

FOOTBALL LEAGUE RULES



www.topcorner.co.uk

These rules apply to five, six and seven-a-side football.

A full list of Top Corner terms and conditions are available at topcorner.co.uk. In these rules competition Participants are known as players and the Team Organiser is known as the team captain.

General

1. All players must be registered with the Top Corner by filling in and signing the Player Registration Form which can be found below. If additional players need to be registered with the team then additional Player Registration Forms must be submitted
2. It is the team captain's responsibility to ensure that all players' names are recorded on the Top Corner website. Details of how to do this are included below.
3. Teams consist of :
 - 5-a-side** –a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 8 players per fixture, 5 of which may be on the pitch at any time.
 - 6-a-side** – a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 9 players per fixture, 6 of which may be on the pitch at any time.
 - 7-a-side** - a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 10 players per fixture, 7 of which may be on the pitch at any time.

Please note: *Your squad for the season may contain as many players as you wish as long as they are registered.*
4. Substitutes are interchangeable at any time when there is a dead ball situation, with the permission of the referee.
5. No player may play for more than one team in a league in the same season.
6. Teams fielding unregistered players will lose the match involved 3-0.
7. Top Corner are affiliated to The Amateur Football Alliance (AFA) and all players must adhere to the equality policy of the AFA which aims to ensure players are treated fairly and with respect. The whole document is available at www.amateur.com/AboutUs/EqualityPolicy

Kit

8. All players (including goalkeepers) must wear training shoes or astroturf boots - no blades, or moulded or screw-in studs are allowed.
9. Shin-pads are compulsory for all players including goalkeepers. **Players who are not wearing shin pads or who have incorrect footwear are not permitted to play. If this results in you not being able to field the required amount of players then you will forfeit the game 3-0.**
10. Teams are required to wear matching shirts. It is the responsibility of the managers to put their team colours on the site and check the opposition's before the match.

Play

11. Slide tackles are not permitted. Players who have gone to ground are not allowed to touch the ball until they are on their feet again.
12. Mixed gender football is not permitted in line with AFA regulations .
13. Play will start with a kick-off by the 'home' team, as nominated by the referee, and restart after goals with a kick-off by the conceding team. The second half commences with a kick-off by the 'away' team. Where white lines mark the field of play, play will re-start from throw-ins with the ball rolled in underarm. Corners may be kicked. If a pitch is walled then play simply continues off the boards unless the ball goes over head height in a league where this is not permitted.
14. Penalty Areas (the marked area in front of the goal)
 - 5-a-side and Brixton** - Outfield players may not enter the penalty area. If an attacker enters the penalty area then a free kick is awarded to the opposing team 2 meters outside the penalty area. If a defender enters the penalty area then a penalty kick will be awarded against them. Goalkeepers may not leave the penalty area. If they do so then a penalty is awarded to the opposition unless the goalkeeper's momentum has carried him/her out of the area while making a save.
 - 6-a-side and 7-a-side (excluding Brixton)** – Players are permitted in the penalty area but the goalkeeper may not leave the penalty area. If they do so then a penalty is awarded to the opposition unless the goalkeeper's momentum has carried him or her out of the area while making a save.
15. Playing the ball above head height
 - 5-a-side and Brixton** - The ball is not permitted over head height. If the ball goes over head height then a free kick is awarded to the opposition. If the ball is saved by the keeper and goes over head height then play is stopped and the goalkeeper retains possession. If the ball hits the cross bar or post and goes over head height then the goalkeeper retains possession. A player is not permitted to use his head to play the ball.
 - 6-a-side and 7-a-side Leagues (excluding Brixton)**–The ball is permitted over head height.
16. All throwing shall be underarm. If a goalkeeper infringes this rule, a free kick will be given to the opposition 2 meters outside the area.
17. Goalkeepers may save with their feet, but may not pass or clear with their feet. Infringement will result in a free kick 2 metres outside the area.
18. A player who has received the ball from his keeper may not pass back to the keeper before another player touches the ball. Infringement will result in a free kick being awarded from where the back pass was made.
19. No jewellery may be worn while playing other than a plain banded ring which must be covered.

Points System

20. Three points will be awarded for a win and one for a draw. Three points will be deducted for a 'no-show'. Teams equal on points will be separated by goal difference, followed by goals scored, followed by the aggregate results between the two teams in question, followed by a play-off.
21. The Player of the Season award will be given to the player with the most Player of the Match nominations. If two or more players are equal in Player of the Match nominations then the Player of the Season will be decided by the referees after consultation with the league manager.
22. The Golden Boot award will be given to the player who scores the most goals in a season. If two or more players are equal on goals scored at the end of the season then the player with the most man of the match nominations will win the Golden Boot.
23. If 75% of a match is played and the match is subsequently abandoned then the result at the time will stand. Exceptions to this rule will be where Top Corner feel that this is detrimental to the league, or if this would

benefit the team which caused the abandonment. In such a case the offending team may lose the game 3-0 and be charged the opposition's match fee, or be required to fund a replay.

24. If a team drops out of the league and have played less than half of the season's games then their results will be voided. If though half or more of their games have been played the results will stand and 3-0 walkovers will be awarded to future opposition teams.

Timing

25. Games must start punctually to ensure the smooth running of the league
26. Teams must be at the pitch and ready to play at least five minutes before their match. Teams late (5 minutes or more) or defaulting will lose the game 3-0, unless the league rules that this would be detrimental to another side in the league.

Cancellations and Forfeits

27. Teams may not postpone any fixtures after 2008.
28. No shows: any team not showing up for a match (or arriving more than 10 minutes late) without contacting the league in advance (of 4pm that day or by 4pm Friday if the competition is on Saturday or Sunday) will automatically forfeit the points and lose the match 10-0. The team will also be fined the equivalent of one match fee, plus an additional administration fee. Late cancellations and 'no-shows' will also be taken into account when inviting teams back for future seasons.
29. A team cannot withdraw from a league once the league has begun. Any team that wishes to pull out from a league with games still remaining will still be obliged to pay the league fees for the full season.
30. Please refer to our terms and conditions for full details (www.topcorner.co.uk/tc/termspopup.asp) including fixture cancellation (table 7).

Disciplinary Procedures

31. All referees' decisions are final. Intimidation of referees will not be tolerated and will result in further action being taken by the league, up to and including expulsion of offending players and teams from the league.
32. Disciplinary action:
- Caution/blue card** – player is 'sin-binned' for two minutes. Two cautions will result in a red card.
- Sending off/red card** - player misses a minimum of two matches with further bans imposed at Top Corner's discretion. A £10 fine will be imposed on the player's team in addition to fines imposed by the AFA.
33. Top Corner reserves the right to ban or expel any player or team from the league or take any other disciplinary action as it deems appropriate. Top Corner will refer serious incidents to the AFA for the consideration of further action.
34. Any team knowingly playing a suspended player will forfeit that game 3-0.
35. Should you have any niggles or complaint then please do tell us so we can rectify them. Please address any complaints to Customer Services Director at Top Corner Events Ltd, United House, North Road, London, N7 9DP.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE WEBSITE GUIDE



www.topcorner.co.uk

Please register your players so that they receive the following benefits:

- ★ fixture reminders and results emails
- ★ comment on matches, edit pictures and update profile on team web page
- ★ eligibility for prize draws
- ★ Top Corner monthly email newsletter

Adding players to the Top Corner website couldn't be easier:

Any problems along the way please call 020-7700 1888 or email info@topcorner.co.uk

- 1 Visit www.topcorner.co.uk
- 2 Click on **Leagues**
- 3 Click on **log in** button
- 4 Enter user name (email)
- 5 Enter password (the word **password**)
- 6 Click on **team name** in table
- 7 Click on **change squad line up**
- 8 Add name, email, mobile number, photo (if required) and position
- 9 Hit "send" (this should then have added the player, and the page will return to that players registration page)
- 10 Use your **back** button to go back to add another name. (If in any doubt as to whether this is working correctly, try opening a second browser and having a look at the team page to see if the new additions are appearing OK).

Please note that we do not allow anyone access to the Top Corner database, or use it for any other purposes.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE PLAYER REGISTRATION



www.topcorner.co.uk

Team name

Team colours

Team organiser

Principal organisation name

Please provide the name of the organisation (e.g. your company) if they are paying for part or all of the league.

I understand that in submitting the application form, I am agreeing that the team participates and pays for the entire season. I will inform my team that they take part at their own risk and should organise personal injury insurance should they require it.

Team organiser's signature

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Squad details Please use reprint of this page if there are more than 10 players to register.

	Player name	Email address	Signature*
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			

*By signing this form, I acknowledge that I have read and understood the rules of the competition and agree to abide by them. I understand that I take part at my own risk and will arrange personal injury insurance if I require it. I understand that Top Corner Events Ltd accepts no responsibility for injury or loss, however caused.

Return this form to **Top Corner, United House, North Road, London N7 9DP** or fax to **020 7609 0090**