



Season 2022/2023

Dear Secretary,

Welcome to our new 2022/2023 Season. This will be our 20th season of running Deaf football competitions.

Please see the following points, which you will need to be aware of:

League Formats

The competition's framework:

- North Division League
- South Division League

North/South Leagues are best suited for teams who are looking to enable competitions with other Deaf teams throughout the season.

We will be open to explore alternative league for those who would be keen to develop their club/squad during the season and may not be ready to compete in the North/South Leagues.

Deadline for Club Registration

It is important to be aware that the deadline for club registration for the EDF Challenge Cup and EDF North/South League Competitions has been set for 22nd August 2022. If you have not entered your application form and paid the competition fees, your club WILL NOT be entered in the draw for the EDF Challenge Cup.

Entry fee for either EDF Challenge Cup or EDF League is set at £300 per team, and this INCLUDES registration of 25 players. This is one payment inclusive of one team in the cup or league and all 25 players are registered for one fee of £300 and for the matches in cup competition or league.

Entry fee for BOTH EDF Challenge Cup AND EDF League is set at £350 per team, and this INCLUDES registration of 25 players. This is one payment inclusive of one team in both cup and league and all 25 players are registered for one fee of £350 and for the matches in cup competition and league.

Deadline for Players Registration

You will receive Players Registrations number/details from us, once you have completed your club application into the EDF Competition and/or EDF League and post the application back to us. The deadlines for players' registration continue to be same from last season – please read this carefully – Clubs are able to register a maximum of 25 players and all players MUST be registered by 29th August 2022 or 48 hours before first match.

All clubs MUST register their players AT LEAST 48 hours before the player is able to participate.

For example, if your club has registered 20 players at beginning of season, and in October 2022, they want to add 3 more players to registration; these 3 players' names MUST be registered to EDF (EDF Registration Secretary) by AT LEAST 48 hours prior to match. These 3 players must also have not been registered to any team during the season (free agent).

Once you reach 25 players on your club's registration, you will not be able to add more players.

Player Registration form must be completed correctly and clearly. Any mistakes/lack of details on the form will lead into the registration being incomplete.

Package Attachment

This contains all the details you need to know for the new EDF season 2022/2023. You are required to fill in these forms and return to us at EDF. (Email address supplied at bottom of this form, and you are encouraged to complete the forms electronically to reduce paper and postage).

We also attach the players' registrations for your club. EDF Rules will be sent out to each clubs around 29th August 2022. We are expected to make some updates to the Rules – as directed by Football Association (FA). We will provide you with brief simple version of all the changes we have made.

A general reminder – please read the rules – and get in touch with us if you need any clarification. All clubs will be required to sign the rules to confirm they have received and adhere to the rules for the season.

£100 Deposit

EDF will request for £100 deposit from each club prior to commence of EDF competitions. The purpose of £100 deposit is purely for the purpose of making payments and transactions between clubs to EDF more streamlined and effective for everyone involved.

An example: Should a club need to pay for transfer fee of £15 during the season, the EDF will automatic deduct this from the £100 deposit and a receipt will be issued to club stating this – and at end of season, the club will receive £85 back.

EDF treasurer will keep all clubs up to date with the balance. You always can ask us for latest balance or any statement for your club. We will not provide you of other club's balance or statement.

Clubs can pay for the £100 deposit with the application fee or pay this separately. We ask clubs making online payment to state your club's name clearly on the bank transfer so EDF can recognise and acknowledge the payments.

Club secretaries' responsibilities

We want to make this clear and firm – we will be communicating all important information and notices with all our Club Secretaries regularly and will not be making the communication via other form of social media – club secretaries must be the first contact to receive all information. It is important to ensure you have provided correct secretary details and correct communication methods (i.e., email address and phone numbers).

Once all league clubs have submitted their entry – EDF will arrange fixtures for all league matches. ALL League matches will be played on the weekend of the football calendar, which are outlined on the fixtures. The fixtures are final and there will no opportunities to amend/change the dates after the fixtures have been released, unless agreed from the EDF. Midweek match may agree if both clubs agree and pitch to pitch no longer than an hour, but the EDF decision shall be final.

This will allow clubs who are still participating in their hearing/other league to inform their fixtures in advance of the dates they are to participate in EDF League matches. These dates are to be fixed and we will schedule these fixtures in ourselves once all teams have confirmed their entry to the league for the new season 2022/2023.

Respect

EDF working closely with the Football Association to through the rules. The rules have been implemented to make sure the tournaments are smooth with enjoyment competition/tournament. We mind clubs, we are still in unpredicted situation of COVID-19 pandemic.

EDF want to reinforce that all our EDF officials are completely voluntary basis. All EDF officials are committed and working to provide the opportunities to Deaf football to play matches across in England and Scotland - if they participate.

EDF request all clubs, players, committees, and the fans to respect to the EDF officials, FA officials (National and County, Referees, Linesmen, Lineswomen, etc) and any other organisations which have regular liaison with EDF (i.e., England International Deaf Team, Great Britain Deaf Football, Scottish Deaf Football Association (SDFA), United Kingdom Deaf Sport (UKDS), camera crew, etc.).

We are request you as a club secretary to control your players, manager, committees, and your fans. This is very clear this is club secretary's responsibility. Shall your club being abuse to EDF officials, the FA, or toward other clubs that participation in EDF will NOT be tolerated. That is applied to both of on pitch (i.e. match day) and off pitch (i.e. social media).

Failure that would be result your club will be issue a fine or remove your players/clubs from EDF competitions and the FA will be reported. EDF have right to remove players/clubs EDF decision will be final.

Communication

EDF communication channel will be strict protocol. The only one person able to communicate to EDF will be club secretary themselves. That will be through email (Video call can be arranged via prior agreement from both parties, but video MUST be not leaked).

Communication via social media (i.e. inbox) is not acceptable. If you prefer to communicate to EDF via British Sign Language (BSL), you are more than welcome to send an email to request with EDF, so EDF will arrange an agreed time for you. EDF would like to remind you that EDF officials are voluntary, and they got their own commitment such as work and family. EDF firmly polite asks you to respect that.

For video call - EDF officials may record the conversation for the evidence purpose. Before EDF official start the record and they will ask you for your consent so they can start record before the conversation start. The copy of clip will NOT share to others but may pass to the FA if necessary. That is same applied to the email as in black/white.

The following papers are attached for your reading & sign some forms to returns to us at the EDF:

- EDF Club Entry form / Registration - (For your club to register and secure a place in the competition - by 22nd August 2022)
- EDF Club Players Registration - (For all your players' registration/bulk registration -deadline by 29th August 2022 or 48 hours before first match)

Should you have any questions, please do email me at headofcompetitions@englanddeaffootball.co.uk or Matthew Durant at competitionsassistant@englanddeaffootball.co.uk

Finally, I wish all clubs the very best of luck in your new season and we look forward to having your participation in the new season 2022/2023.

Yours in Football,

S. Noone

Sean Noone
Head of Competitions - England Deaf Football

M Durant

Matthew Durant
Competitions Assistant - England Deaf Football