

Ivan Marshall Mid Ulster Shield

Competition Rules

- 1 The shield shall be called the Ivan Marshall Shield Mid Ulster Shield”
- 2 The competition shall be annual and open to all registered Junior clubs of the association subject to the approval of the council.
- 3 Application for permission to compete in this competition shall be made not later than 1st.September, accompanied by an entrance fee decided annually by the council. This decision shall affect the club for one season only. Only one team from each club shall be permitted to compete.
- 4 To be eligible to play in the competition players must be eligible to play for their club in their respective league competitions. A player registering with his club after 31st, March, in a season will not be eligible to play in this Competition.
No player shall be eligible to play in this competition for more than one club in the same season.

Clubs must satisfy themselves as to the eligibility of their players.

Any club playing an ineligible player shall be removed from the competition and may be debarred from the competition for three seasons.

The committee shall have the power to suspend any offending player or official and may impose a fine not exceeding £50 for each ineligible player and may withhold Shield and mementos if they are satisfied that such club has violated the rules during the course of the competition.

The secretary or other responsible official of each competing club shall enter the full names of players on the referee’s card and must certify the accuracy of the information supplied. Any club not completing the referee’s card in the prescribed manner shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £20.00. It shall be at the Council’s discretion whether or not such club should be allowed to remain in the competition. The referee’s card may be inspected by the secretary or other responsible official of either of the competing teams at the conclusion of the match or on application to the secretary of the Association.

- 5 A club at its discretion may use three substitute players at any time in any tie, except to replace a player who has been expelled by the referee.

The substitution can only be made when the play has stopped for any reason and the referee has given permission. Only three substitutions by each side will be permitted in any tie and a maximum of five substitute players may be nominated prior to the commencement of the tie.

6 (A) A player who has taken part in any match in the Irish Challenge Cup or Intermediate Cup shall not be eligible to play in the Shield competition in the same season.

(B) A player who has taken part in any other National Cup under any National Association shall not be eligible to play in the shield competition in the same season.

7 The following shall also be ineligible to play in the Shield competition.

(A) Any player who has played in a senior International or Senior Inter-League Match.

(B) Any Player who in the current or previous season has played in the final tie of any Senior Competition.

(C) Any player who has at any time taken part in more than 12 competitive matches for an IFA Premiership club during the previous season.

(D) Any player who has taken part in more than four competitive matches for Irish Senior or Intermediate clubs collectively during the current season.

(E) A professional player shall not be allowed to take part in the Shield competition.

(F) A player as substitute for any Irish Senior or Intermediate club and not called upon to play shall not be considered as having played.

(G) For the purposes of this rule Intermediate clubs are those playing in any Intermediate Leagues or Intermediate Cup competitions or competing in the IFA Championship 1st, & 2nd, divisions.

(H) Players who take part in the final tie of the Mid Ulster F.A.Cup by virtue of rule 17 of that competition shall nevertheless be eligible to take part in the Shield competition unless otherwise ineligible.

8 Each club must forward to the secretary of the Association on or before 1st, September, each year, the name and addresses of its Secretary, its telephone number and its colours. In the event of a change of Secretary or telephone number, the same must be notified to the secretary of the Association.

9 The teams which are in each instance first drawn in the ballot and known as the "Home" team shall play on the ground registered with the Association. If the registered ground is available it will not be necessary for the visiting team, or the secretary of the Association to receive any further notification, but if the match is being transferred to another ground it will be the responsibility of the team drawn

at home to notify both their opponents and the secretary of the Association by **Special Delivery Letter**. Not later than the Friday of the week previous to the date of the match, failing which the team shall be dismissed from the competition.

Suitable changing accommodation with showers should be provided by the home club.

(A) In the event of the match not taking place on the date arranged owing to the ground being declared unplayable by the Referee or in the case of Public Grounds by Local Authorities. The Team shall forthwith arrange to play on the following Saturday.

(B) In the event of the match not taking place on the second Saturday due to circumstances as in 9A the clubs will arrange to play the following Saturday on the grounds of the "Away Team" and if not played on this day due to weather conditions arrangements must be made to play at the same location on the following Saturday.

(C) In the event of the match not taking place on the second attempt at the grounds of the original "Away" team the tie will revert from the following Saturday to alternate weeks at the home and away grounds.

10 In the event of a drawn match extra time shall be played and should the score be equal at the end of extra time. The match shall be decided by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the conditions approved by the International PA. Board.

11 Protests and appeals must be received by the secretary of the Association per **Special Delivery Letter** bearing post mark within two days (Sunday not included) after the cause of the protest or appeal accompanied by a deposit of £50.00.

A copy of the protest or appeal must be sent by **Special Delivery Letter** to the club protested against, bearing the post mark within two days (Sunday not included) after the cause of the protest or appeal.

Any objection to the ground or goal-posts or ball must be lodged in writing by the captain for the day with the referee. The referee shall have the power to have such objections made right before the game starts. Protests against ineligible players must give names of players protested against and also cause of protests.

12 The competing clubs in all but the semi-final and final ties shall appoint the Assistant Referees, unless otherwise arranged by the Council, but in all the matches the council shall appoint the referee, who has the power to dispense with the services of the Assistant Referees in case he finds one or other giving decisions at variance with the facts and appoint substitutes.

If the referee fails to appear, the clubs must agree to one, or toss for one, and the match under such circumstances shall be considered a Shield tie.

- 13 Any club intending to scratch must give notice to the Secretary of the Association and to the secretary of the opposing club, such notice to be received at least four days before the date of the match. Any club failing to conform to this rule shall be dealt with by the Council who have the power to compel the offending club to pay such expenses or may take such action as they may deem expedient.
- 14 The venue for the Semi Final and Final ties shall be decided by the Council.
- 15 In all matches other than the Semi-Finals and Final, the club on whose ground the match is played shall take all receipts and pay all expenses.
- 16 In each Semi-Final and Final the competing clubs and the Council shall equally share receipts after deduction of match expenses. Mementos for the winners of the Final may be awarded.
- 17 When the winning club shall have been declared the secretary of the Association shall hand the Shield to its representative on receiving a document to the following effect and subscribed by three persons, whose names shall be previously submitted to and approved by the Council of the Association. "We A.B. Chairman of the YX club and C.D. and E.F. club members of and representing the said club, which has now been declared to have won the Mid Ulster Association Shield, and the said Shield having been to by J.K., Secretary of the said Association do hereby on behalf of the said club, and individually and collectively engage to return the same to J.K. Secretary or Secretary of the Association for the time being on or before the 1st, day of February next, in good order and condition and providing the said Shield is destroyed by fire or lost by any other accident whilst in our possession, we agree to refund the amount of current valuation as stated by the Association.
- 18 In the event of two teams having the same registered colours, the home team to change.
- 19 The secretary shall inform each club in the competition of the name of their opponents and their colours.
- 20 Any club failing to play the club against which it has been drawn within the time intimated and without sufficient reason for doing so, shall be adjudged to have lost the match and should either refuse to compete, such clubs shall be dismissed from the competition. The Council shall have the power to deal with the offending club or clubs, player(s), Officials(s) as they may think fit and to deal with any matter not provided for in these rules.
- 21 In Semi-Final and Final ties, the Assistant Referees shall be appointed by the Council.
- 22 If the Council are satisfied that the supporters of the club which has the choice of ground have systematically interfered with the play of visiting clubs by verbal and/or physical intimidation, the Council shall have the power to order the match to be played on another ground, neutral if possible.

23 Referees' fees' shall be fixed annually by the Council.

24. In a Semi-Final or Final tie, or any other tie played on a neutral ground, where opposing team have similar colours, both teams shall change unless they are agreed that only one need do so.