



# Team Leicestershire Football Handbook

Key Information  
Rules and Formats

2023/24



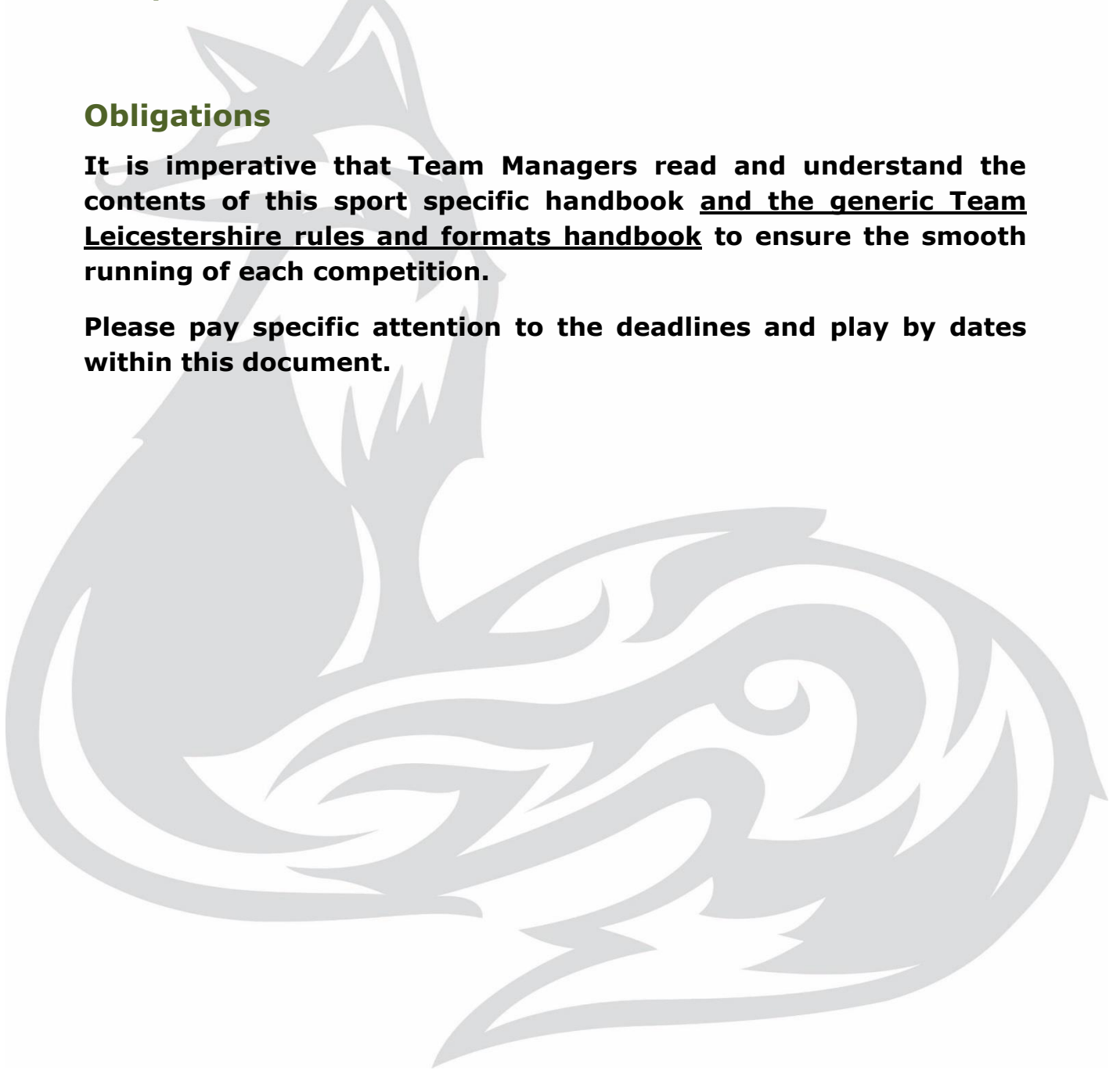
# Welcome

**Welcome to the 2023/24 Team Leicestershire Football Season. All sport-specific information, rules, formats and age groups are included within this handbook. For additional Team Leicestershire information, overarching rules and processes, please also ensure that you refer to the 2023/24 Team Leicestershire handbook.**

## **Obligations**

**It is imperative that Team Managers read and understand the contents of this sport specific handbook and the generic Team Leicestershire rules and formats handbook to ensure the smooth running of each competition.**

**Please pay specific attention to the deadlines and play by dates within this document.**



# Association Committee

## Chair

 **Alan Jacobs**

## Treasurer

 **Clive Bickley**

## Secretary

 **Steve Abson**

## Additional committee members

 **Liam Grest**

 **Steven Hall**

 **Rob Hawkins**

## Contact details

Should you wish to contact a representative of the Association, please use the following contact details:

**Steve Abson: (0116) 2432280 / 07962112118**

**[s.abson@btopenworld.com](mailto:s.abson@btopenworld.com)**

# Rules and Formats

**The General and Competition Rules of the Leicestershire & Rutland Schools Football Association can be found at [www.lrschoolsfa.org.uk](http://www.lrschoolsfa.org.uk). The Competition Rules contain some important sections which must be obeyed.**

**The formats of the game shall be:**

## **Boys Football**

**Y7  
Y8  
Y9  
Y10  
Y11  
U18**

## **Girls Football**

**Y7  
Y8/9  
Y10/11**

## **Rules**

The competition rules stated below are a brief summary. A full version can be viewed at [www.lrschoolsfa.org.uk](http://www.lrschoolsfa.org.uk)

- 1.** The laws of the game as defined by the Football Association and The English Schools Football Association shall apply except as otherwise stated.
- 2.** The entire control and management of the competitions shall be in the hands of Council. Rules as laid down herein must be adhered to throughout.
- 3.** The trophies shall be offered for annual competition amongst the schools affiliated to Leicestershire & Rutland Sport (Team Leicestershire).
- 4. (a)** Matches must be played on or before the date stated unless permission for a change of date has been given by the competition organiser.  
**(b)** The home school shall give the visitors and the referee, if appointed, at least three days' notice of the match arrangements.  
**(c)** Both teams are responsible for notifying the result to the competition organiser.
- 5.** The Council shall have direct control over all matters connected with the Finals.

## **Boys Competitions**

The Leicestershire & Rutland Schools Cup (U16), The County Cup (U15), The Secondary Shield (U14), The Leicestershire Trophy (U13), will all be played as eleven-a-side. The Ron Jackson Trophy (U12) is nine-a-side.

Duration of these matches shall be:

Under 16 Leicestershire & Rutland Schools Cup - 40 minutes each way

Under 15 County Cup - 35 minutes each way

Under 14 The Centenary Trophy, Under 13 Leicestershire Trophy and Under 12 Ron Jackson Cup - 30 minutes each way.

When a match has resulted in a draw, ten minutes (or seven minutes at U12 and U13) each way extra time shall be played, and should the scores again be equal, the result shall be determined by the taking of penalty kicks (taken in accordance with the rules of F.I.F.A.) Subject to change.

The ball used for each competition shall be size 5 (U15 and U16), size 4 for other competitions.

### **The Senior Cup (U18)**

This is open to schools with pupils over statutory school leaving age in full time education. A player in the u18 age group may play if he has re-joined his school / college to re-sit examinations, otherwise the regular playing age is 16-17. Matches shall be 45 minutes each way. When a match has ended in a draw, extra time of ten minutes each way shall be played. Should the scores again be equal, the result shall be determined by the taking of penalty kicks (taken in accordance with the rules of F.I.F.A.) Subject to change.

## **Girls Competitions**

The format and duration of matches shall be:

Under 12 (Y7) nine-a-side Cup - 25 minutes each way

Under 14 (Y8 & Y9) eleven-a-side - 30 minutes each way

Under 16 (Y10 & Y11) eleven-a-side - 40 minutes each way

For all matches - when a match ends in a draw after normal playing time, extra time of ten minutes each way (7 minutes at u12 shall be played). If the scores remain equal then the result shall be determined by the taking of penalty kicks (taken in accordance with the rules of F.I.F.A.). The ball used shall be size 4 (U12 and U14) and size 5 (U16)

**Referees and assistant referees.** The home school shall appoint a referee. A standard match fee is payable by the home school. The teacher in charge of the team shall decide the fitness of the ground. Postponed matches shall be played on a date to be mutually agreed, failing which, the Council shall decide. Each team should endeavour to appoint an assistant referee (linesman).

The method of making the draws shall be decided by the Council who shall have power over any other matter not provided for in these rules.

### **Substitutes**


In all outdoor matches, five repeated (or rolling) substitutions shall be allowed.


In the event of a colour clash (to be decided by the referee if necessary) the home team shall change.

### **'Playing up' & Mixed Gender Football**



Players may not compete in more than one year group or competition in any sport.

 For example: If a player is played up one year group or in the situation that has arisen previously when a school elects to play a girl in a boy's competition, they may not play in their actual year or gender group in addition to this.

 Players may only 'play up' into another year group or participate in a mixed gender team when this is permitted by the rules of the sport's governing body (*E.g: The FA, ESFA, etc.*)

## Key Dates

### Boys Football

**Area competitions (Y7-Y11) must be completed by 9<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024**

**Quarter Finals must be completed by Fri 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

**Semi Finals must be completed by Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024**

**Finals night – Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at Seagrave**

**\*The Boys U18 Area Competitions must be completed by 22<sup>nd</sup> Mar 2024**

**Any subsequent K/O Rounds must be played by Fri 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

**The Boys U18 Final will be held Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May at Sesagrave**


### Girls Football

**Area competitions (Y7-Y11) must be completed by Fri 1st Mar 2024**

**Quarter Finals must be completed by Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> Mar 2024**

**Semi Finals must be completed by Fri 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

**Finals night – Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2024 at Seagrave**

 Knock-out stage fixtures must be played in adherence to the deadlines set out in the respective sports' Team Leicestershire Handbook.

 The draw will state clearly the Home and Away teams in each round / fixture. *This can only be reversed if BOTH teams are in full*

agreement.

- *The HOME team is responsible for covering the cost of any facility hire and officials. (ALL TL KO Rounds should have impartial officials in place.)*
- *The AWAY team is responsible for any travel costs they incur getting to the venue.*
- *In line with the above statement RE: Home and Away team allocation. Any change to financial costs and the responsibility thereof can only be amended with the agreement of BOTH TEAMS.*

## **Website / Virtual Together App**

**The Team Leicestershire programme is centrally managed through our Virtual Together app (powered by Playwaze)**

[Team Leicestershire | Active Together \(active-together.org\)](https://www.active-together.org)

<https://www.playwaze.com>

**Schools are responsible for uploading their own results and monitoring & evaluation data to the Virtual Together app, which will result in the smooth running of each competition. Initial team & competition entry is done via the web platform, then all competitions, fixtures and result input are subsequently available via the Virtual Together mobile app.**

**The transition to the Team Leicestershire mobile app will hopefully make elements such as M&E & result upload quicker and easier for staff involved as well as allowing young people and parents to follow their teams' fortunes throughout the competitions.**

**All user guides can be found on the Team Leicestershire website:**

**[www.active-together.org/teamleicestershire](https://www.active-together.org/teamleicestershire)**

