



Premier League
Professional
Development League

Handbook

Season 2021/22

Professional Development League

Contents

Club Information	02
Format	11
Fixtures	12
Rules of the Professional Development League	24



Professional Development League Club Information

Barnsley

Correspondence Address: Oakwell Stadium,
Grove Street, Barnsley, S71 1ET
Tel: 01226 211211
Email: academy@barnsleyfc.co.uk

Academy Manager: Bobby Hassell
Email: academy@barnsleyfc.co.uk

Lead Coach: Martin Devaney
Tel: 01226 211211
Email: academy@barnsleyfc.co.uk

Home Venue Address: Oakwell Training
Ground, Grove Street, Barnsley, S71 1ET

Administration: Jenny Pead
Position: Academy Secretary
Tel: 01226 211211
Mobile: 07412 465922
Email: jenny.pead@barnsleyfc.co.uk

First Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Red
Shorts: White
Socks: Red
GK Shirts: Green
GK Shorts: Green
GK Socks: Green

Second Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Green
Shorts: Green
Socks: Green
GK Shirts: Red
GK Shorts: Red
GK Socks: Red

Bristol City

Correspondence Address: Robins High
Performance Centre, Clevedon Road, Failand,
Bristol, BS8 3TN
Tel: 07877 757473
Email: suzanne.coombs@bcfc.co.uk

Academy Manager: Gary Probert
Email: gary.probert@bcfc.co.uk

Lead Coach: Alex Ball
Tel: 07796 053995
Email: alex.ball@bcfc.co.uk

Home Venue Address: As above

Administration: Suzanne Tarring-Coombs
Position: Operations Manager
Tel: 07877 757473
Email: suzanne.coombs@bcfc.co.uk

First Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Red
Shorts: White
Socks: Red
GK Shirts: Black and Fuchsia
GK Shorts: Black
GK Socks: Black

Second Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Black
Shorts: Black
Socks: Black
GK Shirts: Cyan Blue and Fuchsia
GK Shorts: Cyan Blue
GK Socks: Cyan Blue

Club Information

Cardiff City

Correspondence Address: Cardiff City
Stadium, Leckwith Road, Cardiff, CF11 8AZ
Tel: 02920 643784
Email: scott.dommett@cardiffcityfc.co.uk

Academy Manager: James McCarthy
Email: james.mccarthy@cardiffcityfc.co.uk

Lead Coach: Steve Morison
Tel: 07525 709002
Email: steve.morison@cardiffcityfc.co.uk

Home Venue Address: Leckwith Stadium,
Leckwith Road, Cardiff, CF11 8AZ

Administration: Scott Dommett
Position: Football Administrator
Tel: 02920 643784
Mobile: 07522 240104
Email: scott.dommett@cardiffcityfc.co.uk

First Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Blue
Shorts: Blue
Socks: Blue
GK Shirts: Black
GK Shorts: Black
GK Socks: Black

Second Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Pink
Shorts: Black
Socks: Black
GK Shirts: Green
GK Shorts: Green
GK Socks: Green

Charlton Athletic

Correspondence Address: Charlton Athletic
Training Ground, Sparrows Lane, New Eltham,
London, SE9 2JR
Tel: 020 8294 2097

Academy Manager: Steve Avory
Email: steve.avory@cafc.co.uk

Lead Coach: Anthony Hayes
Tel: 07949 872706
Email: anthony.hayes@cafc.co.uk

Home Venue Address: As above

Administration: Ruth Corry
Position: Head of Academy Business
Operations
Tel: 0208 294 2097
Mobile: 07803 523275
Email: ruth.corry@cafc.co.uk

First Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Red
Shorts: White
Socks: Red
GK Shirts: Orange
GK Shorts: Orange
GK Socks: Orange

Second Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: White
Shorts: Black
Socks: White
GK Shirts: Pink
GK Shorts: Pink
GK Socks: Pink



Club Information

Colchester United

Correspondence Address: Florence Park,
Grange Road, Tiptree, Essex, CO5 0UH
Tel: 01206 755109
Email: laura.small@colchesterunited.net

Home Venue Address: As above

First Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Blue
Shorts: Blue
Socks: White

GK Shirts: Grey
GK Shorts: Grey
GK Socks: Grey

Academy Manager: Dave Huzzey
Email: dave.huzzey@colchesterunited.net

Lead Coach: Richard Hall
Email: richard.hall@colchesterunited.net

Administration: Laura Small
Position: Lead Academy Administrator
Tel: 01206 755109
Mobile: 07792 934552
Email: laura.small@colchesterunited.net

Second Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Green and Black Camo
Shorts: Black
Socks: Black

GK Shirts: Orange
GK Shorts: Orange
GK Socks: Orange

Coventry City

Correspondence Address: Sky Blue Lodge,
Leamington Road, Ryton-on-Dunsmore,
CV8 3FL
Tel: 02476 639 484
Email: football.operations@ccfc.co.uk

Home Venue Address: Alan Higgs
Centre, Allard Way, Coventry, CV3 1HW

First Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Sky Blue
Shorts: Sky Blue
Socks: Sky Blue
GK Shirts: Black
GK Shorts: Black
GK Socks: Black

Academy Manager: Dan Bolas
Email: dan.bolas@ccfc.co.uk

Lead Coach: Luke Tisdale
Tel: 07968 764 553
Email: luke.tisdale@ccfc.co.uk

Administration: Ben Kilby
Position: Football Operations
Tel: 02476 217 674
Mobile: 07506 989135
Email: ben.kilby@ccfc.co.uk

Second Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Navy and Pink Halves
Shorts: Navy and Pink
Socks: Navy and Pink
GK Shirts: Yellow
GK Shorts: Yellow
GK Socks: Yellow

Club Information

Crewe Alexandra

Correspondence Address: Crewe Alexandra
FC, Alexandra Park, Wettenhall Road,
Reaseheath, Nantwich, Cheshire, CW5 6DF
Tel: 07788 432463
Email: pantrobus@crewealex.net

Home Venue Address: As above

First Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Red
Shorts: White
Socks: Red

GK Shirts: Green
GK Shorts: Green
GK Socks: Green

Academy Manager: Aidan Callan
Email: acallan@crewealex.net

Lead Coach: Alex Morris
Tel: 07894 448669
Email: amorris@crewealex.net

Administration: Paul Antrobus
Position: Administration
Tel: 01270 213014 x3112
Mobile: 07788 432463
Email: pantrobus@crewealex.net

Second Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Black
Shorts: Black
Socks: Black

GK Shirts: Green
GK Shorts: Green
GK Socks: Green

Hull City

Correspondence Address: The Croft, Bishop
College, Bishop Burton, Beverley, HU17 8QG
Tel: 01482 358398
Email: tina.nixon@hulltigers.com

Home Venue Address: As above

First Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Amber
Shorts: Black
Socks: Amber

GK Shirts: Beetroot Purple
GK Shorts: Beetroot Purple
GK Socks: Beetroot Purple

Academy Manager: Richard Naylor
Email: richard.naylor@hulltigers.com

Lead Coach: Andy Dawson
Tel: 01482 358398
Email: andy.dawson@hulltigers.com

Administration: Tina Nixon
Position: Academy Secretary
Tel: 01482 458398
Email: tina.nixon@hulltigers.com

Second Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Burgundy
Shorts: Burgundy
Socks: Burgundy

GK Shirts: Sulphur Spring
GK Shorts: Sulphur Spring
GK Socks: Sulphur Spring



Club Information

Ipswich Town

Correspondence Address: Ipswich Town Training Ground, Playford Road, Ipswich, IP4 5RQ
Tel: 01473 662720

Academy Manager: Lee O'Neill
Email: lee.oneill@itfc.co.uk
Lead Coach: Kieron Dyer
Tel: 07500 800 700
Email: kieron.dyer@itfc.co.uk

Home Venue Address: As above

Administration: Clair Westlake
Position: Football Operations Department – Academy Games Programme
Tel: 01473 662 742
Email: clair.westlake@itfc.co.uk

First Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Blue
Shorts: White
Socks: Blue
GK Shirts: Yellow
GK Shorts: Yellow
GK Socks: Yellow

Second Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: White
Shorts: Black
Socks: White
GK Shirts: Pink
GK Shorts: Pink
GK Socks: Pink

Millwall

Correspondence Address: Millwall FC Training Ground, Calmont Road, Bromley, Kent, BR1 4BZ
Tel: 0207 740 3464
Email: kwilson@millwallplc.com

Academy Manager: Scott Fitzgerald
Email: scottfitz@millwallplc.com
Lead Coach: Kevin Nugent
Tel: 0207 740 3464
Email: knugent@millwallplc.com

Home Venue Address: As above

Administration: Karen Wilson
Position: Executive PA to the First Team
Tel: 0207 740 3464
Mobile: 07786 517 020
Email: kwilson@millwallplc.com

First Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Navy
Shorts: White
Socks: Navy
GK Shirts: Green
GK Shorts: Green
GK Socks: Green

Second Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: White Camouflage
Shorts: Navy
Socks: White
GK Shirts: Orange
GK Shorts: Orange
GK Socks: Orange

Club Information

Peterborough United

Correspondence Address: Weston Homes Stadium, London Road, Peterborough, PE2 8AL
Tel: 07940218679
Email: alicia.rangolam@theposh.com

Academy Manager: Kieran Scarff
Email: kieran.scarff@theposh.com

Lead Coach: Matthew Etherington
Tel: 07540 636800
Email: matthew.etherington@theposh.com

Home Venue Address: Idverde Training Ground, Oundle Road, Peterborough, PE2 7EA

Administration: Alicia Rangolam
Position: Academy Secretary
Tel: 01733 865669
Mobile: 07940 218679
Email: alicia.rangolam@theposh.com

First Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Blue
Shorts: White
Socks: Blue
GK Shirts: Cordovan
GK Shorts: Cordovan
GK Socks: Cordovan

Second Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Black
Shorts: Black
Socks: Black
GK Shirts: Green
GK Shorts: Green
GK Socks: Green

Queens Park Rangers

Correspondence Address: QPR Academy, QPR Training Ground, Crane Lodge Road, Cranford, TW5 9PQ

Academy Manager: Alex Carroll
Email: alex.carroll@qpr.co.uk

Lead Coach: Andrew Impey
Email: andrewi@qpr.co.uk

Home Venue Address: Harlington Sports Ground, Sipson Lane, UB3 5AQ

Administration: Adam Kaliniecki/
Dominic Gayler
Position: Head of Academy Operations and Player Care/Academy Operations Assistant
Tel: 020 3198 7140
Mobile: 07483 006987/07483 006892
Email: adam.kaliniecki@qpr.co.uk/
dominic.gayler@qpr.co.uk

First Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Blue and White Hoops
Shorts: White
Socks: White
GK Shirts: Black
GK Shorts: Black
GK Socks: Black

Second Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Black
Shorts: Black
Socks: Black
GK Shirts: Blue
GK Shorts: Blue
GK Socks: Blue



Club Information

Sheffield United

Correspondence Address: Sheffield United Academy, Firhill Crescent, Sheffield, S4 7DJ
Tel: 0114 253 7200
Email: nick.sheppard@sufc.co.uk

Home Venue Address: As above

First Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Red and White
Shorts: Black
Socks: Red
GK Shirts: Black
GK Shorts: Black
GK Socks: Black

Academy Manager: Jack Lester
Email: jack.lester@sufc.co.uk
Lead Coach: Paul Heckingbottom
Email: paul.heckingbottom@sufc.co.uk

Administration: Nick Sheppard
Position: Head of Academy Operations and Administration
Tel: 07866 000207
Email: nick.sheppard@sufc.co.uk

Second Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Black
Shorts: Black
Socks: Black
GK Shirts: Orange
GK Shorts: Orange
GK Socks: Orange

Sheffield Wednesday

Correspondence Address: Sheffield Wednesday FC Training Ground, Middlewood Road, Sheffield, S6 1TF
Tel: 03700 201867
Email: craig.chappell@swfc.co.uk

Home Venue Address: As above

First Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Blue and White
Shorts: Black
Socks: Black
GK Shirts: Orange
GK Shorts: Orange
GK Socks: Orange

Academy Manager: Steven Haslam
Email: steven.haslam@swfc.co.uk
Lead Coach: Lee Bullen
Tel: 07720 051962
Email: lee.bullen@swfc.co.uk

Administration: Craig Chappell
Position: Academy Operations Lead
Tel: 07845 700634
Email: craig.chappell@swfc.co.uk

Second Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Pink
Shorts: Black
Socks: Pink
GK Shirts: Navy
GK Shorts: Navy
GK Socks: Navy

Club Information

Swansea City

Correspondence Address: Landore Academy, Beaufort Road, Swansea, SA6 8AX
Tel: 01792 556520
Email: rebeccagigg@swanseaacity.com

Home Venue Address: As above

First Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: White
Shorts: White
Socks: White
GK Shirts: Blue
GK Shorts: Blue
GK Socks: Blue

Academy Manager: Mark Allen
Email: markallen@swanseaacity.com
Lead Coach: Kristian O'Leary
Tel: 07912 898794
Email: kristianooleary@swanseaacity.com

Administration: Rebecca Gigg
Position: Assistant Football Secretary
Tel: 01792 616401
Mobile: 07741 659545
Email: rebeccagigg@swanseaacity.com

Second Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Black
Shorts: Black
Socks: Black
GK Shirts: Yellow
GK Shorts: Yellow
GK Socks: Yellow

Watford

Correspondence Address: Watford FC Training Ground, Bell Lane, London Colney, Hertfordshire, AL2 1BZ

Home Venue Address: As above

First Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Yellow and Black
Shorts: Black
Socks: Yellow
GK Shirts: Purple
GK Shorts: Purple
GK Socks: Purple

Academy Manager: Richard Johnson
Email: richard.johnson@watfordfc.com
Lead Coach: Omer Riza
Tel: 07834 732 861
Email: omer.riza@watfordfc.com

Administration: Tom Holder
Position: Assistant Football Secretary
Mobile: 07825 745723
Email: tom.holder@watfordfc.com

Second Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Red
Shorts: Red
Socks: Red
GK Shirts: Mint Green
GK Shorts: Mint Green
GK Socks: Mint Green



Club Information

Wigan Athletic

Correspondence Address: Stadium Way
Academy, Stadium Way, Wigan, WN5 0UN
Tel: 01942 774000
Email: academy@wiganathletic.com

Home Venue Address: Christopher Park
Training Ground, Woodrush Road, Standish
Lower Ground, Wigan, WN6 8LB

First Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Blue and White
Shorts: Blue
Socks: Blue

GK Shirts: Green
GK Shorts: Green
GK Socks: Green

Academy Manager: Gregor Rioch
Email: g.rioch@wiganathletic.com

Lead Coach: Peter Murphy
Tel: 07949 343049
Email: p.murphy@wiganathletic.com

Administration: Natalie Seaton
Position: Academy Secretary
Tel: 01942 774000
Mobile: 07765 243385
Email: academy@wiganathletic.com

Second Choice Kit Colours

Shirts: Red
Shorts: Red
Socks: Red

GK Shirts: Pink
GK Shorts: Pink
GK Socks: Pink

Professional Development League Format

North	South
Barnsley	Bristol City
Coventry City	Cardiff City
Crewe Alexandra	Charlton Athletic
Hull City	Colchester United
Peterborough United	Ipswich Town
Sheffield United	Millwall
Sheffield Wednesday	Queens Park Rangers
Wigan Athletic	Swansea City
	Watford

- Clubs will play matches within their regional group on home and away basis. Additional matches against each Club within the other region will be staged on either a home or away basis.
- The North group are to play each other home and away totalling 14 games. They will then play each team from the South group once meaning they receive a total of 23 league games.
- The South group are to play each other home and away totalling 16 games. They will then play each team from the North group once meaning they receive a total of 24 league games.
- At the end of the league season, the winner of each regional league shall play the runner up of the other league in the semi-finals, with Clubs which finished first being the home club.
- The winners of each semi-final shall compete in the final, the winner of which shall be deemed the winner of the Professional Development League.



Professional Development League

Fixtures

Monday 16 August 2021			
Cardiff City	v	Wigan Athletic	13:00
Ipswich Town	v	Coventry City	13:00
Swansea City	v	Peterborough United	14:00
Tuesday 17 August 2021			
Colchester United	v	Barnsley	13:00
Millwall	v	Crewe Alexandra	13:00
Queens Park Rangers	v	Hull City	13:00
Watford	v	Sheffield United	13:00
Bristol City	v	Sheffield Wednesday	14:00
Friday 20 August 2021			
Sheffield Wednesday	v	Watford	14:00
Monday 23 August 2021			
Coventry City	v	Colchester United	13:00
Crewe Alexandra	v	Ipswich Town	13:00
Wigan Athletic	v	Bristol City	13:00
Hull City	v	Millwall	19:00
Tuesday 24 August 2021			
Barnsley	v	Charlton Athletic	13:30
Peterborough United	v	Queens Park Rangers	14:00
Sheffield United	v	Swansea City	19:00
Friday 27 August 2021			
Watford	v	Crewe Alexandra	14:00
Sunday 29 August 2021			
Cardiff City	v	Peterborough United	13:00

Fixtures

Monday 30 August 2021			
Colchester United	v	Sheffield Wednesday	19:00
Swansea City	v	Coventry City	19:00
Tuesday 31 August 2021			
Queens Park Rangers	v	Barnsley	13:00
Charlton Athletic	v	Sheffield United	14:00
Wednesday 1 September 2021			
Bristol City	v	Hull City	13:00
Monday 6 September 2021			
Ipswich Town	v	Wigan Athletic	13:00
Wednesday 8 September 2021			
Peterborough United	v	Watford	13:00
Friday 10 September 2021			
Sheffield Wednesday	v	Cardiff City	11:00
Sheffield United	v	Bristol City	19:00
Monday 13 September 2021			
Coventry City	v	Millwall	13:00
Crewe Alexandra	v	Queens Park Rangers	13:00
Wigan Athletic	v	Charlton Athletic	13:00
Hull City	v	Swansea City	19:00
Friday 17 September 2021			
Charlton Athletic	v	Sheffield Wednesday	13:00
Watford	v	Hull City	14:00
Monday 20 September 2021			
Swansea City	v	Crewe Alexandra	14:00



Fixtures

Tuesday 21 September 2021			
Bristol City	v	Peterborough United	13:00
Cardiff City	v	Sheffield United	13:00
Millwall	v	Barnsley	13:00
Queens Park Rangers	v	Coventry City	13:00
Monday 27 September 2021			
Coventry City	v	Sheffield Wednesday	13:00
Cardiff City	v	Millwall	13:00
Ipswich Town	v	Bristol City	13:00
Tuesday 28 September 2021			
Barnsley	v	Sheffield United	13:00
Colchester United	v	Swansea City	13:00
Queens Park Rangers	v	Watford	13:00
Peterborough United	v	Hull City	14:00
Wednesday 29 September 2021			
Crewe Alexandra	v	Wigan Athletic	13:00
Friday 1 October 2021			
Millwall	v	Queens Park Rangers	13:00
Monday 4 October 2021			
Sheffield Wednesday	v	Barnsley	13:00
Charlton Athletic	v	Colchester United	14:00
Swansea City	v	Ipswich Town	14:00
Hull City	v	Crewe Alexandra	19:00

Fixtures

Tuesday 5 October 2021			
Sheffield United	v	Coventry City	13:00
Wigan Athletic	v	Peterborough United	13:00
Bristol City	v	Cardiff City	13:00
Monday 11 October 2021			
Colchester United	v	Wigan Athletic	19:00
Tuesday 12 October 2021			
Barnsley	v	Ipswich Town	13:00
Friday 15 October 2021			
Sheffield Wednesday	v	Peterborough United	13:00
Monday 18 October 2021			
Coventry City	v	Wigan Athletic	13:00
Hull City	v	Sheffield United	19:00
Tuesday 19 October 2021			
Cardiff City	v	Charlton Athletic	13:00
Queens Park Rangers	v	Colchester United	13:00
Watford	v	Bristol City	13:00
Millwall	v	Swansea City	13:30
Wednesday 20 October 2021			
Crewe Alexandra	v	Barnsley	13:00
Friday 22 October 2021			
Charlton Athletic	v	Millwall	14:00
Monday 25 October 2021			
Ipswich Town	v	Cardiff City	12:00
Swansea City	v	Watford	14:00



Fixtures

Tuesday 26 October 2021			
Bristol City	v	Queens Park Rangers	13:00
Monday 1 November 2021			
Wigan Athletic	v	Hull City	13:00
Charlton Athletic	v	Bristol City	13:00
Ipswich Town	v	Colchester United	13:00
Sheffield United	v	Sheffield Wednesday	19:00
Swansea City	v	Cardiff City	19:00
Tuesday 2 November 2021			
Barnsley	v	Coventry City	13:00
Millwall	v	Watford	13:30
Wednesday 3 November 2021			
Crewe Alexandra	v	Peterborough United	13:00
Monday 8 November 2021			
Colchester United	v	Millwall	19:00
Tuesday 9 November 2021			
Barnsley	v	Hull City	13:00
Coventry City	v	Crewe Alexandra	13:00
Peterborough United	v	Sheffield United	13:00
Queens Park Rangers	v	Ipswich Town	13:00
Watford	v	Charlton Athletic	13:00
Bristol City	v	Swansea City	14:00
Monday 15 November 2021			
Sheffield Wednesday	v	Wigan Athletic	13:00

Fixtures

Friday 19 November 2021			
Peterborough United	v	Barnsley	13:00
Sheffield United	v	Wigan Athletic	19:00
Saturday 20 November 2021			
Hull City	v	Coventry City	17:30
Monday 22 November 2021			
Ipswich Town	v	Millwall	13:00
Swansea City	v	Charlton Athletic	13:00
Tuesday 23 November 2021			
Colchester United	v	Watford	13:00
Queens Park Rangers	v	Cardiff City	13:30
Wednesday 24 November 2021			
Crewe Alexandra	v	Sheffield Wednesday	13:00
Monday 29 November 2021			
Charlton Athletic	v	Queens Park Rangers	13:00
Tuesday 30 November 2021			
Cardiff City	v	Colchester United	13:00
Watford	v	Ipswich Town	13:00
Millwall	v	Bristol City	13:30
Friday 3 December 2021			
Sheffield Wednesday	v	Hull City	13:00
Monday 6 December 2021			
Wigan Athletic	v	Barnsley	13:00
Ipswich Town	v	Charlton Athletic	13:00
Colchester United	v	Bristol City	19:00



Fixtures

Tuesday 7 December 2021			
Coventry City	v	Peterborough United	13:00
Cardiff City	v	Watford	13:00
Queens Park Rangers	v	Swansea City	13:30
Sheffield United	v	Crewe Alexandra	19:00
Monday 13 December 2021			
Wigan Athletic	v	Crewe Alexandra	13:00
Hull City	v	Peterborough United	19:00
Tuesday 14 December 2021			
Barnsley	v	Sheffield Wednesday	13:00
Coventry City	v	Sheffield United	13:00
Bristol City	v	Ipswich Town	13:00
Watford	v	Queens Park Rangers	13:00
Millwall	v	Cardiff City	13:30
Swansea City	v	Colchester United	14:00
Monday 20 December 2021			
Charlton Athletic	v	Cardiff City	13:00
Swansea City	v	Millwall	14:00
Tuesday 21 December 2021			
Bristol City	v	Watford	13:00
Colchester United	v	Queens Park Rangers	13:00
Monday 10 January 2022			
Crewe Alexandra	v	Hull City	13:00
Sheffield Wednesday	v	Coventry City	13:00

Fixtures

Tuesday 11 January 2022			
Cardiff City	v	Ipswich Town	11:00
Peterborough United	v	Wigan Athletic	13:00
Sheffield United	v	Barnsley	13:00
Millwall	v	Charlton Athletic	13:00
Queens Park Rangers	v	Bristol City	13:00
Watford	v	Swansea City	13:00
Monday 17 January 2022			
Charlton Athletic	v	Watford	13:00
Ipswich Town	v	Queens Park Rangers	13:00
Swansea City	v	Bristol City	19:00
Tuesday 18 January 2022			
Millwall	v	Colchester United	13:30
Monday 24 January 2022			
Wigan Athletic	v	Sheffield United	13:00
Tuesday 25 January 2022			
Peterborough United	v	Sheffield Wednesday	13:00
Barnsley	v	Crewe Alexandra	13:00
Coventry City	v	Hull City	13:00
Cardiff City	v	Swansea City	13:00
Colchester United	v	Ipswich Town	13:00
Watford	v	Millwall	13:00
Bristol City	v	Charlton Athletic	14:00



Fixtures

Monday 7 February 2022			
Peterborough United	v	Coventry City	13:00
Charlton Athletic	v	Swansea City	13:00
Hull City	v	Sheffield Wednesday	19:00
Tuesday 8 February 2022			
Cardiff City	v	Queens Park Rangers	13:00
Watford	v	Colchester United	13:00
Millwall	v	Ipswich Town	13:30
Wednesday 9 February 2022			
Barnsley	v	Wigan Athletic	13:00
Crewe Alexandra	v	Sheffield United	13:00
Monday 14 February 2022			
Hull City	v	Barnsley	17:30
Monday 21 February 2022			
Sheffield Wednesday	v	Crewe Alexandra	13:00
Wigan Athletic	v	Coventry City	13:00
Ipswich Town	v	Watford	13:00
Tuesday 22 February 2022			
Bristol City	v	Millwall	13:00
Colchester United	v	Cardiff City	13:00
Queens Park Rangers	v	Charlton Athletic	13:30
Monday 28 February 2022			
Wigan Athletic	v	Sheffield Wednesday	13:00
Ipswich Town	v	Swansea City	13:00

Fixtures

Tuesday 1 March 2022			
Coventry City	v	Barnsley	13:00
Peterborough United	v	Crewe Alexandra	13:00
Cardiff City	v	Bristol City	13:00
Colchester United	v	Charlton Athletic	13:00
Queens Park Rangers	v	Millwall	13:00
Sheffield United	v	Hull City	19:00
Monday 7 March 2022			
Hull City	v	Wigan Athletic	17:30
Friday 11 March 2022			
Charlton Athletic	v	Ipswich Town	13:00
Watford	v	Cardiff City	13:00
Monday 14 March 2022			
Crewe Alexandra	v	Coventry City	13:00
Swansea City	v	Queens Park Rangers	14:00
Sheffield Wednesday	v	Sheffield United	19:00
Tuesday 15 March 2022			
Barnsley	v	Peterborough United	13:00
Bristol City	v	Colchester United	13:00
Saturday 19 March 2022			
Hull City	v	Cardiff City	17:30
Monday 21 March 2022			
Coventry City	v	Watford	13:00
Crewe Alexandra	v	Bristol City	13:00
Wigan Athletic	v	Millwall	13:00



Fixtures

Tuesday 22 March 2022			
Barnsley	v	Swansea City	13:00
Peterborough United	v	Charlton Athletic	13:00
Sheffield Wednesday	v	Ipswich Town	13:00
Sheffield United	v	Colchester United	14:00
Tuesday 29 March 2022			
Sheffield United	v	Peterborough United	13:00
Wednesday 30 March 2022			
Watford	v	Wigan Athletic	14:00
Friday 1 April 2022			
Millwall	v	Peterborough United	13:00
Monday 4 April 2022			
Swansea City	v	Sheffield Wednesday	11:30
Ipswich Town	v	Hull City	13:00
Charlton Athletic	v	Coventry City	14:00
Tuesday 5 April 2022			
Colchester United	v	Crewe Alexandra	11:00
Cardiff City	v	Barnsley	13:00
Queens Park Rangers	v	Sheffield United	13:00
Friday 22 April 2022			
Sheffield Wednesday	v	Queens Park Rangers	11:00
Saturday 23 April 2022			
Hull City	v	Colchester United	17:30

Fixtures

Monday 25 April 2022			
Barnsley	v	Bristol City	13:00
Coventry City	v	Cardiff City	13:00
Crewe Alexandra	v	Charlton Athletic	13:00
Wigan Athletic	v	Swansea City	13:00
Tuesday 26 April 2022			
Peterborough United	v	Ipswich Town	13:00
Sheffield United	v	Millwall	19:00
Monday 2 May 2022			
Ipswich Town	v	Sheffield United	13:00
Charlton Athletic	v	Hull City	14:00
Tuesday 3 May 2022			
Bristol City	v	Coventry City	13:00
Cardiff City	v	Crewe Alexandra	13:00
Millwall	v	Sheffield Wednesday	13:00
Queens Park Rangers	v	Wigan Athletic	13:00
Watford	v	Barnsley	14:00
Colchester United	v	Peterborough United	19:00



Rules of the Professional Development League

Contents

Definitions	25
General Provisions.....	26
Participation in and Structure of the League	26
End of Season Competition	27
Fixtures.....	27
League Table	28
Venues	30
Pitch Size.....	30
Pitch Protection.....	31
Artificial Surfaces.....	31
Technical Areas.....	31
Giant Screens	32
Hospitality	32
Finance and Broadcasting.....	32
Postponement of Matches	32
Kick-off and Re-start.....	32
Team Sheet.....	33
Substitutes.....	33
Duration of Matches.....	33
Notification of Match Results.....	33
Strip, Match Ball and Other Equipment.....	34
Match Officials	34
League Observers	35
Medical.....	35
Players' Eligibility.....	36
Codes of Conduct.....	37
Disciplinary Procedures.....	37
Appendix 1	39

Rules of the Professional Development League

Season 2021/22

Definitions

1. In these Rules, terms defined in Premier League Rule A.1 and rule 1 of the Youth Development Rules shall have the meanings set out in those rules save where a different definition is specifically adopted in these Rules.
2. In addition, in these Rules the following terms shall have the following meanings:
 - 2.1. **“Category 2 Academy”** means an Academy which has been designated as Category 2 by the Professional Game Board;
 - 2.2. **“Home Club”** means the Member Club at whose venue a Match is or was or should be or should have been played or, where the Member Clubs participating in that Match share a venue, the Member Club whose name first appears in respect of that Match on the fixture list;
 - 2.3. **“Laws of the Game”** means the laws governing the playing of association football as authorised from time to time by the International Football Association Board;
 - 2.4. **“Match”** means a match played in the League;
 - 2.5. **“Member Club”** means a club in membership of the League;
 - 2.6. **“MOAS”** means the “Match Officials Administration System”, an online system operated by The Football Association, through which information relating to Matches and the performance of Match Officials can be submitted electronically;
 - 2.7. **“Premier League”** means the Football Association Premier League Limited;
 - 2.8. **“Premier League Rules”** means the rules for the time being of the Premier League;
 - 2.9. **“Professional Development League”** means the competition organised by the Premier League and designated as such and “League” in these Rules shall have the same meaning;
 - 2.10. **“Season”** means the period commencing on the date of the first Match in the League and ending on the date of the last such Match;
 - 2.11. **“these Rules”** means the rules for the time being in force governing the organisation and operation of the League;
 - 2.12. **“Stadium”** has the meaning set out in Premier League Rule A.1.192 save that in the case of a Member Club which is in member of The Football League, it shall mean its ground registered pursuant to The Football League’s regulations;
 - 2.13. **“Under 16”** has the meaning in Youth Development Rule 2;
 - 2.14. **“Under 23”** means a player under the age of 23 as at 1 January in the year in which the Season concerned commences (ie, for Season 2021/22 born on or after 1 January 1998);



Rules of the Professional Development League

Season 2021/22

2.15. **“Visiting Club”** means the Member Club which has played, should play or which should have played a Match at the venue of a Home Club or, where the Member Clubs participating in the Match share a ground, the Member Club whose name last appears in respect of that Match on the fixture list; and

2.16. **“Weekend”** means from Friday to Tuesday inclusive.

General Provisions

3. Unless the context otherwise requires:

- 3.1. words importing the singular shall include the plural and vice-versa; and
- 3.2. words importing any particular gender shall include all genders.

4. The headings in these Rules are for convenience only and shall not affect their interpretation.

5. Premier League Rule B.12 shall apply to any discretion, right or power expressed in these Rules to be exercisable by the Board.

6. Subject to Rule 7, no alteration shall be made to these Rules unless it has first been submitted to and approved by clubs in membership of the Premier League in accordance with the provisions of the Articles.

7. Rule 6 shall not apply to any matter which is stated in these Rules to be a matter which shall be determined by Member Clubs.

8. In the event of any conflict between the provisions of these Rules and the provisions of the Premier League Rules, the provisions of the Premier League Rules shall prevail, save where expressly stated otherwise in these Rules.

9. The League shall be governed, managed and organised by the Premier League, acting by and through the Board, subject to the provisions of the Articles, the Premier League Rules, and these Rules.

10. Where a Member Club is required to submit a form to the Board or to the Premier League pursuant to these Rules, the Board may instead require that the information to be provided in the form is submitted via such other manner as it may determine.

Participation in and Structure of the League

11. Membership of the League shall be limited to and (subject to Rule 12 and Youth Development Rule 163) mandatory for those Premier League clubs and Football League clubs that hold licences to operate Category 2 Academies.

12. Membership of the League shall cease if:

- 12.1. a Member Club is expelled from the Premier League or Football League (as appropriate) or from the League; or
- 12.2. a Member Club ceases to hold a licence to operate a Category 2 Academy.

Rules of the Professional Development League

Season 2021/22

13. The League shall be called the “Professional Development League” to which name may be added the name of any sponsor. Each Member Club shall comply with any instructions given by the Premier League with regard to use by Member Clubs of the official title of the competition and any official logo which the Premier League may issue from time to time for use in the competition.

14. Matches shall:

- 14.1. take place during the Games Programme Schedule; and
- 14.2. be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

15. The League shall consist of two regional leagues, the composition of which shall be determined by the Board.

16. In respect of any Match in Season 2021/22, whether to be staged at a stadium or at a Club’s training ground, the participating Clubs must comply with such protocol as published by the League from time to time regarding COVID-19.

17. Each Member Club shall play:

- 17.1. each other Member Club in its regional league twice (once home and once away); and
- 17.2. each Member Club in the other regional league once (either home or away as determined by the Board).

18. Rules 33 to 38 shall apply to the league tables recording the results of Matches played in each of the regional leagues.

19. The winner of each regional league shall receive 25 commemorative medals to distribute to such of their players and Officials as they think fit.

End of Season Competition

20. The winner of each regional league shall play the runner-up of the other league in the semi-finals of the League, with the Member Club which finished first being the Home Club.

21. The winners of each semi-final shall compete in the final, the winner of which shall be deemed to be the winner of the Professional Development League.

22. Each of the above Matches (semi-finals and final) shall be played at the Home Club’s Stadium, or at a neutral venue to be determined by the Premier League, and if the latter, the Home Club for the final shall be determined by a draw undertaken by the Board.

Fixtures

23. The Board shall publish the fixture list which shall set out the date and kick-off time of the Matches.

24. All intellectual property and other rights in the League’s fixture list shall belong to the Premier League.



Rules of the Professional Development League

Season 2021/22

25. Matches shall be played on the dates and at the kick-off times set out in the fixture lists (within the Weekend designated for that Match by the Board in accordance with Rule 23), unless the date and/or kick-off time is amended pursuant to Rules 26 to 31.
26. Each Member Club is only permitted to play up to four Matches per Season outside of the Weekend designated for that Match by the Board in accordance with Rule 23. In each case, the Home Club may, no later than five weeks before the date of the Match, liaise with the Visiting Club with a view to selecting a date and/or kick-off time on which the Match shall be played
27. If the Member Clubs are unable to agree on the date and/or kick-off time of a Match (within the Weekend designated for that Match by the Board in accordance with Rule 23), the Home Club's choice shall prevail save that the Visiting Club may apply to the Board to exercise its power pursuant to Rule 30 to determine the date of the Match (within the Weekend designated by the Board in accordance with Rule 23) if the date chosen by the Home Club would result in manifest unfairness to the Visiting Club.
28. The Home Club must notify the Board of any change to the date and/or kick-off time of a Match (within the Weekend designated by the Board in accordance with Rule 23) within 10 days of either Member Club informing the other that it wishes the Match to take place on a date and/or a kick-off time other than that set out in the fixture list.
29. The right of the Visiting Club to apply to the Board set out in Rule 27 must be exercised within 14 days of either Member Club informing the other that it wishes the Match to take place on a date and/or kick-off time other than that set out in the fixture list.
30. The Board shall have the power at any time to change the date upon which a Match is to be played. Before exercising such a power the Board will consult with and take into account any representations made by the Member Clubs participating in the Match in question and any other Member Club which may be affected by the proposed change.
31. Unless otherwise authorised by the Board or permitted by these Rules, Matches shall be played on any of Friday evenings, Saturdays, Sundays, Mondays or Tuesdays.
32. No later than seven days before the date on which a Match is to be played in accordance with the fixture list, the Home Club shall send PDL Form 1 to the Visiting Club, the appointed Match Officials and the Board. Where the Match Officials have not been appointed by this time, the Home Club shall send PDL Form 1 to the Match Officials as soon as it is notified of such appointment.

League Table

33. Unless otherwise determined by either the Board or a Commission pursuant to the provisions of the Premier League Rules, the winner of a Match shall score three points and each Member Club participating in a Match which is drawn shall score one point.

Rules of the Professional Development League

Season 2021/22

34. The results of Matches shall be recorded by the Board in a table containing, in respect of each Member Club, the following information:
 - 34.1. the number of Matches played;
 - 34.2. the number of Matches won, drawn and lost as a Home Club;
 - 34.3. the number of Matches won, drawn and lost as a Visiting Club;
 - 34.4. the number of goals scored in each Match by and against that Member Club; and
 - 34.5. the numbers of points scored by each Member Club.
35. The position of Member Clubs in the table referred to in Rule 35 shall be determined by the number of points scored, the Member Club having scored the highest number of points being at the top of the table and the Member Club having scored the lowest number of points being at the bottom.
36. If any two or more Member Clubs have scored the same number of points, their position in the table shall be determined on goal difference, that is to say, the difference between the total number of goals scored by and against a Member Club in Matches, and the higher or highest placed Member Club shall be the Member Club with the higher or highest goal difference.
37. If any two or more Member Clubs have scored the same number of points and have the same goal difference, the higher or highest placed Member Club shall be the Member Club having scored the most goals.
38. If any two or more Member Clubs have scored the same number of points, have the same goal difference and have scored the same number of goals, they shall be deemed to occupy the same position in the table.
39. If at the end of a Season any two or more Member Clubs occupy the same position in the table, the Board shall determine the means by which they shall be separated (which may include, by way of example only, by means of a play-off match or the results of Matches between the Member Clubs concerned).
40. The results of Matches and the table shall be published on the online system provided by the Premier League and distributed to the media by the Board as soon as practicable after each Weekend on which Matches are played.
41. In all matters relating to any interruption to or potential curtailment of the League, the provisions of Premier League Rules C.18 to C.30 shall apply, with references to 'Club' and the 'Competition' in those rules interpreted as reference to Clubs participating in the League, as applicable.
42. The winner of the League shall receive a trophy, which it shall return to the Board in good order and condition not later than three weeks before the final Matches of the following Season, and both the winner of and the runner up of the League shall receive 25 commemorative medals to distribute to such of their players and Officials as they think fit.

Rules of the Professional Development League

Season 2021/22

Venues

43. Each Member Club shall submit to the Board in writing by no later than 1 June preceding each Season details of the venue or venues at which it proposes to play its Matches.
44. The Board may at any time inspect the facilities at any venue submitted to the Board in accordance with Rule 43 above, against the criteria set out in Appendix 1 and, if they are considered to be unsuitable for the playing of Matches, order that they be played elsewhere.
45. All Matches are to be made accessible to spectators, including representatives of each relevant Member Club and the public, save where dispensation from this requirement is granted by the Board or where Rule 16 applies.
46. Each Member Club shall take all reasonable steps to maintain its pitch in good condition throughout the Season and the Board may require a Member Club to take such steps as the Board shall specify if it is not satisfied that the pitch is being maintained to an adequate standard.
47. Save where dispensation is granted by the Board, each Member Club shall play at least five of its home Matches at its Stadium.
48. Each Member Club shall play its home Matches at the venue or venues submitted in writing to the Board, save where the Board gives its prior written permission for such Matches to be played at an alternative venue.
49. Member Clubs' training grounds or Academy venues will be permitted for the staging of home Matches in the League (save for those which must be played at the Home Club's Stadium) even if:
 - 49.1. the training ground or Academy does not have the ability to accommodate a minimum of 500 spectators under cover; and
 - 49.2. the playing pitches are not floodlit (or alternatively they are floodlit but the floodlights have a lux value of lower than 250 lux) provided that Matches are played during the hours of daylight.
50. Venues that are primarily used to play rugby matches may be used for Matches with the prior approval of the Board which shall have regard to the provisions set out within the first paragraph of Appendix 1 to these Rules.

Pitch Size

51. Unless otherwise permitted by the Board, the length of any pitch on which a Match is to be played shall be 105 metres and its breadth 68 metres.
52. The dimensions of a pitch at a Stadium shall be as determined by the Board for the purposes of the Premier League competition.

Rules of the Professional Development League

Season 2021/22

Pitch Protection

53. In the case of Matches played at Stadia, in order to protect the pitch, unless otherwise mutually agreed between both participating Member Clubs, the following procedures shall be adopted by players and Officials in the periods immediately before and after a Match and at half time:
 - 53.1. the pitch shall only be used for warming up or warming down by players named on PDL Form 3;
 - 53.2. pre-match warming up by either team shall not commence until 45 minutes before the kick-off time at the earliest, shall not last for more than 30 minutes, and shall end no later than 10 minutes before the kick-off time;
 - 53.3. if portable goals are provided they shall be used for all goalkeeping drills other than crossing practice;
 - 53.4. the goalmouth area shall be used by goalkeepers only if portable goals are not provided or for crossing practice and then only for not more than 20 minutes;
 - 53.5. for the purposes of warming up and warming down each team shall use only part of the pitch between the edge of a penalty area and the half way line or as otherwise directed by the groundsman;
 - 53.6. all speed and stamina work shall be undertaken off the pitch parallel to the touchline opposite the side to be patrolled by the assistant referee or, in the absence of sufficient space, in that part of the pitch described in Rule 53.5 above or as otherwise directed by the groundsman;
 - 53.7. players using the pitch at half time shall give due consideration to any other activity or entertainment taking place on the pitch at the same time;
 - 53.8. any warming down after the conclusion of the Match shall last for no longer than 15 minutes and for that purpose neither penalty area shall be used; and
 - 53.9. the Home Club may water the pitch at half time provided that it gives reasonable notice to the referee and the other Member Club that it intends to do so and that any such watering is carried out evenly over the entire length and width of the pitch.

Artificial Surfaces

54. No Match shall be played on an Artificial Surface.

Technical Areas

55. The technical area shall be occupied during a Match only by substitute players and Officials whose names appear on PDL Form 3. Only Officials whose names appear on the team sheet and who are situated in the technical area may communicate instructions to players during Matches.
56. Any player who is dismissed from the field of play shall proceed immediately to the dressing room and shall not occupy the technical area.

Rules of the Professional Development League

Season 2021/22

Giant Screens

57. Except with the prior written consent of the Board, giant screens or the like shall not be used during a Match to relay to spectators closed circuit pictures of the Match at which they are present.
58. Any consent given under the provisions of the above Rule shall be subject to the condition set out in Premier League Rule K.38.

Hospitality

59. Each Home Club shall provide hospitality arrangements for the Directors and other Officials of the Visiting Club.

Finance and Broadcasting

60. The cost of staging Matches, including the fees and expenses of Match Officials, shall be met by the Home Club and the Visiting Club shall meet the cost of its attendance thereat.
61. Unless the Board otherwise determines in any particular case, charges for admission to Matches may be made at the discretion of and retained by the Home Club.
62. No Transmission of a game in the League shall take place without the prior written permission of the Board.

Postponement of Matches

63. A Match shall not be postponed or abandoned except with the written consent of the Board or on the instructions of the appointed referee who may instruct that the Match be postponed or abandoned only if he considers that the pitch is unfit for, or if adverse weather conditions preclude, the playing of the Match.
64. Upon a Match being postponed or abandoned in in PDL Form 2 and the Board will exercise its power under Rule 30 and fix a date upon which the Match shall be played.
65. Except in the case of a Match which, without either the Home Club or the Visiting Club being at fault, is postponed or abandoned under the provisions of Rule 63, any Member Club which causes the postponement or abandonment of a Match will be in breach of these Rules.

Kick-off and Re-start

66. Unless otherwise decided by the Board, after consultation with both the Home Club and the Visiting Club, and subject to Rule 67, the kick-off time of Matches shall be no earlier than 11.00am and no later than 7.00pm at the Home Club's discretion, and in any case shall be confirmed on PDL Form 1.
67. The Visiting Club may request the Board to determine a kick-off time other than that set by the Home Club pursuant to Rule 66. If it does so, the Board will consider representations by both Member Clubs before determining a kick-off time for the Match.

Rules of the Professional Development League

Season 2021/22

68. Each Member Club participating in a Match shall adhere to the kick-off time and the Home Club shall report any delay to the kick-off or the re-start to the Board together with any explanation for such delay.

69. Any Member Club which without good reason causes the kick-off or re-start of a Match to be delayed from the time fixed will be in breach of these Rules.

Team Sheet

70. At least 30 minutes before the kick-off time of a Match, a senior member of the coaching staff and the team captain of each participating Member Club shall attend a briefing with the referee and hand to him and the Visiting Club a duly completed team sheet in PDL Form 3, which shall also include the names and job titles of up to five of its Officials who will occupy the trainers' bench during the Match.
71. If any player or substitute player named in the team sheet is injured after the submission of the team sheet but before kick-off, upon the referee being satisfied that the injury is such that the player in question cannot reasonably be expected to play, the name of another player may be added to the team sheet as a player or substitute player.
72. No player whose name does not appear on the team sheet shall take the field of play in that Match.

Substitutes

73. Subject to Rule 73A, a Member Club may include in its team sheet up to five substitute players, three of whom may take part in the Match subject to the conditions set out in Law 3 of the Laws of the Game. Not more than three substitute players of each Member Club shall warm up at the same time on the perimeter of a pitch upon which a Match is being played.
- 73A. In each Match in Season 2021/22 to be played on or after 1 October 2021, in addition to the three substitutions permitted by Rule 73, each Club shall also be permitted to utilise up to two 'concussion substitutes' and/or two 'additional substitutes' (as appropriate) from those substitutes listed on the team sheet, strictly in accordance with the provisions of the International Football Association Board's 'Additional permanent concussion substitutes – Protocol B' ('IFAB Protocol') and any associated guidance issued by the League. Each Club must also provide the League with such information as is necessary to ensure compliance with the IFAB Protocol.

Guidance

In the event that all three substitutes have entered the field of play and the IFAB Protocol is subsequently activated then the remaining two substitutes and, if necessary, two Players already substituted may be utilised as 'concussion substitutes' and/or 'additional substitutes'.

Duration of Matches

74. Subject to the provisions of Law 7 of the Laws of the Game and Rule 75, the duration of a Match shall be 90 minutes.
75. The Board may order a Match which for whatever reason lasts for less than 90 minutes to count as a completed Match or to be replayed.



Rules of the Professional Development League

Season 2021/22

76. The half-time interval shall be 15 minutes.

Notification of Match Results

77. Within 30 minutes of the conclusion of a Match the Home Club shall send by email (or, where this is impossible, by fax) both PDL Form 4 and PDL Form 4a duly completed to: (a) the Premier League's appointed media data collection; (b) the Premier League's distribution partner; (c) the Premier League; and (d) the Visiting Club. Each Member Club shall also submit the information set out in PDL Form 4 and PDL Form 4a (as appropriate) via the online system provided by the League by 12 noon on the first Working Day after the Match and retain a copy of its completed Forms.

Strip, Match Ball and Other Equipment

78. Each Member Club shall ensure that its players only wear in Matches Strips which have been registered with the Premier League pursuant to Premier League Rules M.17 to M.20 (save that the provisions of Premier League Rule M.21 shall apply to a Member Club's last home or away Match), or, in the case of a Member Club which is not a member of the Premier League, in accordance with the relevant regulations of the Football League concerning the registration of Strip.
79. When playing in a Match the players of each Member Club shall wear Strip which in the opinion of the referee is of a sufficient contrast that Match Officials, spectators and television viewers will be able to distinguish clearly between the two teams. In selecting the choice of Strip, the following order of precedence shall apply unless authorised by the Board:
- 78.1. 1st priority – the outfield players of the Home Club, who shall wear their Home Strip;
 - 78.2. 2nd priority – the outfield players of the Visiting Club;
 - 78.3. 3rd priority – the Home Club goalkeeper; and
 - 78.4. 4th priority – the Away Club goalkeeper.
80. When playing in Matches each player shall wear a shirt on the back of which shall be prominently displayed his shirt number.

Guidance

The shirt number need not be his squad number as the provisions of Premier League Rules M.1 to M.4 do not apply in the League.

81. The colour and design of the shirt and socks worn by the goalkeeper when playing in Matches shall be such as to distinguish him from the other players and from Match Officials.
82. The captain of each team appearing in a Match shall wear an armband indicating his status as such.
83. The Board shall have power to specify the equipment and facilities to be provided by Member Clubs for the playing of Matches.

Rules of the Professional Development League

Season 2021/22

84. In all Matches, the Home Club shall provide, and the participating Member Clubs shall only use, the official ball approved from time to time by the league (either the Premier League or The Football League) in which the Home Club's first team competes.

Match Officials

85. The Football Association (liaising with PGMOL) shall arrange the appointment of Match Officials to officiate at each Match and shall determine the terms and conditions of their appointment.
86. The Football Association shall give notice of the appointment of the Match Officials to the participating Member Clubs and to the Match Officials so appointed who shall each immediately acknowledge their appointments to The Football Association, the Board and to the Home Club.
87. The Match Officials shall wear the black Match uniform provided by the Premier League, save that where that uniform clashes with the Strip worn by either the Home Club or the Visiting Club, the Member Club with the clashing Strip shall provide the Match Officials with an alternative colour shirt (in good, clean and presentable condition and in the correct size) to wear during the Match.

Guidance

Given that the Match Officials shall be wearing black Match uniform approved by the Premier League, each Member Club shall be aware if there is a risk that its Strip will clash with that of the Match Officials. Where there is such a risk, the obligation shall be on that Member Club to bring an alternative colour match uniform (also approved by the Premier League) for the Match Officials to wear.

88. At the conclusion of each Match, the Home Club shall pay fees and expenses to Match Officials at such rates as the Board shall determine from time to time.
89. No Member Club or Official shall either directly or indirectly make or offer to make any payment to or confer or offer to confer any benefits upon any Match Official.
90. Prior to the commencement of a Match at which he has been appointed to officiate, the referee shall:
- 90.1. together with the other Match Officials, arrive at the ground not less than two hours before the kick-off time (and shall be greeted on arrival and granted access to the ground by a representative of the Home Club);
 - 90.2. decide on the fitness of the pitch for the playing of the Match and
 - 90.2.1. if the referee considers it to be unfit, instruct that the Match be postponed or that the kick-off be delayed; or
 - 90.2.2. if the referee considers it to be necessary, instruct that the pitch be re-marked;
 - 90.3. receive PDL Form 3 from each participating Member Club;
 - 90.4. check and approve any football to be used in the Match;
 - 90.5. ensure that the players' Strip complies with the provisions of Rule 79; and
 - 90.6. decide the position of assistant referees for the kick-off and their direction of patrol and ensure that each carries a flag.

Rules of the Professional Development League

Season 2021/22

91. Match Officials may be accompanied by representatives of PGMOL whose role is to assess the performance of the relevant Match Official. In such cases, the PGMOL representatives must be provided with all necessary access and assistance by the Home Club in order to carry out his duties, including, without limitation, the ability to access the Match Official's dressing room and given prime seats from which to view the Match.
92. Players and Officials shall comply with any lawful instruction given to them by a Match Official officiating at a Match.
93. As soon as practicable after officiating at a Match the referee shall complete and send to the Board PDL Form 3 and shall report to him in writing (via MOAS or as otherwise directed by the Board):
- 93.1. on the standard of facilities for Match Officials provided by the Home Club;
- 93.2. on the late arrival at the ground of any of the Match Officials giving reasons therefor;
- 93.3. on the condition of the pitch;
- 93.4. on the circumstances surrounding the kick-off or re-start being delayed (if applicable);
- 93.5. on any player being cautioned or sent off (if applicable);
- 93.6. on either assistant referee taking over as referee and stating the reasons therefor (if applicable); and
- 93.7. on any breach of these Rules by Member Clubs, players, Officials, Managers and other Match Officials (if applicable).
94. A referee shall likewise report to The Football Association any breach of The Football Association rules.

League Observers

95. The Premier League may appoint individuals to attend a Match as observers and if it does so, the Home Club shall ensure that they are allocated a prime seat and allowed access to all areas of the ground.

Rules of the Professional Development League

Season 2021/22

Medical

96. At each Match:
- 96.1. the Home Club shall procure the attendance of the following individuals as set out for Category 2 Academies in Youth Development Rule 216.1:

Academy Category	Individuals who must be present
Category 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a doctor who holds a current Advanced Trauma Medical Management in Football ("ATMMiF") certificate or an equivalent or higher qualification approved by the Board or a paramedic and (for Premier League Clubs) an ambulance; and a physiotherapist (or Sports Therapist) who holds a current ATMMiF or an equivalent or higher qualification approved by the Board

- 96.2. the doctor or a fully qualified and equipped paramedic and an ambulance referred to in Rule 96.1 shall be available throughout and for a reasonable time before and after the Match (including during the teams' warming-up) and shall only leave the venue after both teams have returned to the dressing rooms and if the senior member of the medical staff of each participating Member Club present at the Match venue has confirmed that their attendance is no longer required.
- 96.3. Both participating Member Clubs shall procure the attendance of a physiotherapist (or Sports Therapist) qualified as set out in Youth Development Rule 216.1;
- 96.4. no Person other than those mentioned in Rule 96 shall be permitted to treat players or Match Officials on the field of play, save that the Visiting Club shall be entitled to bring a doctor (qualified as set out in Youth Development Rule 216.1) with it, if it so chooses, who may also treat its players on the field of play;
- 96.5. each doctor, physiotherapist, therapist and paramedic shall, when present at a Match, carry the pocket concussion tool which is set out at Appendix 4A of the Premier League Rules;
- 96.6. the Home Club shall provide a minimum of two stretchers and a suitable team of stretcher bearers to remove injured players or Match Officials from the field of play;
- 96.7. the Home Club shall provide a medical treatment and examination room close to both teams' dressing rooms; and
- 96.8. the Home Club shall ensure that the mandatory equipment prescribed by the Board from time to time is available.
- 96.9. a defibrillator must be maintained at the venue at which the Match is taking place.

Rules of the Professional Development League

Season 2021/22

97. The Home Club shall before each Match make available to the Visiting Club an emergency care/medical information sheet in the manner described by the Board from time to time.

Players' Eligibility

98. Eligibility in the League shall be limited to players in age groups Under 16 to Under 23, save that each Member Club may name no more than three older outfield players and one older goalkeeper on its team sheet for any Match.

99. A player shall not be named on the team sheet and/or play in a Match unless:

- 99.1. the Member Club holds his registration under the provisions of the Premier League Rules (in the case of a Member Club which is in membership of the Premier League) or the Regulations of The Football League (in the case of a Member Club which is in membership of The Football League); or
- 99.2. he is a Trialist provided that if another club holds his registration, that club has given written permission (to be copied to the Board) for the player to play for the Member Club in Matches and there may be no more than five Trialists named on the team sheet for any Match (including those under the provisions of rule C1.9.1(e) of The Football Association Rules); or
- 99.3. he is an Academy Player playing under the provisions of rule C3.1.5 of The Football Association Rules; or
- 99.4. he is registered under the provisions of Rule 100; or
- 99.5. he is an amateur player or a non-contract player, provided in both cases that his participation has been permitted in writing by the Premier League in advance.

100. In order to register a player pursuant to Rule 99.4, a Member Club shall;

- 100.1. not later than 30 minutes before the kick-off time of the Match in which he is to play, procure that PDL Form 5 is signed by the player, by an Official of the Member Club and, if the form is signed on the day of Match, by the appointed referee; and
- 100.2. send PDL Form 5 to the Board so that it reaches him before the date of the Match or, in the case of the Form having been signed on the day of the Match, within six days of it having been played together with, in the case of the player who is eligible to play for a club affiliated to a National Association other than The Football Association:
- 100.2.1. the written consent of his club to the player's registration hereunder; and
- 100.2.2. written confirmation from The Football Association that an international transfer certificate has been issued in the respect of the player.

Rules of the Professional Development League

Season 2021/22

101. A registration pursuant to Rule 100:

- 101.1. may be refused by the Board in its absolute discretion (including, for the avoidance of doubt, where the Board considers that the player should instead be registered in accordance with the provisions of the Youth Development Rules);
- 101.2. may not be effected in respect of a player registered for another Premier League club or Football League club; and
- 101.3. shall expire at the end of the Season in which it commenced; or
- 101.4. may be terminated before its expiry by either the Member Club or the player, notice of such termination being given by the Member Club to the Board within 6 days thereof on PDL Form 6.

Codes of Conduct

102. Each manager of a Member Club shall conduct himself in accordance with the Code of Conduct for Managers found at Appendix 5 to the Premier League Rules and any failure to do so will constitute a breach of these Rules.
103. Each Member Club shall conduct itself in relation to managers in accordance with the Code of Conduct for Clubs found at Appendix 6 to the Premier League Rules and any failure to do so will constitute a breach of these Rules.

Disciplinary Procedures

104. The provisions of Section W of the Premier League Rules shall apply to any Member Club in breach of a League Rule and Forms 21 to 25 inclusive shall apply as appropriately adapted for the purpose.



Appendix 1 Venue Criteria

Ideally, no ground should be selected to host Professional Development League Matches where its primary use is the playing of Rugby Union or Rugby League. An alternative venue to the Club's Stadium shall be accepted if the Club that plays its first team matches at the alternative venue is a member of The Football League or National League or the National League North/National League South provided that the criteria set out in this Appendix 1 are met.

- Venues will be inspected by the Premier League at various times throughout the Season to ensure compliance with these requirements. The Premier League reserves the right to withdraw approval of a venue during a Season should its facilities no longer meet the criteria set out in this Appendix.
- Venues will be inspected by the Premier League at various times throughout the Season to ensure compliance with these requirements. The Premier League reserves the right to withdraw approval of a venue during a Season should its facilities no longer meet the criteria set out in this Appendix.
- The venue shall not be more than 45 minutes from the Member Club's Stadium.
- The venue must contain three dedicated positions for the use of analysts of the Visiting Club, one of which must be in an elevated position situated near to the half-way line with a clear view of the whole pitch.
- The venue must contain one dedicated position for the use of the Premier League's official data partner.
- The arrangements must allow the Member Club sufficient access to the venue to enable it to fulfil its fixture commitments without any undue difficulty.
- The floodlights must have a lux value of no lower than 250 lux (average).
- The dressing rooms must be no smaller than 18m². This area excludes the bathroom facilities which must incorporate a minimum of 6 showers or baths, 2 urinals, 1 WC and 1 washbasin.
- The Match Officials' dressing room must be no smaller than 6 m². This area excludes the bathroom facilities which must incorporate a minimum of 1 shower, 1 WC and 1 washbasin.
- There should also be provision for female Match Officials with a separate shower and WC.
- All dressing rooms must be clean, secure, well maintained and well ventilated.
- There must be a suitable medical room within the vicinity of the dressing rooms which must contain a treatment table, a fridge, locked cupboards and the mandatory medical equipment as prescribed by the Board from time to time. Access must not be via a dressing room.
- There must be a room with a capacity to hold a minimum of 18 people, available only to Club directors and Officials, visiting officials and VIPs. The room must have adjacent toilet facilities. Hospitality shall be provided.
- An additional room, with hospitality, must be made available for visiting Scouts.
- The playing surface shall be grass and must be of a high standard. The Premier League reserves the right to withdraw approval during a Season should the pitch fall below the necessary standard.
- The pitch dimensions should measure 105m x 68m unless this is impossible due to the nature of the ground in which case the dimensions will be assessed.
- The technical areas must be clearly marked out.
- The team benches must contain eleven seats under cover.

Appendix 1 Venue Criteria

- Parking must be provided for the Home Club's directors and Officials, the Visiting Club's directors and Officials (at least four spaces) and there must be safe parking for the coach of the Visiting Club and for the Match Officials.
- There must be safe access onto and off the field of play.

Member Clubs' training grounds or Academy venues will be accepted providing there is a secure playing area.



Professional Development League
Confirmation of Date of Match (Rule 32)

PDL Form 1

To: (1) [Visiting Club] Football Club

 (2) [Referee]

 (3) [Assistant Referee]

 (4) [Assistant Referee]

 (5) [Fourth Official]

 (6) The Board, The Premier League.

We, [Home Club] Football Club
 hereby confirm that our Match against the above Visiting Club will be played at [address
 of ground]
 on [date]

Kick-off will be at

The colours of our Strip will be:
 Shirts Shorts Socks

The colours of our goalkeeper's Strip will be:
 Shirts Shorts Socks

The colours of the Visiting Club's Strip will be:
 Shirts Shorts Socks

The colours the Visiting Club's goalkeeper's Strip will be:
 Shirts Shorts Socks

Home Club Match day contact number

Signed
 Position
 Date

Professional Development League
Notice of Postponed or Abandoned Match (Rule 64)

PDL Form 2

To : The Board
 The Premier League

Copy to : (1) [Names and addresses of Match Officials]

(2) [Visiting Club] Football Club.

We, [Home Club] Football Club hereby give notice
 that our Match against the above Visiting Club which was to have been played at
 [address of ground]

on [date] was postponed/abandoned* for the following
 reason(s)

We request the Board to determine the date and time at which the Match shall be
 played.

Signed
 Position
 Date



Match Information Record (Visiting Club) (Rule 77)

PDL Form 4a

Signed by a representative of the Visiting Club as a true record:

Signed
Position

Please email to Opta, the Home Club and the Premier League (PL2results@premierleague.com) within 30 minutes of the conclusion of the Match. Results must be confirmed to Opta (email ops-leeds@optasports.com or TEXT to 07860 017 723) within 30 minutes of the conclusion of the Match.

Professional Development League
Registration Form (Rule 100)

PDL Form 5

Player's Particulars

Surname Other name(s).....
Address.....
PostCode.....
Date of birth Nationality.....

(Note: If the player last played for a club affiliated to a national association other than The Football Association, this Form must be accompanied by the written consent of the player's club to this application and written confirmation from The Football Association that an international transfer certificate has been issued in respect of the player)

Application to Register

We hereby apply for the above-named player to be registered as a Professional Development League Player for Football Club.

Signed
Position
Date

Endorsement by Player

I consent to the above application and acknowledge pursuant to the provisions of the General Data Protection Regulation ("GDPR") and the Data Protection Act 2018, that the Football Association Premier League Limited ("Premier League") shall be holding, sharing and processing Personal Data, which may include Special Categories of Personal Data (both as defined in GDPR), for the purpose of discharging its functions as a regulatory and governing body of football. Such data will be processed in accordance with the Premier League's Player Privacy Policy, which can be accessed here: <https://www.premierleague.com/player-privacy-policy>. I agree to be bound by the Rules of the Professional Development League.

Signed
Date

*Endorsement by Referee

I hereby certify that this Form was signed as above not later than 30 minutes before the kick-off time of the applicant club's Professional Development League Match against Football Club on [date].....

Signed
Date

*to be completed if this Form is signed on the day of the Professional Development League Match

Board's Certificate

I hereby certify that I have this day registered (name of player).....
as a Professional Development League player whose registration is held by
Football Club.

SignedFor and on behalf of the Board, The Premier League

Date

Professional Development League

To: The Board
The Premier League

Notice is hereby given that on [date]

the Professional Development League registration held by

Football Club in respect of (full name of player).....

was terminated by the Club/the Player*

Signed

Position

Date

** delete as appropriate*



Premier League

Brunel Building
57 North Wharf Road

London W2 1HQ

premierleague.com

T +44 (0) 20 7864 9000

E info@premierleague.com

The Football Association Premier League Limited

Registered Office: Brunel Building, 57 North Wharf Road, London, W2 1HQ. No. 2719699 England