

must be completed on the National League System Temporary Transfer Form and for transfers between Clubs in different Competitions the transfer must be completed on FA Form H3.

The Competition shall not approve more than TWO short term loan transfers to or from any club including FA Premier League or Football League clubs at any one time.

A Club can have up to a MAXIMUM of 8 players on short term loan during the season. The minimum period of a short term loan transfer must be 28 days with a maximum of 93 days in any one season.

Short term loan transfers which become permanent before their expiry date shall not count against a Club's quota of days or players.

A player whose contract registration is cancelled by mutual consent and immediately re-registered by the same or a different Club on a non-contract basis shall not subsequently be registered as a contract player for the same Club within three months of the date of the cancellation except with the consent of the Board.

On completing the National League System Temporary Transfer Form or FA form H3, a Club must send the top copy to The FA, one copy to the Company and the third copy to the secretary of the league with which the player is registered.

To extend the period of any short term loan transfer a further National League System Temporary Transfer Form or FA form H3 must be completed, with copies sent as provided above.

The player being taken on short or long term loan must sign a Competition contract registration form, which will be valid for the full period of the loan, including any extension to the loan period. The standard Competition cancellation form must be used to prematurely end the temporary transfer period.

The short term transfer of a player to a Club must be completed and registered with the Company at least 24 hours before the scheduled time of the kick-off of the first match in which the player is required to play.

If the short term loan transfer is extended, only the Club for whom the player was originally registered will be allowed to cancel the agreement at any time within the extension period. In the case of a goalkeeper, Clubs may mutually agree, if they so wish, to include a recall clause in the agreement to enable the Club for whom the player was originally registered to recall the player at any time during the loan period. Players, other than goalkeepers, may NOT be recalled within the first month (i.e. 28 days) of any loan period.

Any short term loan transfer which may terminate after the last day for registrations (Rule 6.5) may be extended for a further period.

The short term loan transfer of a player must be continuous. If the same player is taken on loan at a later date, this second loan period will count against the permitted number of short term loan transfers.

A player cannot play for a Club on a short term loan for more than 93 days in any one Season.

- 6.4.5** Long Term Loan Transfers - The Board may approve loans between clubs in membership of the leagues referred to in Rule 6.4.4 in respect of players aged 24 and under on or before 30th June prior to the commencement of the playing season and provided the loan is registered by 24 hours before the Club's first fixture of the Competition Playing Season or on or before the 31st December and providing that such agreement is dated to expire at the end of the season relative to the Club taking him on loan.

A player on long term loan may not be recalled except for a goalkeeper or where the player is to be transferred permanently by the Club holding his registered contract. A player other than a goalkeeper so recalled cannot be permitted to play for the Club holding his registration after such recall until the end of the Season. Players so recalled can only be replaced by a further long term loan with permission from the Company. Long term loans transfers will not count against the number of short term loans in Rule 6.4.4.

The maximum number of Short Term Loans will be 8 per Season and Long Term Loans will be 2 per Season.

Whilst a Club may register any number of Work Experience players only 2 may play in any one match in accordance with FA Rules. A Club may name up to a maximum of 5 players on a team sheet who are either Long Term Loans, Short Term Loans or Work Experience players with no more than 2 from any one Category.

The Company may, at its discretion, refuse any further registration of players to any Club which has not completed payment of a transfer arrangement made with another Club or arranged for the payment to be adequately secured. The Club concerned will continue to pay the player in accordance with his contract.

#### CLOSING DATE FOR REGISTRATIONS

After 5pm on 31 March each season, registrations and transfer of registrations will be declined or will be approved subject to such limitations and restrictions as the Board may determine and, if so determined, the player shall only be eligible to play in the matches for which permission is granted by the Board.

#### **6.6 CLUB LIST OF PLAYERS AND TRANSFER LIST**

- 6.6.1** Clubs shall furnish the Competition Secretary by 1st June with the following details: A list of contract players whose agreements do not terminate at the end of the current season; a list of contract players in respect of whom the Club has exercised its option in accordance with Football Association Rule C1.J;

- 6.6.3** a list of contract players in respect of whom the existing agreements do not include an option to renew but which the Club is desirous of offering further engagements, in accordance with Football Association Rule C1.J;

- 6.6.4** a list of contract players in respect of whom the Club has exercised its option in accordance with Football Association Rule C1, J but whose registration the Club is prepared to transfer;

- 6.6.5** A list of contract players the Club has released;

- 6.6.6** A list of all players whose registration the Club wishes to be cancelled; Clubs shall also complete the standard Competition forms and return these by this date. A Club relegated from the Football League Limited shall advise the Competition Secretary by 30th June the names of players retained by that Club for the season, taking into consideration the contents of Football League Rule 53.

#### **6.7 SUBSTITUTE PLAYERS**

A Club at its discretion may use three substitute players at any time in a match. Substitution can only be made when play is stopped for any reason and the Referee has given permission. When a Club is making a substitution it shall use a Board to show the number of the player to be substituted and the number of the substitute player.

A maximum of 5 SUBSTITUTES may be nominated and they must be included on the official team sheet handed to the Referee before the match in accordance with Rule 8.11.1. A substitute may not be used to replace a player who has been suspended from the match by the Match Officials.

If a player does not take part in the match for which he is a nominated substitute he shall be deemed as not having played for the Club in that match.

If a named substitute is not a registered player with the Club for the Competition and does NOT take part in the match, the offending Club may be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff.

#### **6.8 PLAYING AN INELIGIBLE PLAYER**

Any Club found to have played an ineligible player in a match shall have any points gained from that match deducted from its record and have levied upon it a fine in accordance with the Fines Tariff. The Company may vary this decision in respect of the points gained only in circumstances where the ineligibility is due to the failure to obtain an International Transfer Certificate or in the case of where a substitute player who is ineligible participates in a match or is listed on the official team sheet but does not participate in that match. The Board may also order that such match be replayed on such terms as are decided by the Board which may also levy penalty points against the Club in default.

#### **6.9 FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS**

- 6.9.1** Subject to clauses 6.9.2 to 6.9.7, and to the Rules and Regulations of The FA, a Club may negotiate a financial arrangement with its players.

- 6.9.2** All players under a written contract must be registered with the Competition and The FA.

- 6.9.3** All payments and benefits due to the player must be shown in the contract.

- 6.9.4** All payments made to players must be made by the Club and fully recorded in the accounting records of the Club.

- 6.9.5** All salaried payments (whether to contract or non-contract players) must be subject to PAYE and National Insurance.

- 6.9.6** All salary payments due on written contracts must be stated gross, before PAYE and National Insurance deductions.

- 6.9.7** Any players paid expenses should be reimbursed via an expense claim form. The club should retain all expense records in a format acceptable to the Inland Revenue.

#### **6.10 NON UNITED KINGDOM PLAYERS**

This Rule is not applicable to this Competition.

#### **7. CLUB COLOURS**

- 7.1** On or before a date specified by the Company each year, every Club shall notify the Competition Secretary, in writing, of details of their first choice colours (shirts, shorts and socks) and such details shall be printed in the Handbook published by the Company for the ensuing Playing Season. The colours registered by each Club shall be worn during the following season when playing at home. Shirts must be numbered 1 - 16 (or 17 where 13 is excluded) such that the numbers can be clearly identified by officials and spectators. Striped, hooped or otherwise patterned shirts shall have numbers affixed to contrasting patches or numbers in a contrasting colour with bold outline. No changes to the first choice colours or combination of colours shall be permitted without the consent of the Board

- 7.2** When the registered colours of shirts shorts or socks of two competing Clubs are alike or similar the visiting Club shall change the relevant item to a colour which does not clash with the corresponding item of the home Club. Neck and cuff trim colours on shirts shall not be regarded as a basic colour for the purpose of this Rule.