

West Wales Women's and Girl's League (WWWGL) Rule Book 2023/2024



Position on League	Name	Email	Contact Number
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Vice President	Rob Brown		
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Name of the League and Eligible Members

1. This Combination of clubs to be called the “West Wales Women's & Girls’ Football League” (hereinafter referred to as the “WWWGL”). The boundaries of this league area & the boundaries of the West Wales Football Association (hereinafter referred to as “WWFA”)
2. The Executive Council have the right to refuse admission into the League or terminate membership at any time without redress, if any Club which has a team in a higher League does not accept League rules.
3. All clubs must be affiliated to the WWFA. Permission of WWFA and the Clubs resident area association must be obtained for clubs outside the WWFA jurisdiction to participate in the League and its competitions. All players. No club or team which runs a female Academy or Development side or is affiliated to a professional team will be allowed to participate in the WWWWGL.
4. Any coach / Club Official / Committee Member associated with a professional club i.e., development / academy side cannot be involved with a WWWWGL Junior Club where a conflict of interest is deemed by the WWWWGL and voted upon by the Executive and appropriate committee.
5. Any team entered will **not be allowed to register more than 2 players from another club** that were members of the League at the end of the previous season. However, in extreme circumstances an appeal can be heard by the league committee.
6. Football organized for players aged over 3 years and less than 11 years, must be on a non-competitive basis. A player’s age as at midnight on 31 August in any year shall define her eligibility. The League may, at its discretion, organize various competitions within the levels stated above once team entries reach 12 entries leagues will be split into 2 divisions with promotion and relegation at ladies and play-off games for overall leagues winners at all other age groups.

Executive Council

7. The affairs of the league shall be conducted and controlled by an Executive Council and a number of sub-committees for the Senior, Junior and Minis sections.
 - A. Nominations may be submitted in writing to the Secretary prior to the AGM, with at least 14 days’ notice. In the event of no nominations for committee members at an AGM, it will be opened up to the floor.
 - B. Any Person who has been dismissed or has been asked to resign from the Executive Council or who has been deemed to have resigned may not be submitted for re-election without the prior approval of the Executive Council.
 - C. All Council members once elected will remain in position, if they so choose, for a period of 2 seasons. After this period, they must stand for Re-Election if they wish to remain within said position.
8. At Executive Committee meetings, the presence of five members shall be deemed to be sufficient to form a quorum.

9. The league shall appoint a Safeguarding Officer in accordance with the instructions laid down by the Football Association of Wales (FAW) and WWFA with their responsibilities as specified by the organizations.

10. The Executive Council shall have the power to co-opt members onto the committee should vacancies arise, and they shall serve until the next AGM.

12. No council member shall be present on any matter/incident in which his/her club may be deemed to have an interest. They must declare their interest and after presenting their case they need to withdraw from the meeting.

13. Any council member failing to attend three consecutive meetings without reasonable excuse shall be deemed to have resigned.

14. Where necessary, the Chair may call for a vote to decide a specific issued. Even though it is possible for an Executive Committee member to hold more than one position, that person shall only be entitled to one vote on any matter. In the event of any vote being equal, the Chair shall have a further, casting vote to decide the issue.

15. The Executive Council shall have the power to rule on any other matter not specifically provided for within the rules of this league.

16. The funds of the league shall be deposited with a bank. The Treasurer shall present a bank statement and cash book when requested at an Executive Council meeting.

17. Permission to Enter the League

- A. The League Executive Council shall have the right to refuse admittance to the league of any club / team.
- B. Any new club / team applying to enter the league must satisfy the league council that it has sufficient eligible players to form a squad.

Structure of the Leagues

The league shall organize events / competitions at the following levels:

Minis

- Under 6s (School Years Rec & Year 1)
- Under 7s (School Year 1 & 2)
- Under 8s (School Year 2 & 3)
- Under 9s (School Year 3 & 4)
- Under 10s (School Year 4 & 5)
- Under 11s (School Year 5 & 6)

Juniors

- Under 12s Development (School Year 6 & 7) 9 aside with 9 rolling subs
- Under 12s (School Year 7) 9 aside with 9 rolling subs
- Under 13s (School Year 7 & 8) 9 aside with 9 rolling subs
- Under 14s (School Year 8 & 9) 11 aside with 7 rolling subs
- Under 15s (School Year 9 & 10) 11 aside with 7 rolling subs
- Under 16s (School Year 10 & 11) 11 aside with 7 rolling subs

Seniors

- Ladies (Age 16+) 11 aside with 7 rolling subs

Entrance Fees to the League

18.

(All Registrations to the League and Cup competitions must be done via COMET)

Age Group	League Registration Fees	Cup Registration Fees
U6s	£20	N/A
U7s	£20	N/A
U8s	£20	N/A
U9s	£20	N/A
U10s	£20	N/A
U11s	£20	N/A
U12s & Development	£25	£15
U13s	£25	£15
U14s	£25	£15
U15s	£25	£15
U16s	£25	£15
Ladies	£50	£20

19. Match Day Squads:

U12s – U13s (9V9) Maximum of 18 per squad

U14s – Ladies (11V11) Maximum of 18 per squad

20. Clubs must be an affiliated member of the WWFA in order to join the WWWGL, all clubs must complete and submit affiliation forms online via comet.

Clubs

21. All Girls' Clubs under the jurisdiction of the League shall satisfy the Executive Council that they are properly accredited clubs and play football according to the rules of the FAW. They must be required to provide their FAW Accreditation Certificate or their current position via the relevant Football development Manager (FDM). If there are players under the age of 18 playing within a Women's team, then the club must have a Safeguarding Officer.

22. Each club shall forward annually via comet their distinguishing colors and alternate colors, together with the name and address of their Club Secretary, Safeguarding Officer and Team Managers / Coaches, as well as the location of their home ground.

23. All Clubs must update comet when there is a change to any of the details on the Club Affiliation form. Failure to comply with this rule will be subject to a fine of £10.

24. Permission is required from both the league and the WWFA for all friendly matches and tournaments within Wales. If the match / tournament is outside of Wales, sanction is also required from the FAW.

25. Any Club, when requested, must respond within 10 days of the date of the relevant correspondence. League will also reply within 10 working days. Any Club failing to comply with this rule will be deemed to be guilty of misconduct and will be subject to a fine of £25.
26. All Clubs affiliated to this league are responsible for the conduct of their own officials, players and spectators as per the FAW Safeguarding guidelines. Clubs are required to take all precautions necessary to prevent Match Officials and Club Officials, and/or players of other clubs from being threatened or assaulted during or following the conclusion of matches.
27. The league will only correspond with the Club Secretary on all matters. Correspondence must come on headed paper or via an email address that has already been registered with the league.
28. If clubs fail to pay any fees owed to the league late (after 14 days post receipt of invoice) late there will be a further £15 late fee added on top of the bill and clubs may be suspended until fees are paid.
29. Any Clubs owing money to the league will be suspended by the league until the payment in question is received.

Meetings

30. All Clubs in membership must attend the Leagues AGM each year which is to be held in July or they will incur a fine of £30.
31. Each Club shall be allowed one vote only per section regardless of the number of teams they have entered in the league.
32. Members of the Executive Council shall be entitled to one vote each.
33. Clubs failing to send a representative to any of the League's meetings will be fined £25 at the discretion of the Executive Council.
34. No person may represent more than one club at any meeting.
35. Clubs may send a maximum of two representatives to any meeting, further representatives from any club may only be permitted to attend a meeting with prior permission of the Chair.
36. The presence of representatives from at least half the affiliated member clubs shall be deemed sufficient to form a quorum.
37. An Emergency General Meeting shall be convened by the Secretary, if requested in writing by at least one third of the clubs in membership of the League, or by a majority of members of the Executive Committee.
38. Notice of such meetings shall be sent to all clubs in membership of the League, together with an agenda at least seven days prior to the date set for the meeting and such notice shall also state the objective for which the meeting is convened.
39. No alteration or amendment of these rules shall be permitted except at a Rules revision meeting prior to 15th Match or an Emergency General Meeting convened for this purpose; such alterations or additions must be sanctioned by the WWFA before they can become operative.
40. Any proposed rule changes are to be forwarded in writing to each club at least seven days before the meeting.

41. Any alterations to the rules shall not be deemed to be carried out unless supported by a majority of the voting members present.
42. Any club member wishing to put forward rule changes to be considered at the Rules Revision meeting shall do so in writing to the League Secretary when requested and return within 28 days.
43. Voting on General rule changes will be for all clubs, whereas those rules that specifically apply to the Girls' or Women's section will only be voted on by the clubs in that section.
44. All Club meetings minutes will be published within 14 days of the meeting; the minutes of each meeting will be circulated to member clubs within 28 days of the date of the meeting.
45. In the event of any alteration being deemed necessary to the Rules of the League, notice of the proposed alteration or amendment shall be sent to the League Secretary in writing with the name of the proposer of such alteration or amendment by February 21st in that current year, with all rule proposals circulated to clubs, 28 days prior to the date of the Annual Rules Revision Meeting. Any Club proposing a Rule change, must attend the Rules Revision Meeting. Failure to attend will result in the rule change not being proposed. The Rules as passed at the Rules Meeting shall become operative on the 1st of July in that year, provided they have been ratified by the West Wales F.A.

Player Registration and Transfers

46. All Registrations will be managed by the FAW comet system. All players must be registered on comet.
 - A. All Transfers must follow the WWFA and FAW protocols and requests must be done via the Comet system.
 - B. An application for the transfer of a bona-fide player must be made **through the COMET system**. Transfer of all Senior and Junior Players must abide by FAW Rule 60, which states that a player may register for three clubs, having two transfers, but only play for two clubs in the current season. Transfers for Junior players will be directed by the West Wales F.A.

Fixtures

47. League and League Cup competition fixtures take priority over any other fixture/tournament, with the exception of competitions organized by the FAW and the WWFA which take precedence.
48. All matches must be played on Sundays or midweek unless arranged to the contrary with the league Fixture Secretary kick-off times mutually agreed by the clubs.
49. Cup fixtures are mandatory. However, in unforeseen circumstances a common-sense ruling will be applied. Notifications must be given at least 7 days in advance.
50. Any club with two or more players in football international/regional squad commitments which clash with League fixtures may apply to the League Secretary for a postponement of fixtures and such postponements shall not be counted as part of a club's entitlement to free dates.
51. A Club can be allowed a maximum total of THREE players from their last played First Team League or cup fixture. First Team refers to the most senior team in a Club. In the event of any breach of this rule clubs

can be fined £50 per offence and points awarded to opposition where both clubs are found guilty both will be fined set fine and game to be replayed and potential 3 points deduction.

50. The Executive Council shall review all late call offs and abandoned matches which have played two-thirds of playing time and in cases where it is to the advantage of the League and does no injustice to any member club, shall be empowered to order the score at the time of the abandonment to be recorded as the match result. If the Executive Council is satisfied that the game has been abandoned because of the conduct of one club or its club members, it shall be empowered, after the matter has been dealt with by the appropriate Area Association, to award the points to its opponents to take what other action it deems necessary. When a game is abandoned because of the conduct of either teams or their club members, the Executive Council shall take such action as it considers appropriate.

51. The council shall have the power to arrange all matches through its Fixture Secretary. No club will be allowed to postpone a fixture without the permission of the Fixture Secretary or League Secretary of falling this the league Chair.

52. The Home club is responsible for notifying the opposition and appointed Match Referee of the Venue, Kick Off time and team colours at least 3 days before a Sunday fixture or by noon on the Monday of a midweek fixture. Failure to make contact will result in a £10 fine. With a £15 fine which is applicable after 3 offences.

53. The League Committee reserves the right to step in at any point if it deems there is a more serious issue with any club or teams causing the offences to be enforced.

54. Where there is a clash of colors the home team is responsible for changing its strip. Bibs will not be allowed to be used unless they are numbered.

A. Failure to confirm full kit colors (including Goalkeeper) on Comet a minimum of 15 minutes before the Kickoff time will result in a £5 fine

55. No team will be allowed to play in Black.

56. Shirts **must** be numbered at all times at senior and junior levels and players' numbers must correspond to the team sheet (which is submitted via Comet).

57. Team sheets must be submitted via the Comet app a minimum of 15 minutes before the scheduled kick off time. Failure to comply with this rule will result in a £5 fine.

58. League and Cup matches cannot be played simultaneously. The maximum number of League points which can be obtained from any one match is THREE.

A. **All Players and Club Officials must be listed on the team sheet** that is submitted via Comet.

59. Any Club requiring a free date must apply in writing to the Fixtures Secretary a minimum of 28 days before the requested date.

60. Fixtures must be played with "Match Balls" and of the sizes specified below:

Age Group	Ball Size
Under 6 / 7 / 8 / 9	3
Under 10 / 11 / 12 / 13 / 14	4
Under 15 / 16 & Ladies	5

Failure to fulfil Fixtures

61. Any Club or Team found guilty of failing to fulfil a League or Cup fixture will be subject to the following:
- A. For the First offence, there will be £30 fine and match points will be awarded to the opponents.
 - B. For the Second offence, there will be £40 fine and match points will be awarded to the opponents, as well as a 1-point deduction will be applied.
 - C. For the Third offence, there will be £50 fine and match points will be awarded to the opponents, as well as a –2 points deduction will be applied with a personal hearing with the League Executive Committee with a possible suspension.
 - D. Where both clubs are found guilty of the offence both teams will be fined £20, and the match will be declared void. In addition, the clubs will be called upon to cover any expenses incurred (referee, pitch permit etc).
 - E. If any games are not played because of failure to fulfil League fixtures and if the cancellation has a bearing on a Championship, Promotion or Relegation at the end of the season, the fixtures might be replayed at the discretion of the Executive Council. In the event of one or both clubs failing to register at the commencement of the League season, it will be dealt as per the offence of this Rule.
62. The league match committee shall deal with clubs reported for non-fulfillment of fixtures. If any offended clubs wish to recover any expenses from guilty clubs, it is their responsibility to do so. If it is not resolved the club can request the league to step in and resolve the issue.
63. If Clubs need to call a match off, they must do so with the League Fixtures Secretary before 6pm on a Wednesday for a Sunday match and five days prior to a midweek fixture. All applications for a call off must be in writing. Each Team will be allowed 2 call offs per season, any club wishing to use a call off must contact the League Fixtures Secretary. Failure to do so will result in the game going to match case.
64. Where games are postponed due to adverse weather conditions on the day of the match the Fixtures Secretary must be notified immediately
- A. The Away team and Referee must be notified of postponement no later than 9:30am for Junior games and 11:00am for Senior games. Failure to do so will result in a fine of £20 levied on the home team.
 - B. Any game that is deemed to be called off late or an incomplete fixture will be referred to the match case committee.
65. Match case committee will make a case-to-case decision where fine are to be imposed.
66. If a team fails to complete a season the League has the right to refuse that team entry into the relevant age group / League the following season.

Duration & Abandonment of Matches

67. If a game is abandoned before the game has concluded, the WWFA will rule on these matters.

Champion Club

68. Three points will be awarded for a win and one for a draw in all matches. At the end of the playing season, the club obtaining the highest number of points shall be declared champions.

If two or more Clubs are level on points, the following criteria applies:

- A. Goal difference;
- B. Most goals scored;
- C. The results between the equally placed teams in terms of points gained;

- D. The results between the equally placed teams in terms of goals scored.
- E. If the teams should still be level, the Executive Committee will arrange for a play-off match between the teams to determine the Championship.

- For other league placing, the teams shall be declared equally placed.
- All trophies are the property of the League and shall be returned to the League Secretary by 31 March each year. Failure to carry this out will result in a fine of £100.
- Mementoes may be awarded to the winners of the League and any League Cup competitions runners up will be awarded too.

In the Women's section when there are several divisions, at the end of each season a maximum of one team will be promoted from and relegated from the respective divisions. A team cannot be promoted or relegated into a division where there is another team from the same club. A team will be considered for promotion into the Welsh pyramid system if they are in the top two places in the top division. Clubs seeking promotion to the SWWGL South & West Women's Combined League must apply in writing to both leagues by 31st of December.

Referees

69. All Referees must be registered on Comet.
70. All Referees will be assigned to matches via Comet by the Leagues Referee Officer.
71. All Referees of all age groups must possess a valid DBS clearance.
- A. Where no referee is appointed, the clubs must agree to a DBS club official to referee the match. Referees cannot be changed during the game unless it's due to injury.
72. If a registered referee is assigned to a match, then the cost must be shared equally between both sides at Junior level and the home team at Senior level pays the Match Official in full.

Referee Fees

- 73.
- Juniors (U12 – U16s)
- A. Referee - £20 per game + 35p per mile (travel expenses)
- B. Assistant Referee - £10 per game + 35p per mile (travel expenses)
- Seniors (Ladies)
- A. Referee - £25 per game + 35p per mile (travel expenses)
- B. Assistant Referee - £12.50 per game + 35p per mile (travel expenses)
74. Should a game not be played when a referee has travelled, the home team shall pay the referee half the match fee + full travel expenses.
75. Referees who fail to arrive at appointed fixtures after confirming via comet must be reported to the Executive Committee by the Home Team.

76. Each Club before the match starts must supply one person to the Referee to act as an assistant referee (if there's not one appointed).

77. Referees are hereby instructed that all reports must be submitted on Comet and any further issues must be reported to the WWFA.

78. If a club fails to pay a Match Official the League will issue a £25 fine plus the costs of the Match Official to the offending club.

79. Any club found not to be using the assigned Match Officials will be subject to a £20 fine and the game will go to match case.

80. The Executive Council has empowered the Referee in all leagues matches to deal with ANY attempt at rough play or intimidation. The referee also has the power to stop the match at any time for the same reason. This will include the interference of spectators inciting any display of rough play.

Misconduct & Protests

81. All reports of misconduct by players, officials or spectators must be reported to the WWFA.

82. Protests must be lodged with the League Secretary within 3 working days of the game.

83. Any club dissatisfied with a decision of the Executive Committee has the right to appeal to the WWFA. Any such appeal must be submitted in accordance with the rules of the Association.

84.

a) The Executive Council shall have the power to take action against any Player, Official or Club they deem guilty of misconduct. Such action may include (but not be limited to) fines, deductions of points, suspension of player registrations and expulsion from the League. No action may be commenced while the same is outstanding with the WWFA. Any club or person against whom the action has been taken has the right to appeal in accordance with WWFA guidelines. For any disciplinary process that has been undertaken by the League, the decision of the Executive Council will include full reasons for why this decision was arrived at and forwarded to the Club Secretary of the club involved.

b)) In accordance with WWFA Standard Rule 25, you have a right of appeal against any part of this decision or the not more than seven (7) Business Days after the earlier of (a) the decision being announced at the time of the hearing or (b) receipt by the party appealing of the written notification of the decision. All appeals must be accompanied with the appropriate fee of £50.00 (made payable to the WWFA) and be addressed to the Honorary General Secretary, Mr Ceri Richards, 5 Cardonnel Villas, Skewen, Neath. SA10 6BD. (WWFA Standard Rules 28.2.1 to 28.2.14 refer). Please note, a Business day is any day of the week except a Saturday or Sunday or public bank holiday in Wales. However, as a protection of the League funds [which is a duty to its members] an application for costs will be made to the WWFA Appeals Panel

85. By applying to enter the League, all clubs will be deemed to have accepted the League's Code of Conduct (as per the FAW). Clubs, players or officials transgressing this code will be liable to be charged with misconduct. The League and Club's responsibility to child welfare is an essential priority at all times.

86. In the event of a Club being proved, whether on protest or not, to have played an ineligible player or players in a match, then the Club may be fined a sum of £50.00 per ineligible player per match and three points per player will be deducted from the offending club. In the event of a not guilty Team having lost or drawn this match, they can apply, if they so wish to the League for the match to be replayed. The League can sanction such a request and / or deduct points won from the offending club. Any Club found guilty of falsifying a Team Sheet, will be fined the sum of £15.00

87. Any Club has the right to attend the Executive Council Meeting when their case is being discussed. If they do not wish to attend, the case will be discussed in their absence. Should a Club be proven guilty under this Rule, the not guilty Club may apply in writing to the Executive Council for refund of any legitimate expenses incurred.

88. Should both Clubs be proved to have played an ineligible player or players in a match, the said match to be declared null and void and replayed, and both Clubs dealt with as per ineligible player.

89. If any player, who is serving a match suspension, plays under a different name whilst serving his match suspension, and if proven, the club will have a twelve-point deduction from the offending team.

90. In order that the League Competition may be carried out in a fair and sportsmanlike manner, the Executive Council shall have the power to suspend any registration of players, or officials, guilty of bringing discredit to the game, to the League or its Officials. If a player or officials are suspended, the suspension is to include participation from all football activities.

91. If a Club website, individual or any other social networking service is deemed to publish or post offensive material to opponents, referees, or Executive Council Members, then all cases will be reported to the WWFA.

92. Clubs ignoring correspondence will be fined £10.00 for each offence and automatically suspended from the League until payment of the fine is received. Unless otherwise directed, all correspondence must be answered within 10 days. If the fine is not paid on time, the fine is to be increased of increments of £20.00 after every 10 days. Team Leaders ignoring League correspondence given to them by their Club Secretary, which results in a breach of the Rules, will have the Team that they have responsibility for, automatically suspended from the League, until the fine is paid.

Grounds

93. The Home Club must ensure the field of play is correctly marked and in safe condition for use. Regulation Corner flags as well as goal nets.

- A. A minimum of 4 corner flags must be provided by the home team. If no corner flags are used this must be reported by the Away team or Match Official to the League Fixture Secretary. A fine of £10 will be levied on any offending club.
- B. The consumption of alcohol is prohibited around the playing area of all football grounds and Clubs must also comply with any current legal legislation regarding the consumption of alcohol. All offending Clubs must be reported to the West Wales F.A
- C. If the Changing Rooms/Showers are not available for a match, the League Secretary could instruct a League Official to inspect the facilities of the home team or transfer the game to a different venue.
- D. If the changing rooms are not available for a match, the league secretary could instruct a league official to inspect the facilities of the home team or transfer the game to a different venue.

- E. Should a pitch be declared unplayable by a **Council Officer, Sports Association Officer** or a **Qualified Referee**, the League reserves the right to appoint an independent Referee to inspect doubtful playing fields. The referee is entitled to charge standard travelling expenses only for the inspection if he so wishes.

League Cup Rules

94. League Cup fixtures to be played in the same way as League fixtures, except that if there is no result at full-time, extra time will be played. This will consist of 15 minutes each way for Women (10 minutes for Girls) and then penalties using the standard procedure, if there still is not a result. If a game is postponed, then it will be re-scheduled, and it will take precedence over a League fixture. ^[L]_[SEP]

95. No free dates shall be granted on Cup dates; clubs will be advised in writing of Cup Conference dates as soon as possible at the start of each season.

96. Officials Fees are to be split between both clubs for cup matches.

A. Referee Fees

Juniors (U12 – U16s)

Referee - £20 per game + 35p per mile (travel expenses)

Assistant Referee - £10 per game + 35p per mile (travel expenses)

Seniors (Ladies)

Referee - £25 per game + 35p per mile (travel expenses)

Assistant Referee - £12.50 per game + 35p per mile (travel expenses)

Financial Obligations

97. Any club who fails to meet their financial obligations to this League will be deemed guilty of misconduct and dealt with at the discretion of the Executive Committee.



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