



Respect



Club Constitution and Rules Policy Document

1. Name

The name of the football club shall be called Winchester Youth Football Club, hereafter called "The Club"

2. Objectives of the Club

Main Objective

The main objective of the club is for players from the Development (U6s and U7s) age group through to the U18 age group to take part and enjoy football activities. The Club promotes the spirit of healthy teamwork with the ultimate aim of developing the player's football skills enabling them to improve and therefore better their performance. The Club will treat each age group as a year group and will players will be allocated to teams within the age group as seen appropriate.

Age Specific Objectives

Mini Soccer (U7-U10)

Following the FA Youth Review for mini soccer for the U7 and U8 age groups, the Club philosophy is that children should be able to take part whatever their ability including where possible playing equal playing time. We support the best practice recommendation that each player should have at least 50% playing time during matches. Managers have discretion not to select players for league and other non-competitive matches where it has been identified that the player's development has not reached a certain level, and therefore it could compromise their safety on the playing field.

At this level the playing positions and responsibilities are interchangeable at the Manager's discretion, the main focus being on the development of the players. The Club supports the Long-Term Player Development (LTPD) model at this age which teaches the FUNdamentals of football & learning to train, including basic technical skills, physical attributes (including agility, balance, co-ordination, passings, kicking, running etc), psychological aspects (including

progressive group activities and understanding games) and social elements (including FUN, enjoyment, inclusion and participation). The Club also aspires to enable players to be listened to and feel success whilst demonstrating good sportsmanship, forming positive relationships and working together as part of a team.

Youth Soccer (U11-U12)

As the aim of 9x9 football still primarily focuses on the development of the player rather than the result of the match. Youth Soccer at the Club is regarded as transitional years with a move towards competitive football. The Club upholds the Youth Review principles of developing practice and training to train. The Four Corners of the Game (Technical, Physical, Psychological & Social), as described in the LTPD model will also be followed and encouraged by Coaches and Managers.

Players selection will be at the discretion of the Manager and where a player's development has not reached a certain level, and could therefore compromise their safety on the playing field, these players may not be selected. In order that teams experience success as well as development, the Manager can use discretion when selecting players. Teams will be streamed on ability.

Youth Soccer (U13-U18)

For 11x11 Youth Soccer age groups, as results of matches can be published, the Manager can choose to select players based on ability. The Club remains committed to the LTPD model in these age groups which encourage understanding competition and training for competition.

3. Club Colours

The training colours of the Club are BLACK. The match colours of the club are BLUE and BLACK, or BLACK & RED STRIPES and BLACK.

4. Affiliations

- The Club shall be affiliated to the Hampshire Youth Football Association.
- The Club shall have the status of an affiliated Member Club of the Football Association by virtue of it's affiliation to/membership of the Football Association. The rules and Regulations of the Football Association and parent County Association and any League or Competition to which the Club is affiliated for the time being shall be deemed to be incorporated into the Club Rules.
- The Club will also abide by the Football Association's Child Protection Policies and Procedures, FA Best Practice Codes of Conduct and the Equal Opportunities and Anti-Bullying Policies.
- The Club shall support and promote the FA RESPECT campaign.

5. Club Membership

The members of the Club shall be those persons listed in the register of members (The Membership Register), which shall be maintained by the Club Secretary or appointed Committee Member.

Any person who wishes to be a member must register on line through the Club's website. Election to the 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.

In the event of a member's resignation or expulsion, his or her name shall be removed from the Membership Register. The FA and Hampshire FA shall be given access to the Membership Register on demand.

6. Membership Fees

The Club Committee shall determine an annual fee payable by each member from time to time. Any fee shall be payable on a successful application for membership and annually by each member. Due consideration will be given to reimburse a percentage of membership fees paid in advance to children and youths who wish to leave the Club to seek football opportunities elsewhere.

The Club Committee shall have the authority to levy further subscriptions from the members as

are reasonably necessary to fulfil the objectives of the Club.

The rate of subscriptions for the current year will be determined at the Annual General Meeting, on the recommendation of the Management Committee. Initial payment of the annual subscription must be made before the start of the playing season and no later than the first league game of the current playing season. All club documentation must be completed by a player signing for the Club prior to the player being eligible to play in an organised fixture.

The annual subscriptions shall be paid by via direct debit over a period of ten monthly instalments of one tenth of the annual fee. A one off payment for the full amount will also be accepted.

If a player suffers an injury that results in them being unable to play for a full calendar month or longer, the Club Committee will consider offering a refund of a percentage of the annual subscription. Players in the youngest age groups can take time to settle and in rare occasions may choose to resign. The Club Committee will consider refunds on an individual basis in this instance.

7. Resignations and Expulsion

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 their resignation. A member whose annual membership fee or further subscription is more than 2 months in arrears shall be deemed to have resigned. Should an Adult member, parent, guardian associated Club spectator be found guilty of misconduct by the Hampshire FA they will be solely responsible for the payment of any fine(s) imposed. Financial assistance may be sought through the Club if necessary. Subsequently any fine imposed by the Governing Body not repaid by a designated date set by the Club Committee will result in the member being expelled. Members must read, sign and abide by the respective Code of Conducts. Sanctions will be placed upon members in accordance with the Codes where it is proved a breach of the Codes has occurred.

The Club Committee shall have the power to expel a member when, in their 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 via the Club Secretary who will set up an appeal hearing to include 3 members of the Management

Committee. Decisions taken by the management appeal committee will be final and not open to further appeals from within the Club.

A member who resigned or is expelled shall not be entitled to claim any, or a share of any, of the Club property.

8. Management and Administration Officers

The Administration of the Club shall be organised by the following officials:

- The Chairman
- The Vice Chairman
- The Secretary
- The Treasurer
- The Club Welfare Officer

All affairs of the Club shall be conducted by the Management Committee, which shall comprise: Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Club Welfare Officer. On occasions this may comprise of Officials plus two others.

The Management Committee shall be chaired by the Chairman, or in his absence, the Vice Chairman followed by the Secretary. The Members of the Management Committee shall be elected at the AGM and will be able to hold more than two positions in the Committee.

Decisions of the Club Committee of meetings shall be entered into the Minute Book of the Club to be maintained by the Secretary.

Any member of the Club Committee may call a meeting of the Club Committee by giving not less than 7 days notice to all members of the Club Committee. The Club Committee shall hold not less than [four] meetings a year.

An outgoing member of the Club Committee may be re-elected. Any vacancy on the Club Committee, which arises between AGMs, 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.

The Club Committee shall have the power to decide all questions and disputes arising in respect of any issue concerning the Club Constitution and Rules, except when the FA or Hampshire FA are involved.

A Quorum shall represent 51% of those elected to the Management Committee.

To protect the standing and good regard of the Club, no representative of the Club should enter into verbal or written correspondence with their respective Leagues or the Hampshire FA over any matter other than matters pertaining to the weekly running of their teams, (referees, fixtures, results etc) except where raising or responding to agenda items and participating at official League meetings, without prior discussion with a Management Committee Member who may be able to advise on the matter.

9. Duties of the Management Committee

To promote the objectives of the Club to the best of their ability and organise any activities, which they consider, will further this aim, including fundraising and affiliation to any other appropriate Club or Society.

10. Annual General Meeting (“AGM”)

This shall be held in July of each year at such a time and place as the Management Committee shall appoint. The Secretary shall give 14 days notice of the place, time and date of the meeting together with the agenda.

The following matters will be considered at the AGM:

- The minutes of the previous year’s AGM
- The consideration of the past year’s financial statement and Auditor’s report.
- Team reports
- Election of the Management Committee
- Alteration to the Constitution and Rules
- Rate of Subscriptions

The Chairman shall have the casting vote should there be an equal division.

The Club Secretary, or in their absence a member of the Club Committee, shall enter Minutes of the General Meeting into the Minute Book of the Club.

11. Extraordinary Meetings

The Club Secretary shall summon a special meeting of the Club Members on receiving a petition signed by a minimum of 30% of parents, based on one parent’s signature per playing member, and stating the subject matter to be discussed, or by the Management Committee itself.

The Secretary shall give 14 days notice of the place, time and date of the meeting together with an agenda.

12. Club Assets and Liabilities

The assets of the Club are invested in the players, but no member individually shall be responsible for any Club liabilities, beyond the payment of his own subscription and any other Club fees.

The Club shall always be run on a positive cash flow system and shall only cease after an Extraordinary Meeting or Annual General Meeting decided by the Membership.

13. Dissolution

A resolution to dissolve the Club shall only be proposed at a General Meeting and shall be carried by a majority of at least 75% of the members present.

The dissolution shall take effect from the date of the resolution and the member of the Club Committee shall be responsible for the winding up of the assets and liabilities of the Club.

Any surplus assets remaining after the discharge of the debts and liabilities of the Club shall be transferred to the parent Association who shall determine how the assets shall be utilised for the benefit of the game. Alternatively, such assets may be disposed of in such other manner as the member of the Club with the consent of the parent Association shall determine.

14. Club Finances

A bank account shall be opened and maintained in the name of the Club (the Club Account). Designated account signatories shall be the Club Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary. Two or three signatories must sign cheques. The Treasurer has discretion to make a payment for invoices received through a Bank Transfer if deemed at the time it is a more appropriate payment method. All monies payable to the Club shall be received by the Treasurer and deposited in the Club Account.

The Club Committee shall have power to authorise the payment of remuneration and expenses to any member of the Club and to pay other person or persons for services rendered to the Club.

The Club shall prepare an annual Financial Statement in such form as shall be published by the Football Association from time to time.

All expenditure receipts should be presented to the Treasurer as soon as possible.

15. Child Welfare

If at any time, any person involved with Winchester Youth FC has a concern regarding the safety of any child they are encouraged to speak with the Club Welfare Officer in the strictest of confidence. Complaints of this nature will be dealt with under the discretion of the Club Welfare Officer who may if required, consult with senior Committee Members of the Club to include the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary.

16. The FA RESPECT Campaign

The Club supports the Football Association's RESPECT campaign, which reaches out to all grassroots football players, parents, coaches and Managers to set a positive example. This includes finding ways to improve conduct on the sidelines, promoting positive role models and keeping children in the game. Any complaints received by the Club against Members who demonstrate behaviour that is not aligned with the RESPECT campaign will be investigated by the Club Welfare Officer (who may, if required consult with senior Committee Members of the Club), and appropriate sanctions taken.

Signed

Ken Raisbeck
Chairman
Winchester Youth FC

Date: November 2015