
THE UK MINIFOOTBALL ASSOCIATION*

MEMBERSHIP RULES

(LEAGUE AFFILIATION AND FACILITY ACCREDITATION)

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*UK Minifootball is a trading name of Treacle and Swiss Limited



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Membership Rules
(League Affiliation and Facility Accreditation)

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Introduction

Due to the various rule differences of 5, 6, and 7-a-side football in the UK, the UK Minifootball Association (UKMA) does not seek to impose a standard set of rules for the playing of small-sided football on any of our affiliated league providers or accredited facilities, unless they participate in international small-sided football competitions or have subscribed to the UKMA complaints, grievances, disputes, disciplinary rules and internal appeals procedures.

However, in order to become an affiliated league provider or accredited facility of the UKMA, all prospective league providers and/or facilities will need to satisfy the following rules.

League affiliation and facility accreditation rules

Bronze affiliated league provider

The following rules apply to the registration of bronze affiliated league providers:

1. The league provider must provide small-sided football leagues (5, 6, or 7-a-side football) within the United Kingdom or be in the process of starting small-sided football leagues (5, 6, and 7-a-side football) in the United Kingdom.
2. The league provider should possess public liability insurance. A copy of the league providers' public liability insurance may be requested by the UKMA from the league provider at any time.
3. The league provider must provide and maintain details of the number of their current leagues, teams and players on their UKMA online account.

Silver affiliated league provider

The following rules apply to the registration of silver affiliated league providers or the upgrading of bronze affiliated league providers to silver affiliated league provider status:

1. The league provider must provide small-sided football leagues (5, 6, or 7-a-side football) within the United Kingdom or be in the process of starting small-sided football leagues (5, 6, and 7-a-side football) in the United Kingdom.
2. The league provider should possess public liability insurance. A copy of the league providers' public liability insurance may be requested by the UKMA from the league provider at any time.
3. The league provider must provide and maintain details of the number of their current leagues, teams and players on their UKMA online account.
4. The affiliated league provider must either:
 - (i) Agree to and construct an API link between the administration section of their website and their UKMA account; or
 - (ii) Upload their team, venue and referee contact details through a CSV file to their UKMA account. The team, venue and referee contact details must be regularly updated by the affiliated league provider.

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5. The affiliated league provider must incorporate the following statements into their terms and conditions for the entry of a team or team player into the league, for disciplinary fine administration purposes. The term team captain (highlighted) in these statements may be changed if the affiliated league provider currently allows individual team players (as opposed to one representative of the team, i.e. the team captain) to register as an individual player and agree to their terms and conditions of their leagues. In this case, the affiliated league provider must immediately inform the UKMA if they allow individual player registration and if so highlight the individual player registration on all team contact details and disciplinary fine records.

In the case of a full team registration with the league provider, the registered main team contact will assume responsibility for the team and any incurred team fines, and will be referred to as the team captain.

Statements in the league provider's terms and conditions:

- (i) [*Name of league provider*] are affiliated to the UKMA who are the governing body of small-sided football in the UK;
- (ii) [*Name of league provider*] permits the UKMA to contact **team captains** and chase and collect disciplinary fines incurred by teams and team players whilst playing in our leagues;
- (iii) The disciplinary fine and ban period for the player who incurred the fine and/or the team is clearly stated in the notification emails sent to the team captain by the UKMA;
- (iv) Please note that the **team captain** is responsible for the conduct of all players and spectators connected with the team. Failure to control the conduct of the players or spectators will result in the **team captain** being responsible for any resulting fines from the UKMA being paid in full.

Gold affiliated league provider

The following rules apply to the registration of gold affiliated league providers or the upgrading of bronze and/or silver affiliated league providers to gold affiliated league provider status:

1. The league provider must provide small-sided football leagues (5, 6, or 7-a-side football) within the United Kingdom or be in the process of starting small-sided football leagues (5, 6, and 7-a-side football) in the United Kingdom.
2. The league provider should possess public liability insurance. A copy of the league providers' public liability insurance may be requested by the UKMA from the league provider at any time.
3. The league provider must provide and maintain details of the number of their current leagues, teams and players on their UKMA online account.
4. The affiliated league provider must either:
 - (i) Agree to and construct an API link between the administration section of their website and their UKMA account; or
 - (ii) Upload their team, venue and referee contact details through a CSV file to their UKMA account. The team, venue and referee contact details must be regularly updated by the affiliated league provider.
5. The affiliated league provider must incorporate the following statements into their terms and conditions for the entry of a team or team player into the league, for disciplinary fine administration purposes. The term team captain (highlighted) in these statements may be

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changed if the affiliated league provider currently allows individual team players (as opposed to one representative of the team, i.e. the team captain) to register as an individual player and agree to their terms and conditions of their leagues. In this case, the affiliated league provider must immediately inform the UKMA if they allow individual player registration and if so highlight the individual player registration on all team contact details and disciplinary fine records.

In the case of a full team registration with the league provider, the registered main team contact will assume responsibility for the team and any incurred team fines, and will be referred to as the team captain.

Statements in the league provider's terms and conditions:

- (i) [*Name of league provider*] are affiliated to the UKMA who are the governing body of small-sided football in the UK;
 - (ii) [*Name of league provider*] permits the UKMA to contact **team captains** and chase and collect disciplinary fines incurred by teams and team players whilst playing in our leagues;
 - (iii) The disciplinary fine and ban period for the player who incurred the fine and/or the team is clearly stated in the notification emails sent to the team captain by the UKMA;
 - (iv) Please note that the **team captain** is responsible for the conduct of all players and spectators connected with the team. Failure to control the conduct of the players or spectators will result in the **team captain** being responsible for any resulting fines from the UKMA being paid in full.
6. The affiliated league provider must agree to abide by the following data protection rules and regulations for the use of the UKMA national referee database (available only to gold affiliated league providers):
- (i) All contact details stored on the UKMA national referee database may be used solely by gold affiliated league providers of the UK Minifootball Association for the purposes of contacting UKMA national referees in regards to available referee positions within their leagues. All other use of the UKMA national referee contact details is strictly prohibited;
 - (ii) Access to the UKMA national referee database is to only be shared with the internal staff of the gold affiliated league providers who have agreed to section 'Gold affiliated league provider 7.a. of the UK Minifootball Association membership (league affiliation and facility accreditation) rules'. Sharing of the access details to UKMA national referee database with all other persons (not indicated above) is strictly prohibited.

UKMA accredited facility

The following rules apply to the registration and accreditation of a facility and/or centre for the purpose of accreditation by the UKMA.

1. The facility must currently be based in the United Kingdom.
2. The facility must currently possess and/or include an astroturf or a sports hall that is at least four badminton courts wide in order to apply for facility accreditation.
3. The registered contact for the facility must agree to arrange payment of the £50.00 deposit for the registration of their facilities with the UKMA prior to the arrangement of the accreditation visit. (The standard accreditation fee is £199.00 per facility per year or at the reduced rate of £100.00 per facility per year when two or more facilities are registered for facility accreditation at the same time by the same provider. These accreditation fees are subject to change dependent upon the current policy of the UKMA.

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All accredited facilities will be notified of any changes to accreditation fees during their annual re-subscription).

4. The registered contact for the facility must agree to an accreditation visit by an official of the UKMA to their facility. If the facility meets 80% of the standard requirements for facility accreditation, during the accreditation visit, then the facility will be officially recognised as an accredited UKMA facility. Failure to uphold the required standards of the UKMA for facility accreditation may result in the removal of accredited facility status or action by the UKMA under the terms of the 'UK Minifootball Association complaints, grievances, disputes, disciplinary rules and internal appeals procedures' provided that they has subscribed to this document.
5. The facility must hold at least public liability insurance for the provision, rent and use of their facilities for commercial and recreational purposes. A copy of the facilities public liability Insurance may be requested during the official accreditation visit by the UKMA.
6. The facility must meet the UK health and safety regulations for sports and leisure facilities or a public gathering area, and hold a valid health and safety certificate for all of their facilities registered to the UKMA. A copy of this health and safety certificate may be requested during the official accreditation visit by the UKMA.

Facility accreditation – standard requirements of the UK Minifootball Association

The following rules and requirements apply specifically to the accreditation of facilities by the UKMA. These requirements will be examined during the official accreditation by the UKMA to registered facilities, and may be subsequently re-examined by the UKMA throughout the accreditation period if necessary.

General facility requirements

1. Entrances and exits must be fully accessible, and the facility must have a provision for disabled entrances, in accordance with HM Government Building Regulations, part M, Access to and Use of Buildings.
2. The facility must provide male and female changing facilities, and these facilities should be fully accessible and signposted throughout.
3. The changing facilities should include secure storages spaces, including individual door locks, padlocks/keys for storage lockers and security cameras for secure areas. If these are not available, then the facility should provide alternative secure storage for customers and/or members of the public.
4. The changing facilities should be well maintained and kept in a clean and orderly manner when not in use.
5. The facility must provide male and female toilet facilities on site, which must be fully accessible.
6. The facility must have a working and maintained fire and/or bomb alarm and all emergency exits should be fully accessible and clearly signposted throughout.
7. The facility must have a working and maintained fire extinguishing system in accordance with HM Government Health and Safety Regulations.
8. The venue should provide secure parking (either on-site or off-site) for visitors. This parking may be paid or unpaid.
9. The facility must meet all other appropriate health and safety regulations for sports and leisure facilities or a public gathering area. The facility may be requested to provide a copy of their health and safety certificate to the UKMA.
10. The facility must hold valid public liability insurance for a sports or leisure facility provider. The facility must also provide a copy of their public liability insurance to the UKMA.

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General pitch requirements

1. If the facility is equipped with an outdoor pitch (as opposed to a sports hall), then this pitch must be composed of either grass, sand based, water based or 3G.
2. The facility pitch or pitches must be in a good condition with a high degree of maintenance.
3. If the facility is currently operating fenced pitches, then the fences must be well maintained and of a good quality and standard in accordance with UK regulations.
4. The size of the facility pitch/pitches should be:
 - i. For 5 and 6-a-side pitches, between the minimum size of 24m x 44m and maximum size of 30m x 50m;
 - ii. For 7-a-side pitches, between the minimum size of 30m x 50m and the maximum size of 45m x 65m.
5. If the size of the pitch/pitches do not fall within the required size range then the facility should either:
 - i. Be able to temporarily reduce the size of the pitch (if it exceeds the maximum size) using readily available equipment kept in the facility (e.g. cones); or
 - ii. Provide alternative game areas (if the pitch does not meet the minimum size).
6. The facility must provide netting for all available goal posts. This netting must be in a good condition and fully maintained by the facility.

Specific pitch requirements

The specific pitch requirements are only required to be met in full by UK facilities which wish to host a national or international small-sided football. Facilities which wish to apply only for facility accreditation and not the hosting of national and international small-sided football games will only have to meet specific pitch requirement point 6. concerning standard goal post sizes. All other specific pitch requirements will be judged on a case by case basis. Failure to achieve all specific pitch requirements (with the exception of point 6.) will not bar a facility from achieving facility accreditation status provided that the facility has made some effort to provide clearly visible boundaries or markings.

The following specific pitch requirements are based on a standard 6-a-side pitch between the minimum size of 24m x 44m and the maximum size of 30m x 50m. These requirements may be adjusted for a 5-a-side and 7-a-side pitch, which fall between the respective minimum and maximum pitch sizes, and larger pitches which have been temporarily reduced in size in accordance with general pitch requirement point 4:

1. The facilities pitch/pitches should be marked with boundary lines. These boundary lines should be at most 12cm wide.
2. The facilities pitch/pitches should have two clearly marked penalty areas at both ends of the pitches. These penalty areas must be formed of 2 lines starting on the goal line, 4m from the goal post and extending 6m into the pitch from the goal line, and a line joining the ends of these two lines.
3. The penalty spots on the facilities pitch/pitches should be clearly indicated and should be approximately 6.45m from the goal line shown on the pitch/pitches.
4. The corner kick areas should be clearly marked out on the facilities pitch/pitches and should be formed of a quarter circle of 0.5m in radius on average.

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5. The inner proportions of the facilities goal/goals should be 3m x 6m in size and should be a maximum of 12cm in width.
6. The goal posts should be between minimum 3.66 m and maximum 4.88m wide and between minimum 1.2 m and maximum 2m high (for 5, 6, and 7-a-side pitches). The standard goal post size required for national and international small-sided football games is 4m x 2m.

Facility equipment requirements

1. For all available indoor and outdoor pitches, the facility should provide the correct goal posts and netting for these pitches. This equipment must be kept well maintained and in a good standard.
2. When not in use, or as a permanent fixture, the facility should ensure that all goal nets are placed in a safe and secure environment. This environment may be checked by the UKMA during the official facility accreditation visit.
2. When not in use, or as a permanent fixture, the facility should dismantle any portable goal posts and ensure that they are kept in a safe and secure environment. This environment may be checked by the UKMA during the official facility accreditation visit.
3. When in use, the facility should appropriately secure any portable goal posts during match play according to the manufacturers recommendations.
4. For all permanent goal posts, the facility should ensure that these goal posts are appropriately weighted and anchored during match play, according to the manufacturer's recommendations.

Completion of registration – satisfaction of league affiliation and facility accreditation rules

Following consideration and satisfaction of the above league affiliation and facility accreditation rules, all registered league provider and/or accredited facilities of the UKMA will be acknowledged as affiliated league providers and/or accredited facilities of the UKMA and receive access to the benefits of the affiliation or accreditation level for which they have applied. In accordance with these rules, the UKMA may re-evaluate the affiliation and/or accreditation of any league provider and/or facility based on a failure to satisfy these rules.