



# HUDDERSFIELD LAUND HILL AFC

## FOOTBALL SECTION PRINCIPLES AND RULES OF OPERATION

The ethos of the junior football section is that all players should enjoy playing the sport and are allowed to develop their skills and knowledge of the game in a safe and welcoming environment.

For Junior Football (as in line with FA SCORY rules) no child under the age of 6 shall play or be permitted or encouraged to play, in any match of any kind. Children under 6 should only be involved in development type training sessions.

Under 7 to under 11 (inclusive) age groups are not permitted to play in leagues where results are collected or published. Football for these age groups should be played in a format where development is the priority. The outcome of matches should not override the development and enjoyment of the children involved.

### Memberships

Total membership for the 2024/25 season is £195.

This is derived as follows

- £105 to the central account.
- £50 to football section
- £40 use of 3g pitch (40 sessions per team)

Payment of membership can be paid in a single payment or spread over 2 payments. The first payment is to be made by the 1st September 2024 and the second by the 11th October 2024. All team players are to be registered and signed on by 11th October 2024.

If paying in 2 installments, the first payment for the 2024/25 season is £105 and the second payment is £90.

**Until the first payment is paid, a player cannot play for the club. Player registration will be canceled if the 2nd payment is not made.**

All funds are to be paid directly into the Football Section bank account via the online payment form.

Players who sign on for a team mid-season, after the 1st September, but before 1st February will be asked to pay the full membership. Players who sign on after the 1<sup>st</sup> February will be charged £105.

Players must be signed on (or become a member of the club if just training with a team) to be covered for insurance. Membership for training only with a team is £105.

If a player leaves the club after joining and paying for their membership, there is no refund of the membership to the player.

## Senior Player Membership / Contributions

Each senior team will be invoiced from the Club Central for 15 memberships irrespective of the number of players signed on. It is at the discretion of individual team managers how player tracksuits and polos are funded.

## Membership revenue to the Football section

This is currently £50 to football and £40 for use of 3g pitch.

This revenue is paid directly to the central football fund and covers the following items:

- Kits for the Under 7's and Under 8's
- League and County Registration fees for each team
- Tournament and Cup Fees for each team
- Presentation medals for each player up to Under 11's
- 3 trophies per team for end of year presentation
- Football equipment for each team (balls, bibs, cones etc)
- Mandatory FA Football qualifications for coaches
- DBS checks for all coaches and committee members
- Safeguarding and First Aid courses for each coach
- Paid LH Club membership for one coach for each team
- Paid LH membership for each committee member
- Christmas Party for minis up to Under 10's
- Goal posts for junior and senior football
- Hire of additional pitches for matches / training
- Matchday subs
- Referee payments
- Fees for use of 3g pitch. (40 sessions / 40 weeks)
- Free membership for parents of junior players.

## Kits and Equipment

A new kit will be bought out of the Football Section Central budget for the Under 7's and Under 8's every 3 years (new socks will be bought every year for the kit). These

kits will stay with the under 7's and 8's and will not pass up to the next section as the players move up a year.

From Under 9's and above each team will be responsible for buying their own kit out of their own funds and the kit will remain with the team as they move up.

Equipment (i.e. balls, (one per child) bibs and cones) will be provided by the Football Section Central fund, as long as expenditure is reasonable. Although not capped each team will be responsible for the equipment once purchased and will top up only as required each year.

All kits and equipment are to be approved and purchased through the person responsible for buying kit/equipment and nominated by the Football Section Committee. All orders for kit/equipment must be ordered with a purchase order number obtained prior to placing the order from the nominated person. If there is no PO number then the invoice will not be paid by the section.

## Mini Soccer/Under 6's

Under 6's/Mini's – This age group will not pay for memberships until they move into the Under 7's, and therefore will raise funds themselves to pay any costs that they incur.

However, it has been agreed that an end of season gift up to the value of £3 per player will be purchased for the presentation night at the end of the year as the players move from Mini's up to Under 7's. This will be paid out of the Football Section Central fund.

There will be no charge for mini soccer in terms of memberships. The main reason for this is to allow the management team for this section to go directly to the parents and raise funds for the players to generate their own funds to support the children.

The general principle of this proposal is to encourage the children into football without the up-front commitment of paying membership fees to the Central Club, until they start playing for the Under 7's and above.

This allows the management team to build up a fund directly with the parents at their discretion.

## Individual Team Accounts and Match Day Subs

Match day Subs are included in the membership fee and currently cover a total of 20 games. This is to be reviewed yearly at the AGM.

Fundraising (via raffles etc), donations and sponsorships raised by an individual age group team will be posted to the accounts of the respective age group team as revenue for that team. Details should be identified on a revenue and expenses sheet (sent by email to the treasurer)

## Unidentified bankings

Any deposits paid into the football section bank account that cannot be identified will be posted to the Football Section Central fund.

Note references on all bankings must state the team name and the reason for the banking (eg – Under 15's – Subs or Under 11's – Sponsorship by Mr. A N Other).

## Paying Referees

The football section covers the payment of referees; however it is the responsibility of the team representative to provide payment to the referee at the end of the fixture. The team representative (manager/coach) will then fill in the relevant claim form and submit it to the club for payment. Reimbursing of referee payments will take place the Monday after the form is submitted

## Tournament Fees

League fees will be funded by the Football Section Central fund.

Tournament/Cup fees (up to a maximum of two tournaments per team per year) will be paid for by the Football Section Central fund. The maximum paid for each team will be capped at £50 per year.

## End of Year Presentation

### Junior Section

At the end of the year presentation medals will be funded by Football Section Central fund as follows:

- Mini soccer: presentation medals will be provided for each player.
- Under 7's and above: 3 trophies will be provided (capped at £75 per team) for Players' Player of the year, Manager's Player and either Clubman or Most Improved Player.

### Senior Section

The Senior Age group will be responsible for funding their own end of year trophies and presentation event.

## Christmas Party

The committee has agreed to pay a sum of up to £500 for an annual Christmas Party for the Mini Soccer/U6's up to Under 10's. The party must be held at the Club House. If each team holds its own party at the club house the sum will be allocated equally to each party. If a team holds an event off site, it will be the responsibility of the team to raise its own funds for the event.

## FA Courses and DBS

FA Safeguarding and First Aid courses as well as courses for mandatory FA coaching courses will be funded by the Football Section Central fund for 1 coach per team.

Other coaches can be submitted and paid for by the Football Section Central fund at the discretion of the Football Section Committee (approved at a committee meeting).

Any coach who leaves within 3 years of having their FA course fees paid for by the club will be required to refund the club for the whole fee(s) paid by the club.

DBS checks will be paid for by the Football Section Central fund up to 2 coaches/members per team

Any referees that are nominated to officiate on behalf of teams will also need to be DBS checked and this will be funded by the Football Section Central fund

## Playing for teams within age group

If an age group has two or more teams (also applies to seniors across the first team and reserves), then a player can play across all teams that he or she is eligible for as per leagues rules.

If a player, who has been reasonably asked, refuses to support the team within the age group by choosing to solely play for one team, then the management team can refuse to select the player for any of the teams.

The principle of this rule is that players should be encouraged to support all teams that they are available for in order to ensure that the club maintains teams and cliques are not created within the club structure.

## Progression of Players from Junior to Senior teams

The philosophy of the club is to develop home grown talent (both players and coaches), and therefore the principle is for our players to progress through the age groups with the aim of providing all players with the opportunity to continue in football after playing through the junior ranks, therefore the club will aim to provide options at

the senior level for those that want to strive for elite level football and those who want to still play competitive games, but enjoy the social part of football.

With this principle in mind, the first team manager of the seniors (after consultation with the junior manager), will determine when a player is ready to progress from the junior structure up to the senior team level. The principle is that we aim to promote players up to senior level football and give opportunities for new players within the junior teams. In all circumstances the player's welfare needs to be considered, but for the avoidance of doubt in terms of seniority the senior team takes priority over the academy.

## Club, Team and Player fines (Seniors and Juniors)

All fines received by the Huddersfield LH AFC football section from County, Leagues or other affiliated bodies will be paid within the rules of the respective organization that has issued the fine. Appeals for any fines must be agreed with the football section Chairman and section secretary.

All fines received by players representing Huddersfield LH AFC will be paid by Huddersfield LH AFC but all players who have received a fine must reimburse Huddersfield LH AFC within 4 weeks of the offense being committed. It is the duty of the Manager or coach of each team to collect outstanding fines from a player. An up to date list of fines will be sent by the section secretary to all appropriate Managers/coaches.

**Any player who does not reimburse monies owed within the specified time will not be allowed to participate in any Huddersfield LH AFC league or cup match until all outstanding monies have been paid.**

Any fine received by individual teams will be reimbursed to the central account from that team's club balance. **(i.e. fines for incorrect submission of league results.)**

## Process for registering issues

In the event of an issue needing to be raised there are two avenues:

1. The matter can be raised via the Managers Meeting. Once raised if the point can't be resolved at the meeting it can then be added to the agenda for the Committee meeting (Note – any coach / manager can attend a committee meeting to present a matter that they wish to raise)
2. The matter can be raised to the Football Committee directly through the section secretary, who will add the matter to the agenda for the next meeting. (Note – any coach / manager can attend a committee meeting to present a matter that they wish to raise).

Please note that this method of raising issues is the preferred approach rather than sending out an email and copying in everyone, as it allows for a full discussion on

the issue and thereby appreciation of the facts and hopefully a satisfactory (and minuted) conclusion.

## Disciplinary procedure

Huddersfield LH Juniors have disciplinary procedures for all volunteers. If any person (junior footballer, parent, coach, etc) has any concerns regarding the conduct of others involved with the club they should bring it to the attention of the committee via the secretary or child welfare officer.