

## THE SOUTH WALES FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION LIMITED

### CRITERIA FOR ADMITTANCE TO AND RETENTION IN THE SOUTH WALES ALLIANCE LEAGUE

**Applications will only be accepted from clubs who have had continuous membership of the Association at senior level for the current and at least the previous two seasons.**

- 1** Clubs must have priority of use, with the exception of Clubs sharing grounds with Clubs superior in the pyramid system. Clubs wishing to gain promotion to a higher tier of the pyramid will only be promoted from the ground on which they are playing on the 31 December of the current season. Clubs cannot change or share grounds without the permission of the South Wales FA
- 2** The ground must be private in the context as defined and accepted by the Welsh Football League. For entry into Pyramid level 7 the ground must be capable of meeting this requirement.
- 3** Clubs who gain entry into the League should be able to provide a gate taking facility.
- 4** The playing area must be a minimum length 100 yards and width 60 yards, or its metric equivalent, and maintained to a good condition to an acceptable standard.
- 5** By the 30 April of any season, the playing area must be enclosed by a metal or concrete structure, subject to the Health and Safety Regulations of their Local Authority. Goal nets, corner flags and ground markings must be maintained to an acceptable standard. Covered Dug Outs must be provided for both teams, capable of seating 6 people and must be of a suitable rigid material to withstand all weathers.
- 6** A Technical area (as defined in the Laws of the Game) must be marked out in front of each dugout.
- 7** Dressing room accommodation for Officials, Home side and Visitors MUST be separate and secure and within reasonable proximity of the playing area with separate shower facility (minimum 4 heads). Toilet facilities must be provided of a minimum 1 Urinal and 1 W/C within the vicinity of each dressing room. Referees facilities MUST include a separate shower and permanent toilet, provide accommodation for three officials and MUST NOT be used as a storage room.
- 8** First aid facilities must be provided at the ground together with telephone facility for use in case of emergency. It is required that a suitably qualified First Aid Official is available and a stretcher in case this is required under Official medical supervision.
- 9** Clear signs, indicating Home, Away, Officials, First Aid, Fire Exit etc for the relevant rooms, must be visible.
- 10** Clubs who have had their facilities inspected, will be invited to a meeting with the Liaison committee, to provide up to date balance sheet and Club administrative structure within the Club, including proof of electronic communication. The Club Chairman or Secretary and one other official to attend. If the Club Chairman or Secretary are not in attendance, the application for promotion will not be considered
- 11** Clubs not satisfying Playing, Financial and Administrative criteria WILL not be promoted.

#### **Process for clubs wishing to apply for promotion**

- A** Clubs wishing to be promoted to the Alliance League (Pyramid level 7) must notify the Association General Secretary by the 31 December. A non-refundable inspection fee of £50 MUST be enclosed with the application, **WHICH MUST BE SENT BY ROYAL MAIL 'SIGNED FOR' DELIVERY**. If this application is not provided, the Club will NOT be considered for promotion even if it qualifies with its League position.
- B** It is the responsibility of The South Wales Football Association to carry out the initial inspection in each season by 01 February, in accordance with the criteria detailed above, and to provide the Clubs inspected with a report in respect of the suitability of their current facilities. Clubs will be given at least seven days' notice by email of their allocated date and time for inspection and must acknowledge receipt of this notice – clubs who fail to attend their inspection will not be considered for promotion.
- C** Clubs promoted from Local Leagues must meet the criteria by the 30 April in each season. The final inspection will be carried out by the Association as soon as possible following that date.
- D** There will be three promotion places available to level 7 of the pyramid at the end of the 2015/16 season.
- E** In the event of more teams being eligible for promotion to level 7 of the pyramid than vacancies available, play-off arrangements will be organised by the Association. Champion Clubs will have priority for the available promotion places, If there are not enough champion Clubs, then runners up will be considered. If there are more runner up Clubs than places available, then they will take part in a play-off to decide promotion.

**SEPTEMBER 2016**