

## 1. Definition

1.1. The Welsh Korfball Championship (WKC) shall be the primary competition for senior korfball in Wales and shall be administered by the Welsh Korfball Association (WKA).

1.2. The WKC shall comprise of a league competition to be concluded with a tournament determining the National Champion of Wales.

1.3. The Welsh Korfball League (WKL) shall serve as a feeder league to the England Korfball (EKA) Western Regional League (WRL).

1.4. The WKL shall provide seeding for the WKC Final.

1.5. The winner of the WKC Final shall be named as the National Champion of Wales and shall qualify to represent Wales at IKF European events; the runner-up shall qualify to represent Wales IKF events if additional spaces are available. If the winner/runner-up declines to take up their place at an IKF event, or is ineligible, the WKA may offer the place to the next eligible team.

1.6. For the purposes of seeding at the WKC Final, the ranking of Welsh teams competing in the EKA competition pyramid shall be taken into account and ranked above the teams in the WKL. The ranking shall be determined by only taking the results between Welsh teams where they exist in the same league.

1.7. The top 4 seeded teams shall compete for the Welsh Cup at the WKC Final. The Welsh Cup shall be composed of two semi-finals followed by a final and a third place playoff. The remaining teams shall compete for the Welsh Trophy using the most appropriate format given the number of entries, normally this would be groups followed by a knockout stage.

## 2. Administration

2.1. Alterations to the Rules specified in the main text of this document shall be made by the WKA Board following consultation with WKA Members.

2.2. Alterations to the Appendices to the Rules shall be made by the WKA Board and notified to the WKA Members at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and at other times as required.

2.3. The WKA shall have the authority to adjudicate on any matters not clearly governed by these rules.

2.4. The WKA shall have the power to impose additional sanctions including loss of points, player suspensions, or fines. This power shall include, but shall not be limited to, instances of repeat infringement of these rules and deliberate intent to circumvent the spirit of these rules.

2.5. All fixtures shall be played according to the Rules of Korfball as laid down by the International Korfball Federation (IKF). As permitted in the Rules of Korfball, competition rules apply as specified in Appendix F.

## 3. Trophies

3.1. The Welsh Cup, Plate, Shield, and any other trophy awarded by the WKA shall remain the property of the WKA unless otherwise stated.

3.2. Clubs are responsible for trophies while in their charge or the charge of their members. The cost of any damage or replacement shall be the responsibility of the club in charge.

3.3. The WKA shall be responsible for engraving the trophies.

#### 4. Competitions Officer

4.1. The Competitions Officer shall control all aspects of the administration of the WKC. The Competitions Officer will chair the Competitions Sub-Committee, making appointments as necessary with the approval of the Board. In particular, the following functions are identified:

4.1.1. The Competitions Sub-Committee shall be responsible for the creation and maintenance of the fixture list and shall ensure that fixtures are played according to the rules of the WKC.

4.1.2. The Competitions Sub-Committee shall ensure referees are provided according to the rules of the WKC.

4.1.3. The Competitions Sub-Committee shall ensure disciplinary procedures are carried out according to the rules of the WKC.

4.1.4. The Competitions Sub-Committee shall ensure results and other details as required are recorded and made public.

4.1.5. In case of any doubt over the rules or their application, the Competitions Sub-Committee shall adjudicate; appeals may be made to the WKA Board.

4.2. The following functions shall be specifically excluded from the Competitions Sub-Committee role:

4.2.1. The Board shall maintain the accounts of the WKC.

#### 5. WKL Structure

5.1. The number of divisions, the number of teams in each division, and the structure of the competition shall be decided by the Competitions Sub-Committee as specified in Appendix C.

5.2. Clubs shall confirm the entry of their team(s) by the date specified in Appendix A.

5.3. There shall be no limit on the number of teams from any one club.

5.4. The WKA Committee shall have the power to refuse entry to the WKL provided clear, fair and reasonable grounds are given.

5.5. The highest team, from any one club, in the WKL, Western Regional League (WRL), or the English Korfball Association (EKA) National League shall be deemed to be their first team.

#### 6. Promotion and Relegation

6.1. The team finishing first in the WKL shall be the Welsh Korfball League Winners.

6.2. Promotion from the WKL shall be into the WRL. Details for promotion to the WRL and relegation from the WRL are specified in Appendix D.

6.3. No team is allowed to refuse participation in playoffs or promotion to the WRL unless the club can present, to the satisfaction of the WKA, a case of substantial financial difficulty or significant loss of players.

## 7. Positions

7.1. Positions will be decided on points awarded in matches as follows:

Match Outcome	Points Available
Winning a match outright	5 points for the winning team
A draw between two teams	3 points to each team
Losing within two goals of the winner	2 points to the losing team (replaces the below)
Losing within half the goals of the winner	1 point to the losing team
Participating in the match	1 point to each team

- 5 points shall be awarded for a win;
- 3 points shall be awarded for a draw;
- 2 points shall be awarded to a losing team that scores 1 or 2 goals less than the winning team;
- 1 point shall be awarded to a losing team that scores more than half the goals scored by the winning team;
- 1 point shall be awarded to each team for participating in a match, even if an illegal team is fielded. A non-offending team will always earn this point, even if the match cannot be played due to the other team.

7.2. A match result shall be forfeit if a team breaches the rules of the WKC:

7.2.1. If a team is unable to field a legal team, the result shall always be recorded as a victory by more than half the number of goals scored by the offending team, or a 10-0 win if the match is not played. If the match is played with an illegal team, the actual result is taken and adjusted to comply with this rule. If the non-offending team wins by more than half the number of goals by the offending team, no adjustment is made. If the non-offending team wins by less than this, draws, or loses the match, then unassigned goals are added to their tally to give the non-offending team more than half the numbers of goals scored by the offending team. The offending team is still awarded a point for participating.

7.2.2. If both sides are unable to field legal teams, the actual result shall be recorded but unassigned goals will be added where necessary to make the final score a draw, but both teams will only be awarded points for participating, not for the result.

7.2.3. Goals scored by ineligible players shall be recorded as unassigned and have no bearing upon the top scoring leader board.

7.3. Where goal difference or goals scored are used to decide places under Clauses 7.4 or 7.5, the goals of any fixture where the result was forfeited and the goals of fixtures equivalent to the forfeited fixture are not counted for the purposes of final ranking.

7.4. League positions shall be decided by using the following criteria until a distinction is reached:

7.4.1. The highest number of points, including bonus points;

7.4.2. The highest number of points, excluding bonus points;

7.4.3. In the case of a tie a new table shall be drawn up consisting only of the games between the teams still level, the order of which shall determine positions in the main table;

7.4.4. If the teams concerned are still tied and in the event that a promotion issue is to be decided, there shall be a playoff between the teams concerned; otherwise, the teams shall be deemed to hold the same position.

7.6. In the event that three or more teams have gained the same number of points, the criteria listed under Clauses 7.4 shall be used until a distinction between some or all of the teams is made. The positions of the teams still tied shall then be decided by returning to Clauses 7.4 and repeating the process.

## 8. Team registration

8.1. Entry to the WKC shall be open to any club that is affiliated to the WKA.

8.2. Applications for entry into the WKC shall normally be made by the date specified in Appendix A.

8.3. Applications for entry shall normally be accepted. The Competitions Sub-Committee must state clearly reasons for any applications that are refused.

8.4. Entry to the WKC shall only be deemed valid once club affiliation and team fees are settled or a payment plan agreed.

8.5. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the Competitions Sub-Committee.

## 9. Player Registration

9.1. All players who play for a club in a fixture in the WKC shall be registered for that club.

9.2. Where a club fields a player not registered to that club, they shall be liable to a penalty as specified in Appendix B.

9.3. To confirm that no ineligible players have been used, clubs shall submit a complete list of players and scorers to the Competitions Officer for each fixture played in the WKC & WRL. Submission must be no later than 48 hours following completion of the fixture. Failure to do so shall result in a penalty as specified in Appendix B.

9.4. By the date specified in Appendix A, clubs shall name a minimum of eight players (four males and four females) for each team participating in the WKL and WRL. These shall be known as named players:

9.4.1. No player shall be a named player for more than one team.

9.4.2. Any player who is a registered member of a club, and who is not a named player for a team above the club's lowest team, shall be automatically named for that club's lowest team.

9.4.3. Players named in a team may play in a fixture for a higher team.

9.5. A team shall be allowed to make up to 10 changes to its named players.



9.5.1. Changes must be completed no later than 48 hours before a fixture start time.

9.5.2. The WKA Board may allow additional changes in exceptional circumstances.

9.6. A player who does not start for their team in any of their team's previous three match weeks shall be moved down and must be replaced if necessary to maintain a minimum of four female and four male players:

9.6.1. It is expected that the player would be replaced by a player who had participated in one of the previous three match weeks, though this is not required if the replacement starts the next match week and is new to the club or returning from injury.

9.7. No changes shall be allowed for a team's last three match weeks of the season, unless as a result of 9.6.

9.8. A player may transfer their registration to another club. This must be done in writing by the club the player is transferring to, no later than 48 hours before the clubs next fixture start time to the competition officer.

9.8.1 When a player leaves a club via transfer they must be replaced if necessary to maintain a minimum of four female and four male players. It is expected that the player would be replaced by a player who had participated in one of the previous three match weeks, though this is not required if the replacement starts the next match week and is new to the club or returning from injury.

9.9 A maximum of 2 players from a higher named team will be allowed to drop down one team beneath them per matchday fixture. An unlimited number of players would be allowed to play in the teams named above them.

9.9.1 If a player starts for a higher or lower team for 3 matches in a row the competitions officer will review the named teams and ask the clubs to make any necessary changes at the officers request.

9.10. Where a club fields an ineligible player, the club shall be liable to a penalty as specified in Appendix B.

9.11. At any point in the season, a club may designate a team as a Development Team. This designation is non-reversible during the season and means that the team will compete "out of competition". As a result, they will be unable to win the league, achieve promotion, or be seeded above regular teams for the WKC Finals. The team will continue to fulfil their fixtures but will be allowed to field any players they wish without restriction, including from higher teams and other Welsh clubs.

9.11.1. Competing as a Development Team means the team will not forfeit any match results, though results involving Development Teams will not be used for the purposes of determining the WKL winner and thusly promotion/relegation.

9.11.2. Where the league features a mid-season split, Development Teams will always be seeded below regular teams.

9.11.3. A club may not start the season with more than one Development Team, though it may be necessary for additional teams to be designated or entered during the course of the season.

## 10. Arrangement of Fixtures

10.1. The Competitions Officer shall set the dates on which the WKL teams are to play their fixtures.

10.2. The Competitions Officer shall relay to all teams the date, time and venue for each fixture.

10.3. Where possible, referee provisions shall be made at least two weeks prior to the fixture and clubs will notify the Competitions Officer of the person they are providing.

10.4. Throw off times:

10.4.1. All throw off times, as set out in fixture lists, must be adhered to.

10.4.2. No match shall begin after its scheduled throw off time due to a prior match running late; a match running late must be ended early to ensure other matches are on time, with a report sent to the Competitions Officer. Warm-up time may be reduced to accommodate delays if the delay was beyond the control of all involved.

10.4.3. Fixtures may be played from the prior Wednesday to the following Wednesday of the specified weekend of the fixture.

10.4.4. Fixtures played on a Saturday shall not start before 1000 hours or after 1700.

Fixtures played on a Sunday shall not start before 1000 hours or after 2030.

Fixtures played Monday-Friday shall not start before 1900 hours or after 2030 and with agreement from the travelling teams, unless they are being played by university sides on a BUCS Wednesday afternoon which shall be permissible with the agreement of both teams involved and provided officials can be found.

10.4.5. Any team not ready to start at the scheduled throw off time may incur a penalty as specified in Appendix B.

10.4.6. Any fixture not starting within five minutes of the scheduled throw off time may be awarded, at the referee's discretion, against the offending team. If both teams are at fault, the Competitions Officer may void the fixture, awarding 0 points and no goals.

10.4.7. Fixtures shall normally be arranged for the Saturday or Sunday of the weekend of the nominal date. Clubs may arrange fixtures for a date three days either side (from the preceding Wednesday to the following Wednesday) of the nominal date with agreement from the other team.

10.4.8. When arranging the time for a fixture, the host team shall take into consideration the travel requirements of the away team. Teams should not be required to start their journey before 9am nor arrive home after 9pm on a weekend, unless agreement is reached between both teams and the WRL Coordinator.

10.5. Clubs shall inform the Competitions Officer of the date, time and venue of each fixture by the date specified in Appendix A.

10.6. The host team is responsible for any hall costs. Where fixtures are played as a multi-game event organised by the WKA, the hall costs are shared by the participating teams.

10.7. Clubs will have an equal number of matches to host, proportionate to the number of teams they have entered. Clubs are entitled to bill for hosting a disproportionate number of games and clubs hosting fewer games will be billed to ensure equity, regardless of actual hosting.

10.8. A coin toss will determine the team starting with the ball and choosing which end to attack.

10.9. The team winning the coin toss will set-up first, clearly allocating their two starting divisions. The other team will then promptly set-up their starting divisions.

## 11. Postponements

11.1. A team with one or more of its named players involved in international events is entitled to have its fixture postponed.

11.2. In the event that a referee fails to attend a fixture, the teams involved should endeavour to find a suitably qualified replacement. Should this not be possible then the fixture will be postponed.

11.3. A fixture may be postponed in circumstances beyond the control of either team. If either team could have circumvented the problem then they shall be at fault. Reasonably anticipated traffic conditions, lack of players, and other fixtures are not justifiable reasons for a postponement. The WKA shall take competitions such as BUCS into account due to the nature of qualification being unknown.

11.4. In the event that a fixture is postponed, notification must be given at least one month prior to the scheduled fixture date or before the beginning of the season. The teams must then agree on a new date, which must be before the end of the league season, which must be approved by the Competitions Officer. The team/s requesting the postponement must ensure that the clubs providing officials are still able to satisfy their commitments but must find alternative officials if they cannot accommodate the change. If additional cost is to be incurred by the host team, then this must be reimbursed by the team/s requesting postponement. The Competitions Officer shall have the power to set the date and venue of any postponed fixture in order that the schedule is completed on time, or declare the fixture forfeit if no suitable agreement is forthcoming.

11.5. Requests to postpone must be approved at least 21 days prior to the scheduled date. Once a request to postpone a match is approved, there is no option to reinstate the match to its original state as a request to postpone will allow the host team to cancel their hall booking and for clubs to cancel the provision of officials.

## 12. Fielding a Team

12.1. A higher team, playing in the WKL or higher competition shall take priority over a lower team. Teams failing to fulfil a fixture, when a lower team plays, shall forfeit the fixture and all fixtures played by lower teams in the same league week and be liable to a penalty as specified in Appendix B.

## 13. Playoffs

13.1. A playoff shall consist of a single match, held according to the rules of the WKL, between the teams concerned.

13.2. In the event that three or more teams are involved in a playoff, there shall be a round robin format with each team playing the other teams once.

13.3. The 'home' team shall be determined by a coin toss on the day of the playoff.

13.4. The Competitions Officer shall designate the venue, date, and time.

#### 14. Standards

14.1. WNL fixtures shall be on a pitch no smaller than 30m x 15m and in the ratio 2:1.

14.2. The host team shall ensure the hall is marked correctly, including all lines and a measured penalty spot and free pass circle.

14.3. When relevant, the travelling team's zone must be marked and post positioned first as a matter of courtesy to the travelling team.

14.4. As required in the IKF Playing Rules, the host team shall provide two benches which shall be placed near one of the side-lines and, if possible, at least 2 m from the field of play. They should be placed one on each side of the middle line and at least two metres apart.

14.5. The host team shall provide and control a scoreboard, and match clock if available.

14.6. The host team shall provide and control a shot clock. The shot clock shall be controlled by a suitable operator.

14.7. The host team should provide equipment to allow the court to be dried in the event it is required.

14.8. At least 90 minutes shall be available for the period of a fixture.

14.9. Both teams involved in a fixture must have access to the same number of posts during the warm-up period.

14.10. The WKA will assign teams to provide officials for matches such as the referee, assistant referee, and shot clock operator. The official provided does not need to come from the team assigned to provide them.

14.11. The WKA will maintain a list of officials.

#### 15. Playing Kit

15.1. Teams shall register their colours with the Competitions Officer. This shall be done prior to the start of the WNL season.

15.2. All players shall wear matching kit, including tops and bottoms, with numbered shirts and each captain shall wear an armband or tape. It is not acceptable for players to play without a shirt.

15.3. In the event of two teams playing in similar strip the travelling team shall wear a change strip, or bibs if one is not available, of sufficiently different colour as judged by the referee. If both teams are travelling teams, then the away team shall change.

15.4. Any team not playing in their registered colours shall inform their opponents and the Competitions Officer at least 7 days prior to the fixture.

15.5 Any teams not wearing matching kit shall be allowed to play with the permission of the referee. Permission should only be refused if the kit is unsuitable or likely to cause confusion for the opposition. Wearing bibs is an appropriate solution in this circumstance.



15.6. Additional requirements for kit clashes should be communicated to the Competitions Officer before the beginning of the season, or at the earliest opportunity, to enable considerations to be taken into account. This includes adjustments required for colour-blindness.

## 16. Referees

16.1. The WKA shall maintain a database of referees. This shall include details of their qualifications.

16.2. Each club participating in the WKL should maintain a referee capability.

16.3. Referees will conform to the WKA Referees Code of Conduct.

16.4. Clubs will be required to provide referees for allocated fixtures. Referees should be provided on the following basis and in this order of preference, unless agreed otherwise for the purpose of referee development:

16.4.1. An appropriately qualified referee who is on the database of referees and from a neutral club;

16.4.2. An appropriately qualified referee who is on the database of referees and from the host club;

16.4.3. An appropriately qualified referee or capable person.

16.4.4. A non-qualified or beginner referee.

16.5. Referees shall be paid equally by the teams involved in a fixture at the rate specified in Appendix A.

16.6. Referees may be entitled to claim travel expenses according to WKA policy.

16.7. Referees should make themselves available fifteen minutes before and five minutes after the fixture.

16.8. In the event that a fixture is not played, any expenses claimed by the referees shall be paid by the offending club or, if no club is at fault, by both clubs equally.

16.9. Referees shall record the result, details of any cards issued, and other relevant details of the fixture.

16.10. Referees shall contact the Competitions Officer immediately on the conclusion of a fixture with the result.

16.11. In all cases where the referee is required to take disciplinary action during or immediately after a fixture, they shall forward a report to the Competitions Officer no later than 48 hours following the completion of the fixture.

16.12. After each fixture, the respective captains may complete a report on the refereeing and can submit such a report to the Competitions Officer, or a Board Member in the event of a conflict of interest.

## 17. Misconduct

17.1. In all cases where the referee either:

- (a) Sends from the playing area a player, coach, substitute or other person attached to the team (red card); or
- (b) Cautions a player, coach, substitute or other person attached to the team (yellow card); or
- (c) Formally warns the captain as to his team's behaviour; or
- (d) Is aware of misconduct by spectators; then,
- (e) In addition to the fixture report under Clause 16.11, the referee shall submit a full report of the incident to the Competitions Officer Coordinator where it shall be dealt with using the WKA Disciplinary Regulations. The referee shall confirm the code specifying the offence using the WKA's Coding of Offences.

17.2. Any incidences of direct dissent towards officials, deliberate dangerous play, or uncontrolled dangerous play may be punishable by an immediate yellow card. Where possible, referees are advised to issue a warning in the first instance though this does not preclude a referee from giving an immediate card without a warning when the situation demands such action.

17.3. With regard to the recording of offences, with sanctions specified in Appendix B:

17.3.1. Red and yellow cards will remain on record for a period of 24 months from date of issue.

17.3.2. A player shall be liable to a penalty for an accumulation of three yellow cards on their record or a direct red card.

17.3.3. A player shall be liable to an increased penalty for additional sanctions within a 24 month period or for a single red card given for more serious forms of misconduct, as noted by the referee report.

17.3.4. A club shall be liable to a sanction for an accumulation of three yellow cards for players representing that club within a 24 month period.

17.3.5. A club shall be liable to a sanction for receiving multiple red cards for players representing that club within a 24 month period.

17.3.6. Players always retain their personal disciplinary record even in the case of transfer to a new club.

17.3.7. Clubs do not inherit the disciplinary records of transferred players. Cards earned whilst representing a club will remain with that club's accumulated record and not count towards that of the new club.

## 18. Protests

18.1. Where a team intends to protest about any condition of a fixture, the captain shall inform the referee at the earliest opportunity and before the referee has left the fixture.

18.2. Where a team has made a protest, the referee shall include the fact in their fixture report as specified under Clause 16.11 and provide additional details as soon as practical.

18.3. Where a team has made a protest, the club shall inform the Competitions Officer in writing within 48 hours of the fixture.

18.4. Where a protest is made against the conditions of the playing venue, the equipment, or the starting time, it shall be brought to the attention of the referee before the fixture or as soon as it becomes apparent. Failure to do so may void the right to protest.

## 19. Appeal Process

19.1. Any appeal against a decision made by the Competitions Officer or the WKA Executive Committee shall be made within seven days of the notification of the original decision.

19.2. Where practical, any such appeal will be heard within fourteen days of the appeal being made.

19.3. An appeal against a decision by the WKA Board shall be heard and decided by an independent panel.

19.4. The decision of the independent panel shall be final.

## 20. WKC Finals

20.1. Seeding for the WKC Finals shall be decided by using league positions:

20.1.1. Welsh teams in the EKA National League will be seeded first;

20.1.2. Welsh teams in the EKA Western Regional League will be seeded next;

20.1.3. All teams in the WKL will then be seeded;

20.1.4. Any other Welsh teams entered from affiliated clubs will be seeded last.

20.2. Based upon the number of entries, the WKA may determine a suitable format for the competition which could include a number of options, such as preliminary rounds, using the seeding to directly determine the semi-final participants, expanding existing tiers or creating additional tiers.

20.3. The WKA may give the highest seeded teams a bye for preliminary rounds, in order to ensure a sensible progression for the tournament. Byes may not be given to allow a team to bypass the semi-finals.

20.3. The WKC Finals must consist of Welsh Cup and Welsh Plate tiers. The top four teams will contest the Welsh Cup and the remaining teams will contest the Welsh Plate.

20.4. The Welsh Cup and Welsh Plate must consist of semi-finals, followed by a third place playoff and a final.

20.5. If both teams are deemed ineligible, the result of the match shall stand – unless it adversely affects the placing of eligible teams in the competition: this decision shall be made by the WKA Board on a case-by-case basis. If two teams in one semi-final are deemed ineligible, then two eligible teams in the other semi-final would progress to the final as the only eligible teams in that round. In such a scenario, if it known beforehand that two teams will be ineligible, then the pairings may be switched to avoid effectively playing the final twice.

## Appendix A. League Definitions

In regard of Clause 5.2, Deadline for team entry Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2021

In regard of Clause 9.4, Deadline for player registration Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2021

In regard of Clause 10.5, Deadline for fixture confirmation Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October

In regard of Clause 16.5, Referee Fees: £10 for each referee, payable to the WKA with referees being reimbursed by the WKA directly.

End of the WKL Season: XXX

The Competitions Officer may be able to use discretion if requested.

## Appendix B. Sanctions

In regard of Clause 9.2, penalty for fielding a non-registered player: warning and reminder to register. Failure to register following a reminder may result in the player being regarded as ineligible.

In regard of Clause 9.3, penalty for failure to submit team sheets and scorers on time: warning and reminder to submit. Failure to submit following a reminder may result in the match being regarded as a forfeit result.

In regard of Clause 9.11, penalty for fielding an ineligible player: match result forfeit.

In regard of Clause 16.12, penalty for failing to submit a post-match report on time: warning and reminder to submit.

In regard of Clause 10.4.5, penalty for a team not ready to start a fixture at the stated time: match may be considered a forfeit result at the discretion of the referee.

In regard of clause 12.1, penalty for failing to fulfil a league fixture when a lower team plays: matches for lower teams may be considered forfeit.

In regard of clause 12.2, penalty for intentionally playing short: a forfeit may be considered if the club had players available at the venue.

In regard of clause 17.3.2, penalty for a player given a red card or accumulating three yellow cards in a 24 month period: an individual fine of £25 shall be payable along with a two match ban to be served at the next two matches of the team/s concerned.

In regard of clause 17.3.3, penalty for a player receiving multiple sanctions in a 24 month period: an extended match ban, determined at the discretion of the Competitions Sub-Committee, of up to an additional three matches to be served at the next matches for the team/s concerned.

In regard of clause 17.3.4, penalty for a club accumulating three unrelated yellow cards in a 24 month period: a fine of £25 shall be payable.

In regard of clause 17.3.5, penalty for a club receiving multiple red cards in a 24 month period: a fine of £25 shall be payable.

## Appendix C. Welsh Korfball League Structure



For the season 2023-24, If the Welsh National League has 9 teams or less it shall consist of 1 division, comprising all teams entered and accepted under item 5, each team will play each other once before being split into two tiers where they will play each team in their tier once.

If the Welsh National League has 10 teams or more they will be split into 2 even divisions. If uneven the higher division will take the extra team, WNL & WNL 2 with WNL 2 being the lower league. All development teams will be placed in the lower division automatically with the remaining teams split based on the previous seasons league placings. The team finishing bottom of the WNL will be relegated to the WNL for the following season and the highest placed team in WNL 2 being promoted. Each team will play each other twice during the season.

#### Appendix D. Western Regional League

The Western Regional League is governed by adopted policy and agreement between the Welsh Korfball Association, South West Korfball Association, and the Oxfordshire Korfball Association.

WRL Referee Fees: £25 for the referee and £10 for the assistant referee.

For the 2021-22 season, promotion to the WRL is as follows:

- The lowest placed team in the WRL shall be relegated;
- The second lowest team in the WRL shall enter the WRL Playoffs;
- The nominated team from each of the WKA, SWKA, and OKA shall enter the playoffs;
- The WKA nominated team shall normally be the Welsh Korfball League Winners;
- If the WKL Winners are not eligible, then the highest eligible team from the WKL shall be the WKA nominated team;
- The teams finishing first and second in the WRL Playoffs shall normally be promoted to the WRL;
- The WRL Rules specify the complete regulations regarding promotion to the WRL.

#### Appendix E. Guidance

The Welsh Korfball Association advocates fair-play and encourages all clubs and players to participate in league competition in a fair manner and within the spirit of sport and korfball. In particular, clubs are encouraged to respect fairness of eligibility.

In regard of team names (Clause 5.5), the names of teams for any club are adjusted at the start of each season to reflect the club's situation at that time. If a club's second team has been relegated and their third team promoted such that the third team would be playing in the higher competition, the names of the teams would be switched such that the second team plays in the higher competition in the following season. Any new team entered into the WNL will be given the next number in the sequence of team naming, e.g. if Team 1 and Team 2 are entered into the League Proper or higher leagues, then the new team shall be Team 3.

Clubs are permitted to use names instead of numbers, provided that the WKA is formally made aware of the numbering of these teams for administrative purposes.

In regard of bonus points awarded to a losing team that scores 1 or 2 goals less than the winning team, specified in clause 7.1, the following examples are provided:

2 bonus points will be awarded to a team that loses 11-13 or 12-13.

1 bonus point will be awarded to a team that loses 10-13.

In regard of bonus points awarded to a losing team that scores more than half the goals scored by the winning team, specified in clause 7.1, the following examples are provided:

1 bonus point will be awarded to a team that loses 7-13 or 8-14.

No bonus points will be awarded to a team that loses 7-14.

In regard of forfeited fixtures being ignored when teams are equal, specified in clause 7.3, the following example is provided:

Team A has 18 points and has scored 100 goals and conceded 50 goals and has a goal difference of 50.

Team B has 18 points and has scored 100 goals and conceded 55 goals and has a goal difference of 45.

Team C forfeited the away fixture to Team A.

Team A was awarded the score of 10-0 in the fixture.

Team B won the equivalent fixture against Team C 10-8.

The goals scored in the matches Team A v Team C and Team B v Team C are removed from the table and new table is formed:

Team A has 18 points and has scored 90 goals and conceded 50 goals and has a goal difference of 40.

Team B has 18 points and has scored 90 goals and conceded 47 goals and has a goal difference of 43.

Therefore, after having accounted for the forfeited fixture, Team B is placed above Team A.

#### Appendix F. Playing Rules

- 1) Teams may have up to eight substitute players on the bench and may use up to a maximum of 8 substitutions per match.
- 2) Substituted players may return to the game.
- 3) The referee shall control the official timing of the match if no timer is available.
- 4) In the case of injury, a period of 1 minute, starting when the medical attendant or other person attending to the injured player reaches the player, is allowed for the assessment and/or treatment of the injured player; this does not form part of the playing time. An injured player leaving the field and being replaced by another player will be treated as a standard substitution.
- 5) An injured player may leave the field of play for up to 3 minutes and then return. During that time the player may be replaced by another player of the same sex. If the injured player returns to the match within three minutes, this is not counted as a second substitution. The player leaving and then returning counts as only one substitution, not two.
- 6) The coach is allowed to leave their place on the bench temporarily, for a short period of time, in order to give instructions to their team's players. This must be done from the same side of the field as the benches whilst remaining outside the field of play.
- 7) In regard of Rule 2.2b of the IKF Playing Rules, referring to the assistant coach, teams are permitted to use an assistant coach in the WKL subject to the same rules above.

- 8) WKL fixtures are of 30 minute halves with a 5 minute half time.
- 9) 2 timeouts per team are allowed. The total time allowed for a timeout is 1 minute, this means that the match should restart within 1 minute of the referee blowing to pause the match. The referee should blow their whistle with fifteen seconds remaining to allow teams to retake their positions on court. The referee cannot restart the match until both teams are ready on court with legal teams, but may warn the captain in the first instance and give the captain a yellow card if their team is late to return to the court a second time or fails to respond to the warning.
- 10) The time taken for making a substitution shall not form part of the playing time. The referee will stop the clock or indicate to the timekeeper to stop the clock.
- 11) The home team is determined by a coin toss before the match.
- 12) The home team shall decide into which korf they will shoot in the first half and both teams shall hand their team sheets to the referee, who will then exchange them with either team. Each team shall arrange their players into attack and defence zones as laid out in their team sheets.
- 13) Changes are only permitted in the case of injury to one of the starting players and will count as a substitution as though that person had started the match and been substituted immediately.
- 14) The home team shall also throw-off at the start of the fixture.
- 15) Time taken to deal with misbehaviour or extenuating circumstances does not form part of the playing time. The referee will stop the clock or indicate to the timekeeper to stop the clock.
- 16) If the match ends in a draw, there is no golden goal or penalties.
- 17) The referee is allowed to add time on if a team attempts to delay the game:
  - a. Throwing the ball far away or holding onto to it excessively when play has stopped;
  - b. Kicking the ball when play has stopped;
  - c. Time wasting when changing zones;
  - d. Time wasting during preparation for a throw-off;
  - e. Time wasting during a substitution, though time taken for substitutions does not form part of the game time anyway but the action is still punishable.
- 18) Passive play as outlined above is punishable by a restart to the non-offending team and can be considered as misbehaviour resulting in a yellow card, though a warning to the team from the referee is recommended.
- 19) It is not permitted for a player to shoot without a personal opponent if the opposition plays short; someone must be designated as a non-shooter.