



# **Northumberland Football Leagues.**



## **Covid-19 Cancellation of league game.**

The Northumberland Football League have met to discuss current guidelines and procedures around the safe return to grassroots football. We fully endorse the current guidelines and will work with the county and national FA closely and adapt to changes when new guidelines are published.

Currently within grassroots football if people are going about their normal routine (children going to school, adults at work etc) then games can go ahead subject to current guidelines and following the procedures implemented at all facilities and grounds.

Should a team however need to cancel a league game due to Covid-19 related issues the procedure is as follows:

- Inform Your Fixture Secretary
- Your Club Secretary to fill out the Covid-19 game cancellation form
- Inform Your opposition

### **Cancellation Guidelines for teams**

- Teams must play scheduled fixtures where they have the required number of players available (e.g. 11 players or more available for an 11v11 game, 9 players for a 9v9 game etc)
- Where managers are unavailable due to self-isolation clubs **MUST** make every effort to have another coach cover the game.
- In cases where the team do not have enough players available due to players having to self-isolate for 14 days club must submit 2 cancellation forms to cover both dates unavailable.
- In instances where games cannot be played due to travel, the defaulting team will forfeit the game with no financial penalty incurred.

### **Important Information.**

The club secretary is responsible for filling out the Covid-19 game cancellation form. They must provide as much detail as possible including:

- Details of persons affected
- Have NHS track and trace been contacted? \*
- What advice has been given
- Has anyone tested positive for Covid-19? \*
- Has a risk assessment been completed?

**\* These field must be completed and be 100% accurate**

The league management committee reserve the right to request additional information.

Please ensure that where possible as much notice as possible is given to allow the league to give your opposition a new game.

The league management committee have agreed the following:



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- Games must be played where teams have the minimum number of players available e.g. 11 players for an 11 a side etc.
- Teams cannot refuse to play an opposition due to distance.
- As per SCORy any team unable to complete 75% of fixtures will have all results for the season expunged.
- Each cancellation will now be looked at individually and the league management committee may ask that league rules are applied.
- Cup games cannot be cancelled due to COVID-19. Teams are however free to forfeit the game without any further financial penalty.
- All non-competitive games (U7-U11) will be recorded as void.
- All competitive games will be recorded as 'Cancelled'. ~~At the end of the season the league management committee may order these games to be replayed or the outcome determined by means of a 'pools panel' decision.~~

The league management committee are committed to working with clubs and teams throughout these uncertain times and will continue to monitor and assess all guidelines and procedures on a regular basis, **however we cannot continue to allow the current number of games being cancelled to go unchallenged as this is unfair on teams following the correct procedures.**

The league management committee may at any time withdraw, alter, or change the *Covid-19 Cancellation of a league game* procedure.

Current guidelines are available on the government website

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

League Website

<https://www.northumberlandfootballleagues.co.uk/covid-19>

Northumberland FA website

<https://www.northumberlandfa.com/about/covid-19-advice-and-information>

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact the league office on 0191 2712022 or email [admin@nfleague.co.uk](mailto:admin@nfleague.co.uk)

For and on behalf of the league management committee

*Lee Scott*

League Secretary