



2020-21 YEL League Regulations

1. Charter Standard

All member clubs must be Charter Standard in order to compete in the competition. Any clubs who do not achieve Charter Standard status may be removed from the league.

New Clubs applying to the league - Any club which has been in existence for more than twelve months and applies to join the league, must be Charter Standard in order for their application to be considered. Any application from a new club wishing to join the league that has not played previously in any other league and/or has been in existence for less than twelve months, will be eligible to have their application considered. If they are accepted into the league, it will be on the understanding that they will have twelve months from the date of acceptance into the league to achieve Charter Standard status. Any club failing to achieve Charter Standard status in the prescribed timescale may be removed from the league by the YEL Football Admin Team

2. Player registrations

Subject to meeting eligibility requirements as set out in the YEL Rules, players of all age groups can play in the YEL on both Saturday and Sunday.

REGISTRATION OF NEW PLAYERS ON WHOLE GAME SYSTEM – Clubs/teams should use the full name of players (full first name and surname - no abbreviations or shortened form eg Robert Smith not Rob, Bob, Bobby, Robbie etc - middle names are not required) to assist in preventing duplication of players on the system.

PLAYERS WISHING TO PLAY UP A YEAR – All age groups – players will be permitted to play in a team a year above.

3. Player ID

League ID of the intended participating players must be examined by an official of the opposing team prior to kick off in all YEL League, Cup, and league organised friendly games.

Failure to comply by either or both teams will result in a fine of £20 for the defaulting team. A player unable to produce league ID **MUST NOT** play. The YEL Football Admin Team have the authority to check cards before or after a match.

ID Card can be shown on a mobile device. The only acceptable form on a mobile device is the squad list produced by the Whole Game System. Managers/coaches should have a back up paper copy with them at all times.

TEAM SHEETS – Team sheets **MUST** be provided for **ALL** U9s upwards games. A Team sheet **MUST** be given to the referee **BEFORE** the match starts. Each team sheet **MUST** display the full name of the player and their shirt number.

Any game not played because one or both team(s) has/have failed to produce League ID will be classed as an unfulfilled fixture and the offending team dealt with as a postponement using the cancellation matrix. Any fine levied by the league as a result of using the cancellation matrix will be in addition to the fine above.

4. Grounds

All clubs are encouraged to provide dressing room accommodation. A minimum requirement is that there must be toilet facilities on site for the use of the away team, match officials and spectators. Failure to have these facilities in place will render the ground not fit for purpose and YEL clubs/teams will not be permitted to use the venue for YEL organised matches. Any team found not to be providing a minimum of toilet facilities on site will be fined for failure to comply with an instruction of The Board for each match that takes place/is found to have taken place during the course of the season. The only exceptions to this rule will be:

- if the facilities are temporarily unavailable. Clubs will need to apply to the YEL Office for an exemption certificate which will be completed by the league and detail the start and finish date of any permitted exemption period.
- If there is a detailed plan for facilities to be installed and there is a date by which the works will be completed. Clubs will need to apply to the YEL Office for an exemption certificate which will be completed by the league and detail the start and finish date of any permitted exemption period.

5. Kick off times

Saturday	Mini Soccer	9v9/11 a side
Earliest KO time is 9.30am if agreed by both teams – see regulation 6	Kick off between 9.30am and 12.00 noon Default Kick Off Time 10am	Kick off between 9.30am and 2.30pm Default Kick Off Time 11am
Sunday		
Earliest KO time is 9.30am if agreed by both teams – see regulation 6	Kick off between 9.30am and 12.00 noon Default Kick Off Time 10am	Kick off between 9.30am and 2.30pm Default Kick Off Time 11am

For Saturday and Sunday Mini Soccer, 9v9 & 11v11 Earliest KO time for any game is 9.30am.

Once a referee has been appointed, the kick off time and/or the venue can only be changed with the agreement of both teams, the referee AND the YEL. The YEL reserves the right to insist the game goes ahead at the scheduled venue and kick off time.

Home teams should check 10 days prior to the game to ensure that the kick off time and venue are available and correct on Full-Time to ensure accurate appointing of referees. Any team not adhering to this regulation may be subject to a fine.

6. Requirements for changes in kick off times – Supplementary YEL Regulation to Rule 20A of the YEL Rules

All matches will be set on the FA FULL-TIME website at a default kick off time. The home team has the right to bring a kick off time forward to 10am or move it back to a later time up until 2.30pm (12noon mini soccer) provided they notify the opposition and update Full-Time ten days or more prior to the game. If changes are to be made inside ten days of the date of the game, both teams must be in agreement. If agreement cannot be reached, the game will be set at the default kick off time. It is the home team's responsibility to ensure they have a pitch available. If the normal home team venue is not available at this default kick off time, it is the home team's responsibility to firstly, attempt to locate a suitable alternative pitch or, if one cannot be found, offer the away team the opportunity to host the match.

If the home team wishes to move the kick off time to a time earlier than 10am they must seek the agreement of the away team regardless of the number of days prior to the date of the game. If agreement cannot be reached, the game must be played no earlier than 10am. The YEL will operate a live up to date kick off time system and it is a requirement that teams update Full-Time.

7. Home team responsibility

An Officer of the home Club must give notice of full particulars of the location of and access to the ground and time of kick-off to the Match Officials and the manager/team contact of the opposing Club at least 5 clear days prior to the playing of the match. If not so provided, the away team shall seek such details and report the circumstances to the YEL Office. Failure to comply with this Rule will result in a fine (in accordance with the Fines Tariff).

8. Restrictions around the pitch on match day

Nobody is permitted to be behind either goals (adjacent to the goal area) during a YEL organised game

Managers, coaches and substitutes must be on the opposite side of the pitch to the spectators/supporters. Spectators/supporters must be behind the RESPECT barrier/line. The referee shall request everyone to abide by this regulation. The

referee shall report any team not adhering to this regulation and the team will be fined.

Assistant referees are not permitted to coach players during the course of the game. The only exception to this is if the manager is on their own and the only person available to officiate. Referees will report any team infringing this regulation and the team will be fined.

9. Start of season

WINTER SEASON – No earlier than Saturday 5th September 2020

SPRING SEASON – No earlier than Saturday 9th January 2021

10. End of season

WINTER SEASON – Sunday 20th December 2020 (Play Offs/Final fixtures may be scheduled for 9th/10th January 2021 – at the discretion of the league or if League Regulation 16 Emergency Plan is in force)

SPRING SEASON – Monday 31st May 2021 (Wednesday 30th June 2021 if season starts late due to the coronavirus)

11. League Presentation Day

All teams finishing the season as Champions, Runners-up or Fair Play winners shall be invited to attend the Presentation Day to collect awards. Each team will be expected to contribute to the cost of hiring the presentation venue by purchasing purchase tickets for the event to a minimum cost of £75 per team. Any team wanting their trophies but opting not to attend the Presentation Day will still be required to pay £75 as a contribution towards the cost of hiring the venue.

For a player to be eligible to receive a trophy and/or attend a presentation, the player MUST have played a minimum of 25% of league games during the particular season for which the presentation is being held.

12. Referees fees

Mini Soccer - £15 fixed fee

9v9 - £20 fixed fee

11v11 - £25 fixed fee

13. Referees

Referees MUST be over the age of 18 (14 if being appropriately qualified/approved by the YEL) and assistant referees over 16 (14 if being appropriately qualified/approved by the YEL)

14. Postponement

If a game is postponed due to condition of the pitch, the away team can offer a suitable alternative. Every avenue should be explored, within reason, to get the game played on the appointed day BEFORE the match is postponed. Failure to play the game will result in it being referred to the YEL Discipline Team where the details surrounding the postponement will be examined. If the match is postponed the YEL Office will rearrange it. If the home team has postponed the fixture, the YEL reserves the right to reverse the fixture when rearranged.

POSTPONEMENT OF A MATCH DUE TO SCHOOL ACTIVITY - If a match is to be postponed due to a school activity, it is the team manager's responsibility to provide a list of each player, the event that they are taking part in and the time of the event. and send it to the YEL Office – yel@live.co.uk - If the letter/email is not received by the YEL Office by the date of the game, the cancellation will be processed as an on the day cancellation.

POSTPONEMENT OF A SPRING SEASON FIXTURE – When a home team cancels a Spring league fixture, the YEL reserves the right to reverse the fixture, should it be rearranged, which may include to a midweek date. First cancellations will cease to be available from May 1st. Any match cancelled from May 1st onwards will be treated as an on the day cancellation and will be referred to the YEL Discipline Team

POSTPONEMENT OF A WINTER SEASON FIXTURE – When a home team cancels a Winter league fixture, the YEL reserves the right to reverse the fixture, should it be rearranged. First cancellations will cease to be available from December 1st. Any match cancelled from December 1st onwards will be treated as an on the day cancellation and will be referred to the YEL Discipline Team

15. Emergency plan for the conclusion of a season

- (1) This plan will come into force at the discretion of The YEL Board if:
 - I. The Board considers that there is a possibility that a season will not be concluded and that its introduction will be in the best interests of the competition and the majority of member teams.
 - II. Notice of a decision to bring the Emergency Plan into force will be notified to clubs/teams 14 days prior to it commencing.

- (2) **U7s & U8s** – Matches in these age groups, if not already concluded, will finish on the date set under League regulation 10.

- (3) **U9s to U11s** - The FA rules permit three competitive events. The YEL have one during each of the Winter season and Spring seasons and also a cup competition. If not already concluded, these will finish on the date set under League regulation 10 and the table finalised at that point. The only two exceptions to this would be:
 - I. If a play off game is required and this will be at the discretion of the league. The league's decision will be final.
 - II. If a team has ONE game left and it affects the Champion/Runners Up position. Teams who have TWO or more games left at the end date of the season will NOT play those games and the table will be finalised as of the end date of the season.
 - III. The league reserves the right to schedule midweek games on a 3G surface during December for the Winter Season and during May for the Spring Season. Any

midweek fixture not fulfilled during December (Winter Season) and May (Spring Season) will be treated as a cancellation on the day by the defaulting team and the match referred to the YEL Discipline Team

- (4) **U12s to U14s** - The season will conclude on the date specified in League Regulation 10 and positions will be finalised with games unplayed, remaining unplayed. The only two exceptions to this would be:
 - I. If a play off game is required and this will be at the discretion of the league. The league's decision will be final.
 - II. If a team has ONE game left and it affects the Champion/Runners Up or relegation position. However, if that game is against a team that has TWO or more games left to play, the game will NOT be rescheduled and the season will be concluded and the positions at the end of the season will be finalised. If the single game is deemed by the league to be in the interest of the competition, it will be scheduled for a specific date after the stated end of the season. If the game is not played on or before that date for whatever reason, the positions will be finalised - no further extension will be permitted.

- (5) In fairness to all affected teams - U9s to U14s - and in the spirit of fair play, the league reserves the right to schedule fixtures at 3G venues for the final games to try and ensure that as many of these games as possible affecting titles, promotion and relegation are concluded.
- (6) Teams will be expected to play at these venues even though some may not be close to the original home team's ground.
- (7) Any team has the right not to switch a fixture to a YEL organised 3G surface and choose to keep the fixture on the scheduled date at the original home venue stated on Full-Time; However, should the game not go ahead for weather reasons or any reason over which the home team had control, the game will NOT be rescheduled and it will be referred to the YEL Discipline Team where the match may be awarded to the away team.
- (8) As a gesture to both teams, the league will pay for the cost of the hire of the venues. The only condition to the YEL paying for the venue is that the league set the kick off times as some may need to be scheduled in the afternoon.
- (9) If the league are unable to secure a 3G venue, the fixture will be scheduled for the original home venue and (7) above will not apply.
- (10) Under this Emergency Plan, once a game has been scheduled by the league, any cancellation by a team will be considered by the Discipline Team

16. Postponement Grid

The YEL Discipline Team has the right to investigate any failure to fulfil a fixture and impose whatever penalty the rules allow. The penalties in the table below will be followed by the YEL Discipline Team; however, they may be disregarded where a club/team has been formally warned as to its future conduct. All teams will be granted one cancellation in the Winter season up to December 1st (see League regulation 14 – POSTPONEMENT OF A WINTER SEASON FIXTURE) and one cancellation in the Spring season up to May 1st (see League regulation 14 – POSTPONEMENT OF A SPRING SEASON FIXTURE). This will be applicable to all league matches arranged for U9s upwards. THIS FIRST CANCELLATION WILL ATTRACT A FINE but there will be no points deducted, nor will the game be awarded to the opposition unless League Regulation 14 is applicable, provided that the match

was not cancelled on the day of the game. If the Home Team is unable to provide a pitch due to weather conditions, the away team will have the option to offer an alternative pitch and the original home team would be expected to provide good reason to the YEL Discipline Team should they be unable to accept this offer of an alternative

	Notice Received	Administration charge	Game Awarded
1 st Cancellation	28 or more days	£5	No
	14-27 days	£10	No
	10-14 days	£15	No
	2-9 days	£20	No
	Day prior to game	£25	No
	Day of game	£25	Yes
2 nd Cancellation	28 or more days	£15	Yes
	14-27 days	£20	Yes
	10-14 days	£25	Yes
	2-9 days	£30	Yes
	Day prior to game	£35	Yes
	Day of game	£35	Yes
3 rd Cancellation and further	28 or more days	£25	Yes
	14-27 days	£30	Yes
	10-14 days	£35	Yes
	2-9 days	£40	Yes
	Day prior to game	£45	Yes
	Day of game	£45	Yes

17. Teams wishing to play up a year

In order for an existing YEL team to be considered for playing up a year, they must make the request by email to the YEL Office and fulfil the conditions below:

- I. Be in agreement to play the whole period from September to May in the upper age group
- II. Accept that the team will initially be placed in Division 3 or higher of the age group above at the discretion of the league.

18. Play Off Matches

- (1) The league reserves the right to arrange play off games at the end of each season for any U9 teams upwards who finish a league in joint position for Champions or Runners Up.
- (2) The match will be played at the ground of the original away team if a neutral venue is not provided.

- (3) If the play involves three teams in a three way play off, the league will decide on the venue based on home matches played.
- (4) Unless notified by the league, play off matches will be played over the standard time period for the age group.
- (5) Should the scores be level at the end of the normal period of play, the result will be a draw and the league position will be shared – ie Joint Champions or Joint Runners Up,
- (6) THERE WILL BE NO EXTRA TIME OR TAKING OF PENALTIES TO DECIDE A 'WINNER'
- (7) PLEASE NOTE: Shared Runners Up does not automatically guarantee promotion for both/all teams on equal points