

**CHILTERN YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE
OPERATION RE-START
SEASON 2020 - 21**



OPERATION RE-START

Background

- Government announced grass-roots sport to recommence from 29th March 2021
- The FA have granted extension to playing season through to end of June 2021
- All teams surveyed to canvas opinions around re-starting playing football
- Important to facilitate children playing sports for physical and mental well being
- Season to re-start on Sunday 11th April to avoid Easter weekend and issues with venues and facilities not being available until after Easter
- CYFL Committee have explored different options to provide suitable conclusion to the 2020-21 season after different lock-downs



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Considerations

- Council pitch availability - variety of extension dates provided by different Councils utilised by the League
- Majority of teams - 95% wish to continue playing; wishes respected for those who do not wish to re-start with teams removed from constitution for remainder of the season
- Referee availability reviewed; referees will be appointed to fixtures as per normal process
- Bedfordshire Sunday Youth County Cup Competitions
 - Under 18 - still pending decision regarding conclusion
 - Under 16 - curtailed with immediate effect
 - Under 14 - to be played to conclusion
- Player Registrations
 - Player registrations for Season 2020-21 extended until 30th April
 - Player transfers NOT extended - transfer window closed 1st March



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Solution

- Where possible existing Age Group and Division to be played to conclusion (as per normal process)
- Committee have reviewed each division to assess number of games to be played by each team
- Fixtures to be scheduled on Sundays through to the end of June (including MayDay Bank Holiday and WhitSun Bank Holiday weekends)
- Where midweek fixtures are necessary, they will be scheduled to be played (predominantly on a Thursday); clubs are allowed to change to alternative midweek date in that week (by mutual agreement and venue availability)
- Divisions where it is not possible to conclude the playing season - alternative format to be used (details on next slide)
- Under 11 age group to continue with non-competitive development games



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Solution

Divisions to be completed as per current constitution:-

- Under 18 - Division 1
- Under 17 - Division 1
- Under 16 - Division 2
- Under 15 - Division 1
- Under 15 - Division 2
- Under 15 - Division 3
- Under 13 - Division 1
- Under 13 - Division 2
- Under 13 - Division 3
- Under 13 - Division 4
- Under 12 - Division 1
- Under 12 - Division 2
- Under 12 - Division 4

- Under 11 - Development Groups



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Solution - Divisions to be declared VOID with proposed alternative

- Under 16 - Division 1 - declared void due to number of games to be played. Teams to be divided into 2 further groups (5 teams in A, 6 teams in B) & to play each other x 2. Trophies to be awarded to those teams finishing 1st & 2nd in Group A only
- Under 14 - Division 1- currently teams scheduled to play each other x 3 in constitution. Proposal is for teams to play each other x 2 to complete division
- Under 14 - Division 2 - currently teams scheduled to play each other x 3 in constitution. Proposal is for teams to play each other x 2 to complete division
- Under 14 - Division 3 - currently teams scheduled to play each other x 3 in constitution. Proposal is for teams to play each other x 2 to complete division
- Under 13 - Division 1 - currently teams scheduled to play each other x 3 in constitution. Proposal is for teams to play each other x 2 to complete division
- Under 12 - Division 3 - due to teams withdrawing, number of teams left does not facilitate finishing season. Teams to participate in subsidiary competition



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Rules

No Change to current rules, apart from following:-

- Non-fulfilled fixtures will NOT be re-scheduled. Depending on circumstances, points will either be awarded or games declared void

Normal process for confirming games with opposition and referees to apply

Normal administration (completion of online match result forms via Full-time) to apply

Additional Information

Presently no guidance has been supplied from The FA regarding spectators at grass roots football. Latest information suggests that guidance will be circulated after 22nd March.

Any guidance issued, regarding attendance of spectators at games, social distancing, risk assessments etc. will need to be adhered to

