

# SERL RULES Revision 4 - 04/09/15

## GENERAL

1. The South East Regional League (SERL) shall be the feeder leagues to the National League(s). (Promotion and EKL) Approved Area Competitions shall be feeder leagues to the Regional League(s). The Area Feeder Leagues will be composed of KKA, CKA, SMKA and NKA.

Chairmen of the Regional Leagues will form the committee that administers the SERL and will appoint League Co-ordinators for SERL Division 1 and SERL Division 2 as applicable.

All decisions relating to the SERL will be the responsibility of the Area Chairman representing the Area Associations that form the SERL, hereinafter known as the Executive Committee.

Area Association have the following voting rights..

NKA – 7  
SMKA – 5  
CKA – 9  
KKA – 10

This is based on EKA data from September 2010 and will be reviewed and updated to reflect any changes to the data.

2 The SERL 1 and SERL 2 Administrator(s) shall conduct the day-to-day administration of the League and all correspondence must be addressed to them.

3 All decisions made by the Executive Committee based on the voting rights outlined above shall be binding..

4 Any appeal against a decision of the Executive Committee must be made to the Area Association Chairman in writing within seven days of its notification to the club(s) concerned. A deposit at the rate set out in the EKA Regulations concerning appeals must accompany such an appeal. Under those Regulations, in the event of the appeal being disallowed, this deposit may be forfeited and all expenses incurred in the hearing will be payable by the club losing the appeal. The EKA National Executive Committee shall appoint an Appeals Committee in accordance with their Regulations concerning appeals.

5 All trophies will remain the property of the SERL and clubs are liable for the cost of repair or replacement should a trophy be lost or damaged whilst in their charge. Unless specifically stated, no trophy may be won outright. All trophies must be returned to the SERL Co-ordinator(s) for Competitions by January 31st of the year after they have been awarded. Failure to return a trophy by January 31<sup>st</sup> may lead to a fine as set out in the appendix.

6 Unless told otherwise, all monies due to the SERL must be paid to the Norfolk Korfball Association who hold all finances for the SERL.

7 All matches shall be played according to the Rules of the Game as laid down by the IKF including any experiments with the rules approved by the IKF and the EKA Competitions Committee and any competition rules approved by the SERL Executive Committee in accordance with the voting rights above.

8 Clubs must comply with the conditions laid down in the appendix concerning Youth players and Development. Youth players are defined as players under the age of 18 on the day of the fixture.

## **LEAGUE STRUCTURE**

### **9 Entry**

9.1 Clubs will be invited to enter the SERL and will complete an official entry form and pay their entry fees by the date set by the Executive Committee.

9.2 The entry fees for each team will be set by the Executive Committee and reported to the Area Association(s) member clubs (see Appendix). Late entries may be accepted by the committee but will be liable to a surcharge of 50%.

9.3 The SERL will be formed in such a manner as to maintain the principle of even contests as far as possible. Invitations will be restricted to a maximum of ONE team from any one club so that another team from the same club may not play in the same division. Exceptions may be allowed, subject to approval of all the Area representatives.

9.4 All clubs in the SERL must maintain at least two other teams in their Area Association's Regional or local league competition. Failure to comply with this may lead to a club not being invited to enter one or more teams in the SERL in the following season, unless exceptional circumstance vital to a clubs development are accepted by the Executive Committee.

9.5 Clubs will be sent SERL fixtures before the start of the season and will then be requested to complete and return home information sheets detailing the start time of home matches and the venues. Failure to meet the requested deadline may result in a fine and / or removal from the League. / Division.

9.6 To facilitate fixture setting and refereeing appointments, clubs entering the SERL may be allocated time slots for their home matches and every effort should be made to take into consideration teams traveling to away fixtures as far as is reasonably practicable.

### **10 Ranking**

10.1 Ranking positions in each Division shall be decided on points awarded according to the results of matches played:- 2 points will be awarded for a win, 1 point for a draw and 0 points for a loss.

The SERL will be played on a home/away league format and/or Multi Game Venues (MGV's), may also take place. Upon request teams may request double-headers when playing away matches out of area. Requests should be sent to the competitions administrator.

10.2 If any game is forfeited, or awarded, to the opponents, then a score of 10-0 will be recorded, if a club forfeits more than one match this may be considered by the Executive Committee and sanctions against that club may be taken.

10.3 In the case when teams finish with equal points the ranking positions shall be determined by the goal difference between the teams on equal points, or if more than 2 teams are equal on points by a mini league of those teams. If still equal, overall goal difference shall be used, if the teams still cannot be separated a coin toss will decide the eventual placing. The Executive Committee shall have the power to take a different course of action should any of the matches

being considered for determining the rankings be ones that have been forfeited or awarded to their opponents.

10.4 At the end of season, the top team(s) in SERL 1 will go to the EKL Promotion League S&E (or equivalent as per EKL Competitions Regulations) and will be SERL Champions, subject to approval by the EKA Competitions Sub-Committee.

## **11 Promotion and relegation**

11.1 This will take place at the end of each season using the format as indicated in the appendix.

11.2 If promotion/relegation and final ranking positions are not determined in accordance with the provisions of rule 10 then the Executive Committee shall decide how the matter is to be resolved.

## **FIXTURES**

### **12 Match Conditions**

12.1 By the date specified in the letter accompanying the initial fixture list, each home team shall return to the Competitions Officer, the form giving date, time and venue of each of its home matches. When booking hall time for a fixture the home club shall ensure that the start and end times are reasonable when taking into consideration the anticipated travelling time of their opponents. The committee reserves the right to order a start time to be changed if they consider the timing of the match to be unreasonable.

12.2 If the venue or the start time is different from that first published at the start of the season, The home team must confirm the new venue and/or start time with the opposing team at least two weeks before the fixture.

12.3 The home team MUST gain confirmation from the match referee that they are a) able to undertake the commitment, and b) are aware of the start time and venue. This confirmation must be gained no later than 3 x 24 hours before each fixture.

12.4 At multi-game venues, an Area League, Regional League, Promotion League or EKL match starting late may not be extended into the time allocated to a subsequent EKL match, unless the hall time can be extended.

12.5 If a match does not start within five minutes of the scheduled throw-off time, the team responsible for the late start may be ordered to forfeit the match and/or have a fine imposed, at the discretion of the Executive Committee/EKA Competitions Committee.

12.6 The League shall take place between September and May. Playoffs and other such matches.

12.7 All matches will be played with the shot-clock.

12.8 Clubs will make every effort to comply with the venue standards as set out by the Executive Committee.

### **13 Postponements**

13.1 Any club with two or more players involved in International matches on the same day as a scheduled fixture (or preceding day for an away match) is entitled to apply to have one of their club's fixture(s) postponed. (Or both fixtures if four or more players are involved.)

13.2 Any team with two or more referees or officials involved in International matches on the same day as the scheduled fixture (or preceding day for an away match) is entitled to apply to have one of their club's fixture(s) postponed.

13.3 Once the definitive fixture list is published, except as provided for here, in rule 13.1 and 13.2 above or due to rule 31, no club may postpone a fixture. In exceptional circumstances a team may apply to the committee for a postponement provided at least 6 days notice is given (i.e. by 9 p.m. on a Monday for the following Sunday). In the event of bad weather in one location, making it unsafe for people to travel to a fixture may, by agreement, be postponed.

13.4 For any granted postponement, the committee shall advise both teams of the date by which the postponed match must be played (normally within 28 days but the Executive Committee reserves the right to shorten or lengthen this period should circumstances warrant it). The home team shall then give the away team two alternative dates during this set period when they would be able to re-arrange the postponed match and the away team shall then mutually agree one of these dates as the date for the re-arranged game. Both teams shall then advise the committee of the new date. If the committee is not advised of the re-arranged date within 7 days of the postponement being granted then it may impose a date on both teams.

13.5 In order to facilitate fixture completion, the Committee shall have the power to state when and where a game will be played.

### **14 Unfulfilled matches**

14.1 If a club fails to field a team it may forfeit the match. If both clubs are at fault, the fixture may be declared void and no points awarded.

14.2 In the first instance clubs will be deducted 2 points and pay a fine of £10.

14.3 In the second instance clubs will be deducted 2 points and will pay a fine of £25.

14.4 In the third instance clubs will be deducted 2 points and will pay a fine of £50 and their position within the Regional League will be reviewed by the Regional League representatives.

14.5 Clubs causing a fixture to be unfulfilled on the published date shall be responsible for all costs incurred by the opposition; these shall include irrecoverable hall costs, referee's fees and expenses (if the referee attended the hall) and reasonable, accountable travelling expenses or telephone calls. Claims must be made in writing within 10 days of the fixture and shall be determined by the League Administrator(s). The SERL shall pay any agreed sum to the innocent club and shall be responsible for the collection of the due total from the guilty club.

14.6 If the referee abandons a match the reason for the abandonment shall be reported to the League Co-ordinator(s) by the referee. After consideration of the report, the League Administrator(s) may take any action that they consider appropriate including, in cases of misconduct, referring the matter to the EKA disciplinary committee.

## **15 Withdrawal from the League**

In the event of a team withdrawing from the League, all fees paid, or due to be paid, by that team shall be forfeited. If less than 75% of the team's scheduled fixtures have been completed at the time of withdrawal, all results of these matches will be declared void and shall be deleted from the records. If 75% or more of the scheduled fixtures have been completed, then the remaining fixtures will be forfeited to the opponents.

## **16 Colours**

16.1 Clubs must specify the colour of their playing kit to the SERL Competitions Administrator at the beginning of the season.

16.2 Where two teams play in similar colours, the away team shall change in all League fixtures.

16.3 In play-off matches the Committee shall decide which team is designated as "away".

16.4 If the home team wishes to play in an alternative kit to that specified at the beginning of the season, they must inform the away team and the SERL Competitions Coordinator(s) at least 14 x 24 hours before the fixture is due to take place.

16.5 Failure to comply with the above playing kit rules could lead to a fine as set out in the appendix.

## **COMPOSITION OF TEAMS**

### **17 EKL**

Only 1 players that has previously started in an EKL match in that weekend, may play down into the SERL team. Substitutes for an EKL match are deemed not to have started in the EKL match. Where teams do not have an EKL fixture the administrator will take the starting line-up from the previous EKL match.

### **17a SERL 1 to SERL 2**

1 Player that had previously started in a SERL 1 match in that weekend may play down to a SERL 2 match. Substitutes for a SERL 1 match are deemed not to have started in the SERL 1 match. Where teams do not have a SERL 1 fixture the administrator will take the starting line-up from the previous SERL 1 match.

## **18 Match Form**

18.1 The captain of each team shall be responsible for furnishing a full list of his/her team's starting players on the official match form. Only those players named on the match form may start the game.

18.2 The match form, together with the teams pitch side list, shall be made available for verification by the referee at least 15 minutes prior to the game.

18.3 Substitute players should only be added to the form if they participated in the match and their cards shall be checked after the match by the referee.

18.4 Failure to comply with the above Match Form rules could lead to a fine as set out in the appendix.

18.5 FixturesLive updates must be completed with 24 hours of the match including all scorers and could lead to a fine as set out in the appendix.

## **19 Substitutions**

19.1 Teams are allowed to make up to 8 substitutions. Previously substituted players may return to the game within the maximum number of 8 substitutions and to any division and at any time. Players may not be substituted and then immediately go back into the game, but must wait for a break of play, before being allowed to return to the match as a substitute.

19.2 Squads will be up to maximum of 16 players.

19.3 If in the event of an injured player occurring once all substitutions have been made, the referee may allow a previously substituted player to return to the field of play.

## **QUALIFICATIONS OF PLAYERS FOR PLAY OFF MATCHES**

### **21 Eligibility**

20.1 For any play-off match a player must have been registered for the club before 31<sup>st</sup> January in the current season and have been in the starting line-up in at least four of the club's SERL or Area League matches in the current or preceding season.

The names of players in the squad for the playoff match must be submitted to the SERL Co-ordinator(s) at least 6x24 hours before the match is due to take place to enable their eligibility to be checked.

## **REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS**

### **22 Registration Requirements**

22.1 Any player wishing to take part in the SERL must be registered (for the club they wish to play for) in accordance with the EKA Rules and Constitution before the first fixture in which he/she intends to take part. The date of any registration shall be the date that the Registrations Coordinator receives the registration form.

22.2 Each player must be registered and approved by the EKA Competitions Sub-Committee as a fully registered National Player on Fixtures Live. Once approved the team manager must show a copy of their teams pitchside list, which will include the players photo, registration number and date of birth. This must be available for inspection by the referee prior to each game. (See rule 18.2).

22.3 Players under the age of 18 on the day of the fixture shall not take part in the League without the prior permission of the EKA Competitions Committee. This permission shall be obtained by completion of the appropriate form and sending it to the EKA National League Officer at least 14 days in advance.

22.4 A player who, in the current or previous season, was a registered member of a club in a different National Association must have written authorisation from the club concerned, to transfer their registration to the EKA and in compliance with EKA transfer regulations.

## 23 Transfers

23.1 Once registered, a player may not play for any other club in the SERL in the current season until the EKA Competitions Sub-Committee has approved his/her transfer of registration. A player will be eligible to play for his/her new club immediately after the transfer has been approved in writing.

23.2 Any transfer must be made in accordance with the EKA Rules.

24.3 After 31<sup>st</sup> January, a player who transfers to another club may only play for that club's SERL side, if the circumstances are exceptional (eg the player has moved house / job by more than 100 miles). The new club must apply to the SERL Administrator for permission to play the transferred player, after the EKA has approved his/her transfer.

## 24 Unregistered or ineligible players

24.1 Where a club plays a player when he/she is not registered for that club or is not eligible to play then that club shall be fined and may be ordered to forfeit the game(s) concerned.

24.2 In the case of a club playing a player who has, in the same season, played for a different club in the SERL without being transferred, or who is ineligible under rule 22 to play in the promotion play-offs, the offending team shall automatically forfeit the match and a fine may also be imposed.

## REPORTS

### 25 Forms

25.1 The match referee must send the official match forms for all SERL matches to the SERL Administrator(s) no later than the day following the match.

25.4 Should the forms referred to in 25.1 not be received within seven days, then the referee or club concerned may be fined or have other action taken against them.

## 26 Reporting results

26.1 By 8 p.m. on the day of the match (or immediately afterwards for matches ending after this time, and also taking into consideration teams that have travelled out of area) **both** clubs shall ensure that the result of the match and scorers and officials are entered correctly on the on Fixtures Live. This can be either done via the Fixtures Live service or directly into Fixtures Live. If the result is entered incorrectly by one team, the other team must inform the Administrators, immediately. Failure to do so will render the club liable to a fine.

26.2 Each club must, within 2 days of the match, enter the names of the all participating players (including substitutes), all goals by type and time of the substitution on the Fixtures Live website. Failure to do so will render the club liable to a fine.

26.2 If a match is not played both clubs must inform the league coordinator explaining the circumstances.

## **27 Falsification**

Any falsification of a Match Report Form will render the captain concerned liable to suspension and his/her club will be fined at the rate set out in the Appendix.

## **REFEREES**

### **28 Appointments**

28.1 Referees will be appointed by the competition administrator, in conjunction with the EKA Referees Committee and Area Associations.

28.2 Where possible, named appointments will be made.

28.3 In exceptional circumstances, where due to clashes of match times, an excessive demand for referees from other competitions, or other individual causes of unavailability limiting the number of referees available for appointment, the home area association will be responsible for supplying a referee.

28.4 Clubs must accept up to seven such appointments per team entered in the SERL 1. For the purposes of these allocations, appointments to EKA competitions made to individuals attached to a particular club would count as part of this allocation.

28.5 It should be noted that making referee appointments to clubs in this way is seen as a course of last resort where the normal procedure in 28.2 cannot cover all fixtures. Hence there is no minimum 'quota' that a club has to meet, merely an expectation that if the need arises then a club will fulfil the matches allocated to it.

28.6 If a club should refuse such an appointment then they may be liable to have points deducted and / or a fine imposed

28.7 Clubs in the SERL must have at least 2 fully qualified and active referees, at least one of whom must be at Grade 1 and refereeing at SERL 1 level if asked. Clubs not fulfilling this requirement may be fined or refused future entry to the SERL in the following season.

28.8 SERL actively supports the development of referees. All member Associations will be responsible for developing referees within their areas and liaising with the EKA Referees Sub-committee to further develop referees.

28.9 Each club will furnish the Administrator(s) a list of referees who will be available to officiate at SERL matches.

### **29 Fees**

29.1 The home team shall pay the referee the prescribed fee, as set out in the appendix, prior to the game (in cash if the referee so desires).

29.2 By completion of the appropriate form, referees may claim any excess travelling expenses or meal allowances from the SERL. The rates for these are set out in the appendix.

### **30 Requirements**

30.1 All referees must make themselves available for at least fifteen minutes before, and five minutes after, the end of each match to comply with the completion of the match form.

30.2 Referees are required to forward details of any misconduct occurring during or immediately after the match and to inform the EKA Disciplinary Committee. Failure to comply with any part of this rule may result in disciplinary action being taken against the referee.

### **31 Non-appearance**

In the event of the non-appearance of the appointed referee, a substitute referee should be found, if possible, but if this cannot be done then the match shall be postponed.

### **MISCONDUCT**

32 In all cases where the referee either

- (a) sends from the playing area a player, coach, substitute or other person attached to the team (red card) or
- (b) warns a player, coach, substitute or other person attached to the team (yellow card) or
- (c) formally warns the captain as to his team's behaviour or
- (d) is aware of misconduct by spectators then he/she is required to submit, within 3 days of the match, a full report of the incident(s) to the EKA Competitions Secretary where it will be dealt with using the EKA Disciplinary Regulations. The referee shall also note on the match form, using the code specifying the offence, that he/she has given a red or yellow card. With respect to misconduct where a yellow/red card was not shown, the referee is obliged to inform the club concerned that the alleged misconduct is being reported.

### **PROTESTS**

33 The SERL League Administrator(s) must be notified, in writing, by the Club Secretary (or Match Secretary) of any protest connected with the playing of a match within 48 hours of the match concerned. A fee, as set out in the Appendix must accompany the protest. The referee must be advised by the team captain, immediately after the match concerned, of the intention to protest. Notice of such protest must be made on both the official match form by the captain adding the words "UNDER PROTEST" next to the result and by the referee also reporting the fact.

34 No protest against the hall, equipment or late starting will be entertained unless the referee is told before the game and the official match form is suitably endorsed.

35 Any appeals against decisions of the Committee concerning protests must be made in accordance with rule 4.

## **FINES**

36 The League Administrators(s) shall have the power to fine clubs to the maximum rates set out in the Appendix for the breach of any part of these competition rules. If these are not deemed to be sufficient, the Executive Committee may be asked to approve an adequate penalty.

37 All fines due to the SERL or EKA must be paid within 14 days of their imposition. Failure to do so may mean that the fine is doubled and further action (including suspension) may be taken.

38 For any breach of these League rules, offending clubs will be fined at the Executive Committee's discretion, unless specifically stated otherwise, and the Committee shall be empowered to take such further action as is considered justified.

## **CONTINGENCIES**

39 The Committee shall have the power to make decisions on any matter not specifically covered in the rules and to vary the rules concerning the conditions of play should this be necessary for the smooth running of the competition.

## **APPENDIX OF CHARGES AND FINES APPLICABLE TO CLUBS**

Rule 4 Deposit £25

Rule 5 Failure to return trophy on time = £30 per trophy

Rule 9 Entry Fee = £50 per team for SERL 1 and £50 per team for SERL 2

Rule 12.7 Failure to use shot-clock £25, subsequent failure will incur loss of points as decided by the Executive Committee

Rule 12.10 shirts not numbered or captain without armband = £25

Rule 12.11 no scoreboard or scoreboard not updated = £25

Rule 14.1 First instance £10, Second instance £20, Third instance £30

Rule 16.5 Not informing SERL of kit colour, or not changing kit = £25

Rule 18.4 Match Forms rules = up to £25

No pitchside list 'registration card' available = £2 per player

Rule 19.4 Players incorrectly moving between teams = up to £25 per player

Rule 20 Team playing short = up to £25 per player

Rule 21/22/23/24 Not registered / ineligible = up to £50 per player

Rule 24.1 Playing under age player without permission £5 per match

Rules 25 and 26 First offence = £5 Thereafter = £10

Rule 26.2 First instance £10, Second instance £20, Third instance £30.

Rule 27 Falsification of match form = £50

Rule 28.6 Failure to provide referee = £25

Rule 28.7 Failure to have 2 referees of the required standard = up to £50

Rule 29.1 Failure to pay referee on time = £10

Rule 29.1 Fees shall be £25.

Rule 29.2 See EKA Referees' subcommittee notes on travel expenses.

Rule 30.1 £10 (late arrival)

Rule 33 £10

Rule 36 Maximum fine allowed to be imposed by Competition Administrator without reference to the SERL Executive Committee = £25

## **APPENDIX TO THE RULES UNDER AGE PLAYER REQUIREMENTS**

Players under the age of 18 on the day of a match, may not play in a SERL match unless they have received permission from the EKA using the appropriate Underage Player Form.

### **PROMOTION/RELEGATION ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE END OF SEASON**

Winners of the SERL will be Champions of SERL and eligible to enter the EKL Promotion Division or similar competitions to gain promotion to the EKL by invitation from the EKA Competitions Sub-Committee.

### **LEVEL SCORES IN PLAY-OFFS OR FINALS**

If the aggregate scores are level at the end of normal time then golden goal extra time will be played. This shall operate as follows:

1. The teams line up as they were for the start of the match, but including any substitutions that have been made during the match.
2. A toss shall be made and the winners shall start the extra time period with a throw off from the centre of the field and shall be referred to below as the home team.
3. If the home team scores in their first attack (i.e. with the away team not having had a possibility to attack) then the away team shall have an opportunity to attack and score. Their attack is deemed to be over when a player from the home team, standing in his/her attack zone has possession of the ball. In this case the requirement that both teams have had an opportunity to attack has been met with the home team declared the winners. If the home team does not score with their first attack then the first team to score is the winner.
4. If the home team scores during their first attack and this is matched by the away team scoring in their first attack following the home team's score, then the game continues with the teams changing ends and the home team restarting the match. The provisions set out in (iii) apply and the game will continue in the same way until a winner is achieved or the allocated time (ten minutes) elapses. However, if at the end of the ten-minute period the away team is attacking, with each team having scored in their first attack after every re-start, then they must be allowed to complete their attack (see iii when their attack is deemed over).
5. If after ten minutes there is no winning score then penalties will be taken as set out below.

To decide a game by penalties the 8 players who were taking part in the match at the end of the extra time period shall take a penalty alternately, with the starting team decided by a toss. The team scoring the most goals will be declared the winner. Should the scores still be level after these players have taken a penalty, then 'sudden death' shall apply with penalties taken by the same members of the teams who took the first series and in the same order until each team has taken the same number of penalties and one team has scored more than the other. If a winner has been determined before the series of penalties has been completed then the remaining penalties need not be taken.

## **REQUIREMENTS TO BE MET TO TAKE PART IN REGIONAL PLAYOFFS**

From the end of the 2014/15 season, in order to be eligible for entry into the EKL Promotion Division, a team must be ranked 1 or 2 in a Regional Competition. The Regional Competition must have been approved and meet the criteria laid out by the EKA Competitions Sub Committee. The combined membership of the regional league must be more than 15% of the total National Membership.

The figures this will be based on will be those from the previous year's Annual Development Plans (ADPs)/affiliation data collected from fixtureslive.

## **REQUIREMENTS TO BE MET ANNUALLY BY ALL CLUBS TAKING PART IN THE ENGLISH KORFBALL PREMIER LEAGUE (EKL) or EKL PROMOTION LEAGUE**

To take part in the EKL a club must take an active role in the Development in their Area Association. Area Associations will be asked to endorse a Club's participation in the EKL, only if they have met these criteria. Clubs who do not have their Area Association's endorsement will not be accepted into the EKL.

Any Club who fails to gain their Area Associations' endorsement, may appeal this decision using the EKA Appeals Procedure.

Eligibility for the EKL will be decided upon by the Competitions Sub-Committee and the Rules associated to the EKL. These rules will be binding upon any SERL team wishing to enter the EKL.