U16s Regional Talent Club Tier 1 League regulations 2017-18

1. The League

1.1 Name

The league shall be called “The FA Girls’ Regional Talent Club Tier 1 League” to which names may be added the name of any title sponsor.

1.2 Management

The League shall be governed, managed and organised by The FA Girls’ Talent Development Sub-Committee acting by and through the FA Women's Committee.

1.3 Membership

Membership of the League shall be limited to clubs which hold a current FA licence to operate a Girls’ Regional Talent Club in Tier 1 and membership shall lapse at the end of each season.

1.4 The League Competitions

1.4.1 The League shall comprise of an Under 16 competition.

1.4.2 League Matches shall be played in accordance with:
(i) the Laws of the Game; and
(ii) the Football Association Rules; and
(iii) the FA Girls’ Regional Talent Club Tier 1 Regulations; and
(iv) these rules.

1.4.3 Except in the case of any play-off competition to which special rules may be applied, the winner of a League Match shall score 3 points. Each Member Club participating in a League Match which is drawn shall score 1 point.

1.4.4 The results of the League Matches in each competition shall be recorded by each Regional Talent Club using FullTime.com and will be managed directly by The Football Association. Member Clubs will supply the following information:
(i) the number of League Matches played in that Season;
(ii) the number of League Matches won, drawn and lost as a Home Club in that Season;
(iii) the number of League Matches won, drawn and lost as a Visiting Club in that Season;
(iv) the number of goals scored in League Matches by and against that Member Club in that Season;
(v) the number of points scored in that Season.

1.4.5 The position of Member Clubs in a table shall be determined by the number of points scored in that Season, the Member Club having scored the highest number of points being at the top of a table and the Member Club having scored the lowest number of points being at the bottom.

1.4.6 If any 2 or more Member Clubs have scored the same number of points their position in a table shall be determined on goal difference.

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1.4.7 If any 2 or more Member Clubs have scored the same number of points and have the same goal difference the higher or highest placed Member Club shall be the Member Club having scored the most goals in League Matches in that Season.

1.4.8 If any 2 or more Member Clubs have scored the same number of points, have the same goal difference and have scored the same number of goals in League Matches in that Season they shall be deemed to occupy the same position in a table.

1.4.9 If at the end of a Season any 2 or more Member Clubs occupy the same position in a table, the Committee shall determine the means, if any, by which they shall be separated.

1.4.10 The results of League Matches and each table shall be copied to Member Clubs and to the media by the Secretary as soon as practicable after each Saturday during the Season upon which League Matches are played.

2. Fixtures

2.1 Arranging Fixtures

2.1.1 The dates of League Matches shall be fixed and approved by The Football Association as soon as practicable prior to the commencement of each Season.

2.1.2 The Committee shall have power at any time to change the date upon which a League Match is to be played. Before exercising such power the Committee will consult with and take into account any representations made by the Member Clubs participating in the League Match in question and any other Member Club which may be affected thereby.

2.1.3 Unless the Committee otherwise provides, League Matches will be played on Saturdays.

2.1.4 Not later than 7 days before the date upon which a League Match is to be played in accordance with the fixture list, (or, if later, on the date upon which the League Match in question is determined), the Home Club shall contact the Visiting Club and the appointed Match Officials.

2.2 Postponement of League Matches

2.2.1 A League Match shall not be postponed or abandoned except with the written consent of the FA or on the instructions of the appointed referee who shall be empowered to instruct that the League Match be postponed or abandoned only if he/she considers that the pitch is unfit for or if adverse weather conditions preclude the playing of the League Match.

2.2.2 Upon a League Match being postponed or abandoned, the Home Club shall forthwith give notice thereof to the FA and they will fix a date upon which the League Match in question shall be played.

2.2.3 Except in the case of a League Match which, without either the Home Club or the Visiting Club being at fault, is postponed or abandoned, any Member Club which causes the postponement or abandonment of a League Match on the date fixed or the date to which it is rearranged will be in breach of these rules.

2.2.4 A Club having 3 players or more selected for International Duty with England may request a postponement of its League or Cup fixture provided at least 10 days' notice is given to the

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Womens and Girls Delivery Coordinator in writing. If 1 player is selected and that player is the only registered goalkeeper, a Club could make a similar request for postponement of its League or Cup fixture. This will only apply to U15, U16 and U17 International Football.

2.3 Kick-off
Unless otherwise agreed by both the Home and Away Club, the kick-off time of a League Match shall be 11.00am.

2.4 Team Sheet

2.4.1 At least 45 minutes before the kick-off time of a League Match, each participating Club:
(i) shall hand to the referee a team sheet
(ii) shall hand to its opponents a team sheet,
each duly completed.

2.4.2 If any player or substitute player named in the team sheet is injured after the submission of the team sheet but before kick-off, upon the referee being satisfied that the injury is such that the player in question cannot reasonably be expected to play, the name of another player may be added to the team sheet as a player or substitute player.

2.4.3 No player whose name does not appear on the team sheet shall take the field of play in that League Match.

2.5 Substitutes

In any League Match a Member Club may include in its team sheet up to 7 from 7 substitute players and will include repeated substitutions.

2.6 Duration of League Matches

2.6.1 Subject to the provisions of the Laws of the Game, the duration of a League Match shall be 80 minutes.

2.6.2 The Committee may order a League Match which for whatever reason lasts for less than 80 minutes to count as a completed fixture or to be replayed.

2.6.3 The half-time interval in League Matches shall be 10 minutes.

2.7 Notification of League Match Results

2.7.1 Each Member Club participating in a League Match shall respond to the Full-Time automated result **Short Message Service** (**SMS**) within 30 minutes of the match concluding.

3. Strip

When playing in League Matches the players of each participating Member Club shall wear its home Strip unless the home Strips of the participating Member Clubs are alike or similar or are in the opinion of the referee likely to cause confusion in which event players of the Visiting Club shall wear its away Strip or a combination of its home Strip and its away Strip. In the event of any dispute with regard to the Strip to be worn by either Member Club, the referee's decision shall be final.

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4. Match Officials

4.1 Appointment of Match Officials

The home club shall arrange the appointment of Match Officials to officiate at each League Match and shall determine the terms and conditions of their appointment.

4.2 Fees and Expenses

4.2.1 At the conclusion of each League Match, the Home Club shall pay fees and expenses to Match Officials.

4.2.2 No Member Club or Official shall either directly or indirectly make or offer to make any payment to or confer or offer to confer any benefit upon any Match Official.

4.3 Pre-Match Procedures

Prior to the commencement of a League Match at which he/she has been appointed to officiate, the referee shall:

4.3.1 together with the other Match Officials, arrive at the ground not less than 1 hour before the kick-off time;

4.3.2 decide on the fitness of the pitch for the playing of the League Match and if the referee considers it to be unfit, instruct that the League Match be postponed or that the kick-off be delayed;

4.3.3 if the referee considers it to be necessary, instruct that the pitch be re-marked;

4.3.4 check and approve any football to be used in the League Match;

4.3.5 ensure that the players' Strip complies with the provisions of Rule 3;

4.3.6 decide the position of assistant referees for the kick-off and their direction of patrol and ensure that each carries a flag.

4.4 Compliance with Instructions

Players and Officials shall comply with any lawful instruction given to them by a Match Official officiating at a League Match.

5. Medical

5.1 Attendance of Physiotherapists

At each League Match:
Both the Home Club and the Visiting Club shall each procure the attendance of a HCPC Registered Physiotherapist or a minimum of a Sports Therapist.

6. Players' Eligibility

6.1 A player shall not be named on the team sheet of a Member Club in a League Match unless:

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(i) the Member Club holds her registration
(ii) she is a Registered Trialist

6.2 For season 2017-18, a player participating in the U16 league must have been born on or after 1st September 2001 and before 31st August 2003.

6.3 It is the responsibility of each Regional Talent Club to ensure that any Player signing a registration form for that Club has, where necessary, the required International Transfer Certificate. Clearance is required for any player aged 10 and over crossing borders including Wales, Scotland and Ireland.

6.4 Any team playing an unregistered or otherwise ineligible player or players may have the points gained in the match deducted from its total and/or otherwise dealt with at the discretion of The FA Girls' Talent Development Sub-Committee.

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