



League Cup & Trophy Rules 2024/25

1. **Eligibility** – All member clubs will participate, and every team entered into the season's league's competition will be eligible to do so.
2. **Cup Draw** – The names of the clubs will be drawn in pairs (or groups for Trophy games) and each fixture will be played on the ground of the first drawn club. All fixtures shall be decided at the first playing: there will be no replays. At the semi-final stage, the fixture may be played on neutral grounds at the discretion of the management committee. Each final will be played on a neutral ground.
3. **Normal League Rules** – Normal league rules apply where relevant. However, see Rule 7 (Disqualification) regarding the effect of postponing a league cup game.
4. **Penalties** – In all rounds, if the scores are level after 60 minutes play, the fixture will be decided by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark, in accordance with standard Football Association procedure. NO extra time will be played.
5. **Match Officials** – The Referees Secretary will arrange the appointment of referees (and assistant referees for semi-finals and finals). They shall receive fees in accordance with league rules for all rounds. The AWAY team will pay the referee (£30) in all rounds leading up to the semi-final stage. All expenses incurred at the semi-final stage shall be shared by the competing clubs. Any expenses incurred at the final stage shall be borne by the league.
6. **Player Eligibility**
 - a. No player shall be permitted to take part in the Under 11 League Cup Competition, if he has played in the Under 12 League Cup Competition, or vice-versa.
 - b. No player shall represent more than one club in a cup competition during the same season.
 - c. To play in a semi-final or final, a player must have played previously in at least four league or league cup fixtures, for the participating team during the current season.
7. **Disqualification** – Any club breaking a league cup fixture or playing an ineligible player shall be disqualified from the competition and the fixture shall be awarded to the opposing team. Postponing a group stage game will result in forfeiting the fixture.
8. **Group Stages** – In cups with a group stage, there will be no knockout stage. All other league cup rules apply in addition to:
 - a. Groups will consist of 7 or 8 teams, who will play each other once.
 - b. The team who finishes top, will attend league presentation day as winners.
 - c. If 2 or more teams are level on points, they will be joint winners.
 - d. 3 points for a win, 1 point for a draw and 0 points for a loss.