

## **SPECIAL REGULATIONS TO APPLY FOR THE ENTRY OF CLUBS AFFILIATED TO OFF-SHORE ASSOCIATIONS IN THE FA CHALLENGE VASE COMPETITION**

***References to Rules in these Special Regulations shall be to the Rules of The FA Challenge Vase Competition in force for the relevant season.***

### **Match Arrangements and Expenses**

1. Throughout the Competition, any Club affiliated to the Jersey Football Association, the Guernsey Football Association or the Isle of Man Football Association (each an "Off-Shore Association") will be considered, for the purpose of calculating match expenses under the Rules, to be based at London Gatwick Airport or the nearest or most convenient Airport or Seaport to their opponents.
2. If the Club affiliated to an Off-Shore Association (the "Off-Shore Club") is drawn at home, the Off-Shore Club must submit an itinerary of arrangements to their opponents and The Association. The visiting Club shall be permitted an overnight stay prior to the match, unless it is reasonably possible for the visiting Club to fly in and out of Jersey, Guernsey or the Isle of Man (as appropriate) on the same day. In the event that an overnight stay is requested by the visiting Club but is not agreed by the Off-Shore Club on the basis that it is possible for the visiting Club to fly in and out on the same day, any dispute shall be referred to the National League Pyramids Board to determine at its absolute discretion, taking into account the cost of the arrangement and the convenience of the proposed route and schedule.
3. The Off-Shore Club will be responsible for the arrangements and payment of the return air fares and (if required) the hotel accommodation for the night prior to the match for the visiting Club (not exceeding 25 persons). Any other travelling expenses incurred by the visiting Club whilst on the mainland will be charged against the gate receipts in accordance with Rule 23.
4. The Off-Shore Club will be responsible for welcoming the visiting Club and Match Officials at the Airport or Seaport in Jersey, Guernsey or the Isle of Man (as appropriate) and, if required, for providing return transport between the Airport, Seaport or hotel and the ground. Such costs shall be charged against the gate receipts in accordance with Rule 23.
5. If the Off-Shore Club is drawn at home, the net gate receipts shall be divided equally between both Clubs, after the deduction of allowable match expenses. 75% of the expenses that the Off-Shore Club is responsible for, as set out under the provisions in Special Regulation 3 above, may be deducted as allowable match expenses. However, where the gate receipts are not sufficient to cover the expenses of the match, the deficit shall be the responsibility of the Off-Shore Club.
6. If the Off-Shore Club is drawn away, they will be responsible for their own travel to London Gatwick Airport or the nearest or most convenient Airport or Seaport to their opponents. If the Off-Shore Club chooses to stay overnight, it shall be responsible for the arrangements and payment of and for any hotel accommodation. Any other travelling expenses incurred by the Off-Shore Club whilst travelling on the mainland between the Airport or Seaport and their opponent's ground shall be charged against the gate receipts in accordance with Rule 23.

### **Match Officials**

7. Match Officials will be appointed by The Association in the usual manner. Where a Match Official has to fly to Jersey, Guernsey or the Isle of Man (as appropriate) from the mainland, the Off-Shore Club will be responsible for the payment of the return air fares. The Match Official shall be permitted an overnight stay prior to the match, unless it is reasonably possible for the Match Official to fly in and out of Jersey, Guernsey or the Isle of Man (as appropriate) on the same day. If the Match Official does require an overnight stay, the Off-Shore Club will be responsible for any hotel accommodation. Any travelling expenses incurred by the Match Officials whilst on the mainland will be charged against the gate receipts in accordance with Rule 19(d).

### **Match Scheduling**

#### ***First Matches***

8. The default date and time for playing a match in the Competition which involves an Off-Shore Club is Saturday with a 1.00pm kick off.
9. If the Home Club has a ground sharing agreement and the match cannot be played on the ground of the Off-Shore Club due to a ground sharing agreement, the default date and time for playing that match shall be the Sunday with a 1.00pm kick off (subject to the visiting Club being able to fly back to the mainland, Jersey, Guernsey or the Isle of Man (as appropriate) on the same date of the match). The Clubs do not need to obtain the consent of The Association to play the match on the Sunday.
10. The Clubs may mutually agree for matches to kick-off later than 1.00pm. However, if a later kick-off is mutually agreed, the visiting Club shall be responsible for the cost of any overnight stay on the night of the match, unless mutually agreed otherwise.

### ***Postponements***

11. Subject to Special Regulations 12 and 13, if the Off-Shore Club is drawn at home and the first match is postponed:
  - a. the postponed match shall be played on the mainland on a ground provided for by the Off-Shore Club which: (i) conforms to the minimum requirements (as set out in Rule 13(b)(i)) and (ii) has been approved by The Association prior to the default date of the first match; and
  - b. the default date and time for playing the postponed match shall be as set out in Rule 11(a)(iv), but the Clubs can agree to play the match on any day during the Postponement Window (as defined in Rule 11(a)(ii)b).
12. Any ground provided by the Off-Shore Club for a postponed tie must be on the mainland and within a 30 mile radius of London Gatwick Airport or the nearest or most convenient Airport or Seaport of their opponents. The Off-Shore Club shall be responsible for any hiring costs incurred for an alternative ground on the mainland, as it will still be considered the home Club in the tie. The net gate receipts shall be divided equally between both Clubs, after the deduction of allowable match expenses. This shall exclude expenses that the Off-Shore Club is responsible for, as set out under the provisions of Special Regulations 3, 5, 6 and 7 above.
13. If the Off-Shore Club is unable to provide a suitable ground on the mainland that has been approved by The Association prior to the default date of the first match, the venue of the postponed match shall be moved by The Association to the ground of the Off-Shore Club's opponent.
14. If the competing Clubs are not able to play the postponed match at a ground provided by the Off-Shore Club (or that of the Off-Shore Club's opponent if Special Regulation 13 applies) on the default or agreed date (as applicable) within the Postponement Window, the competing Clubs can agree to:
  - a. play the match at the ground of the Off-Shore Club's opponent (or that of the Off-Shore Club if Special Regulation 13 applies) on the default or agreed date (as applicable) within the Postponement Window;
  - b. play the match at an alternative venue on the default or agreed date (as applicable) within the Postponement Window (in accordance with Rule 9(a)(i)); or
  - c. play the match at a ground provided by the Off-Shore Club, the ground of the Off-Shore Club, the ground of the Off-Shore Club's opponent or an alternative venue (in accordance with Rule 9(a)(i)) on another date in the Postponement Window (where possible),

provided that in each case the consent of The Association has been obtained.

15. If a **postponed or rescheduled match is further postponed, or if** one or both of the competing Clubs are not able (or willing) to play the match on a date in the Postponement Window, **the**

**National League Pyramids Board shall take such action as it deems appropriate (in its absolute discretion).**

16. If the Off-Shore Club is drawn away and the first match is postponed, Rule 11(a) shall apply.