



CULLERCOATS COMMUNITY
FOOTBALL CLUB

CLUB RULES

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1. REPRESENTING CULLERCOATS COMMUNITY FOOTBALL CLUB

- 1.1. Cullercoats Community Football Club (the 'Club') has a long term football programme to promote the development of players, coaches and referees of all ages, regardless of ability.
- 1.2. The Club provides access to a development squad (U7), mini soccer section (U8 - U10), junior football (U11 - U14), youth football (U15 - U18) and senior football (16 years and above). This includes girls and ladies football.
- 1.3. Coaches are recruited from within the Club (parents and family members), externally through local university programmes and also by way of social media advertising. They are all qualified to at least FA Level 1, which includes a valid FA Safeguarding Children and FA First Aid qualification, which must be renewed every three years. In addition, coaches must be registered as FA Licensed Coaches (annually).
- 1.4. All coaches and other Club officials are subject to safer recruitment provision by way of a DBS (criminal records vetting) check, which is renewed every three years. In addition, they are subject of annual checks on the FA Whole Game System.
- 1.5. Referee development is supported by the provision of access to the FA Level 1 course and by the opportunity to gain practical experience in games with relevant age groups.
- 1.6. The Club focuses upon the following five key areas:
 - Participation
 - Inclusion
 - Respect
 - Skills
 - Teamwork
- 1.7. Each team will have at least two qualified coaches, ensuring an appropriate level of expertise to maintain a safe environment for players to develop and achieve positive outcomes in the five key areas.
- 1.8. Parents and family members are encouraged to get involved as 'parent helpers', to assist coaches with the provision of training sessions and/or other organisation support. They are also subject to safer recruitment by way of a DBS check and must complete a FA Safeguarding Children workshop, which is renewed every three years.
- 1.9. The club expects a high level of commitment from all players, parents and coaching staff to make sure that the standards we have set are maintained throughout the season.



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2. FIXTURES

- 2.1. The Club enters teams into several local football leagues at different age groups from U8 to senior level. Those leagues issue fixtures in advance on a monthly basis, which are administered internally by the Club Secretary. Coaches are issued with details of the playing venue, opposition, kick off time and referee name and contact number for each fixture (by way of a weekly email from the Club Secretary).
- 2.2. Each coach is responsible for confirming the availability of the team by contacting the opposition and referee (home games). Leagues stipulate deadlines for these actions to be carried out and the Club Secretary ensures that coaches are fully aware of the same.
- 2.3. Coaches may be notified of amendments to playing venues, kick off times and/or opposition. They are responsible for ensuring that all information in respect of fixtures is circulated to parents and players. This includes meeting points.
- 2.4. The Club provides contact details for all coaches and Club officials by way of the Club website at www.cullercoatsfc.co.uk.

3. GAMES

- 3.1. Players (and parents where applicable) are responsible for ensuring that they arrive at the playing venue in good time for the game (kick off time). They must also ensure that they bring all relevant items of kit, including football boots, shin guards, full strip (where issued on an individual basis) and additional clothing items for bad weather. This includes a jacket, where one is not issued by the Club. In addition, players and/or parents must ensure that the players have access to sun screen for sunny conditions.
- 3.2. Coaches will select the starting team and make substitutions and their own discretion, based upon attitude, attendance at training and individual development. However, the Club promotes participation for all abilities for our development teams and mini soccer teams. Players at these younger ages will therefore be given an 'acceptable' level of game time.
- 3.3. As players develop through the age groups, the games become more competitive and playing time will be based upon skills, ability and team plans/tactics.



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4. BEHAVIOUR

- 4.1. The Club expects all players, parents or carers and coaches to read, sign and adhere to the FA Code of Conduct for their respective roles. This includes respecting the other team members, coaching staff, referees and officials.
- 4.2. It is a prerequisite that everyone signs their respective code of conduct before the games programme starts each season. This is normally completed at the point of player league registration.
- 4.3. The Club will enforce the codes of conduct and 'FA Respect' agenda to ensure that everyone adheres to the same. Any failure to do so will result in 'positive action' being taken, which may result in one or more of the following sanctions:
 - Words of advice,
 - Written warning,
 - Final warning,
 - Suspension of Club membership,
 - Internal Club disciplinary hearing,
 - Removal of Club membership,
 - Notification to FA.
- 4.4. The Club will not tolerate the following behaviour, in any circumstances:
 - Physical violence,
 - Foul and abusive language,
 - Racism.
- 4.5. Where a player under 18 breaches a code of conduct, the Club will notify the parent/carer at the earliest opportunity and the player will be accompanied by their parent/carer, or other responsible adult at any internal disciplinary hearing.

5. TRAINING

- 5.1. The Club expects all players to attend training sessions on a regular basis, in order to maximise their individual and team development/skills.
- 5.2. If a player cannot attend a training session for whatever reason, it is expected that the player or parent/carer will contact the coaching staff to give notice of non-attendance. This is essential to account for the well-being of the player and alter training plans, as appropriate.
- 5.3. All training times and venues are scheduled by the Club Secretary and published on the Club website.
- 5.4. The use of outdoor/indoor facilities will be determined by the time of year and weather. All scheduled (authorised) training costs will be met by the Club.



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6. FOOTBALL STRIPS, TRAINING KIT & EQUIPMENT

- 6.1. Each player will be supplied by the Club with all necessary football strips and training kit (excluding jackets, shin pads and boots). The Club will secure appropriate sponsorship for the playing kit for each team. However training kit is provided by the Club (subject to payment of playing 'fees' - see Finance section below).
- 6.2. It is the responsibility of the player, or parent/carer to look after the playing kit provided, in order to prevent loss or damage (save for normal wear and tear). Any lost, or otherwise damaged items must be replaced at the cost of the player, or parent/carer.
- 6.3. Club jackets and other weather proof items may be purchased through additional team sponsorship, or fundraising activities, via the Club (under the direction and control of the Club Treasurer). However, such items are not included within the Club player 'fees'.
- 6.4. In the absence of the provision of such Club weather proof items, it is the responsibility of the player or parent/carer to ensure that they have access to warm clothing, e.g. jacket, for attending training sessions and games.
- 6.5. At the end of each playing season (May), all Club issued items will be handed back to the team coach to be checked and replaced for the following season. A player leaving the club will return all items before they are released to play for another team. In the event that Club items are not returned at the point of release or end of registration, the Club will notify the FA of the same. This may prevent registration with another club.
- 6.6. Each player is required to pay a sum in the form of 'donations' at an amount determined at the Club Annual General Meeting, and passed by all members. This will be referred to as the Player 'fees', which are paid on a monthly, or annual (up front) basis. Monthly fees must be paid by way of a 'Standing Order'. These payments are arranged at the point of Player Registration each season.
- 6.7. The provision and issue of Club training kit to individual players is based upon confirmation of receipt of the initial player 'fee' (as outlined above).
- 6.8. The Club will consider individual hardship cases based upon personal circumstances.



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7. MEDICAL INFORMATION & CONSENT

- 7.1. All Players (and Parents/Guardians/Carers) are required to agree to the Club's 'Medical Consent Policy' at the point of registration. This information is collated to assist with ensuring the safety and well-being of all Players. This is a prerequisite to a Player taking part in any training or games.
- 7.2. All information collated and held by the Club will be done so in line with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulations.

8. LEAGUE RULES

- 8.1. Copies of all relevant 'League Rules' for Club teams competing at all age groups are held by the Club Secretary. Copies of the relevant League Rules can be requested from the Club Secretary, both hard copy and via electronic means.

9. CLUB MEETINGS & PRESENTATION EVENTS

- 9.1. The Club 'Management Team' meet at least four times each year (quarterly) on the first Tuesday of the relevant month at Links Avenue, Cullercoats. Details are available upon request to the Club Secretary. Meetings are attended by Management Team members and coaches are invited to attend (open invitation).
- 9.2. The Club Annual General Meeting (AGM) is held annually in June/July. Details are published on the Club website and social media platforms. The AGM is open to all officials, players, parents, guardians or carers, by way of prior notification to the Club Secretary.
- 9.3. The Club 'Constitution' sets out the process relating to an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM). Details of the process can be obtained from the Club Secretary.
- 9.4. Annual Club 'Presentation Events' are arranged at the end of each playing season for the development and mini soccer sections, junior and youth sections, and the senior teams. Details are published, as per the AGM and promoted by the coaching staff.

10. COPY OF CLUB RULES

- 10.1. A copy of these 'Club Rules' will be provided to any Club member, player, parent, guardian or carer upon request to the Club Secretary, or any coaching staff.
- 10.2. The latest version of the Club Rules are subject to agreement and adoption and the Club AGM.



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ADOPTED AT A MEETING HELD

AT: CULLERCOATS COMMUNITY FOOTBALL CLUB

ON: TUESDAY 30TH JUNE 2020

NAME: GARY STEPHENSON (CHAIRPERSON)

SIGNED: 

NAME: CRAIG WILLIAMSON (CLUB SECRETARY)

SIGNED:

NAME: JOHN SYMONS (CLUB TREASURER)

SIGNED:

