

1. STANDARDISED RULES

No.	RULE	PROPOSED AMENDMENTS	RATIONALE
1.	N/A	<p><u>Global Amendments</u></p> <p>Remove/update any specific references to provisions of FA Rule C (by way of example, see Standardised Rule 6.7.2).</p>	<p>To remove/update specific references to provisions of FA Rule C in light of the rewrite to that FA Rule (as those references will become redundant).</p> <p>This amendment is subject to the provisions of new FA Rule C receiving the requisite approvals.</p>
2.	Definitions [NEW]	<p><u>“Contractual Disputes Tribunal” shall be as defined in Rules of The FA.</u></p>	<p>Introduction necessary given the updates to Standardised Rule 16 that have arisen, in part, from the rewrite of the Player Status Rules (Rule C) (see item 25 below).</p> <p>Drafting for a reference out to FA Rules consistent with those already contained in the Standardised Rules (see definition of “Participant” as an example).</p>
3.	Definitions [NEW]	<p><u>“Online Player Registration System” means the relevant online player registration system as determined by The FA from time to time.</u></p>	<p>To introduce a new defined term to cover the use of more than one online player registration system within the NLS.</p>

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4.	Definitions [NEW]	<u>“Option” shall be as defined in the Rules of The FA.</u>	Introduction necessary given the updates to Standardised Rule 6.7 that have arisen from the rewrite of the Player Status Rules (Rule C) (see item 17 below). Drafting for a reference out to FA Rules consistent with those already contained in the Standardised Rules (as above).
5.	Definitions	“Player” means any Contract Player, Non Contract Player or other Player who plays or who is eligible to play for a Club <u>or is subject to any suspension from playing.</u>	To reflect the existing definition of “Player” in FA Rule A2. The additional drafting clarifies that a player ineligible to play by virtue of a suspension nevertheless falls within the definition.
6.	Definitions [NEW]	<u>“Player Status Rules” shall be as defined in the Rules of The FA.</u>	Introduction necessary due to use of defined term in other proposed amendments below. Drafting for a reference out to FA Rules consistent with those already contained in the Standardised Rules (as above).
7.	Definitions	“Scholar” means a player aged sixteen or over who has signed a Scholarship with a Premier League or Football League Club or licensed National League Club, and who has completed a registration form for Scholars in accordance with FA Rules and Regulations that has entered into a Scholarship Agreement.	To reflect the amended definition of “Scholar” in FA Rule A2. The amendment has arisen from the rewrite of the Player Status Rules (Rule C).
8.	Definitions	“Scholarship Agreement” means a Scholarship as set out in Rule C3.1.1 of the Rules of The FA an agreement entered into between a Club and a player pursuant to the Player Status Rules.	To reflect the amended definition of “Scholarship” in FA Rule A2. The amendment has arisen from the rewrite of the Player Status Rules (Rule C).

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9.	2.3.2(ii)	Have a lease for the Ground that extends uninterrupted for a minimum of <u>the current and the next following</u> Playing Season	To clarify the requirement of this sub-paragraph.
10.	2.7, 2.8, 2.15, 4.3, 8.36 and 19	Change references from League Secretary to <u>Competition</u> Secretary.	To refer to the existing definition of Competition Secretary (rather than League Secretary) where relevant.
11.	6 (and sub-Rules)	<p>6. REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS</p> <p>6.1 A <u>Q</u>ualifying Player <u>R</u>egistration</p> <p>The FA's Football Association's rules will apply in respect of all matters concerning players.</p> <p>6.1.1 A Player is one who has <u>been registered via the relevant Online Player Registration System and such registration has been approved by the Competition:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ signed a registration form supplied by the Competition (such signature to be witnessed by a second person) and where; ▪ the form has been completed and signed by an Officer of the Club; ▪ has been approved and registered by the Competition; and ▪ a registration number has been allotted; or ▪ registered through WGS. 	<p>“Qualifying Player Registration” is not a defined term, therefore the capitalisation of the words has been removed here to prevent confusion.</p> <p>To include reference to the relevant Online Player Registration System (see item 3 above),</p> <p>To update terminology from International Clearance Certificate to International Transfer Certificate.</p>

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		<p>NATIONAL LEAGUE ONLY</p> <p>A Player will only be eligible to play in a match organised by The National League if his registration form; transfer form, or loan transfer form, has been received by The National League <u>via the Online Player Registration System</u>, by 5pm on the last normal business Day before the day of the match when a match is played on a Saturday, Sunday or a Bank or Public Holiday or not less than four hours before the scheduled kick-off of the match when a match is played on a midweek Day in which the player is required to play and found to be in order, and so registered. It is the responsibility of all Clubs to ensure any player signing a registration form has, where necessary, the required International <u>Clearance Transfer</u> Certificate and in the case of Contract Players, including those on loan, must have approval from The Football Association. Clubs are also responsible for all players being correctly registered before fielding any player. Failure to do so constitutes misconduct and the Club will be charged with fielding an ineligible player.</p> <p>COMPETITIONS OTHER THAN NATIONAL LEAGUE</p> <p>A Player will only be eligible to play in a match organised by the Competition if his registration form; transfer form, or loan transfer form, has been received by the Company, or the necessary information has been submitted via WGS <u>via the Online Player Registration System</u>, not less than four hours before the scheduled kick-off of the match in which the player is required to play and found to be in order, and so registered. It is the responsibility of all Clubs to ensure any player signing a registration form, or registering via WGS, has, where necessary,</p>	

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		<p>the required International <u>Clearance Transfer</u> Certificate and in the case of Contract Players, including those on loan, must have approval from The Football Association. Clubs are also responsible for all players being correctly registered before fielding any player. Failure to do so constitutes misconduct and the Club will be charged with fielding an ineligible player.</p> <p>Where a Club opts to register a Player via WGS, the Club must access WGS in order to complete the registration process.</p> <p>ALL COMPETITIONS</p> <p>[The Registration of players forms will be made available to Clubs by the Competition and charged are subject to fees in accordance with the fees tariff.]</p> <p>The status of a player must be clearly stated on the registration form information submitted. Hard copies of the registration form must be received at <u>are not required to be submitted to</u> the Competition office within five days of having been signed by the Player. However, these must be completed, signed and retained by Clubs in case of dispute or in case requested by The FA and/or the Competition.</p> <p>The registration of a Player will be valid from the date of registration to the end of that Playing Season only or, if in the case of a Contract or Loan Player whose contract or loan expires before the end of the Playing Season, for the term of the said contract or loan.</p> <p>6.1.2 A Player may only play under his correct status. Any change of a Player's status during the currency of a registration must be notified to the Competition within five (5) days of the change of registration being affected.</p>	<p>To make this provision relating to registration fees optional, on the basis that Competitions may choose not to charge fees given the process is carried out electronically.</p> <p>Both FAS and WGS do not require hard copies to be submitted to the League. However, the view is that clubs/players must complete and sign hard copies (in case of disputes or for the purposes of disclosing to the Competition or The FA if requested).</p>

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		<p>In the event of a Player changing his status with the same Club either from Contract to Non-Contract or from Non-Contract to Contract then that Player must sign a new registration form <u>(which is to be retained by the Club), or submit the necessary information via WGS complete a new registration process via the Online Player Registration System</u>, and be re-registered. In default the Player re-registering will be ineligible to play in a match under the jurisdiction of the Competition and Rule 6.9 will be applied in such circumstances where a Club is found guilty of playing a Player who has changed status without re-registering.</p> <p>A Player whose registration under Contract is cancelled by mutual consent and immediately re-registered by the same Club or a different Club on a non-contract basis shall not subsequently be registered as a Contract player with the Club for which his Contract was cancelled, within three months of the date of the cancellation except with the consent of the Board <u>and The FA</u>.</p>	<p>The consent of The FA is also required in these circumstances.</p>
12.	6.4.1	<p>6.4 Registrations and Registration Procedures</p> <p>6.4.1 NATIONAL LEAGUE ONLY</p> <p>A Player will only be eligible to play in a match organised by the Company under these Rules if the appropriate <u>form(s) information is (are) provided via the Online Player Registration System and</u> received by the Company by 5pm on the last normal business Day before the day of the match when a match is played on a Saturday, Sunday or a Bank or Public Holiday or at least four (4) hours before the scheduled kick-off time when a match is played on a midweek Day ("The Registration Deadlines"). No Player whose registration, including Loan registrations, is received after the Registration Deadlines will</p>	<p>To include reference to the relevant Online Player Registration System (see item 3 above) and remove any subsequently redundant references/drafting.</p>

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		<p>be eligible to play. Any loan registration must also be approved by the Football Association before that Player can be considered eligible to play.</p> <p>The registration of a Player is not automatically valid and it is the responsibility of the Club to ensure the player is NOT registered with any other Club. When the Player involved was previously registered with another Club it is necessary for that Club to complete the standard Competition transfer form or to have completed the standard Competition cancellation of registration form prior to or at the same as the registration to the new Club.</p> <p>COMPETITIONS OTHER THAN NATIONAL LEAGUE</p> <p>A Player will only be eligible to play in a match organised by the Company under these Rules if the appropriate form(s) information is (are) provided <u>via the Online Player Registration System and</u> received by the Company (including [by facsimile or] electronically), or the necessary information has been submitted to WGS, at least four (4) hours before the scheduled kick-off time of such match. No Player whose registration, including Loan registrations, is received by the Company or submitted via WGS less than four (4) hours before the match organised by the Company in which he is required to play will be eligible. Any loan registration must also be approved by the Football Association before that Player can be considered eligible to play.</p> <p>The registration of a Player by [facsimile or] electronic transmission or WGS is not automatically valid and it is the responsibility of the Club to ensure the player is NOT registered with any other Club. When the Player involved was previously registered with another Club it is necessary for that Club to complete the standard Competition a transfer form <u>via the Online Player Registration System</u> or to have completed the standard Competition cancellation of for the players' original registration form to have been cancelled prior to or at the same <u>time</u> as the registration to the new Club.</p>	

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		<p>Where a Club opts to register a Player via WGS, but does not fully and correctly complete the necessary information, that registration will not be processed.</p> <p>Where a registration form is sent to the Company [by facsimile or] electronically, e.g. email, the originating form must subsequently be received by the Company within five (5) Days of the sending of the [facsimile or] electronic transmission. In default of this Rule the player shall not be eligible to play in the Competition unless and until a valid registration form is received. The form when received must contain the same information as that received by [facsimile or] email. It is an offence to falsify a competition form.</p> <p>ALL COMPETITIONS</p> <p>Any Club found to have been in breach of any part of Rule 6.4.1 will be deemed to have played an ineligible player and will be dealt with in accordance with Rule 6.9.</p>	
13.	6.4.7	<p>A Club may register any number of Work Experience Players, <u>save that it may only register a maximum of three (3) such players from any one club, including those participating in the Premier League, EFL and the National League System (subject to the overall limit of four (4) Players joining a Club from another club in any Playing Season as set out at Rule 6.6.1).</u></p>	<p>To introduce limits on Work Experience Player registrations (as currently exist in relation to loan registrations).</p> <p>To make clear that the limit on registering Work Experience Players from any one club is subject to the overall limit on registering players from any one club via a temporary transfer in any Playing Season.</p>

No.	RULE	PROPOSED AMENDMENTS	RATIONALE
14.	6.4.10	<p>The Company at its discretion may approve at any time the registration of an additional goalkeeper on a short-term basis if none of the Clubs' registered goalkeepers are available ahead of a Competition Match.</p> <p><u>NATIONAL LEAGUE ONLY</u></p> <p><u>The Company at its sole discretion may approve the registration of a Player after the Registration Deadline for fixtures scheduled for a bank holiday or a public holiday.</u></p> <p><u>ALL LEAGUES RESUME HERE</u></p>	<p>To include the ability for the National League to register players after the relevant registration deadline in respect of fixtures scheduled for a bank/public holiday, as the current deadline is 5pm on the Friday and it is considered that a legitimate issue could occur during/after the Saturday fixture ahead of the Monday fixture, for example.</p>
15.	6.5.1	<p>TERMINATIONS</p> <p>Where the registration of a Contract Player has been terminated by either the Club or the Player, this must be in accordance with the provisions set out under FA Rule C1.12 and the terms of the contract <u>of the Player Status Rules.</u></p>	<p>To update the reference from the old provision of Rule C to the 'Player Status Rules'.</p>

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16.	6.6	<p>TEMPORARY TRANSFERS (LOANS)</p> <p>6.6.1 Where the Rules of the relevant League permit, Short Term Loans, Youth Loans and Long Term Loans of Contract players shall be allowed to or from Clubs in membership of:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Premier League • The Football League <u>EFL</u> • The National League • The Isthmian Football League • The Northern Premier League • The Southern Football League • <u>Any League operating at Step 1 to 6 of the National League System</u> <p>Any other Leagues which have been authorised by the FA [as shown in Appendix K] on such terms and conditions as shall be mutually agreed by the two clubs and the player. For Loan Transfers between Clubs in the same Competition the transfer must be completed <u>via the Online Player Registration System, with a Competition Temporary Transfer Form completed and retained by the Club on the National League System Temporary Transfer Form.</u> For Loan Transfers between Clubs in different Competitions the transfer must be completed on FA Form H3 together with a registration form applicable for the Competition of the transferee club <u>via the Online Player Registration System, to include any applicable loan form (as communicated by The FA from time to time).</u></p> <p>The player being taken on loan, [including Youth Loan,] must</p>	<p>To update terminology and extend application of the Rule to member clubs of leagues operating at Steps 5 and 6 of the NLS (Appendix K to be removed on this basis – see item 32 below).</p> <p>To include reference to the relevant Online Player Registration System (see item 1 above)</p>

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		<p>sign a Competition contract registration form which will be valid for the full period of the loan, including any extension to the loan period.</p> <p>If the original Loan agreement contains a pre-agreed recall clause, a Player may be recalled by the loaning Club submitting written confirmation to the borrowing Club, the Competition and The FA. Where no pre-agreed recall clause exists, the cancellation must be agreed between the loaning Club, the borrowing Club and the Player. The loaning Club must submit written confirmation to the borrowing Club, the Competition and The FA. The Competition's standard cancellation form must be used to prematurely end the Temporary Transfer period. The temporary registration for the borrowing Club will automatically be deemed to be cancelled upon maturity of the temporary transfer period.</p> <p>Where a Short Term Loan, [or Youth Loan] expires, and is not renewed simultaneously, any subsequent Short Term Loan, [or Youth Loan] of that Player to the same Club will be subject to a minimum duration of 28 days.</p> <p>No more than four (4) Players (Short Term, Long Term, <u>Work Experience</u> or [Youth]) may join one Club from another Club (or club) in any Playing Season. [An additional Youth Loan Player may be added to this figure.]</p> <p>Where a Short Term Loan, [Youth Loan] or Long Term Loan (or period of Work Experience) expires on or after the last match of the season and the Club finishes in a Play-Off Position, and both Clubs agree, the Loans shall be extended to include the Club's remaining Play-Off Matches. Any such extension is not subject to any time limits that would otherwise apply, and must be agreed in writing by the player's parent Club</p>	<p>To include Work Experience Players in the overall limits on players that may join a club from another club in any Playing Season.</p>

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		<p>and be registered with the Competition and the Association in accordance with these Rules and registered with The FA in accordance with the Player Status Rules.</p> <p>6.6.2 Short Term Loan Transfers – A Club can have up to a maximum of twelve (12) Short Term Loans during a Playing Season. The minimum period of a Short Term Loan transfer must be twenty-eight (28) days with a maximum period to the end of the Playing Season. <u>Clubs playing in Competitions at Steps 1 to 4 of the National League System may register players on a Short-Term Loan from clubs in the EFL.</u></p> <p>The Competition shall not approve more than two (2) Short Term Loan transfers to or from any one Club club, including Premier League and Football League EFL Clubs clubs, at any one time <u>(subject to the overall limit of four (4) Players joining a Club from another club in any Playing Season as set out at Rule 6.6.1).</u></p> <p>On completing the <u>Competition</u> Temporary Transfer Form <u>(for internal Temporary Transfers)</u> or FA form H3 <u>(for Temporary Transfers involving two competitions)</u> a Club must send the original to the FA, one copy to the Company, and a third copy to the secretary of the League with which the player is registered <u>retain copies in case of dispute or if called in case requested by the Competition or The FA. Clubs must also take the appropriate action on the Online Player Registration System.</u></p> <p>To extend the period of any Short Term Loan transfer a further National League System <u>Competition</u> Temporary Transfer Form <u>(for internal Temporary Transfers)</u> or FA form H3 <u>(for</u></p>	<p>To remove reference to the Premier League as it does not permit short-term loans.</p> <p>To update the administrative requirements in respect of this type of transfer.</p>

No.	RULE	PROPOSED AMENDMENTS	RATIONALE
		<p><u>Temporary Transfers involving two competitions</u>) must be completed and copies sent <u>retained</u> as directed above. If the Short Term Loan transfer is extended only the Club for whom the Player was originally registered will be allowed to cancel the agreement at any time within the extension period, i.e. after 28 days. In the case of a goalkeeper Clubs may mutually agree, if they so wish, to include a recall clause in the agreement to enable the Club for who the Player was originally registered to recall the Player at any time during the loan period.</p> <p>Players other than goalkeepers may not be recalled within the first month, i.e. 28 days, of any loan.</p> <p>Any Short Term Loan transfer which may terminate after the last day for registrations may be extended for a further period provided the loan period does not extend beyond the current Playing Season.</p> <p>Short Terms Loan Transfers which become permanent before their expiry date shall not count against a Club's quota of days or Players.</p> <p>6.6.3 Long Term Loan Transfers – Clubs may have up to a maximum of six (6) Long Term Loan Transfers of any age during a Playing Season.</p> <p><u>Clubs playing in Competitions at Steps 1 to 6 of the National League System may register players on a Long-Term Loan from other clubs playing in Competitions at Steps 1 to 6 of the National League System.</u></p> <p><u>Only Clubs playing in Competitions at Steps 1 to 4 of the National League System may register players on a Long-Term Loan from clubs in the EFL.</u></p>	<p>To provide clarity on where players can be signed from on a Long Term Loan.</p>

No.	RULE	PROPOSED AMENDMENTS	RATIONALE
		<p>Long Term Loan Transfers shall be from any date prior to the agreed summer transfer window deadline to the end of the full Playing Season; or from any date prior to 31st August the agreed summer transfer window deadline to any date between 1st and 31st January within the agreed winter transfer window; or from any date between 1st and 31st January (the January transfer window) within the agreed winter transfer window to the end of the Playing Season.</p> <p>A Player on Long Term Loan may be recalled on any date from the beginning of the Loan until 31st August the agreed summer transfer window deadline, provided that the initial 28 days have elapsed, except in the case of a goalkeeper, and between 1st and 31st January (inclusive) within the agreed winter transfer window, except for a goalkeeper or where the Player is to be transferred permanently by the Club (or club) holding his registered contract in each case, subject to the agreement of the loaning Club, the borrowing Club and the Player, which may be pre-agreed in a recall clause in the original Loan agreement.</p> <p>To extend the period of any long term loan transfer a further National League System <u>Competition</u> Temporary Transfer Form (for internal Temporary Transfers) or FA form H3 (for Temporary Transfers involving two competitions) must be completed and copies sent <u>retained</u> as directed above.</p> <p>The Competition shall not approve more than two (2) Long Term Loan transfers to or from any one club, including Premier League and Football League <u>EFL Clubs clubs</u>, at any one time (subject to the overall limit of four (4) Players joining a Club from another club in any Playing Season as set out at Rule 6.6.1).</p>	<p>To accommodate the changing dates upon which transfer windows may end in any Playing Season and allow long term loans to be submitted on the final day of the relevant transfer window.</p> <p>To clarify the circumstances in which a player on a Long Term Loan may be recalled.</p>

No.	RULE	PROPOSED AMENDMENTS	RATIONALE
		<p>6.6.4 Youth Loan Transfers</p> <p>[Youth Loan Transfers apply to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scholars in their second or third (if that option is exercised) year of their Scholarship agreement, or • Contract Players aged 20 or under on 1 July immediately preceding the Playing Season in question. <p><u>At Steps 1 to 6 of the National League System, Youth Loans are permitted at any time during the Registration Period, subject to the below provisions.</u></p> <p>Unlimited Youth Loan Transfers shall be allowed to or from Clubs in membership of the Competitions at Steps 1-4 of the National League System, <u>save that the Competition shall not approve more than two (2) Youth Loan transfers to or from any one club at any one time (subject to the overall limit of four (4) Players joining a Club from another club in any Playing Season as set out at Rule 6.6.1).</u></p> <p><u>Clubs playing in Competitions at Steps 1 to 6 of the National League System may register players on a Youth Loan from other clubs playing in Competitions at Steps 1 to 6 of the National League System.</u></p> <p><u>Only</u> Clubs playing in Competitions at Steps 1 to 4 of the National League System may register players on a Youth Loan from clubs in the EFL.</p> <p>Clubs playing in Competitions at Steps 5 and 6 of the National League System may register players on a Youth Loan.</p> <p>At Steps 1 to 6 of the National League System, Youth Loans are permitted at any time during the Registration Period.</p>	<p>To reflect the fact that Scholars cannot be the subject of a Youth Loan Transfer.</p> <p>To reorder the sub-paragraphs so that it is clearer to participants</p> <p>To introduce a limit on the number of Youth Loan Transfers permitted to/from any one club.</p> <p>To clarify that Clubs at Steps 5 & 6 are not permitted to take players on Youth Loans from clubs in membership of the EFL.</p>

No.	RULE	PROPOSED AMENDMENTS	RATIONALE
		<p>It shall be a condition of any Youth Loan involving a Scholar or a Contract Player to whom Football League EFL Youth Rules apply that for the duration of the period of the Youth Loan the Player continues to fully comply with the programme of education in place for that Player.</p> <p>A Player registered on a Youth Loan may, provided it is agreed between the two clubs and the Player, continue to train with and/or play for his loaning Club (or club) in any match other than matches played as part of the Premier League Competition, Football League EFL Competition, Football League EFL Cup, FA Cup or Football League EFL Trophy (i.e. First Team matches.) Participation by the Player in First Team matches for the borrowing Club shall take precedence.</p> <p>Any days on which the Player participates in a Reserve Team match and/or attends any training sessions for the loaning Club (or club) shall still count towards the period of the Youth Loan.</p> <p>The minimum period of a Youth Loan shall be 28 days, thereafter a break clause may be included. Youth Loans cannot extend beyond the date immediately preceding the date of the Player's 21st birthday and/or the Player's contract period with their parent club.</p> <p><u>6.6.5 Work Experience Players</u></p> <p><u>A Scholar may register as a Work Experience Player with a club at Steps 1 to 6 of the National League System.</u></p>	<p>To include a new Rule 6.6.5 to cover Work Experience registrations (the final paragraph mirrors the wording included on the PL/EFL Work Experience form which is signed by the relevant parties).</p>

No.	RULE	PROPOSED AMENDMENTS	RATIONALE
		<p><u>Work Experience Players can be registered for any period of time, but can be recalled by their parent club at any time during that period.</u></p> <p><u>A Work Experience Player may continue to train and play for either the parent club or the work experience club in any age-restricted or reserve team match or in any match in the football pyramid below the EFL, but not in any first team match played as part of the Premier League Competition, EFL Competitions, EFL Cup or EFL Trophy.</u></p>	

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17.	6.7	<p>6.7 Club List of Players and Transfer List</p> <p>[Clubs shall furnish the Competition Secretary by 1st June with the following details:</p> <p>6.7.1 a list of Contract Players whose agreements do not terminate at the end of the current season;</p> <p>6.7.2 a list of contract Players in respect of whom the Club has exercised its option <u>an Option</u> in accordance with Football Association Rule C1.10 <u>the Player Status Rules</u>;</p> <p>6.7.3 a list of Contract Players in respect of whom the existing agreements do not include an option to renew <u>Option</u> but which the Club is desirous of offering further engagements, in accordance with Football Association Rule C1.10 <u>the Player Status Rules</u>;</p> <p>6.7.4 a list of Contract Players in respect of whom the Club has exercised its option <u>an Option</u> in accordance with Football Association Rule C1.10 <u>the Player Status Rules</u> but whose registration the Club is prepared to transfer;</p> <p>6.7.5 a list of Contract Players the Club has released;</p> <p>6.7.6 a list of all Players whose registration the Club wishes to be cancelled;</p> <p>Clubs shall also complete the standard Competition forms and return these by this date.</p> <p>A Club relegated from the Football League Limited <u>EFL</u> shall advise the Competition Secretary by 30th June the names of Players retained by that Club for the season, taking into consideration the contents of Football League Limited Rule 53 <u>the EFL Regulations</u>.]</p>	<p>To update references to an “Option” given its introduction to the definitions section of the Standardised Rules (an introduction that has arisen from the rewrite of the Player Status Rules (Rule C) - see item 4 above).</p> <p>To update references from the old provision of Rule C to the ‘Player Status Rules’.</p>

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18.	6.8	<p>Substitute Players</p> <p><u>AT STEPS 1 TO 4 ONLY</u></p> <p>A Club at its discretion may use three substitute Players at any time in a match. Substitution can only be made when play is stopped for any reason and the Referee has given permission. When a Club is making a substitution it shall use a Board to show the number of the Player to be substituted and the number of the substitute Player. The substitution board used shall be branded as determined by the Competition.</p> <p>A maximum of [] substitutes may be nominated and they must be included on the official Team Sheet handed to the Referee before the match in accordance with Rule 8.20. A substitute may not be used to replace a Player who has been suspended from the match by the Match Officials.</p> <p><u>AT STEPS 5 AND 6 ONLY</u></p> <p><u>A Club at its discretion may use five substitute Players at any time in a match, provided this is in accordance with the Laws of the Game. A substitution can only be made when play is stopped for any reason and the Referee has given permission. When a Club is making a substitution it shall use a board to show the number of the Player to be substituted and the number of the substitute Player. The substitution board used shall be branded as determined by the Competition.</u></p> <p><u>A maximum of five substitutes may be nominated and they must be included on the official Team Sheet handed to the Referee before the match in accordance with Rule 8.20. A substitute may not be used to replace a Player who has been suspended from the match by the Match Officials.</u></p>	<p>To give effect to the decision to permit a maximum of five substitutions during league matches at Steps 5 and 6 of the NLS.</p> <p>To correct inaccurate use of capitalised 'Board'.</p>

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		<p><u>ALL LEAGUES RESUME HERE</u></p> <p>If a Player does not take part in the match for which he is a nominated substitute he shall be deemed as not having played for the Club in that match</p>	
19.	8.9	A Club may not enter its first team in any outside competition, other than those listed in Rule 8.4, without the prior permission of the Board. The Competition Secretary must be informed <u>in writing</u> of all fixtures, postponements, abandonments and results of all matches played in any other competition.	To ensure that the Competition receives notification in writing and not verbally.
20.	12.8	If any Club ceases to operate between the annual general meeting of the Company and the commencement of the following Playing Season, no adjustments to the number of Clubs participating in the Competition will be made. The remaining Clubs will participate in the Competition for that season.	Relocated and redrafted as part of proposed amendments to Rule 15 (see item 24 below).
21.	12.9	A Club which for any reason ceases to operate at any time during the Playing Season may have its playing record expunged, and any monies due to them from the Company shall be forfeited. From the date of the withdrawal no further payment shall become due to them. From the date of the withdrawal, that Club shall cease to be a member of the Company.	Relocated and redrafted as part of proposed amendments to Rule 15 (see item 24 below).
22.	13.A.7	A Club may appeal against such a points deduction. Any such appeal will be conducted in accordance with the Regulations for Football Association Appeals Part C: Appeals: Non-Fast Track of the Disciplinary Regulations , save that the following paragraphs of those Regulations will not apply – 1.2, 1.4, 1.5, 3.3 and 3.5 <u>1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 21, 23 and 24</u> . In place of those Regulations, the following Rules 13.A.8 to 13.A.12 will apply.	To update redundant references to the Regulations for Football Association Appeals.

No.	RULE	PROPOSED AMENDMENTS	RATIONALE
23.	13.B.8	<p>NATIONAL LEAGUE ONLY (13.B.4)</p> <p>Clubs Relegated from the Football League EFL</p> <p>13.B.8 In the event of any Club entering the Competition from the Football League EFL whilst subject to any Insolvency Event, then that Club shall be eligible for membership of the Competition and the provisions of Clause 13.B.1 will not apply to it at the AGM at which it is first elected into membership but will apply in all seasons after its first season of membership of the Competition.</p> <p><u>ALL LEAGUES RESUME HERE</u></p> <p>13.B.9 In the case of a Club or Clubs relegated from a league in the National League System or subject to lateral movement under the National League System Regulations, Rule 13.B.1 shall apply from the date of the AGM of the League of which the Club or Clubs were a member in the immediately preceding Playing Season where the AGM of the Company is later.</p>	<p>To remove reference to "(13.B.4)" in the title (appears to be typographical error).</p> <p>To clarify that 13.B.9 applies to all Leagues, not just the National League.</p>
24.	15	<p><u>15.1</u> A Club must notify the Company not later than 31st March each year of its intention to withdraw from the Competition at the end of that Playing Season. Failure to do so will make a Club liable to a fine.</p> <p>This Rule shall not operate so as to preclude promotion, relegation or lateral movement of any Club to another competition in accordance with Rule 12.</p> <p><u>15.2 If, between the holding of the Company annual general meeting and the commencement of the next Playing Season, any Club either:</u></p> <p><u>(i) ceases to operate for any reason; or</u></p>	<p>To incorporate Rules 12.8 and 12.9 (see items 20 and 21 above).</p> <p>To clarify the position in respect of withdrawal of clubs and to consolidate related provisions from elsewhere into Rule 15.</p>

No.	RULE	PROPOSED AMENDMENTS	RATIONALE
		<p><u>(ii) _____ gives notice to the Company that it does not intend to compete in the Competition during the next Playing Season</u></p> <p><u>then no adjustment shall be made to the number of Clubs participating in the Competition for that Playing Season and the remaining Clubs will form the Competition for that Playing Season.</u></p> <p><u>15.3 _____ If, after the commencement of a Playing Season, any Club either:</u></p> <p><u>(i) _____ ceases to operate for any reason; or</u></p> <p><u>(ii) _____ gives notice to the Company that it does not intend to continue competing in the Competition for any reason</u></p> <p><u>then the Company may extinguish the playing record of that Club and any monies due to that Club from the Company shall be forfeited. The Company shall have the discretion to issue charges against that Club and to issue fines against that Club in accordance with the Fines Tariff.</u></p> <p><u>15.4 _____ From the operative date in Rule 15.2 or 15.3, the Club concerned shall no longer be a member of the Company and shall not be entitled to any further payment from the Company but may be required to make payment to the Company.</u></p>	

No.	RULE	PROPOSED AMENDMENTS	RATIONALE
25.	16	<p>16. PROTESTS, APPEALS, <u>DISPUTES ARISING FROM PLAYER CONTRACTS</u></p> <p><u>Protests, claims or complaints relating to the Rules</u></p> <p>16.1 <u>Subject to Rules 16.5 to 16.10 below, All all</u> protests, claims or complaints relating to these Rules and appeals arising from a Player's contract shall be heard and determined by the Board, (or a sub-committee duly appointed by the Board), which shall have the power to regulate its own procedure. The Clubs or Players protesting, appealing, claiming or complaining must send two copies of such protest, appeal, claim or complaint and deposit a fee which shall be forfeited in the event of the protest, appeal, claim or complaint not being upheld, and the <u>unsuccessful</u> party (or parties) not succeeding may, in addition, be ordered to pay the costs at the direction of the Board.</p> <p>16.2 All such protests, claims <u>and</u> complaints and appeals must be received in writing by the Competition Secretary within fourteen days of the event or decision causing any of these to be submitted to which the protest, claim or complaint relates.</p> <p>16.3 The Board shall also have power to <u>may</u> compel any party to the protest, <u>claim or complaint</u> to pay such expenses as the Board shall direct.</p> <p>16.4 Any appeal against a decision of the Board must be lodged with The FA within fourteen days of the posting of the Board providing written notification of the its decision causing the appeal, accompanied by <u>a the relevant</u> fee which may be forfeited in the event of the appeal not being upheld. A copy of the appeal must also be sent to the Competition Secretary.</p> <p>All appeals to The FA must be lodged in accordance with the appeals procedure detailed in the Appendix to these Rules or that in force at any one time <u>Part C: Appeals Non-Fast Track of The FA's Disciplinary Regulations.</u></p>	<p>To provide clarity on the separate procedural routes for:</p> <p>(a) Protests, claims or complaints relating to the Rules - which are determined by the Board at first instance with a right of appeal to an FA-administered Appeal Board (in accordance with Part C: Appeals Non-Fast Track of The FA's Disciplinary Regulations); and</p> <p>(b) Disputes arising from a Player's contract – which are determined by the Board at first instance with a right of appeal to the Contractual Disputes Tribunal which has been established as part of the rewrite of the Player Status Rules (Rule C).</p> <p>Amendments have also been made to clarify that, in respect of disputes arising from a Player's contract, the appellant's grounds of appeal are not limited before the Board at first instance (i.e. that those hearings are "de novo"). This seeks to address an issue that arose in the course of recent player contract-related proceedings before an FA Appeal Board involving the National League.</p>

No.	RULE	PROPOSED AMENDMENTS	RATIONALE
		<p><u>Disputes arising from a Player's Contract</u></p> <p><i><u>Disciplinary Matters</u></i></p> <p><u>16.5 Within seven days of receipt of any notice of a fine or suspension imposed by a Club under the Player's contract, the Player may appeal that decision to the Board by giving notice of appeal to the Club and the Board. The Board shall have the power to regulate its own procedure and shall hear the appeal within fourteen days of receipt of the notice of appeal. The grounds of appeal available to the Player shall not be limited and the Board shall have full power to review the facts and any evidence (including hearing from any relevant witnesses).</u></p> <p><u>16.6 Within seven days of receipt of the Board's decision, either the Club or the Player may appeal against the decision of the Board to the Contractual Disputes Tribunal in accordance with the Player Status Rules. An appeal to the Contractual Disputes Tribunal shall be heard within 14 days of receipt of the notice of further appeal or, if exceptional circumstances exist which means that the appeal cannot be heard in that timeframe, it shall be heard as soon as practicable. Any reference to the 'League Appeals Committee' in the Player's contract shall be deemed as a reference to the Contractual Disputes Tribunal.</u></p> <p><i><u>Termination</u></i></p> <p>16.57 A Club, on giving fourteen days' notice to a Player to terminate his Player's contract, must state in the notice his right of appeal to the Board and also the address of the Competition Secretary to whom he must appeal. The notice must advise the Player of the necessity of forwarding two copies of his appeal with the deposit fee specified in the Fees Tariff, to the Competition</p>	

No.	RULE	PROPOSED AMENDMENTS	RATIONALE
		<p>Secretary within seven days of the receipt of the notice from the Club. A copy of such notice must be received by the Competition Secretary within seven days of the sending of the notice in order to be valid.</p> <p>16.68 A Player on giving fourteen days' notice to his Club to terminate his Player's contract must also notify the Company and The FA of the reasons for the termination of the agreement. A copy of such notice must be received by the Competition Secretary within seven days of the sending of the notice in order to be valid.</p> <p>16.79 If the recipient of a notice referred to in Rules 16.57 and 16.68 above wishes to do so, he may appeal against the relevant notice <u>to the Board</u> within seven days of the date of <u>sending receipt</u> of the notice in writing in duplicate to the Competition Secretary with <u>an the relevant</u> appeal fee <u>as set out in Schedule A to these Rules. The Board shall have the power to regulate its own procedure. The grounds of appeal available to the appellant shall not be limited and the Board shall have full power to review the facts and any evidence (including hearing from any relevant witnesses).</u></p> <p>16.8 The Club or the Player as the case may be shall have further right of appeal as set out in Rule 16.4 above.</p> <p>16.9. An appeal by a contract Player against a fine or suspension imposed by his Club under Football Association Rule C1.13 must be made within seven days to the Competition Secretary.</p> <p>16.10 If so requested the Board may arbitrate on any disputes, protests, appeals, claims or complaints between two member Clubs in which event both Clubs shall send a non-returnable fee. Such arbitration shall be final and binding upon the parties to the arbitration.</p>	

No.	RULE	PROPOSED AMENDMENTS	RATIONALE
		<p><u>16.10 Within seven days of receipt of the Board's decision, either the Club or the Player may appeal against the decision of the Board to the Contractual Disputes Tribunal in accordance with the Player Status Rules. An appeal to the Contractual Disputes Tribunal shall be heard within 14 days of receipt of the notice of further appeal or, if exceptional circumstances exist which means that the appeal cannot be heard in that timeframe, it shall be heard as soon as practicable. Any reference to the 'League Appeals Committee' in the Player's contract shall be deemed as a reference to the Contractual Disputes Tribunal.</u></p>	
26.	23.4 to 23.8	<p>23.4 Where a Club proposes to install a Football Turf Pitch (or replace an existing Football Turf Pitch) the following shall apply:</p> <p>For matches played under the auspices of The National League at Step 1& 2 of the National League System:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the Club shall disclose to the Competition, as soon as reasonably practicable but in any event not later than 7 days following the Club's final match of the Playing Season preceding the scheduled commencement of installation, full details of the proposed contractor installing the Football Turf Pitch and the timescales for installation. The proposed Football Turf Pitch must have a design and specification that is capable of attaining the FIFA Recommended Two Star Certificate following installation; (b) no installation works shall commence until such time as the Competition has approved the proposed installation and the timetable thereof. Installation may only take place outside the Playing Season; (c) installation must be scheduled to be completed in sufficient time to enable the completion of a Pitch Test and for 	<p>To (a) align the relevant terminology of the Certificates with both the Grading Criteria and those awarded by FIFA and (b) reiterate that Clubs being promoted from Step 3 to Step 2 are required to meet the Quality Pro standard by 31 May in the season before promotion.</p>

No.	RULE	PROPOSED AMENDMENTS	RATIONALE
		<p>confirmation of the results thereof to be supplied to the Competition no later than 14 days prior to the commencement of the following Playing Season;</p> <p>(d) the Club shall procure that:</p> <p>(i) a Pitch Test is carried out on the newly installed Football Turf Pitch; and</p> <p>(ii) the FIFA accredited field test institute provides the Competition with a copy of their official reports to FIFA immediately following completion of the Pitch Test; and</p> <p>(e) the Club shall provide a copy of the FIFA Recommended Two Star Quality Pro Certificate within 7 days of receipt to the Competition.</p> <p>For matches played at Step 3 and below of the National League System:-</p> <p>(f) the Club shall disclose to the Competition, as soon as reasonably practicable full details of the proposed contractor installing the Football Turf Pitch and the timescales for installation. The proposed Football Turf Pitch must have a design and specification that is capable of attaining the FIFA Recommended One Star Quality Certificate / IATS (International Artificial Turf Standard) or Two Star Quality Pro Certificate following installation. <u>Clubs must be awarded the FIFA Quality Pro Certificate by 31 May in the season before promotion to Step 2, save for those pitches installed on or prior to 31 July 2016 as set out in Rule 23.5 below;</u></p>	

No.	RULE	PROPOSED AMENDMENTS	RATIONALE
		<p>(g) no installation works shall commence until such time as the Competition has approved the proposed installation and the timetable thereof;</p> <p>(h) the Club shall procure that:</p> <p>(i) a Pitch Test is carried out on the newly installed Football Turf Pitch; and</p> <p>(ii) the FIFA accredited field test institute provides the Competition with a copy of their official reports to FIFA immediately following completion of the Pitch Test; and</p> <p>(i) the Club shall provide a copy of the FIFA Recommended One Star / IATS or Two Star <u>Quality Certificate or Quality Pro</u> Certificate within 7 days of receipt to the Competition in which it is in membership.</p> <p>23.5 Only Clubs with FIFA Recommended Two Star Quality Pro certified Football Turf Pitches will be eligible to take part in matches under the auspices of The National League at Step 1 & 2 of the National League System SAVE THAT a Club which has a ground with the recommended FIFA One Star / IATS <u>Quality Certificate</u> installed by 31 July 2016 can be promoted to Step Two of the National league System providing that it undertakes that upon renewal of the Pitch the Club will install a Pitch with that is awarded a FIFA Recommended Two Star Quality Pro <u>Quality Certificate</u> or be relegated to the appropriate Step.</p> <p>23.6 Without prejudice to the obligations set out in Paragraph 23.3 above, Clubs that have a Football Turf Pitch shall:-</p> <p>(a) take such steps and/or refrain from such actions as are necessary to ensure that the Football Turf Pitch continues</p>	

No.	RULE	PROPOSED AMENDMENTS	RATIONALE
		<p>to meet the requirements for a FIFA Recommended One / IATS or Two Star Certificate <u>Quality Certificate or Quality Pro Certificate</u> (as applicable) at all times during each Playing Season including, without limitation, complying with all requirements of the FIFA Quality Standard;</p> <p>(b) where required to undertake Pitch Tests:</p> <p>(i) procure that the FIFA accredited field test institute undertaking any Pitch Test provides to The Competition a copy of their official reports to FIFA immediately following completion of the Pitch Test;</p> <p>(ii) provide a copy of the FIFA Recommended One / IATS or Two Star <u>Quality Certificate or Quality Pro</u> Certificate by 31st May prior to the commencement of each Playing Season (as applicable); and</p> <p>(c) co-operate with all reasonable requests made by the Competition, the Association or FIFA for the performance of the Football Turf Pitch to be measured.</p> <p>23.7 Where the Board is aware, by whatever reason, a Football Turf Pitch fails to meet the requirements of the FIFA Recommended One / IATS or Two Star <u>Quality Certificate or Quality Pro</u> Certificate (<u>as applicable</u>), including following any Pitch Test, the Club shall forthwith, at its cost, take such steps as the Board shall specify to ensure the Football Turf Pitch is restored to the requirements of the FIFA Recommended One / IATS or Two Star <u>Quality Certificate or Quality Pro</u> Certificate (as applicable).</p> <p>23.8 The Competition shall have the right to order the postponement of a match where the Football Turf Pitch fails to meet the requirements of the FIFA Recommended One / IATS or Two Star</p>	

No.	RULE	PROPOSED AMENDMENTS	RATIONALE
		<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Quality Certificate or Quality Pro</u> Certificate (as applicable).</p>	
27.	34	<p>Each Club shall be obliged to <u>must</u> utilise any match boards provided by the Competition's sponsor and further shall be obliged to <u>must</u> procure that any bench kit provided by a sponsor shall be worn during competitive and first team matches. <u>In the event that a Competition does not have a bench kit sponsor, a Club may enter into its own bench kit sponsor agreement providing any such agreement is in writing and the Club obtains the consent of the Competition in writing before entering into such agreement which must include a break clause which facilitates ending the agreement if the Club is promoted, relegated or laterally moved to another competition, or the Competition negotiates a new agreement in the future. A full copy of such agreement must be provided to the Competition Secretary within five (5) days of the sending of such request by the Competition.</u></p> <p>In the event of any Club having an existing agreement with a competitor to <u>any of</u> the Competition's sponsors in respect of match boards, bench kit and/or other commercial or advertising obligations, they <u>Club is permitted should be entitled</u> to honour that agreement on an on-going basis, <u>with the consent of the Competition provided the Club's agreement was signed before that of the Competition and a full copy of any such agreement must be provided to the Competition Secretary within five (5) days of the sending of such request by the Competition. For the avoidance of doubt, the Club would not be permitted to extend said agreement beyond the existing term.</u></p>	<p>To stipulate the circumstances in which a Club can enter a bench kit sponsor agreement (and conditions applicable to any such agreement).</p> <p>To clarify the Club's obligations where it has an existing agreement with any competitor of a Competition's sponsors.</p> <p>To clarify that a Club is not permitted to extend any pre-existing agreement beyond its term.</p>

No.	RULE	PROPOSED AMENDMENTS	RATIONALE
28.	Schedule A	Updates to Rule cross-referencing arising from the proposed amendments above.	To ensure accurate cross-referencing.
29.	PLAY-OFF PROCEDURES APPENDIX 6. Other Matters	Any matters arising not covered above should be referred to the League Competition Secretary who will consult with the FA Leagues Manager as may be appropriate.	To refer to the existing definition of Competition Secretary (rather than League Secretary which is not defined).
30.	Appendix A 2.2	<p>Clubs competing in a Feeder League must comply fully with the minimum requirements in force of Grade 8. To be considered for promotion to Step 6, Clubs must meet the requirements of Grade H 7 and attain Grade G 6 by 31st March in the year following promotion. Clubs can be promoted from Feeder Leagues to <u>Step 6</u> without floodlights provided that that all other requirements of Grade H 7 are met by 31st March in the Playing Season in which the Club wishes to gain promotion and that the Club has the following in place:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning permission granted for floodlights • That by 30th September following promotion that floodlights are installed and in working order. • A development / business plan • Quotations / estimates for the work to be carried out. • Funding applications submitted, if required. <p>Failure to install floodlights in working order by 30th September following promotion will result in a sanction being imposed at the discretion of the League of which the Club is a member. If by 31st March in the year following</p>	To reflect the change from lettered to numbered Grades.

No.	RULE	PROPOSED AMENDMENTS	RATIONALE
		promotion the floodlights are still not installed then the Club will be a relegated Club and be dealt with accordingly.	
31.	FRI (Appendix D) 2.1(iii)	<p>By 31 August and 28 February of each Membership Year (collectively ‘the Reporting Dates’), each Club shall submit the following information to the Competition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) a mandate signed by a duly authorised club signatory granting the Competition consent to discuss its tax affairs directly with, and receive information from, HMRC, such consent to take the form as prescribed by the Competition from time to time (31 August only); (ii) whether they are registered for PAYE/National Insurance and/or VAT, and if so, what their registration numbers are (31 August only); (iii) A copy of the Statement of the Club’s current position for PAYE/NI at 31 May or 30 November respectively obtainable from the Club’s account with HMRC On-line services or failing that a written confirmation from a third party (eg the Club’s payroll processor) of the Club’s PAYE/NI position at 31 May or 30 November that is acceptable to the Competition. <u>Each Statement to be signed by an authorised Club signatory;</u> (iv) A completed form in such format as the League shall decide disclosing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Club’s total liability to HMRC in respect of PAYE/National Insurance as at 31 May and 30 November respectively, analysed by month; 	To include a requirement that each Club submits a statement from their online VAT account (or an equivalent statement from a third party).

No.	RULE	PROPOSED AMENDMENTS	RATIONALE
		<p>- The Club's total liability to HMRC in respect of VAT as at the VAT quarter end date most recently ended before the reporting date, analysed by quarter;</p> <p><u>(v) A copy of the statement of the Club's current position for VAT at 31 May or 30 November respectively, obtainable from the Club's account with HMRC online services or, failing that, a written confirmation from a third party (e.g. the Club's VAT processor) of the Club's VAT position at 31 May or 30 November that is acceptable to the Competition. Each Statement to be signed by an authorised Club signatory;</u></p> <p>(vi) Any other relevant information that the Competition may require.</p>	
32.	Appendix K/L	Removal - see item 16 above.	To remove Appendix K (in some cases referred to as Appendix L) that sets out which Step 1 to 6 Leagues permit Loan Transfers, on the basis that all leagues at Step 1 to Step 6 will now permit them.