**COMPETITION RULES PART ONE

GOVERNANCE RULES for Northumberland County Schools’ FA (NCSFA)**

**These Governance Rules should be read in conjunction with the Association’s General Rules (as published on the NCSFA website)**

**1. COMPETITIONS**

(a) The Competitions will be known as by individual names as linked to the information about that competition on the Association website.

(b) The geographical area covered by the Competition membership shall be the Local Authority areas of Northumberland, North Tyneside and Newcastle upon Tyne

(c) The administration of the Competition under these Rules will be carried out by the Competition Secretary acting (save where otherwise specifically mentioned herein) through the Executive Committee of NCSFA in accordance with the rules, regulations and policies of the ESFA.

(d) All teams shall adhere to the Rules. Every school shall be deemed to have accepted the Rules and to have agreed to abide by the decisions of the Management Committee in relation thereto, subject to the provisions of Rule 7.

(e) The Rules are taken from the Standard Code of Rules for Education (SCOR-E) (the “Standard Code”) determined by the FA, ESFA and ISFA from time to time. In the event of any omissions from the Standard Code then the requirements of the Standard Code shall be deemed to apply to the Competition.

(f) Inclusivity and Non-discrimination

1. The Competitions and each team must be committed to promoting inclusivity and to eliminating all forms of discrimination and should abide and adhere to The FA Equality Policy and any legislative requirements (to include those contained in the Equality Act 2010).
2. This Competitions and each team must make every effort to promote equality by treating people fairly and with respect, by recognising that inequalities may exist, by taking steps to address them and by providing access and opportunities for all members of the community, irrespective of age, gender, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, marital status, race, nationality, ethnic origin, colour, religion or belief, ability or disability or otherwise.
3. Any alleged breach of the Equality Act 2010 legislation must be referred to the appropriate Sanctioning Authority for investigation.

(g) Teams must comply with the provisions of any initiatives of the FA / ESFA which are adopted by the Competitions including, but not limited to, the RESPECT programmes.

(h) All Participants shall abide by The Football Association Regulations for Safeguarding Children as determined by the FA from time to time.

**2. CONTROL**

(a) The entire control and management of the competitions shall be vested in the Sanctioning Authority, or such committees that shall be appointed by the Sanctioning Authority.

(b) The rules of the game shall be those of the International Football Association Board, except as otherwise stated.

(c) All District and County representative teams must be under the ultimate control of either:

(i) A practising teacher, recognised as such by the Department for Education, current employee of education service

OR

(ii) A retired teacher, or past employee of the education service or an AOTT who has received direct approval in writing from the appropriate Local or County Schools’ Football Association to undertake such responsibilities.

(d) (i) Approval may be withdrawn, by ESFA, the Local and/or County Schools’ Football Association, at any time.

(ii) Any other person regularly assisting with or coaching a team must have an (FA DBS) Disclosure and Barring Service check and safeguarding training within the previous 3 years (either though an educational establishment or FA) and operate in the presence of a person who is qualified under (i) or (ii) above. Any cost associated with this shall be the responsibility of the Local/County Schools’ Football Association.

(iii) Associations must, at all times, comply with the FA’s/ESFA’s Safeguarding Criteria. Compliance must be in place at the time of affiliation.

(e) An individual cannot be the named manager/coach for more than two teams within the same Association, although they can be named as assistant manager/assistant coach for more than two teams.

(f) All District and County Associations who run representative teams must register all team personnel with the ESFA as a requirement of the affiliation. This information must be registered with the ESFA as part of the affiliation process, prior to affiliation being approved.