

Carling Cup Rules 2007/2008

1 Definitions and Interpretation

1.1 Throughout these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires:

'The Football League' means The Football League Limited

'The Competition' or **'The Cup Competition'** means The League Cup Competition organised by The Football League, by whatever title it shall from time to time be given by the Board.

'The League Competition' means the annual league competition organised by The Football League for Clubs in membership of The Football League.

'The Premier League Competition' means the annual league competition to be organised by The Premier League for clubs in membership of The Premier League.

'The Board' means the Board of Directors from time to time of The Football League.

'The Management Committee' means the Management Committee of the Competition which shall comprise the Board.

'The Premier League' means the Football Association Premier League Limited.

'Club' means each member from time to time of The Football League and each member from time to time of The Premier League.

'These Rules' means the Rules of the Competition as from time to time altered.

'The Football League Regulations' means the Regulations of The Football League from time to time in force.

'The Premier League Rules' means the Rules of the Premier League from time to time in force.

'The Secretary' means the Secretary of The Football League.

'Home Club' means the Club on whose ground any Cup Competition match should be or should have been played or where ground sharing is in operation or the Clubs agree to play on a neutral ground the Club whose name appears first.

'Visiting Club' means the Club which should play or should have played any Cup Competition match on the grounds of a Home Club.

2 Control of the Competition

2.1 The Cup Competition organised by the Board of The Football League for all Clubs shall be given such title as shall be nominated from time to time by the Board.

2.2 The control of the Competition shall be vested in the Board of The Football League who shall in all ways act as the Management Committee of the Competition, and who shall have power at any time to alter, delete or add to these Rules in such manner as they in their absolute discretion deem appropriate.

2.3 Prior to making any alteration or addition to or deletion from these Rules, the Management Committee shall consult with the Premier League in the joint standing committee consisting of representatives of The Football League and The Premier League that is to be established in relation to the Competition and give consideration to any views expressed or proposals made by them.

- 2.4** If at any time, The Premier League shall object to any alteration or addition to or deletion from these Rules, it shall so notify the Management Committee in writing. If the subject matter of the objection is not resolved between the Management Committee and The Premier League within thirty one days of the date of such notice, the matter may be referred by either party to The Football Association Leagues Sanction and Registrations Committee whose decision upon such point shall be final and binding between the parties.

3 Competition Format

- 3.1** The Competition shall be a knock out competition and the Management Committee shall make the draw for each tie in the Competition which shall be drawn in couples. These couples shall compete and the winners shall be drawn and shall compete in the same manner, and this shall be continued until the end of the Competition when the winning Club shall hold the Cup. Immediately after each draw is made notice shall be given to each Club of the name of its opponents, together with a date on which the tie shall be played.
- 3.2** In Rounds One, Two, Three, Four and Five the games shall be played on the ground of the first Club drawn unless otherwise mutually arranged and agreed by The Board. In the event of two Clubs agreeing to play on a neutral ground, the Club staging such a match on their ground shall be permitted to charge, as an expense against the receipts of the match, 10% of the gross gate receipts excluding Value Added Tax.
- 3.3** The Semi-Finals shall be played on a two-leg basis, the first leg to be played on the ground of the first Club drawn.
- 3.4** The Final shall be played on a neutral ground to be fixed by the Management Committee. The Management Committee shall have the authority to decide that the Final Tie be played on a Sunday.

4 Arrangement of Fixtures

- 4.1** All matches in the Competition shall be arranged as soon as practicable. The copyright in all lists or arrangements of such fixtures shall be vested in the Football League.
- 4.2** The date of the tie shall be determined by the Management Committee after consultation with both Clubs involved. The time of kick off shall be fixed by the Home Club, except in the Final Tie and where a match is played on a neutral ground, when the kick off time will be fixed by the Management Committee after consultation with both Clubs.
- 4.3** The Management Committee shall adjudicate and/or take any necessary steps in the event of any ties interfering with competition rounds or ties either clashing with UEFA club competitions, Football Association, Football League or Premier League matches. If required, this may involve the introduction of seeding arrangements as necessary or other such action as the Management Committee deem appropriate in the circumstances.
- 4.4** International and Representative matches and Football Association Cup Ties take precedence over matches in The Cup Competition. Any Club qualifying for a place in a UEFA club competition, up to a maximum of eight such Clubs, shall be exempt from participating in this Competition until Round Three. When the remaining number of Clubs entered is other than 64 the Management Committee shall arrange for byes where necessary. No Club shall have a bye in successive rounds of the Competition.
- 4.5** In arranging matches in the Competition, Clubs shall not improperly interfere with home League matches of other Clubs, whether such Clubs are in membership of The Football League or Premier League.

5 Non-fulfilment of Fixtures

- 5.1** Dislocation of Competition matches for any cause whatsoever shall be immediately reported to The Secretary by the Clubs concerned and it shall be the duty of the Home Club in each instance immediately to notify the appointed Referee and Assistant Referee of such dislocation.
- 5.2** All re-arrangements of Competition matches must be mutually agreed and arranged for the earliest reasonable opportunity and submitted to and approved by the Management Committee. Any match not so arranged shall have its date fixed by the Management Committee.
- 5.3** Any Club without just cause failing to fulfil its fixture obligations in respect of any match in the Competition on the appointed date or dates shall be deemed guilty of misconduct.
- 5.4** The Club failing to fulfil its fixture shall be liable to pay compensation for any expenses actually incurred by the opposing Club as a direct result of the failure. The amount of compensation will be at the discretion of the Management Committee who will consider each such case on its merits. The Management Committee may refer the amount of compensation to be paid to a Commission appointed under Rule 23.3 dealing with the misconduct by the Club failing to fulfil its fixture.

6 Players

- 6.1** A Player shall be considered bona fide if he is registered by his Club with The Football League, in accordance with the provisions of Football League Regulations or with the Premier League in accordance with The Premier League Rules save that Players registered on a temporary basis will not be eligible to play unless the loaning Club gives its written consent. No player shall play for more than one Club in the Cup Competition in any one Season.
- 6.2** Each Club shall play its full available strength in all Cup Competition matches, unless some satisfactory reason is given. In the event of the explanation not being deemed satisfactory the Management Committee shall have power to impose such penalties as they shall think fit. The provisions governing disciplinary matters in relation to the Competition are contained in Rule 23.

7 Team Sheets

- 7.1** The Captain accompanied by the person in charge of his team on the day (i.e. the Manager or Assistant Manager if present) must hand copies of a list of names of players taking part in the game (including the name of the nominated substitute or substitutes) to the Referee and a representative of their opponents, in the presence of the Referee in his dressing room at least 60 (sixty) minutes before the advertised time of kick-off. The list shall indicate the full names of players and shall indicate the colour of the Goalkeeper's shirt.

8 Replacement of Injured Players Prior to Kick-off

- 8.1** Should any nominated player or substitute sustain an injury or become otherwise incapacitated after the submission of the team sheet to the Referee and before the kick-off, he may be replaced, the Referee shall be informed. Should there be any other extenuating circumstances which require a nominated player or substitute to be replaced during the aforementioned period, the Referee shall allow such replacement and report the full circumstances to the Secretary. The Secretary shall then initiate any inquiries he may deem fit so as to satisfy himself as to the bona fide nature of the replacement.

9 Substitutes

- 9.1** In all matches, each team is permitted up to five substitutes of whom not more than three may take part in the match. All substitutes must be nominated and included on the official Team Sheet handed to the Referee prior to the match. Not more than three substitutes of each Club may warm up or down at the same time on the perimeter of the pitch on which the match is being played.

10 Players' Clothing

- 10.1** The players' shirts and shorts must be clearly numbered in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Premier League and Football League respectively, and a list handed to the Referee before any Competition match.
- 10.2** The Captain shall wear a distinguishing armband provided by The Football League to indicate his status.
- 10.3** All jewellery, with the exception of a wedding ring, must be removed. Wedding rings must be rendered safe by taping to the satisfaction of the Referee. Match Officials will also incorporate a footwear inspection into the pre-match safety check of Players' equipment. This will take place in the tunnel immediately prior to the match. The Referee's decision is final under this Rule and he will not allow any Player to enter on the pitch in breach of this Rule.
- 10.4** During the Close Season of The Football League, The Secretary shall obtain from each Club, in writing, details of its colours (shorts, shirts and socks) and shall inform all other Clubs, Referees and Assistant Referees of such details. The colours so registered by each Club shall be worn for all home matches in the Competition during the next following Season and no changes either in the colours or combinations of colours shall be permitted during the course of the Season. No Club shall be permitted to register or play in shirts the colour of which is likely to cause confusion with the outfit worn by the Match Officials.
- 10.5** When away from home, Clubs will play in colours (shorts, shirts and socks) which are clearly distinguishable from those of their opponents. When playing on a neutral ground, Clubs will determine whether by agreement or the toss of a coin which of them shall be deemed to be the Home Club for this purpose.
- 10.6** The colour of the Goalkeeper's shirt must, in all cases, be clearly distinguishable from the colours of the shirts worn by the Match Officials and all other Players. In adverse weather conditions the Goalkeeper may wear tracksuit trousers acceptable to the Referee.
- 10.7** 'Shirt' in the context of this Rule shall also include 'Jersey' where applicable.
- 10.8** The colours of clothing worn by ball boys must not clash with the colours of either of the competing Clubs.
- 10.9** In Competition matches, the players' shirts may carry advertising subject to:
- 10.9.1** the Regulations relating to the clothing of players laid down by the Football Association; and
 - 10.9.2** the design having the approval of the Football Association and being in accordance with the Regulations or Rules of a Club's respective League; and
 - 10.9.3** for matches covered by television, not being in contravention of any provision in the contract between The Football League and the television company, such provision to be notified to the Clubs by the Secretary.

11 Giant Screens

11.1 Except with prior written consent of the Management Committee, giant screens or the like at a Club's ground shall not be used to relay to spectators closed circuit pictures of the match at which they are present. Any consent given under this Rule shall be subject to the following conditions: -

11.1.1 the screen shall be located so that it does not interfere with the match at which it is used or distract the Players and Match Officials;

11.1.2 it shall be operated by a responsible person who is fully aware of the conditions covering its use; and

11.1.3 the screen may be used to show live action and, when the ball is not in play, action replays of positive incidents.

11.2 The screen shall not be used to show: -

11.2.1 action replays of negative or controversial incidents;

11.2.2 any incident which may bring into question the judgement of any Match Official;

11.2.3 the area of the trainers' bench;

11.2.4 until substitute boards have been displayed, pictures of any substitute Player warming up or preparing to enter the field of play; and

11.2.5 any material which would tend to criticise, disparage, belittle or discredit The Football League, any Club or any Official, Player or Match Official or to bring the game into disrepute.

12 Commencement of the Match

12.1 For all matches, Clubs shall be required to take the field of play together preceded by the match officials not less than 5 (five) minutes before the advertised time of kick-off.

13 Laws of the Game

13.1 The Cup Competition shall observe the Rules, Regulations and Bye-Laws of The Football League and The Football Association Rules and all matches shall be played under the Laws of the Game as approved by The International Football League Board. In the event of any conflict between any such Rules, Regulations, Bye-Laws and Laws as aforesaid, the Rules of the Football Association shall prevail.

13.2 In all matches the half-time interval shall be fifteen minutes.

13.3 All matches shall be of ninety minutes' duration but any Competition match which from any cause whatever falls short of 90 minutes' duration may be ordered to count as a completed fixture or be replayed in full or in part as the Management Committee may in their absolute discretion determine.

13.4 In the event of the scores being level at the end of ninety minutes' play in Rounds One, Two, Three, Four and Five an extra half-hour shall be played. If the tie is still undecided after extra time, the winners shall be determined by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the Laws of Association Football.

13.5 In the Semi-Final ties, if the aggregate score is level at the end of the second game an extra half-hour shall be played. If the aggregate scores are still level at the end of extra time the tie shall be decided by goals scored away from home counting twice. If the teams remain equal after this procedure the tie shall be determined by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the Laws of Association Football.

13.6 If the score is level at the end of ninety minutes in the Final Tie an extra half hour shall be played and if the score be still level at the end of extra time the winners of the Competition shall be determined by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the Laws of Association Football.

14 Trainers' Benches

14.1 All Clubs must provide separate areas adjacent to the pitch for the exclusive use of team officials and substitute Players (and any substituted Players) for both the Home and Visiting Club. These areas shall have direct access to the pitch, shall be under cover and shall contain eleven seats. The layout, facilities and viewing positions for the Visiting Club bench shall be the same as for the Home Club.

14.2 The following rules apply: -

14.2.1 only those team officials and substitutes (and any substituted Player) listed on the team sheet are permitted to sit on the trainers' bench;

14.2.2 Clubs must clearly indicate on the team sheet the team official responsible for the conduct of personnel on the trainers' bench;

14.2.3 With the exception of the team manager, the team coach, substitutes who are warming up, or any Players who are warming down, all other personnel are to remain seated on the trainers' bench;

14.2.4 The team manager or the team coach is allowed to move to the edge of the Technical Area to issue instructions to his team, but must then return to the trainers' bench; and

14.2.5 All such personnel must comply with any instruction under this regulation from any of the Match Officials, including the Fourth Official.

15 Match Officials

15.1 The appointment of Referees and Assistant Referees shall be made by the Management Committee from the list of Referees compiled pursuant to Regulation 36 of The Football League Regulations.

15.2 The remuneration payable to Referees and Assistant Referees shall be as shown in paragraphs (1) and (2) of Standing Orders relating to Referees and Assistant Referees prepared by The Football League and from time to time in force.

15.3 The Management Committee shall present souvenirs to the Match Officials in the Final Tie.

16 Match Videos

16.1 Upon request the Home Club shall provide to the Visiting Club, the Match Referee and The Football League, free of charge, a VHS video recording of the game on the day of the match or, if unavailable then, not later than 72 hours after such match. The Visiting Club shall not be permitted to duplicate any footage of such video for financial gain without first obtaining the written permission of the providing Club and of The Football League.

17 Medical Practitioners

- 17.1 Each Club in each match shall ensure that it has such medical provisions in place as would be required for league matches by the Regulation or Rules of the league which it normally participates.

18 Match Reports

- 18.1 Each Club shall send the result of the tie, and the names of the players taking part, together with marking of the Referee's performance, to the Secretary within six days of the match.

19 Financial Rules

- 19.1 The proceeds of each match after paying thereout the travelling expenses of the Visiting Club, the ground and other expenses of the match including Value Added Tax, floodlighting of the playing pitch and ancillary lighting (not to exceed £200), advertising, printing, postage, police charges, turnstile operators, stewards, contribution to first aid helpers and clearing the ground of snow, provided in the case of the last mentioned item the Visiting Club is notified in advance of the match in question of the approximate cost (such net proceeds being hereinafter referred to as **'the Net Cup Competition Gate'**) shall save as set out below be divided as follows:

19.1.1 45% to each Club taking part in such match; and

19.1.2 10% to the Cup Competition Pool (hereinafter called **'the Pool Account'**) the proceeds of which are to be divided at the end of the Competition in the ratio 1:1 between

a) the Clubs in The Premier League; and

b) the Clubs in The Football League.

- 19.2 In the Semi-Final and Final Rounds only, a sum equivalent to 6.3% of the Net Cup Competition Gate shall be paid to The Football League as a levy to the County Football Associations. The remaining proceeds of each such match shall be divided between the two Clubs in question and the Pool Account in the proportions referred to in Rule 19.1 above provided always that as regards the Final Tie and any replay thereof, where a Club sells match tickets, it does so on behalf of The Football League and shall pay forthwith into the Pool Account the proceeds of sale and shall send to the Secretary within 28 days of the said match a final statement of account and ticket reconciliation and shall pay into the Pool Account any balance due whether the Club has received payment or not. Within seven days of the Final Tie the Secretary shall send to each Club participating in such match 50% (fifty per cent) of his estimate of the amount which that Club will be entitled to receive out of the net gate receipts for that match.

- 19.3 Each Home Club shall send the appropriate shares of the Net Cup Competition Gate to the Visiting Club and to the Secretary of The Football League, together with a statement of the calculations thereof within ten days of the match.

- 19.4 In all Rounds of the Competition, Semi-Final Ties and Final Tie, the expenses of the match shall include standard class railway fares of players and officials of the Visiting Club, not exceeding twenty two in number, and hotel expenses (£55 per night per person or a maximum of £450 where there is no overnight stay) if necessarily incurred. If however a Club should choose to travel by air, thus obviating the necessity of overnight accommodation, the Visiting Club may claim standard railway fares and one night's hotel expenses as stated. Motor coach hire may be claimed in lieu of railway fares.

- 19.5 In cases where the receipts are not sufficient to cover the expenses of the match, the Home Club shall share the losses with the Visiting Club, with the Visiting Club paying to the Home Club the relevant proportion of the loss within fourteen days of notification by the Home Club of such losses, accompanied by a detailed statement setting out the receipts and expenses

in connection with such match, signed by a duly authorised officer of the Home Club. The Management Committee shall, however, be empowered to reimburse both Clubs for such loss, at its discretion.

20 Postponement and Abandonment

- 20.1** When a Competition match is abandoned the Visiting Club shall be entitled to receive from the Home Club, out of the gate of the abandoned game, travelling expenses and hotel expenses calculated in accordance with Rule 19.4. The Visiting Club shall have no further claim in respect of the re-played match.
- 20.2** When a competition match is postponed (except by reason of an FA Cup match or Premier League or Football League match) the Visiting Club may be entitled to receive from the Home Club, out of the gate of the rearranged game, travelling expenses and hotel expenses calculated in accordance with Rule 19.4. Any payments will be at the discretion of the Board and will take into account whether any expenditure had been incurred in respect of the postponed match.
- 20.3** For any match ordered to be replayed in consequence of a breach of rule, the Club in default shall not receive any share of the proceeds of such replayed match (except standard class railway fares or motor coach hire for the 16 players) without the consent of the Management Committee and such consent shall only be given in special circumstances. If consent is not given, the share shall be taken by the Management Committee and placed in the Pool.

21 Trophy

- 21.1** When the winning Club shall have been ascertained, the Management Committee shall deliver the Cup to such Club, which shall be responsible for its return to the Management Committee in good order and condition at least one month prior to the Final Tie in the ensuing year, provided always that the winning Club shall, from time to time throughout the year, on request from The Football League, release the Cup to The Football League for such purposes as The Football League shall require.
- 21.2** In addition to the Cup, the Management Committee shall present twenty-one souvenirs to the winning Club in the Final Tie; and twenty-one souvenirs to the losing Club in the Final Tie; comprising sixteen for the players, one for the Secretary, one for the Manager, one for the Physiotherapist and two for staff other than players. Additional souvenirs may be presented with the consent of the Management Committee but shall be at the cost of the requesting Club.
- 21.3** A Club that through the Competition qualifies for a UEFA Competition for the following Season must adhere to the rules and licensing requirements of UEFA applicable to that Season.

22 Tickets

- 22.1** Immediately after the draw is known the two Clubs concerned must mutually agree the prices. All questions in dispute must be immediately referred to the Management Committee for settlement.
- 22.2** In all Cup Competition matches, the Visiting Club shall have the right to claim 15% of all tickets reserved or otherwise sold in advance (any variation to that figure shall be subject to the consent of the Management Committee) and on the following conditions:-
- 22.2.1** the request for tickets shall be made within three days of the draw, with the exception of the First Round where such request should be made no later than 14 days before the date of the match;

22.2.2 the admission prices to be charged to supporters of a Visiting Club shall not be higher than those charged to the supporters of the Home Club for comparable accommodation and in particular concessionary rates offered to senior citizens and junior supporters shall apply equally to both sets of supporters;

22.2.3 unless otherwise mutually agreed in writing, all tickets shall be on a sale or return basis; and

22.2.4 at every home match, a minimum of 15% of the total disabled spectator accommodation must be made available to disabled supporters of the Visiting Club.

22.3 A Visiting Club shall be entitled to a minimum of 50 Complimentary Stand Tickets.

22.4 A Visiting Club shall also be entitled to one third of the seats usually reserved and known as the 'Home and Visiting Directors' Seats' up to a maximum of 24 seats.

22.5 Complimentary tickets issued by the Home Club, other than those required pursuant to Rule 22.4 and any required to be supplied to Sponsors under any agreement entered into by The Football League, but including those supplied to the Visiting Club pursuant to Rule 22.3, in excess of 250 must be accounted for at the appropriate rate.

22.6 Where the Home Club issues season tickets which allow holders of such tickets free or discounted admission to a match in the Competition then the Home Club shall include within the Gross Receipts of the match an amount equivalent to the value of such Season Tickets, divided by the number of matches which the holder is entitled to attend without admission charge or at a reduced admission charge. Where the Home Club issues Season Tickets which allow holders of such tickets discounted admission to a match in the Competition then in calculating the amount to be included as Gross Receipts of the match any discounted admission price shall be excluded.

22.7 All questions in dispute shall immediately be referred to The Football League for settlement.

23 Disputes

23.1 All protests, claims and complaints must be in writing, and two copies sent to The Secretary within seven days of the alleged offence or cause for claim or complaint.

23.2 The Secretary shall thereupon notify all parties concerned and inform them when such protest, claim or complaint will be heard and decided upon. A deposit of £500 must accompany each protest, claim or complaint. In the event of such protest, claim or complaint being upheld, the offending Club shall pay all the expenses of the enquiry, and be further dealt with as the Management Committee may decide; but should a protest, claim or complaint not be sustained, the deposit shall be forfeited.

23.3 When in these Rules there is reference to the Management Committee or the Board having power to investigate alleged breaches of the Rules and impose sanctions the Board or Management Committee shall have the power in their absolute discretion to delegate the matter to the FDC in accordance with the Regulations.

23.4 The Management Committee shall have full power to impose against Clubs whom they shall deem guilty of having offended against or committed a breach of these Rules, such specific penalty or number of penalties as is provided for in these Rules.

- 23.5** The Management Committee shall have power to refer to a Commission appointed by the Football Association any suspected or alleged offence or breach of any of these Rules or any misconduct where a penalty for such offence, breach of Rule or misconduct is not specifically provided for in these Rules. Upon finding such offence, breach of Rule or misconduct to be proved, the Commission shall be entitled to take such action and to impose such penalties by way of reprimand, fine or other penalty (or any combination thereof) as the Commission may think fit in the circumstances, and shall be entitled to order any Club to pay compensation to any other Club for any such offence against or breach of these Rules or misconduct. The Commission shall be entitled to recommend expulsion of a Club from The Football League or The Premier League as appropriate, but no Club may be expelled from The Football League of which it is a member without the sanction of a special resolution passed at an Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting of that League. There shall be no right of appeal against a resolution to expel duly passed as aforesaid.
- 23.6** Wherever in these Rules reference is made to a question to be determined or matter to be referred to the Management Committee for a decision, whether or not the Management Committee elects to refer that matter pursuant to Rule 23.3 to the FDC or pursuant to Rule 23.5 to a Commission appointed by the Football Association, any Club may appeal against any decision of the Management Committee or FDC or Commission to the FAP in accordance with the provisions, mutatis mutandis of Regulation 77 of The Football League Regulations.
- 23.7** The Management Committee shall be empowered, at any time and from time to time, to increase, reduce or otherwise vary any monetary payment, fee or penalty specified in these Rules, on notice in writing to the Clubs. Such alterations shall not be deemed to be an alteration to these Rules for the purposes of Rules 2.3 and 2.4.
- 23.8** The Management Committee shall be empowered, at anytime and from time to time to designate any breach of these Rules as a strict liability offence, to impose in respect thereof fixed fines in such amount as they shall determine, and from time to time to increase, reduce or otherwise vary such fixed fine, on notice in writing to the Clubs. Such alterations shall not be deemed to be an alteration to these Rules for the purposes of Rules 2.3 and 2.4.
- 23.9** The designation of any such other offence and the fixing of any fine shall not prevent the Management Committee from taking such other disciplinary action or imposing any other penalty on a Club if it shall commit such offence more than the number of occasions in respect of which fixed penalties are prescribed, or, if no such number of occasions is specified, on more than one occasion.
- 24 Stadium Requirements**
- 24.1** No Cup Competition match (other than the Final) shall take place at any stadium covered or partially covered without the prior written consent of the Management Committee after full consultation with all Clubs.
- 24.2** Any Club proposing to cover or partially cover its stadium shall be required to submit outline plans and copy of the planning application prior to such planning application being submitted to the appropriate statutory authority.
- 24.3** No matches shall be played on an artificial surface.
- 24.4** Each Football League Club shall comply with the provision of Regulation 13 and Appendix 1 of The Football League Regulations, as regards registration of its ground, floodlighting and pitch dimensions. Each Premier League Club shall comply with the provisions of The Premier League Rules as regards registration of its ground, floodlighting and pitch dimensions.

24.5 Provided that a Premier League Club complies with the relevant Premier League Rules, it shall be deemed to comply with Football League requirements. Premier League Clubs may not alter the pitch dimensions for Competition matches from those registered with The Premier League.

25 Broadcasting

25.1 No match in the Competition shall be televised or recorded or transmitted by satellite or cable or any similar method except with the written consent of the Management Committee.

25.2 The Football League or any subsidiary or associated company of The Football League or duly authorised agent or broadcaster (and its respective employees and agents) shall be allowed access to the grounds of all Clubs (and to the television gantries, camera positions and facilities) for the purpose of recording or broadcasting matches arranged under the jurisdiction of The Football League.

26 Sponsorship and Other Commercial Arrangements

26.1 The Management Committee shall have power to negotiate and administer sponsorship of the Competition. Any agreement entered into by The Football League in relation to such sponsorship shall be binding upon each Club and each Club shall comply with the requirements of the Management Committee in relation thereto.

26.2 Subject as aforesaid and without prejudice to the generality of Rule 26.1, each Club must, if required by the sponsor, make available the contracted services and facilities at the Club's home ground.

Note: Clubs are reminded that the facilities required at each ground will depend upon the terms of each commercial contract and as agreed with The Premier League. Details will be circulated by The Football League's Commercial Department.