

Forest Falcons Junior Football Club



Constitution and Club Rules

- 1) **Name:** The club shall be called Forest Falcons Junior Football Club (the “Club”)
- 2) **Objects:** The objects of the Club shall be to provide facilities, promote the game of Association Football, to arrange matches and social activities for its members and community participation in the same.
- 3) **Affiliation:** The Club will affiliate on an annual basis to the Birmingham County FA.
- 4) **Status of Rules:** These rules (the “Club Rules”) form a binding agreement between each member of the Club.
- 5) **Rules and Regulations:**
 - a) The members of the Club shall so exercise their rights, powers and duties and shall, where appropriate use their best endeavours to ensure that others conduct themselves so that the business and affairs of the Club are carried out in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of The Football Association Limited (“The FA”), Birmingham County Football Association to which the Club is affiliated (“Parent County Association”) and Competitions in which the Club participates, for the time being in force.
 - b) No alteration to the Club Rules shall be effective without prior written approval by the Parent County Association. The FA and the Parent County Association reserve the right to approve any proposed changes to the Club Rules.
 - c) The Club will also abide by The FA’s Child Protection Policies and Procedures, Codes of Conduct and the Equal Opportunities and Anti-Discrimination Policy as shall be in place from time to time.
- 6) **Club Committee:**
 - a) The Club Committee shall consist of the following Club Officers:
Chairperson - Vice Chair – Treasurer - Secretary – Child Protection Officer
Plus up to five other committee members, elected at an Annual General Meeting:
The names of the Committee members for the current season will be detailed on the attached Schedule.
 - b) Each Club Officer and Club Committee Member shall hold office from the date of appointment until the next Annual General Meeting (“AGM”) unless otherwise resolved at an Extraordinary General Meeting (“EGM”). One person may hold no more than two positions of Club Officer at any time. The Club Committee shall be responsible for the management of all the affairs of the Club. Decisions of the Club Committee shall be made by a simple majority of those attending the Club Committee meeting. The Chairperson of the Club Committee meeting shall have a casting vote in the event of a tie. Meetings of the Club Committee shall be chaired by the Chairperson or in their absence the Vice Chair or in their absence the Secretary. The quorum for the transaction of business of the Club Committee shall be three.
 - c) Decisions of the Club Committee of meetings shall be entered into the Minute Book of the Club to be maintained by the Club Secretary.
 - d) Any member of the Club Committee may call a meeting of the Club Committee by giving not less than seven days’ notice to all members of the Club Committee. The Club Committee shall hold not less than four meetings a year.
 - e) An outgoing member of the Club Committee may be re-elected. Any vacancy on the Club Committee which arises between Annual General Meetings shall be filled by a member proposed by one and seconded by another of the remaining Club Committee members and approved by a simple majority of the remaining Club Committee members.

- f) Save as provided for in the Rules and Regulations of The FA, the Parent County Association and any applicable Competition, the Club Committee shall have the power to decide all questions and disputes arising in respect of any issue concerning the Club Rules.
 - g) The position of a Club Officer shall be vacated if such person is subject to a decision of The FA that such person be suspended from holding office or from taking part in any football activity relating to the administration or management of a football club.
- 7) Annual and Extraordinary General Meetings:**
- a) An AGM shall be held in each year to:
 - (i) Receive a report of the activities of the Club over the previous year;
 - (ii) Receive a report of the Club's finances over the previous year;
 - (iii) Elect the members of the Club Committee; and
 - (iv) Consider any other business.
 - (b) Nominations for election of members as Club Officers or as members of the Club Committee shall be made in writing by the proposer and seconded, both of whom must be existing members of the Club, to the Club Secretary not less than 21 days before the AGM. Notice of any resolution to be proposed at the AGM shall be given in writing to the Club Secretary not less than 21 days before the meeting.
 - (c) An EGM may be called at any time by the Club Committee and shall be called within 21 days of the receipt by the Club Secretary of a requisition in writing, signed by not less than five members stating the purposes for which the Meeting is required and the resolutions proposed. Business at an EGM may be any business that may be transacted at an AGM.
 - (d) The Secretary shall send to each member at their last known address written notice of the date of a General Meeting (whether an AGM or an EGM) together with the resolutions to be proposed at least 14 days before the meeting.
 - (e) The quorum for a General Meeting shall be
 - (i) The Chairperson, or in their absence a member selected by the Club Committee, shall take the chair. Each member present shall have one vote and resolutions shall be passed by a simple majority. In the event of an equality of votes the Chairperson of the Meeting shall have a casting vote.
 - (ii) The Club Secretary, or in their absence a member of the Club Committee, shall enter Minutes of General Meetings into the Minute Book of the Club.
- 8) Club Membership:**
- a) The members of the Club from time to time shall be those persons listed in the register of members (the "Membership Register") which shall be maintained by the Club Secretary.
 - b) Any person who wishes to be a member must apply on the Membership Application Form and deliver it to the Club. Election to membership shall be at the discretion of the Club Committee and granted in accordance with the anti-discrimination and equality policies which are in place from time to time. An appeal against refusal may be made to the Club Committee in accordance with the Complaints Procedure in force from time to time. Membership shall become effective upon an applicant's name being entered in the Membership Register.
 - c) In the event of a member's resignation or expulsion, his or her name shall be removed from the Membership Register.
 - d) The FA and Parent County Association shall be given access to the Membership Register on demand.
- 9) Annual Membership Fee:**
- a) An annual fee payable by each member shall be determined from time to time by the Club Committee and set at a level that will not pose a significant obstacle to community participation. Any fee shall be payable on a successful application for membership and annually by each member. Fees shall not be repayable. The membership fee for the current season will be detailed on the attached Schedule.
 - b) The Club Committee shall have the authority to levy further subscriptions from the members as are reasonably necessary to fulfil the objects of the Club.
- 10) Resignation and Expulsion:**
- a) A member shall cease to be a member of the Club if, and from the date on which, he/she gives notice to the Club Committee of his/her resignation. A member whose annual membership fee or further subscription is more than two (2) months in arrears shall be deemed to have resigned.
 - b) The Club Committee shall have the power to expel a member when, in its opinion, it would not be in the interests of the Club for them to remain a member. An appeal against such a decision may be made to the Club Committee in accordance with the Complaints Procedure in force from time to time.

- c) A member who resigns or is expelled shall not be entitled to claim any, or a share of any, of the income and assets of the Club (the “Club Property”).

11) Club Teams:

- a) At its first meeting following each AGM the Club Committee shall appoint a Club member to be responsible for each of the Club’s football teams.
- b) The appointed members shall be responsible for managing the affairs of the team.
- c) The appointed members shall present to the Club Committee at its last meeting prior to an AGM a written report of the activities of the team.

12) Club Finances:

- a) A bank account shall be opened and maintained in the name of the Club (the “Forest Falcons Central fund”). Designated account signatories shall be the Club Chairperson, the Club Secretary and the Treasurer. No sum shall be drawn from the Club Account except by cheque signed by two of the three designated signatories. All monies payable to the Club shall be received by the Treasurer and deposited in the Club Account.
- b) The Club Property shall be applied only in furtherance of the objects of the Club. The distribution of profits or proceeds arising from the sale of Club Property to members is prohibited.
- c) The Club Committee shall have the power to authorize the payment of remuneration and expenses to any member of the Club (although a Club shall not remunerate a member for playing) and to any other person or persons for services rendered to the Club.
- d) The Club may provide sporting and related social facilities, sporting equipment, coaching, courses, insurance cover, medical treatment, away match expenses, post-match refreshments and other ordinary benefits of Community Amateur Sports Clubs as provided for in the Finance Act 2002.
- e) The Club may also in connection with the sports purposes of the Club:
 - (i) Sell and supply food, drink and related sports clothing and equipment;
 - (ii) employ members (although not for playing) and remunerate them for providing goods and services, on fair terms set by the Club Committee without the person concerned being present;
 - (iii) Pay for reasonable hospitality for visiting teams and guests; and
 - (iv) Indemnify the Club Committee and members acting properly in the course of the running of the Club against any liability incurred in the proper running of the Club (but only to the extent of its assets).
- f) The Club shall keep accounting records for recording the fact and nature of all payments and receipts so as to disclose, with reasonable accuracy, at any time, the financial position, including the assets and liabilities of the Club. The Club must retain its accounting records for a minimum of six years.
- g) The Club shall prepare an annual “Financial Statement”, in such format as shall be available from The FA from time to time. The Financial Statement shall be declared as accurate by the Treasurer, and may be verified by an independent, appropriately qualified accountant and shall be approved by members at general meeting. A copy of any Financial Statement shall, on demand, be forwarded to The FA.
- h) The Club Property, other than the Club Account, shall be vested in not less than two and no more than four custodians, one of whom shall be the Treasurer (“the Custodians”), who shall deal with the Club Property as directed by decisions of the Club Committee and entry in the Minute Book shall be conclusive evidence of such a decision.
- i) The Custodians shall be appointed by the Club in a General Meeting and shall hold office until death or resignation unless removed by a resolution passed at a General Meeting.
- j) On their removal or resignation a Custodian shall execute a Conveyance in such form as is published by The FA from time to time to a newly elected Custodian or the existing Custodians as directed by the Club Committee. The Club shall, on request, make a copy of any Conveyance available to The FA. On the death of a Custodian, any Club Property vested in them shall vest automatically in the surviving Custodians. If there is only one surviving Custodian, an EGM shall be convened as soon as possible to appoint another Custodian.
- k) The Custodians shall be entitled to an indemnity out of the Club Property for all expenses and other liabilities reasonably incurred by them in carrying out their duties.
- l) The clubs central fund will pay pitch, league, affiliation and insurance fee’s and also provide an annual presentation night providing every player with a trophy and each team a “Players player of the Year” trophy.
- m) The club will endorse teams for entries into 5-7 a-side competitions for 11 a side teams and 2 entries for mini-soccer teams at the end of the season.
- n) Teams are to contribute to the “Central Fund” at the rates contained within the Schedule for the current season.
- o) There is a per player registration fee within the Schedule payable at the beginning of the season.

- p) Teams are responsible for managing their own accounts and must open a bank account to deposit all team funds with two responsible signatories. Any team suffering financial difficulties should approach the committee with their accounts for help and advice.

13) Dissolution:

- a) A resolution to dissolve the Club shall only be proposed at a General Meeting and shall be carried by a majority of at least three-quarters of the members present.
- b) The dissolution shall take effect from the date of the resolution and the members of the Club Committee shall be responsible for the winding up of the assets and liabilities of the Club.
- c) Any surplus assets remaining after the discharge of the debts and liabilities of the Club shall be transferred to another Club, a Competition, the Parent County Association or The FA for use by them for related community sports.

14) Disciplinary:

Football is the national game. All those involved with the game at every level and whether as a player, match official, coach, owner or administrator, have a responsibility, above and beyond compliance with the law, to act according to the highest standards of integrity, and to ensure that the reputation of the game is, and remains, high. Codes of Conduct are in place at this club to ensure that individuals are aware of the clubs expectations. The Club will act upon all disciplinary matters concerning The Club or an individual within The Club in compliance with both League and Birmingham County FA guidelines.

15) League Fines:

All fines are to be paid by the individual teams involved and all fines incurred by an individual player are the responsibility of their team and will normally be the responsibility of the individual player. All fines and suspensions will be the responsibility of the individual teams to impose upon the players involved.

16) Team Float:

Each team will pay the team Float at the level determined in the Schedule, which will be held by the Treasurer. When a team/individual is fined by the Club or the League, it will be paid from that team's Float, and the manager will be informed. The manager will then be required to top-up his/her team's Float at the next managers meeting. If the Float is not restored within 7 days of the managers meeting, an additional fine of £5 per week will be levied until it is paid in full. There will also be a £5 fine for non-attendance at the managers meetings. It is not fair to expect the committee to run the club, and then have some teams simply not turning up to meetings. If the manager cannot attend for any reason, a parent representative is expected. If the team's Float falls to zero, the committee will contact the league to suspend that team's fixtures until the Float is restored.

The Float will be held by the club treasurer for as long as the team is part of the club. It will be returned if/when the team leaves the club, once all club property has been returned – which specifically includes any keys to the containers/cabins.

17) Club Playing Kit:

All Home playing kit MUST, without exception, be the Club's style and colours, and be purchased from the Club Approved Mandatory Home Kit Supplier which is identified on the Schedule for the current season.

Access and preferential Club pricing is via the Club Website or the link on the Schedule.

Away playing kit may be of a colour, style and supplier as chosen by individual teams.

18) Chartered Standard:

All teams are to have at least one FA qualified (minimum Level 1) coach appointed to that team, and that person MUST be an up-to-date member of the FA Licensed Coaches Club. A copy of their Licensed Coaches Club membership card must be provided to the Club Child Protection Officer.

19) DBS (Criminal Records Check):

All volunteers that have contact with the youth (under 18) players in a coaching or mentoring capacity MUST hold an up-to-date Criminal Record Check. Failure to maintain this requirement will mean that the individual will immediately be suspended from the any contact with youth members until the requirement is met. As compliant with the Law.

20) The Schedule:

The Schedule that accompanies this document shall have the various elements that may change from time to time, and may be changed by the Committee at any quorate committee meeting.