - (ii) the member fails to renew membership through the membership process by 30th September; or
   - (iii) the member fails to abide by the rules and regulations laid down in this constitution, and its attendant bye laws; or
   - (iv) any sum of money owed by the member to the CIO is not paid in full within six months of it falling due; or
   - (v) the charity trustees decide that it is in the best interests of the CIO that the member in question should be removed from membership, and pass a resolution to that effect.

b. Before the charity trustees take any decision to remove an Association from membership of the CIO, they must:
   - (i) Inform the Association of the reasons why it is proposed to remove it from membership;
   - (ii) Give the Association at least 21 clear days' notice in which to make representations to the charity trustees as to why it should not be removed from membership;
   - (iii) At a duly constituted meeting of the charity trustees, consider whether or not the Association should be removed from membership;
   - (iv) Consider at that meeting any representations which the Association makes as to why the Association should not be removed; and
   - (v) Any officials or player guilty of any breach of the rules, regulations and/or bye laws of the CIO or The Football Association may be suspended or disqualified.

c. Any officials or player guilty of any breach of the rules, regulations and/or bye laws of the CIO or The Football Association may be suspended or disqualified.

(8) Membership/Affiliation fees

The CIO may require members to pay reasonable membership or affiliation fees to the CIO. These fees will be set by the charity trustees and published no later than 1 May of the season prior to the season in which they apply.

(9) Informal membership

(a) Life membership

A member of Council, who has served as Chairman of the CIO, shall be awarded life membership on retirement from the Council. Nominations for life membership may also be submitted by member Associations in respect of a person who has given outstanding service at local, county and/or regional level leading to national level. Any submission must be received by the CIO's chief executive on or before 31 January in any playing season, for consideration by Council at its next meeting.

(b) Honorary Life Members

Honorary life membership of the CIO may be conferred upon individuals, who are not members of an Association, who have served the Association with distinction and credit. Such nominations will be sanctioned and approved by Council.

(c) Responsibilities of Informal Members

Other references in this constitution to "members" and "membership" do not apply to non-voting informal members as set out in clauses 9(7)(a) and (b) above, and such non-voting members do not qualify as members for any purpose under the Charities Act, General Regulations or Dissolution Regulations.

10. Members' decisions

(1) General provisions

Except for those decisions that must be taken in a particular way as indicated in sub-clause (4) of this clause, decisions of the members of the CIO may be taken either by vote at a general meeting as provided in sub-clause (2) of this clause or by written resolution as provided in sub-clause (3) of this clause.

(2) Taking ordinary decisions by vote

Subject to sub-clause (4) of this clause, any decision of the members of the CIO may be taken by means of a resolution at a general meeting. Such a resolution may be passed by a majority of votes cast at the meeting in line with the voting powers outlined below:

1. County SFA – 3 votes
2. District SFA, all age ranges – 3 votes
3. District SFA, secondary only – 2 votes
4. District SFA, primary and middle only – 1 vote
5. Associate – 1 vote
6. Council members – 1 vote

(3) Taking ordinary decisions by written resolution without a general meeting

(a) Subject to sub-clause (4) of this clause, and in exceptional circumstances, a resolution in writing agreed by a majority of all the members who would have been entitled to vote upon it had it been proposed at a general meeting shall be effective, provided that:

(i) a copy of the proposed resolution has been sent to all the members eligible to vote; and

(ii) a majority of members has signified its agreement to the resolution in a document or documents which are received at the principal office within the period of 28 days beginning with the circulation date. The document signifying a member's agreement must be authenticated by their signature (or in the case of an organisation which is a member, by execution according to its usual procedure), by a statement of their identity accompanying the document, or in such other manner as the CIO has specified.

(b) The resolution in writing may comprise several copies to which one or more members have signified their agreement.

(c) Eligibility to vote on the resolution is limited to members who are members of the CIO on the date when the proposal is first circulated in accordance with paragraph (a) above.

(d) Not less than 10% of the members of the CIO may request the charity trustees to make a proposal for decision by the members.

(e) The charity trustees must within 21 days of receiving such a request comply with it if:

(i) The proposal is not frivolous or vexatious, and does not involve the publication of defamatory material;

(ii) The proposal is stated with sufficient clarity to enable effect to be given to it if it is agreed by the members; and

(iii) Effect can lawfully be given to the proposal if it is so agreed.

(f) Sub-clauses (a) to (c) of this clause apply to a proposal made at the request of members.

(4) Decisions that must be taken in a particular way

(a) Any decision to remove a charity trustee must be taken in accordance with clause 16(2).

(b) Any decision to amend this constitution must be taken in accordance with clause 31 of this constitution (Amendment of Constitution).

(c) Any decision to wind up or dissolve the CIO must be taken in accordance with clause 32 of this constitution (Voluntary winding up or dissolution). Any decision to amalgamate or transfer the undertaking of the CIO to one or more other CIOs must be taken in accordance with the provisions of the Charities Act 2011.

11. General meetings of members

(1) Types of general meeting

There must be an AGM of the members of the CIO. The first AGM must be held within 18 months of the registration of the CIO, and subsequent AGMs must be held at intervals of not more than 15 months. The AGM must receive the annual statement of accounts (duly audited or examined where applicable) and the charity trustees' annual report, and must elect charity trustees as required under clause 13. Other general meetings of the

members of the CIO may be held at any time. All general meetings must be held in accordance with the following provisions.

(2) Calling general meetings

(a) The charity trustees:

(i) must call the annual general meeting of the members of the CIO in accordance with sub-clause (1) of this clause, and identify it as such in the notice of the meeting; and

(ii) may call any other general meeting of the members at any time.

(b) The charity trustees must, within 21 days, call a general meeting of the members of the CIO if:

(i) they receive a request to do so from at least 10% of the members of the CIO; and

(ii) the request states the general nature of the business to be dealt with at the meeting, and is authenticated by the member(s) making the request.

(c) If, at the time of any such request, there has not been any general meeting of the members of the CIO for more than 12 months, then sub-clause (b)(i) of this clause shall have effect as if 5% were substituted for 10%.

(d) Any such request may include particulars of a resolution that may properly be proposed, and is intended to be proposed, at the meeting.

(e) A resolution may only properly be proposed if it is lawful, and is not defamatory, frivolous or vexatious.

(f) Any general meeting called by the charity trustees at the request of the members of the CIO must be held within 28 days from the date on which it is called.

(g) If the charity trustees fail to comply with this obligation to call a general meeting at the request of its members, then the members who requested the meeting may themselves call a general meeting.

(h) A general meeting called in this way must be held not more than 3 months after the date when the members first requested the meeting.

(i) The CIO must reimburse any reasonable expenses incurred by the members calling a general meeting by reason of the failure of the charity trustees to duly call the meeting, but the CIO shall be entitled to be indemnified by the charity trustees who were responsible for such failure.

(3) Notice of general meetings

(a) The charity trustees, or, as the case may be, the relevant members of the CIO, must give at least 28 clear days' notice of any general meeting to all of the members, and to any charity trustee of the CIO who is not a member.

(b) If it is agreed by not less than 90% of all present members of the CIO, any resolution may be proposed and passed at the meeting even though the requirements of sub-clause (3) (a) of this clause have not been met. This sub-clause does not apply where a specified period of notice is strictly required by another clause in this constitution, by the Charities Act 2011 or by the General Regulations.

(c) The notice of any general meeting must:

(i) state the time and date of the meeting:

(ii) give the address at which the meeting is to take place;

(iii) give particulars of any resolution which is to be moved at the meeting, and of the general nature of any other business to be dealt with at the meeting; and

(iv) if a proposal to alter the constitution of the CIO is to be considered at the meeting, include the text of the proposed alteration;

(vi) include, with the notice for the AGM, the annual statement of accounts and charity trustees' annual report, details of persons standing for election or re-election as charity trustee, or where allowed under clause 22 (Use of electronic communication), details of where the information may be found on the CIO's website.

(d) Proof that an envelope containing a notice was properly addressed, prepaid and posted; or that an electronic form of notice was properly addressed and sent, shall be conclusive evidence that the notice was given. Notice shall be deemed to be given 48 hours after it was posted or sent.

(e) The proceedings of a meeting shall not be invalidated because a member who was entitled to receive notice of the meeting did not receive it because of accidental omission by the CIO.

(4) Chairing of general meetings

The person nominated as chair by the charity trustees under clause 22(2) (Chairing of meetings), shall, if present at the general meeting and willing to act, preside as chair of the meeting. Subject to that, the members of the CIO who are present at a general meeting shall elect a chair to preside at the meeting.

(5) Quorum at general meetings

(a) No business may be transacted at any general meeting of the members of the CIO unless a quorum is present when the meeting starts.

(b) Subject to the following provisions, the quorum for general meetings shall be 10% of the membership. An organisation represented by a person present at the meeting in accordance with sub-clause (7) of this clause, is counted as being present in person.

(c) If the meeting has been called by or at the request of the members and a quorum is not present within 15 minutes of the starting time specified in the notice of the meeting, the meeting is closed.

(d) If the meeting has been called in any other way and a quorum is not present within 15 minutes of the starting time specified in the notice of the meeting, the chair must adjourn the meeting. The date, time and place at which the meeting will resume must either be announced by the chair or be notified to the CIO's members at least seven clear days before the date on which it will resume.

(e) If a quorum is not present within 15 minutes of the start time of the adjourned meeting, the member or members present at the meeting constitute a quorum.

(f) If at any time during the meeting a quorum ceases to be present, the meeting may discuss issues and make recommendations to the charity trustees but may not make any decisions. If decisions are required which must be made by a meeting of the members, the meeting must be adjourned.

(6) Voting at general meetings

(a) Any decision other than one falling within clause 10(4) (Decisions that must be taken in a particular way) shall be taken by a majority of votes cast at the meeting (including postal votes). An Association representative can only vote for his or her District Association and/or his or her County Association. A member of the Council may use his or her own vote, plus either his or her District or County Association vote if he or she is also the Association's representative.

(b) A resolution put to the vote of a meeting shall be decided on a show of hands, unless (before or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands) a poll is duly demanded. A poll may be demanded by the chair or by at least 10% of the members present in person at the meeting.

(c) A poll demanded on the election of a person to chair the meeting or on a question of adjournment must be taken immediately. A poll on any other matter shall be taken, and the result of the poll shall be announced, in such manner as the chair of the meeting shall decide, provided that the poll must be taken, and the result of the poll announced, within 30 days of the demand for the poll.

(d) A poll may be taken:

(i) at the meeting at which it was demanded; or

(ii) at some other time and place specified by the chair; or

(iii) through the use of postal or electronic communications.

(e) In the event of an equality of votes, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, the chair of the meeting shall have a second, or casting vote.

(f) Any objection to the qualification of any voter must be raised at the meeting at which the vote is cast and the decision of the chair of the meeting shall be final.

(7) Postal Voting

(a) The CIO may, if, in exceptional circumstances, the Council so decide, allow the members to vote by post or electronic mail ("email") to elect charity trustees and/or Council members..

(b) The charity trustees must appoint at least two persons independent of the CIO to serve as scrutineers to supervise the conduct of the postal/email ballot and the counting of votes.

(c) If postal and/or email voting is to be allowed, the CIO must send to members of the CIO not less than 21 days before the deadline for receipt of votes cast in this way:

(i) a notice by email, if the member has agreed to receive notices in this way under clause 22 (Use of electronic communications), including an explanation of the purpose of the vote and the voting procedure to be followed by the member, and a voting form capable of being returned by email or post to the CIO, containing details of the resolution being put to a vote, or of the candidates for election, as applicable;

(ii) a notice by post to all other members, including a written explanation of the purpose of the postal vote and the voting procedure to be followed by the member; and a postal voting form containing details of the resolution being put to a vote, or of the candidates for election, as applicable.

(d) The voting procedure must require all forms returned by post to be in an envelope with the member's name and signature, and nothing else, on the outside, inside another envelope addressed to "The Scrutineers for ESFA", at the CIOs principal office or such other postal address as is specified in the voting procedure.

(e) The voting procedure for votes cast by email must require the member's name to be at the top of the email, and the email must be authenticated in the manner specified in the voting procedure.

(f) Email votes must be returned to an email address used only for this purpose and must be accessed only by a scrutineer.

(g) The voting procedure must specify the closing date and time for receipt of votes, and must state that any votes received after the closing date or not complying with the voting procedure will be invalid and not be counted.

(h) The scrutineers must make a list of names of members casting valid votes, and a separate list of members casting votes which were invalid. These lists must be provided to a charity trustee or other person overseeing admission to, and voting at, the general meeting. A member who has cast a valid postal or email vote must not vote at the meeting, and must not be counted in the quorum for any part of the meeting on which he, she or it has already cast a valid vote. A member who has cast an invalid vote by post or email is allowed to vote at the meeting and counts towards the quorum.

(i) For postal votes, the scrutineers must retain the internal envelopes (with the member's name and signature). For email votes, the scrutineers must cut off and retain any part of the email that includes the member's name. In each case, a scrutineer must

record on this evidence of the member's name that the vote has been counted, or if the vote has been declared invalid, the reason for such declaration.

(j) Votes cast by post or email must be counted by all the scrutineers before the meeting at which the vote is to be taken. The scrutineers must provide to the person chairing the meeting written confirmation of the number of valid votes received by post and email and the number of votes received which were invalid.

(k) The scrutineers must not disclose the result of the postal/email ballot until after votes taken by hand or by poll at the meeting, or by poll after the meeting, have been counted. Only at this point shall the scrutineers declare the result of the valid votes received, and these votes shall be included in the declaration of the result of the vote.

(l) Following the final declaration of the result of the vote, the scrutineers must provide to a charity trustee or other authorised person bundles containing the evidence of members submitting valid postal votes; evidence of members submitting valid email votes; evidence of invalid votes; the valid votes; and the invalid votes.

(m) Any dispute about the conduct of a postal or email ballot must be referred initially to a panel set up by the charity trustees, to consist of two charity trustees and two persons independent of the CIO. If the dispute cannot be satisfactorily resolved by the panel, it must be referred to the Electoral Reform Services.

(8) Representation of Associations

A member Association should, in accordance with its usual decision-making process, authorise a person to act as its representative at any general meeting of the CIO.

The representative is entitled to exercise the same powers on behalf of the Association as the Association could exercise as an individual member of the CIO.

(9) Adjournment of meetings

The chair may with the consent of a meeting at which a quorum is present (and shall if so directed by the meeting) adjourn the meeting to another time and/or place. No business may be transacted at an adjourned meeting except business which could properly have been transacted at the original meeting.

12. Charity trustees

(1) Functions and duties of charity trustees

The charity trustees shall manage the affairs of the CIO and may for that purpose exercise all the powers of the CIO. It is the duty of each charity trustee:

(a) to exercise his or her powers and to perform his or her functions as a trustee of the CIO in the way he or she decides in good faith would be most likely to further the purposes of the CIO; and

(b) to exercise, in the performance of those functions, such care and skill as is reasonable in the circumstances having regard in particular to:

(i) any special knowledge or experience that he or she has or holds himself or herself out as having; and

(ii) if he or she acts as a charity trustee of the CIO in the course of a business or profession, to any special knowledge or experience that it is reasonable to expect of a person acting in the course of that kind of business or profession.

(2) Eligibility for trusteeship

(a) Every charity trustee must be a natural person and not a corporate body.

(b) No one may be appointed as a charity trustee:

- if he or she is under the age of 16 years; or
- if he or she would automatically cease to hold office under the provisions of clause 16(1)(f).

(c) No one is entitled to act as a charity trustee whether on appointment or on any re-appointment until he or she has expressly acknowledged, in whatever way the charity trustees decide, his or her acceptance of the office of charity trustee.

(d) At least one of the trustees of the CIO must be 18 years of age or over. If there is no charity trustee aged at least 18 years, the remaining charity trustee or charity trustees may act only to call a meeting of the charity trustees, or appoint a new charity trustee.

(3) Number of charity trustees

(a) The maximum number of Charity trustees is 6.

(b) there should be not more than 3 elected charity trustees ("Elected Trustees")

(c) there should be three ex officio charity trustees who are the current chairman, the current vice chairman and the preceding season's chairman provided that such person remains a member of the Council ("Ex-Officio Trustees").

(4) First charity trustees

The first charity trustees of the CIO are:
Alan Johnston
Owen Aiston
John Martin
Michael Coyne
David Woollaston
Stuart Inger

13. Appointment of charity trustees

(1) The charity trustees shall be appointed by the Council from amongst their number at the AGM each year.

(2) The charity trustees shall be appointed for a term of office of three years which shall start on the date of the AGM at which they were appointed and end on the date of the AGM falling within the third year of their appointment.

(3) The term of office for the first charity trustees, as set out in clause 12(4) above, will be deemed to start from the date of the AGM first following the adoption of this constitution.

(4) Any vacancies arising in the number of charity trustees may be filled by the decision of the Council and should be notified to the next following AGM. Any

person appointed to fill such a vacancy will be appointed for a three year term of office which will be deemed to start from the date of the AGM first following their appointment.

(5) The Council or the charity trustees may at any time decide to appoint a new charity trustee as an additional charity trustee, provided that the limit specified in clause 12(3)(a) on the number of charity trustees would not as a result be exceeded. Such person shall be appointed for a three year term of office which will be deemed to start from the date of the AGM first following their appointment.

14. The Council

(1) The charity trustees shall establish a committee known as the Council.

(2) The Council shall be responsible for managing matters relating to managing, running and organising schools' football along with any other matters as the charity trustees shall determine from time to time. In particular, the charity trustees shall delegate authority, power and responsibility to the Council to:

(a) determine the CIO's international programme of schools football and competitions;

(b) determine the membership categories of the CIO and deal with the approval of members and all issues relating to membership in accordance with any rules set out by the charity trustees from time to time;

(c) elect the charity trustees from amongst their number.

(3) The Council shall comprise of:

a) Elected Council Members – there shall be sixteen Elected Council Members with four being elected from each of the four Regions. The members of each Region will responsible for electing the four Elected Council Members from their Region. The results of the election from each Region will be announced at the AGM. Elected Council Members will be appointed for three year terms of office which shall start, or be deemed to start, on the date of the AGM at which they were appointed and end on the date of the AGM falling within the third year of their appointment. In order to be eligible for appointment as an Elected Council Member, a member of the CIO must:

- be a member of an Association; and
- be a trained teacher holding QTS status.

b) Ex-Officio Council Members – the chief executive of the CIO from time to time shall automatically, by virtue of holding that office, be a Council member.

c) Independent Council Members – there shall be three Independent Council Members as follows:

i. a representative from The Football Association. The Council shall determine which post holder at The Football Association should be invited to act as The Football Association's representative;

ii. a representative from The Premier League. The Council shall determine which post holder at The Premier League should be invited to act as The Premier League's representative;

iii. a representative recommended by the honorary auditors of the CIO from time to time. This Independent Council Member may be co-opted to the board of charity trustees.

(4) The Council shall report on their activities to the charity trustees in such manner and at such intervals as the charity trustees shall determine from time to time.

15. Information for new charity trustees

The charity trustees will make available to each new charity trustee, on or before his or her first appointment:

(a) a copy of this constitution and any amendments made to it; and

(b) a copy of the CIO's latest charity trustees' annual report and statement of accounts.

16. Ceasing to hold office as a charity trustee

(1) A charity trustee ceases to hold office if he or she:

(a) retires by notifying the CIO in writing (but only if enough charity trustees will remain in office when the notice of resignation takes effect to form a quorum for meetings);

(b) is absent without the permission of the charity trustees from any two meetings within a 12 month period;

(c) dies;

(d) in the written opinion, given to the CIO, of a registered medical practitioner treating that person, has become physically or mentally incapable of acting as a charity trustee and may remain so for more than three months;

(e) is removed by the members of the CIO in accordance with sub-clause (2) of this clause; or

(f) is disqualified from acting as a charity trustee by virtue of section 178-180 of the Charities Act 2011 (or any statutory re-enactment or modification of that provision).

(2) A charity trustee shall be removed from office if a resolution to remove that charity trustee is proposed at a general meeting of the members called for that purpose and properly convened in accordance with clause 11, and the resolution is passed by a two-thirds majority of votes cast at the meeting.

(3) A resolution to remove a charity trustee in accordance with this clause shall not take effect unless the individual concerned has been given at least 14 clear days' notice in writing that the resolution is to be proposed, specifying the circumstances alleged to justify removal from office, and has been given a reasonable opportunity of making oral and/or written representations to the members of the CIO.

(4) An individual who is retained in an advisory or paid capacity by a football club which employs contracted players shall be disqualified from acting as a charity trustee.

17. Ceasing to hold office as a Council member

(1) A Council member ceases to hold office if he or she:

(a) dies;

(b) in the written opinion, given to the CIO, of a registered medical practitioner treating that person, has become physically or mentally incapable of acting as a Council member and may remain so for more than three months;

(c) is removed by the members of the CIO in accordance with sub-clause (2) of this clause.

(2) A Council member shall be removed from office if a resolution to remove that Council member is proposed at a general meeting of the members called for that purpose and properly convened in accordance with clause 11, and the resolution is passed by a two-thirds majority of votes cast at the meeting.

(3) A resolution to remove a Council member in accordance with this clause shall not take effect unless the individual concerned has been given at least 14 clear days' notice in writing that the resolution is to be proposed, specifying the circumstances alleged to justify removal from office, and has

been given a reasonable opportunity of making oral and/or written representations to the members of the CIO.

(4) An individual who is retained in an advisory or paid capacity by a football club which employs contracted players shall be disqualified from acting as a Council member.

18. Reappointment of charity trustees

Any person who retires as a charity trustee having served a three year term or by giving notice to the CIO is eligible for reappointment. A charity trustee who has served for three consecutive terms may not be reappointed for a fourth consecutive term but may be reappointed after an interval of at least three years.

19. Reappointment of Council members

Any person who retires as a Council member having served a three year term or by giving notice to the CIO is eligible for reappointment. A Council member who has served for three consecutive terms may not be reappointed for a fourth consecutive term but may be reappointed after an interval of at least three years.

20. Taking of decisions by charity trustees

Any decision may be taken either:

(1) at a meeting of the charity trustees; or

(2) by resolution in writing or electronic form agreed by all of the charity trustees, which may comprise either a single document or several documents containing the text of the resolution in like form to each of which one or more charity trustees has signified their agreement.

21. Delegation by charity trustees

(1) The charity trustees may delegate any of their powers or functions to a committee or committees, and, if they do, they must determine the terms and conditions on which the delegation is made. The charity trustees may at any time alter those terms and conditions, or revoke the delegation.

(2) This power is in addition to the power of delegation in the General Regulations and any other power of delegation available to the charity trustees, but is subject to the following requirements -

(a) a committee may consist of two or more persons, but at least one member of each committee must be a charity trustee;

(b) the acts and proceedings of any committee must be brought to the attention of the charity trustees as a whole as soon as is reasonably practicable; and

(c) the charity trustees shall from time to time review the arrangements which they have made for the delegation of their powers.

22. Meetings and proceedings of charity trustees

(1) Calling meetings

(a) Any charity trustee may call a meeting of the charity trustees.

(b) Subject to that, the charity trustees shall decide how their meetings are to be called, and what notice is required.

(2) Chairing of meetings

The charity trustees may appoint one of their number to chair their meetings and may at any time revoke such appointment. If no-one has been so appointed, or if the person appointed is unwilling to preside or is not present within 10 minutes after the time of the meeting, the charity trustees present may appoint one of their number to chair that meeting.

(3) Procedure at meetings

(a) No decision shall be taken at a meeting unless a quorum is present at the time when the decision is taken. The quorum is four charity

trustees or the number nearest to one third of the total number of charity trustees, whichever is greater, or such larger number as the charity trustees may decide from time to time. A charity trustee shall not be counted in the quorum present when any decision is made about a matter upon which he or she is not entitled to vote.

(b) Questions arising at a meeting shall be decided by a majority of those eligible to vote.

(c) In the case of an equality of votes, the chair shall have a second or casting vote.

(4) Participation in meetings by electronic means

(a) In exceptional circumstances, a meeting may be held by suitable electronic means agreed by the charity trustees in which each participant may communicate with all the other participants.

(b) Any charity trustee participating at a meeting by suitable electronic means agreed by the charity trustees in which a participant or participants may communicate with all the other participants shall qualify as being present at the meeting.

(c) Meetings held by electronic means must comply with rules for meetings, including chairing and the taking of minutes.

(5) Participation in Council meetings by electronic means

(a) In exceptional circumstances, a meeting may be held by suitable electronic means agreed by the charity trustees in which each participant may communicate with all the other participants.

(b) Any member of the Council participating at a meeting by suitable electronic means agreed by the charity trustees in which a participant or participants may communicate with all the other participants shall qualify as being present at the meeting.

(c) Meetings held by electronic means must comply with rules for meetings, including chairing and the taking of minutes.

23. Saving provisions

(1) Subject to sub-clause (2) of this clause, all decisions of the charity trustees, or of a committee of charity trustees, shall be valid notwithstanding the participation in any vote of a charity trustee:

a) who was disqualified from holding office;

b) who had previously retired or who had been obliged by the constitution to vacate office;

c) who was not entitled to vote on the matter, whether by reason of a conflict of interest or otherwise; if, without the vote of that charity trustee and that charity trustee being counted in the quorum, the decision has been made by a majority of the charity trustees at a quorate meeting.

(2) Sub-clause (1) of this clause does not permit a charity trustee to keep any benefit that may be conferred upon him or her by a resolution of the charity trustees or of a committee of charity trustees if, but for sub-clause (1), the resolution would have been void, or if the charity trustee has not complied with clause 7 (Conflicts of interest).

24. Execution of documents

(1) The CIO shall execute documents by signature

(2) A document is validly executed by signature if it is signed by at least two of the charity trustees. This responsibility may be delegated to the chief executive of the CIO once the charity trustees have agreed the terms of the documents to be executed.

25. Use of electronic communications

(1) General

(a) The CIO will comply with the requirements of the Communications Provisions in the General Regulations and in particular the requirement to provide within 21 days to any member on request a hard copy of any document or information sent to the member otherwise than in hard copy form;

(b) any requirements to provide information to the Commission in a particular form or manner.

(2) To the CIO

Any member or charity trustee of the CIO may communicate electronically with the CIO to an address specified by the CIO for the purpose, so long as the communication is authenticated in a manner which is satisfactory to the CIO.

(3) By the CIO

(a) Any member or charity trustee of the CIO, by providing the CIO with his or her email address or similar, is taken to have agreed to receive communications from the CIO in electronic form at that address, unless the member has indicated to the CIO his or her unwillingness to receive such communications in that form.

(b) The charity trustees may, subject to compliance with any legal requirements, by means of publication on its website –

(i) provide the members with the notice referred to in clause 11(3) (Notice of general meetings);

(ii) give charity trustees notice of their meetings in accordance with clause 22(1) (Calling meetings); and trustees for decision by written resolution or postal vote in accordance with the CIO's powers under clause 10 (Members' decisions), 10(3) (Decisions taken by resolution in writing).

(c) The charity trustees must:

(i) take reasonable steps to ensure that members and charity trustees are promptly notified of the publication of any such notice or proposal;

(ii) send any such notice or proposal in hard copy form to any member or charity trustee who has not consented to receive communications in electronic form.

26. Keeping of Registers

The CIO must comply with its obligations under the General Regulations in relation to the keeping of, and provision of access to, registers of its members and charity trustees.

27. Minutes

(a) The charity trustees must keep minutes of all:

(1) appointments of officers made by the charity trustees;

(2) proceedings at general meetings of the CIO;

(3) meetings of the charity trustees and committees of charity trustees including:

(i) the names of the charity trustees present at the meeting;

(ii) the decisions made at the meetings; and

(iii) where appropriate the reasons for the decisions;

(4) decisions made by the charity trustees otherwise than in meetings.

(b) The Council must keep minutes of all:
  (1) decisions pertaining to programmes of activity
  (2) decisions leading to proposed changes to competition rules
  (3) decisions pertaining to the resources under their delegation
  (4) decisions referred to charity trustees.

28. Accounting records, accounts, annual reports and returns, register maintenance

(1) The charity trustees must comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 with regard to the keeping of accounting records, to the preparation and scrutiny of statements of accounts, and to the preparation of annual reports and returns. The statements of accounts, reports and returns must be sent to the Charity Commission, regardless of the income of the CIO, within 10 months of the financial year end.

(2) The charity trustees must comply with their obligation to inform the Commission within 28 days of any change in the particulars of the CIO entered on the Central Register of Charities.

29. Rules

The charity trustees may from time to time make such reasonable and proper rules or bye laws as they may deem necessary or expedient for the proper conduct and management of the CIO, but such rules or bye laws must not be inconsistent with any provision of this constitution. Copies of any such rules or bye laws currently in force must be made available to any member of the CIO on request.

For the avoidance of doubt, the members shall retain the power and responsibility for establishing, reviewing and amending as deemed appropriate the byelaws which govern the game of football as applied to school pupils.

30. Disputes

If a dispute arises between members of the CIO about the validity or propriety of anything done by the members under this constitution, and the dispute cannot be resolved by agreement, the parties to the dispute must first try in good faith to settle the dispute by mediation before resorting to litigation.

31. Amendment of constitution

As provided by clauses 224-227 of the Charities Act 2011:

(1) This constitution can only be amended:
  (a) by resolution agreed in writing by all members of the CIO; or
  (b) by a resolution passed by a 75% majority of votes cast at a general meeting of the members of the CIO.

(2) Any alteration of clause 3 (Objects), clause 32 (Voluntary winding up or dissolution), this clause, or of any provision where the alteration would provide authorisation for any benefit to be obtained by charity trustees or members of the CIO or persons connected with them, requires the prior written consent of the Charity Commission.

(3) No amendment that is inconsistent with the provisions of the Charities Act 2011 or the General Regulations shall be valid.

(4) A copy of any resolution altering the constitution, together with a copy of the CIO's constitution as amended, must be sent to the Commission within 15 days from the date on which the resolution is passed. The amendment does not take effect until it has been recorded in the Register of Charities.

32. Voluntary winding up or dissolution

(1) As provided by the Dissolution Regulations, the CIO may be dissolved by resolution of its members. Any decision by the members to wind up or dissolve the CIO can only be made:

(a) at a general meeting of the members of the CIO called in accordance with clause 11 (Meetings of Members), of which not less than 28 days' notice has been given to those eligible to attend and vote:
  (i) by a resolution passed by a *75%* majority of those voting, or
  (ii) by a resolution passed by decision taken without a vote and without any expression of dissent in response to the question put to the general meeting; or
(b) by a resolution agreed in writing by all members of the CIO.

(2) Subject to the payment of all the CIO's debts:
  (a) Any resolution for the winding up of the CIO, or for the dissolution of the CIO without winding up, may contain a provision directing how any remaining assets of the CIO shall be applied.
  (b) If the resolution does not contain such a provision, the charity trustees must decide how any remaining assets of the CIO shall be applied.
  (c) In either case the remaining assets must be applied for charitable purposes the same as or similar to those of the CIO.

(3) The CIO must observe the requirements of the Dissolution Regulations in applying to the Commission for the CIO to be removed from the Register of Charities, and in particular:
  (a) the charity trustees must send with their application to the Commission:
    (i) a copy of the resolution passed by the members of the CIO;
    (ii) a declaration by the charity trustees that any debts and other liabilities of the CIO have been settled or otherwise provided for in full; and
    (iii) a statement by the charity trustees setting out the way in which any property of the CIO has been or is to be applied prior to its dissolution in accordance with this constitution;
  (b) the charity trustees must ensure that a copy of the application is sent within seven days to every member and employee of the CIO, and to any charity trustee of the CIO who was not privy to the application.

(4) If the CIO is to be wound up or dissolved in any other circumstances, the provisions of the Dissolution Regulations must be followed.

33. Interpretation

In this constitution:

"Associate Membership" has the meaning provided in clause 9(3)(b)

"charity trustee" means a charity trustee of the CIO.

The "Communications Provisions" means the Communications Provisions in Part 10, Chapter 4 of the General Regulations.

"connected person" means:

(a) a child, parent, grandchild, grandparent, brother or sister of the charity trustee;
(b) the spouse or civil partner of the charity trustee or of any person falling within sub-clause (a) above;
(c) a person carrying on business in partnership with the charity trustee or with any person falling within sub-clause (a) or (b) above;
(d) an institution which is controlled –
  (i) by the charity trustee or any connected person falling within sub-clause (a), (b), or (c) above; or
  (ii) by two or more persons falling within sub-clause (d)(i), when taken together
(e) a body corporate in which –
  (i) the charity trustee or any connected person falling within sub-clauses (a) to (c) has a substantial interest; or
  (ii) two or more persons falling within sub-clause (e)(i) who, when taken together, have a substantial interest.

"**the Council**" means the body established by the charity trustees in accordance with clause 14
"**County Schools' Football Association**" means those County Schools' Football Associations as determined by the CIO from time to time
"**Dissolution Regulations**" means the Charitable Incorporated Organisations (Insolvency and Dissolution) Regulations 2012.
"**District Schools' Football Association**" means those District Schools' Football Associations as determined by the CIO from time to time
"**Electoral Reform Services**" means the Electoral Reform Services (company number 2263092)
"**Federation**" has the meaning provided in clause 9(3)(c)General Regulations" means the Charitable Incorporated Organisations (General) Regulations 2012**.**
"International Football Association Board" means the universal decision-making body for the Laws of the Game of association football
"**Laws of the Game**" means the laws of the game of association football as determined by the International Football Association Board from time to time
A "**poll**" means a counted vote or ballot, usually (but not necessarily) in writing.
"**Regions**" means the four regions of the CIO as determined by the members from time to time and which, as at the date of adoption of this constitution are North, Midlands, South West and South East and "Region" shall mean any one of them.
"**Rules**" are the rules and bye laws of the CIO pursuant to clause 29
"**The Football Association**" means football's national governing body in England
"**The Premier League**" means the organising body of the premier league for football in England
Section 118 of the Charities Act 2011 apply for the purposes of interpreting the terms used in this constitution.

ASSOCIATION BYE LAWS

Old GR	Bye Law	
5 (c)	1a	**COUNCIL OPERATIONS** **Chairman and Vice-Chairman** Council shall elect, in May, a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman, from the members of the Council, for the following academic year and shall announce these elections at the AGM in June. A Council Member may not be elected as Chairman for more than 3 consecutive years and may not serve as Chairman again until 3 years after his last Chairmanship.
5 (g) i	1b	**Elections** On receiving formal notice that an elected member of the Council intends to retire, the Chief Executive shall notify membership and invite nominations for the vacancy by a date specified by Council.
5 (h)	1c	**Disqualification** An individual who is retained in an advisory or paid capacity by a Football Club which employs contracted players shall be disqualified from membership of Council.
8 (e)	2a	**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, AND SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS**

The travelling expenses of one delegate of each Association, actually represented at the General Meeting, or a Council Member, Ex-Council Member, Life Member or Honorary Auditor, shall be paid out of the ESFA General Funds. The accommodation charge for the Hon Auditors, Life Members and Ex Council Members attending the AGM and not representing an affiliated association, should, at the discretion of the ESFA Trustees, be paid from ESFA General Funds.

8 (f) 2b The Association which stages the ESFA Annual General meeting shall receive a grant of £350.

8 (g) 2c Three Honorary Auditors shall be elected annually at the AGM.

9 (a) 3a **INTERNATIONAL MATCHES**
The Council shall have power to arrange International Matches, and shall, subject to the permission of the Head Teacher, have first claim upon the services of any player selected to play in any matches arranged by the Council.

9 (b) 3b Players selected for International Matches shall not take part in any game during the three days prior to and including the day of assembly of the team for the match i.e. when the team assembles on a Friday, a player may not play after the preceding Tuesday.

9 (c) 3c The expenses of one representative from each County Association, which has a player taking part in Home International Matches, shall be defrayed on one occasion during the season in order that the County Association may be represented.

10 4 **COMPETITIONS FINANCE**
Financial assistance to the Competitions will be maintained in accordance with Competition Rules, subject to confirmation by the Trustees.

11a 5a **TEACHERS, PLAYERS AND FOOTBALL CLUBS EMPLOYING CONTRACT PLAYERS**

Teachers

(i) Any Teacher, Ex-Teacher or Official of a Schools' Football Association making or aiding in making an approach to a player, which offers a contract of employment on behalf of a Football Club which employs Contract Players, shall be disqualified from Membership of an affiliated Association.

(ii) Teachers are permitted to take part in the activities at Centres of Excellence and Academies which have been properly licensed.

11b 5b **Players**

(i) Whilst a boy is receiving full-time education in accordance with the Education Acts, priority must be given to school or schools' organisations activities in accordance with FA regulations governing players

registered within the Programme for Excellence.

(ii) Players who are under six years of age on 1st September in any playing season shall not be allowed to participate in competitions sanctioned by the English Schools' FA. A child who has not attained the age of ten years at midnight between 31 August and 1 September shall not play, and shall not be permitted or encouraged to play in a match between sides of more than seven players in that playing season.

(iii) A Child in the age ranges Under 7, Under 8, Under 9, Under 10, Under 11, Under 12, Under 13, Under 14 and Under 15 must not play, and shall not be permitted or encouraged to play in a match where any other player is older or younger by two years or more than that child. *Note: Individual competition rules may cater for one year age bands – please check the rules before participating in a competition.*

(iv) Any schoolboy who attends a Club for training or coaching or who plays for that Club, must be registered at a Football Academy or at a licensed Centre of Excellence operated by the Club. The registration of a schoolboy shall be governed by the Academy or Centre of Excellence Regulations of The Football Association.

(v) A boy who is on the roll of a recognised School, Sixth Form College, Tertiary or Further Education College, other than as a day release Student, shall not enter into a Contract of Employment with a Club in Membership with The Football Association or an affiliated Association, but he may be registered within The Football Association's Programme for Excellence. Students on Day Release Courses are ineligible to take part in ESFA Competitions and Activities.

(vi) A player who signs as a Trainee is no longer eligible to play in Schools' Football.

(vii) A player may be suspended from taking part in any game under the auspices of the English Schools' Football Association or its affiliated Associations immediately he commits an offence to any one of sections (iv), (v), and (vii) as outlined above in this rule. It shall be the duty of the local Association to which his school is affiliated to notify the school concerned of such suspension. The Council of the English Schools' FA shall investigate the offence and determine the period of suspension.

(viii) Schoolboys registered to do so may attend Centres of Excellence and Academies established by Clubs. Such attendance must comply with the rules laid down for such Centres and Academies.

13 6 **LONG SERVICE RECOGNITION**

(a) The Chief Executive must receive nominations for Awards by 31 August in any season for processing in that season (nominations must be with the local ESFA Council Member by 31 July).

(b) Nominations for Long Service Recognition by the ESFA to be submitted to the Chief Executive and then be examined by Council. Nominees for Long Service Recognition Award should have given service to a District or County Schools' Football Association or *English Schools' FA* in order to gain an award. Awards are made at four levels (i) ten year; (ii) twenty five year, (iii) forty year (iv) fifty year.

(c) Nominations for Golden Service Recognition to be submitted to the Chief Executive for examination by Council. Nominees for the Golden Service Award to have given at least 50 years' service to schools' football.

Who will you be today?
LOUDMOUTH
6
BULLY
5
THUG
4
CHEAT
10
DIVER
9
Show some Respect
7,000 referees drop out of the game
every season due to abuse.
TheFA.com/Respect
Respect
TheFA