

Leinster Football Association Over Thirty-Five Cup Rules

Eligibility

This competition is open to all clubs playing in an Over 35 division in any league that is affiliated to the Leinster Football Association unless suspended from playing in this competition for whatever reason.

Player Status

A player must have reached their thirty fifth birthday to be eligible to play in this competition and must be registered with the club in his league for at least 1 (one) working day.

No player may play for more than one team in the competition in any one season

The Club Secretary or other responsible official shall, prior to the commencement of the match, fill in on the card supplied a full list with the first names and surnames of the competing players, placing the names opposite the number of the jersey which a player is wearing. In addition, each player **MUST** sign the match card. Competing teams found guilty of including ineligible players will be removed from the competition and debarred from entering the competition the following season. The club may also incur a fine

Grounds

Grounds must be properly marked and be in a playable condition, grass cut, etc or otherwise club will be fined. This is subject to a referees report or a designated LFA match delegates report

If the home teams pitch is unavailable / unplayable, and they cannot find an alternative ground, the game will automatically be switched to the opponents ground when refixed. The home team on the day must pay the full referees fee.

The ground for the semi final must be an enclosed ground and must be capable of allowing an admission fee to be charged if directed by the LFA Junior Committee

The pitch for the semi final must be at a minimum roped off and all spectators must stand behind this rope

Officials

Referees will be appointed by the relevant league that the home club participates in for all fixtures up to and including the quarter finals

From the semi-finals onwards, Referees and Assistant Referees will be appointed by the LFA Junior Committee. An official match delegate will be appointed to represent the LFA at these fixtures also

The home team on the day are responsible for full fees for match officials

Kick Off times

All kick off times are as defined in the LFA draw booklet and should be the same time and day as their league division

However in the interest of fair play, if a distance to be travelled for an 11am kick off by the away team is deemed to be excessive by the LFA Junior Committee or the General Secretary/Administrator, the kick off time may be changed to a time that suits all parties

Competition

Matches shall be of **forty minutes a side** duration

Seven named subs can be used on a roll on roll off basis as long as the change is made from the midway point and no more than eleven players from any team are on the pitch at any point

Games level after eighty minutes shall go straight to penalty shoot out **with no extra time**

Saturday and Sunday sections may be merged at any point in the competition and first drawn club will have choice of day

Postponements will not be granted. Clubs seeking “free weekends” from their league should note that they may be required to fulfil cup fixtures on those dates

Abandoned games will be investigated by the Junior Committee and if the match is being refixed, the venue shall be decided by the Committee

Clubs must play in their registered colours. In the event of a clash, the home team must change

The winning team shall be presented with the LFA Over Thirty-Five Cup and should be returned to the Association by July 28th undamaged and in good condition. Failure to do so may result in the club being fined or billed for the repair or replacement of the cup

Each team in the final will be presented with twenty medals, eighteen for the players and one each for the manager and secretary. Any extra medals required must be ordered and paid for through the Association

Discipline

Players ordered off in a match shall be automatically suspended for the next match in the competition. If they lose, their automatic suspension shall be served in their next domestic match. Any additional suspensions shall be forwarded to the club secretary

There is no appeal against an automatic one match suspension except in the case of mistaken identity

Any player, official or club may be requested to attend before a Disciplinary Committee based on the referees report, persons failing to attend without a satisfactory reason shall be dealt with as the committee deems fit

Any team who gives a walkover in the competition can be fined up to €200 and may be excluded from the next seasons competition

Protest and Appeal Procedure

All protests must be made by registered post to General Secretary LFA, and an exact copy must be sent to the club being protested against.

Protest must be made within four working days of the game taking place and must include protest fee of €100.

Fee must be paid by bank draft or postal order. Cheque or cash will rule the protest out of order.

Protest must be addressed to. General Secretary, Leinster Football Association, FAI Headquarters, National Sports Campus, Abbotstown, Dublin 15

If a club is unhappy with the decision of the LFA Junior Committee, they may appeal that decision to the LFA Senior Council within four working days of the decision being appealed against being received.

An exact copy of the appeal must be sent to the LFA Junior Committee

Appeal fee is €200

Fee must be paid by bank draft or postal order. Cheque or cash will rule the appeal out of order.

Appeal must be addressed to. General Secretary, Leinster Football Association, FAI Headquarters, National Sports Campus, Abbotstown, Dublin 15

Home team to text result to 086 7700829 immediately after match