



NFYL Entry Criteria	Season 2021/22
	JUNIOR DIVISIONS
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Football Youth League strives to provide the highest level of competition outside of the Academy system. It therefore invites entries from clubs, male and female that meet the required entry criteria contained in this document. • League entries must be submitted by the football clubs*and signed by a Senior Manager. • Club satellite hubs will be viewed on an individual basis and entry is at the discretion of the league committee
Affiliation Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £TBC • £TBC • The affiliation fee is payable by 1st July 2021
Playing and Training Kit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All teams (player and staff) must wear training and playing kit of their parent club • Playing kit must be numbered
Staff qualifications and safeguarding requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Football training must be delivered by coaching staff employed by the football club • Clubs should have a senior member of staff with a minimum of the FA UEFA B Licence with the FA Youth Award Module 3 who oversees the Junior programme with the lead coaches of the teams having a minimum qualification of the FA Level 2 Certificate in Coaching Football with the FA Youth Award Module 2 and assistant coaches having the FA Level 1 Award in Coaching Football with the FA Youth Award Module 1. Goalkeeper coaches should have a minimum of the Level 2 Certificate with the FA Goalkeeping Level 1 and working towards FA Goalkeeping Level 2. • Each club will have a Designated Safeguarding Officer. The NFYL promotes safe recruitment practices in line with Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE 2016) See NFYL Safeguarding Policy for more information. Teams must adopt the club’s safeguarding policies and procedures.
Staff and match day requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There must be at least two members of qualified staff (adults) at every home and away game. Staff must not travel to games alone with teams. • A member of staff must be delegated to welcome the opposition on arrival. Opposition staff should be welcomed with a tea/coffee/cold drink.

<p>Medical requirements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All lead coaching staff to have a current in date minimum qualification of FA Level 1 Introduction to First Aid in Football (IFAiF) -(formally FA Emergency Aid)and the home team should ensure there is one person on site that holds a minimum of the FA Level 2 Emergency First Aid in Football (EFAiF) - (formally FA Basic First Aid for Sport) - clubs are encouraged to use University physiotherapy/sports therapy students seeking placements • Both sides must have fully equipped medical bags on match day. • Each clubs should have access to a defibrillator for their players.
<p>Venue - Facilities - Match Day</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each club should strive to have the best venue to raise standards and aspirations • Changing rooms should be secure, clean, adequate size, well ventilated with working individual showers. • The home and away team should have their own changing room with their own showers and toilet facilities. These should be for sole use of these teams and officials for this time frame. • The match officials should have their own changing room with their own showers and toilet facilities. • There should be male and female toilets on site for spectators
<p>The field of play</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goalposts must meet the requirements of the Laws of the Game. The use of metal cup hooks are not allowed. • Grass playing surfaces should be level, free from surface depressions and be of a good quality and well maintained • Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs) are allowed in this Competition providing they meet the required performance standards and are listed on the FA's Register of Football Turf Pitches. In case of bad weather club's must have access to an AGP if their normal pitch is grass. • Each club shall make arrangements for the provision of designated areas for spectators. This area can be marked by an additional painted line, the use of cones, a roped off area or use of a temporary spectator barrier. The area for spectators should start two metres from the touchline and spectators should not stand near the designated technical areas and be on the opposite side of the technical areas. • There must be a technical area which extends 1 m on either side of the designated seated area and extends forward up to a distance of 1 m from the touch line
<p>Match Officials</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There must be one referee in the middle qualified to at least level 7. Clubs are encouraged to use their football students as assistants where possible to gain officiating experience. The referee will have the final decision. The referee • The referee must be registered with their County FA. • Parents should not be used to help officiate. Clubs should communicate prior to the game to agree on two assistants to run the line. <p>Recommended fee for minimum level 7 referee : £30</p>

Food and Refreshments

Food and Refreshments - the clubs felt it was important to encourage the young players to eat healthily and for that reason clubs wanted to make their own food arrangements to avoid junk food being offered to players. This would also be an additional expense if clubs had to offer food to opposition.

It was felt that parents should be made aware of this in advance and if there was no tea/coffee on site for parents attending as spectators then advice as to nearby restaurants/coffee shops given in the fixture confirmations. If teams know in advance it was felt this would not be an issue.

As a minimum requirement home teams must welcome visiting team staff with a tea and coffee on arrival.