



uhlsport Hampshire Premier Football League

Dear All

It has been agreed that the League will look to have more stringent ground grading requirements than the minimum laid out in the FA's own RFL recommended minimum requirements.

The League has a good reputation in respect of the facilities our member clubs have over other Regional Feeder Leagues around the country and in introducing these requirements early if your club are looking to progress to Step 6 of the FA's National League system, part of the minimum requirements needed for that level will have already been carried out

In addition to the FA's recommended minimum requirements, the league will prefer the following:

For the Senior Division:

Hard Standing and a Fixed Perimeter Rail at least 80 metres in length on at least one side, but where the venue is shared with other sports such as cricket, as a bend around a corner of the pitch 40 metres on each side is acceptable.

Having a permanent fixed barrier on all 4 sides is preferred and any club in Division 1 who has this may be considered more favourably for promotion to the Senior Division than a side which does not.

Dugouts for 8 persons will be mandatory. Previous suggestions for seats or additional seats will no longer be accepted. Fixed or Portable Dugouts are both acceptable and must be in place prior to any promotion application to the Senior Division being deemed as successful.

Pitch Sizes – A minimum of 100 metres long x 64 metres wide is preferred rather than the minimum 90 metres x 45 metres. Any club looking for promotion to the FA's National League system be aware, your pitch will need to be a minimum of the larger size to be considered.

For Clubs in Both Divisions:

There must be refreshment facilities available at all HPFL arranged matches for spectators and officials even if the match is moved to an alternative venue. Mobile Catering vans, Vending Machines are acceptable.

No Longer Required

As the majority of referees do not use them at the venues which already have them, There will no longer be a requirement for audible warnings to be fitted. For those venues which do have them and the referee does wish to use them, then that's fine, but there will no longer be requirement to have one fitted.

Completion Dates

For any building Works required to meet the enhanced minimum requirements, clubs will have until 31st March of that particular season (so 2026-27 season is 31st March 2027) to have these completed. Clubs which fail to do so may be relegated from the Senior Division or declined promotion to the Senior Division from Division 1.

From the 2027-28 season onwards any work required to maintain Senior Division status or if you are looking to be promoted to the Senior Division will need to be completed by the 31st March of that playing season.

Yours faithfully

uhlsport Hampshire Premier Football League Committee