



# THE BIRMINGHAM & DISTRICT FOOTBALL LEAGUE

(Formerly the Birmingham & District Amateur Football Association & League)

founded 1908

[www.birminghamafa.co.uk](http://www.birminghamafa.co.uk)



## Support for Clubs

Following recent meetings of the Management Committee the League has looked to address how we might assist clubs in the current uncertain climate following the lockdown in the fight against the coronavirus.

We are announcing the League fees for next season now which will give clubs some support at this time by accessing the small financial reserves which the League has built up as a buffer for reinvestment in the League and for support in times of crisis.

**FOR THE COMING 2020/21 SEASON NO CLUB WHICH TOOK PART IN THE LEAGUE DURING THE SEASON 2019/20 WILL PAY ANY LEAGUE SUBSCRIPTION FEE.**

This will include the Associate Membership fee of £40.00 which would normally be payable by clubs playing in just the Veterans Cup.

We have already looked to reduce costs for clubs with the abolition of registration book fees and allowing the League handbook to be available for free in digital format rather than in hard copy at a cost.

Cup fees will continue to be payable for each cup entry, we fully intend to play all of the 2019/20 season cups to a finish in the early weeks of the new season and details of these Cup finals will be communicated as soon as they can be arranged.

The abolition of the annual League Fee for this season represents a discount of more than 50% in a clubs normal cost to take part in the League. We understand that these are difficult times for individuals as well as Clubs, we are also aware that our fees are amongst the lowest of any League in the area and as such any measure would represent relatively little in monetary terms but we are doing what we can.

Costs for the coming season will therefore be:

Cup Entry Fee @ £20 per competition (mandatory entry to 3 cups)	£60.00
Hard Copy of Handbook (if required - free digital download)	£10.00
Minimum Fine/Administration Fee	£20.00
Referees Fee	£32.00
Assistant Referees (where appointed)	£22.00

This package of support measures represents more than £5,000 in total cost to the League and almost 50% of the Leagues available reserves and we hope it may have some impact. We understand that a clubs major expenses are always its ground costs and officials fees however we are unable to do anything to mitigate these costs directly.

The above was agreed by the Finance Committee through video conference and ratified by the League Management Committee by email over the last few days and we hope that it can provide some support to clubs at this time.



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Any fines that are owed to the League must be repaid in full before the start of next season, unfortunately these cannot be written off as this would be in contradiction of FA guidelines. We have however not penalised clubs further for late payment since the suspension of the League and will happily work with any clubs for the payment of outstanding fines if they can make contact with us.

We would encourage any Club who may have paid for their facilities upfront for the season 2019/20 for games that were then not played to contact your facilities manager to request a part refund, the League is happy to support with any correspondence if necessary to back up this request.

On behalf of our member Clubs the League has also been in contact with the Birmingham County Football Association and continues to lobby hard on your behalf for the County to provide similar and perhaps greater financial support in terms of affiliation fees and insurance costs for the coming season in a bid to further reduce the financial burden on clubs and the individuals who finance them.

In addition to the above there are a number of possible avenues that Clubs may want to explore for additional funding to support your Club at this time:

[Sport England £195m package of grants](#)

[Sport England Community Emergency Fund](#)

[Birmingham County FA Funding & Support during Covid-19](#)

If any Club wishes to speak with us directly about any of the point raised above please do not hesitate to make contact, we are supportive and understanding of the impact of the current crisis on you as Clubs and individuals running the Clubs and want to ensure your survival through these challenging times.