

# Leicester and District Mutual Football League



## REFEREE GUIDE

SEASON 2025 -2026



## KEY LEAGUE CONTACTS

<b>Referee's Secretary</b>	Daniel Wapples	07508 324844	<a href="mailto:referees@ldmfl.org">referees@ldmfl.org</a>	Main League contact for referees. Organises and appoints referees. Provides advice or guidance for match officials.
<b>League Secretary</b>	Dawn Wapples	07835 102378	<a href="mailto:secretary@ldmfl.org">secretary@ldmfl.org</a>	Oversees the Leagues' business with the FA and is the lead link to the Clubs.
<b>Chair</b>	Martin Hawksworth		<a href="mailto:chair@ldmfl.org">chair@ldmfl.org</a>	League figurehead. Point of contact for escalated enquiries
<b>Welfare Secretary</b>	Dawn Wapples	07835 102378	<a href="mailto:secretary@ldmfl.org">secretary@ldmfl.org</a> or <a href="mailto:welfare@ldmfl.org">welfare@ldmfl.org</a>	Oversees the safeguarding and welfare of all the players and referees under 18. If you have any concerns about welfare or safeguarding of yourself or players, please contact ASAP for a discussion or email a report.
<b>Fixtures Secretary</b>	TBC		<a href="mailto:fixtures@ldmfl.org">fixtures@ldmfl.org</a>	Schedules and oversees all the fixtures for the League.

## USEFUL INFORMATION

### League Games

#### **U7s and U8s**

- **Play 5v5 format, 4 x 10-minute quarters.**
- Referees fee - £15 paid by the home team.
- Size 3 ball is used.

#### **U9s and U10s**

- **Play 7v7 format, 2 x 25-minute halves.**
- Referees fee - £20 paid by the home team.
- Size 3 ball is used.

### League U9 and U10 Knockout Cup games

All League rules shall apply **except**

- There is NO extra time in cup games, if the scores are level after full time the taking of three (3) penalties per team, chosen from the players on the pitch at the end of the game, shall decide the tie. If teams remain tied after three (3) penalties, sudden death applies starting with the remaining players on the pitch at the end of the game. This applies to all rounds of the Competition.
- For all cup games except the Final the away team pay the referee's fee.

### FA Full Time website

You can check games and venues using the league Fulltime site:

[https://fulltime.thefa.com/referees.html?league=5930712&selectedSeason=577152052&selectedDivision=828145538&selectedCompetition=0&selectedFixtureGroupKey=1\\_518141676](https://fulltime.thefa.com/referees.html?league=5930712&selectedSeason=577152052&selectedDivision=828145538&selectedCompetition=0&selectedFixtureGroupKey=1_518141676)

In the dropdown boxes select either the age group or fixture group 'ALL' and date to show relevant fixtures to select any that does not have a referee.

### **Referee Kit**

- Black shirt
- Black shorts
- Black socks
- Boots or trainers
- In addition to the 'basic kit' listed above, in cases of cold/wet weather, there is no objection to you wearing a black waterproof/tracksuit top and joggers.
- Whistle, notepad, pen or pencil, coin or similar for the toss, watch or stopwatch.

### **Match Day**

- **Please arrive in good time, at least 30 minutes before kickoff**, to carry out a pitch inspection, check nets and prepare for the game.
- Introduce yourself to both managers.
- Managers, coaches, and substitutes must be located on the opposite side of the pitch to spectators.
- A respect line (e.g. barrier, rope or marked line on ground) should be in use on the spectator's side of the pitch for spectators to stand behind.
- Cautions, misconduct, and sin bins all need to be reported to the FA via WGS.
- Match Reports must be completed for the League.

Should you arrive at the ground and need to postpone the game due to bad weather or the pitch being unplayable you are entitled to half of your fee.

If you arrive at the game and find the game has been postponed or moved without the club notifying you of this, please advise the Referees Secretary as soon as possible. You are still entitled to your full fee.

### **Appointments**

You can check which games are available, by date or age group by selecting the refs tab, choose 'all' for the fixture group, select the 'include other groups' option for fixtures. Games already appointed with a referee will show a referee name or "U18 referee".

To be appointed to a game that you select please email the request to [referees@ldmfl.org](mailto:referees@ldmfl.org) by no later than 6pm on the Wednesday evening before the game to allow us to give teams time to send fixture confirmations.

It is preferable for match officials to officiate at more than one club to gain experience and the League will only consider appointing a referee to games at a club they play for twice a month.

Anyone requesting an appointment after Wednesday evening will not necessarily be appointed a game.

### **Closed Dates**

Any closed dates for the league need to be emailed as soon as possible to [referees@ldmfl.org](mailto:referees@ldmfl.org) or submitted using the League secure web area: <https://www.ldmfl.leaguesystem.co.uk/procedures/referee/>

## **Fixture Confirmations**

Full-time fixture notifications will be received by email when you are appointed, seven (7) days before the game or when a fixture change happens.

To receive fixture notifications please ensure you verify your email address when you receive the verification email full-time.

Note: Full-time messages will be sent to the parent attached to your FAN if you are under 16 years.

Referee confirmations should be sent to you by the home club with details relating to the fixture. (Venue, kickoff time, manager etc.) by email or text by the Thursday before the game, at the latest.

Please acknowledge, **out of courtesy**, confirming your attendance at the game.

**If you cannot attend, please notify the League Referees Secretary [referees@ldmfl.org](mailto:referees@ldmfl.org) and club as soon as possible.**

If you do not receive confirmation from the club, please check with the Home Club Secretary or League Referees Secretary beforehand.

## **Match Reports**

Match reports are required to be completed after each game. Match reports are found on the League Referee Respect Area. <https://www.ldmfl.leaguesystem.co.uk/procedures/referee/>

From here you can also update your contact detail and create match records during the playing season. The records you provide help the league to monitor games that you referee and provide invaluable feedback.

It is very important that you award the teams an appropriate Fair Play Mark and submit this on your Referee's Match Report within 48 hours of the match completing.

Please note if there are any serious safeguarding, welfare or misconduct incidents at the match and you wish to speak about what has happened then you are welcome to call the Referee Secretary, Welfare Officer or League Secretary who will discuss the match with you.

If you are Under 18 and your parents are concerned and wish to speak to us about the match, they are more than welcome to do so, or to email using the contact details above. We are here to support you.

## **USEFUL LINKS**

Fulltime <http://full-time.thefa.com/Index.do?league=5930712>

League website <https://ldmfl.org.uk/>

League Rules <https://ldmfl.org.uk/documents.php>

Mini Soccer and Youth Futsal Handbook <https://ldmfl.org.uk/documents.php>

Leicestershire and Rutland County FA - <http://www.leicestershirefa.com>

County FA Referee Development Officer, Chris Hodson, email [Referees@leicestershirefa.com](mailto:Referees@leicestershirefa.com)

Tel: 0116 2867828