



WELCOME!

As we wind down for the Christmas break, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers within the clubs, Coaches, Managers, Players and everyone behind the scenes for all their hard work, week in, week out, it is very much appreciated by all.

The DDSL would like to thank our outgoing Chairman Brendan Birmingham who showed huge commitment & dedication as Chairman of the League's Board for 16 years. This is a massive achievement for anyone & we are sure all previous DDSL Committees/Clubs/Manager/Coaches/Player will join with us in wishing Brendan well for the future. Brendan will continue to be involved with St Kevins Fc, so he may be busier than ever. Best wishes to Brendan & his Family.

We would also like to remember those Board members who have passed away this year Richard (Dick) Hogan and Bobby Best (Crawford). May they Rest in Peace

We would like to thank all our Referees who continue to ref our games and wish them the best for the festive season. As you are all aware, we are still very short of Referees & really need clubs to continue to ask members to consider becoming a Referee. (details on courses for Jan further on).

*Preparation is underway for **DDSL Cup Competitions** for 2024. We will have close to 200 competitions. Many DDSL Cups remain on the missing list! If you can circulate to all manager/coaches to see if we can retrieve these Cups. We are grateful to those Clubs/Members who sponsored a Perpetual Cup for the 2023 finals. With that in mind, any club/businesses that would like to sponsor a Cup, present a Cup to the League, or in memory of someone who passed away & was very active in football - a great way to remember those people who gave many years to their clubs/football etc. Please contact Mick Kennedy at gm@ddsl.ie*

***Re-Grading** of all Boys Divisions u8's to u11's is currently in progress together with the re-grading of all the Girls Divisions from u8's to Youths. Thanks to clubs who returned over 800 surveys. There is no regrading for Boys u12's to u18's. Once the relevant Fixture Secretaries have completed their 'Draft Leagues' we will update all clubs. Club Secretaries need to forward to the relevant managers/coaches & will then have **until Friday 5th Jan 2024** to submit any requests for changes/missing teams/new teams etc.*

***U7'S New League:** U7;s academy leagues divisions - boys & girls will begin February 2024. The registration for these new u7 teams will open early January 2024 -more details to follow. In the meantime, any clubs who wish to submit their new u7's teams can forward directly to killian.travers.fixsec@ddsl.ie advising which club; standard of the team & which day Sat/Sun the team is looking to play. All players will need to be registered to avail of insurance cover etc., details to follow. (No ID or photos required)*

***Ballyowen Clubhouse:** We have now been allocated 2x 11 side grass pitches & 2x 7-a-side pitches from SDCC which will see increased activity in Ballyowen in the coming months. This will allow us arrange more 'Boys/Girls Blitzs similar to last season & other fixtures will be played on a more regular basis.*

Finally a big thank you to all our Staff, Fixtures Secretaries, Referee Allocators and volunteers who have done a tremendous job throughout the first half of the season.

Wishing everyone a safe and peaceful Christmas break.

DDSL Team



DDSL - CHRISTMAS CLOSURE DATES

DDSL Christmas Closures of Councils pitches & Jan Opening 2024

SSG Games (u8's to u11's) Both Boys & Girls...Finish SAT/SUN 9th/10th Dec 2023

All Competitive Fixtures u12+ ...finish 16th/17th Dec 2023

Opening Fixtures Jan 2024

SSG Games (u8's to u11's) Both Boys & Girls...Begin SAT/SUN 20th/21st Jan 2024.

All competitive Fixtures u12+ ...Start SAT/SUN 20th/21st Jan 2024

However where 'Competitive Teams'...u12+.....Teams/Clubs with access to all weather pitches /private pitches & would like to play any time before..... Jan 2024.....please contact our relevant DDSL Fixture Secretary.

This must be approved by all relevant DDSL Fixture Sec & Ref allocator & opposition clubs.

This will hopefully address any 'Back-Log in Fixtures....due to games been called off due to weather

Any issues, please contact your relevant DDSL Sec & DDSL Referee allocator.

All outstanding / missing results need to be sent to results@ddsl.ie before the begining of the 2nd half of the season.

An update on GDPR is now available on our website under the Governance Section on www.DDSL.IE Clubs are reminded to forward this link to all parents where possible.

The DDSL Offices will close on Thursday 21st December and re-open on Tuesday 2nd January, 2024.

DDSL - INTERLEAGUES & EMERGING TALENT

LEINSTER YOUTH INTER LEAGUE

The DDSL U18s side took part in the Youth Inter League competition. The team led by Alan Murphy, Paul Donnelly and Vinny Perth delivered two really good performances in the Youth Inter League final over two legs against Wexford. The first leg was in Leixlip Utd AFC & a big thanks to them for hosting the DDSL U18s. The players & their clubs can be very proud of their performances & their application in the sessions in the build up to the games as well as the matches themselves.



DDSL EMERGING TALENT PROGRAMME

The DDSL ETP is a programme that helps identify & develop talented young players with a view to helping them progress. The current ETP programme allows for boys & girls born in 2010, 2011 & 2012. Girls are in on Mondays & boys are in on Wednesdays. The programme kicked off back in September & is going from strength to strength. The ETP staff have been excellent in what has been delivered to date across all age groups boys & girls. Big thanks to them for giving up their time to help the young players in the DDSL. Thanks to all clubs who have supported us in the process and well done to all players who have taken part. Below is a picture of the first event Girls ETP session in the DDSL.





DDSL - GIRL'S FOOTBALL

2023 was a big year for girls' football in the DDSL and the country as a whole with the phenomenal growth of all girls' teams playing in the 2023/2024 season having more than doubled. The League has seen girls football continue to evolve from its inception to more than 420 teams across 52 leagues at present, we hope to add to this following the Christmas break.



Due to the unprecedented growth, league games from September to December were for regrading purposes, the league competitions will begin following the Christmas break in January along with the League Cup competitions due to commence in February 2024 from U/11 – U/18. At present, the increase for the girl's cup finals has increased from 8 in 2023 to 18 in May 2024, this is a testament to all the hard work put in by the girls and all involved in Clubs.



th TP Program along with League games for U/12 & U/13 being played in the home of Irish Football in Abbottstown, we will continue to expand this opportunity to other age groups in early 2024.

Many thanks to all the Coaches, Players, Secretaries, and parents from all our Clubs for their continued support in growing the game for all the girls. We will continue to expand for all and look forward to a very bright future for the girl's game.



DDSL - FOOTBALL FOR ALL

Castleknock Celtic FC in conjunction with the DDSL were delighted to run a "Football for All" blitz for boys and girls on their new astro on the 11th November, 2023.

We will be running a number of "Football for All" World Cup Tournaments in Ballyowen on the new grass pitches which will see up to 200 players - boys and girls, participate at each event. We hope the number of clubs/teams will continue to increase as we use the facilities. We are also working with the local County Councils and FAI to run additional activities for this section. More details to follow.





DDSL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DDSL CUP DATES 2024 (provisional - subject to change)

Boys Saturday Divisions	Round 1	Round 2	1/4 Final	Semi Final	Final
	Saturday	Saturday	Saturday	Saturday	
Under 11	03/02/2024	17/02/2024	09/03/2024	13/04/2024	
Under 12	03/02/2024	17/02/2024	09/03/2024	13/04/2024	
Under 13	03/02/2024	17/02/2024	09/03/2024	13/04/2024	
Under 14	10/02/2024	02/03/2024	23/03/2023	20/04/2024	
Under 15	10/02/2024	02/03/2024	23/03/2023	20/04/2024	
Under 16	10/02/2024	02/03/2024	23/03/2023	20/04/2024	
Boys Sunday Divisions	Round 1	Round 2	1/4 Final	Semi Final	Final
	Sunday	Sunday	Sunday	Sunday	
Under 11	04/02/2024	18/02/2024	10/03/2024	14/04/2024	
Under 12	04/02/2024	18/02/2024	10/03/2024	14/04/2024	
Under 13	04/02/2024	18/02/2024	10/03/2024	14/04/2024	
Under 14	11/02/2024	03/03/2024	24/03/2024	20/04/2024	
Under 15	11/02/2024	03/03/2024	24/03/2024	20/04/2024	
Under 16	11/02/2024	03/03/2024	24/03/2024	20/04/2024	
Under 17	25/02/2024	17/03/2024	07/04/1934	28/04/2024	
Under 18	25/02/2024	17/03/2024	07/04/2023	28/04/2024	
Girls Sunday Divisions	Round 1	Round 2	1/4 Final	Semi Final	Final
	Sunday	Sunday	Sunday	Sunday	
Under 11	04/02/2024	18/02/2024	10/03/2024	14/04/2024	
Under 12	04/02/2024	18/02/2024	10/03/2024	14/04/2024	
Under 13	04/02/2024	18/02/2024	10/03/2024	14/04/2024	
Under 14	11/02/2024	03/03/2024	24/03/2024	20/04/2024	
Under 15	11/02/2024	03/03/2024	24/03/2024	20/04/2024	
Under 16	11/02/2024	03/03/2024	24/03/2024	20/04/2024	
Youths	25/02/2024	17/03/2024	07/04/1934	28/04/2024	



DDSL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SFAI CUP DATES 2024

SFAI - Calendar

(2023-24 Season)

		BOYS - SUBWAY National Cup and Trophy		GIRLS - SUBWAY National Cup and Trophy		INTER LEAGUE (U14,16)		INTER LEAGUE (U12, 13, 15)			
		CUP - Boys	TROPHY - Boys	CUP - Girls	TROPHY - Girls	BOYS	GIRLS	BOYS	GIRLS	WEEKEND	
		U-14, 16	U-14, 16	U-12,13,15	U-12,13,15						
02-Sep	03-Sep									09-Sep	10-Sep
WEEKEND											
09-Sep	10-Sep									09-Sep	10-Sep
16-Sep	17-Sep									16-Sep	17-Sep
23-Sep	24-Sep	some regions (odds or evens)								23-Sep	24-Sep
30-Sep	1-Oct	Round 1		Round 1						30-Sep	1-Oct
7-Oct	8-Oct			Round 1						7-Oct	8-Oct
14-Oct	15-Oct	some regions (odds or evens)	some regions (odds or evens)							14-Oct	15-Oct
21-Oct	22-Oct	Round 2	Round 1	Round 2	Round 1		14/16 - Game 1			21-Oct	22-Oct
28-Oct	29-Oct			Round 2	Round 1	14/16 - Game 1				28-Oct	29-Oct
4-Nov	5-Nov	some regions (odds or evens)	some regions (odds or evens)							4-Nov	5-Nov
11-Nov	12-Nov	Round 3	Round 2	Round 3	Round 2	14/16 - Game 2	14/16 - Game 2		12/13/15 - Game 1	11-Nov	12-Nov
18-Nov	19-Nov			Round 3	Round 2	14/16 - Game 2		12/13/15 - Game 1		18-Nov	19-Nov
25-Nov	26-Nov	some regions (odds or evens)	some regions (odds or evens)							25-Nov	26-Nov
2-Dec	3-Dec	Round 4	Round 3							2-Dec	3-Dec
9-Dec	10-Dec				Round 3	14/16 - Game 3	14/16 - Game 3			9-Dec	10-Dec
16-Dec	17-Dec									16-Dec	17-Dec
23-Dec	24-Dec									23-Dec	24-Dec
30-Dec	31-Dec	BOYS - Cup	BOYS - Trophy	GIRLS - Cup	GIRLS - Trophy	14/16 Inter League	14/16 Inter League	12/13/15 Inter League	12/13/15 Inter League	30-Dec	31-Dec
6-Jan	7-Jan									6-Jan	7-Jan
13-Jan	14-Jan		Round 4							13-Jan	14-Jan
20-Jan	21-Jan						QUARTER FINAL	12/13/15 - Game 2	12/13/15 - Game 2	20-Jan	21-Jan
27-Jan	28-Jan			Round of 32	Round of 32	QUARTER FINAL	QUARTER FINAL			27-Jan	28-Jan
3-Feb	4-Feb	Round of 32	Round of 32							3-Feb	4-Feb
10-Feb	11-Feb						SEMI FINAL		12/13/15 - Game 3	10-Feb	11-Feb
17-Feb	18-Feb			Round of 16	Round of 16	SEMI FINAL		12/13/15 - Game 3		17-Feb	18-Feb
24-Feb	25-Feb	Round of 16	Round of 16							24-Feb	25-Feb
2-Mar	3-Mar								QUARTER FINALS	2-Mar	3-Mar
9-Mar	10-Mar									9-Mar	10-Mar
16-Mar	17-Mar	St Patricks							QUARTER FINALS	16-Mar	17-Mar
23-Mar	24-Mar	QUARTER FINALS	QUARTER FINALS	QUARTER FINALS	QUARTER FINALS					23-Mar	24-Mar
30-Mar	31-Mar	EASTER								30-Mar	31-Mar
6-Apr	7-Apr									6-Apr	7-Apr
13-Apr	14-Apr			SEMI FINALS	SEMI FINALS					13-Apr	14-Apr
20-Apr	21-Apr	SEMI FINALS	SEMI FINALS						SEMI FINAL	20-Apr	21-Apr
27-Apr	28-Apr									27-Apr	28-Apr
4-May	5-May									4-May	5-May
11-May	12-May	FINALS	FINALS	FINALS	FINALS					11-May	12-May
18-May	19-May							FINALS U12,13,15	FINALS U12,13,15	18-May	19-May
25-May	26-May									25-May	26-May
1-Jun	2-Jun									1-Jun	2-Jun
8-Jun	9-Jun									8-Jun	9-Jun
15-Jun	16-Jun									15-Jun	16-Jun
22-Jun	23-Jun									22-Jun	23-Jun
29-Jun	30-Jun									29-Jun	30-Jun



PLAYER / COACH EDUCATION

DDSL Player Education continues in conjunction with the FAI. Free course!!
16-18 year olds

Course: PDP1
Date: Saturday 13th January 2024
Venue: FAI HQ
Time: 11am – 3.30pm

<https://faiconnect.ie/mycomet/private/seminars/12161150>

REFEREE'S

Online Referee Beginners Course – 15th/16th January 2024 (7-10pm)
Online Referee Beginners Course – 30th/31st January 2024 (7-10pm)
Online Referee Beginners Course – 26th/27th February 2024 (7-10pm)

DDSL Session for all u7/u8/u9 managers (email sent to all clubs)
Thursday 18th Jan 2024 in the FAI Media room - 7-8 & 8-9

SHOW RACISM THE RED CARD - Session 1 - Mon 22nd Jan 7-8.30; Session 2 - Mon 12th Feb 7-8.30

The DDSL, FAI & the educational project show racism the red card will be organising a series of anti - racism/non discrimination educational sessions. These sessions are designed to be interactive & cover key issues related to understanding racism, its reporting and management. As our numbers are large there will be 2 sessions & these will be presented by Des Tomlinson FAI Intercultural Programme National Coordinator & Valeria Aquino from the Immigrant Council. As the issues of Racism/ Discrimination are on the increase within the League, This Webinar will be compulsory for Club Secretaries /Child Welfare Officers. If the courses fill up quickly, we will organise another course as well as arranging a separate course for Referees. Therefore, please register early as these types of courses are in demand as clubs want to be in a position to address these issues & these courses will allow them to do so.

All clubs must be represented.

Please register for either date by e-mail: clubcare@ddsl.ie



MATCH DAY PLAYER ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

In the event of a club seeking to query a player eligibility during a DDSL League or Cup game the following is the agreed procedure:

1. The club who wishes to query a player's eligibility will make the Referee aware of their query. (Ideally at half time but up until 10 minutes after a game), as teams may leave a pitch straight after a game. It is best to make the referee aware during halftime where possible.
2. The Protesting Club will provide the referee with a piece of paper with the number or numbers of the players whom they wish to clarify eligibility on. The Protesting Manager will return to their technical area/side-line.
3. The Referee will call over the opposition manager and request that they provide signatures and dates of birth for the players concerned.
4. As per instructions from the ISRS in relation to protests. The signature of the player shall be taken in the sight of the referee. This is down to a safety issue around referees.
5. Once this is completed the referee will return the piece of paper to the opposition team who requested the signatures etc.
6. Refusal to accede to such requests for signatures will be regarded as an admission of guilt.

The following should be noted:

- Clubs are not entitled to take a picture of the match card or players to use as evidence.
- The Referee is only there to act as an intermediary, if a club refuse to provide the signatures etc, the Referee will report same.
- The above only applies to DDSL League and Cup games. Clubs should make themselves aware of competition rules for other competitions.

SECTION 4.0 PROTEST \ APPEAL

Issued Dec 14th 2023

1. PROTEST (RULE 1. PROTEST PROCEDURE)

1. All protests must be sent in by registered letter for the attention of the League Administrator of the league within three (3) days (Sundays and Bank Holidays excepted) of the date of playing the match on which the protest arises, a fee of €50 to be paid on the leagues online payment system within the 3 days stated in the rule. All protests must be signed by the Club Secretary of club making the protest.
2. An exact copy of the protest must be forwarded at the same time, by registered post, to the Secretary of the Club against whom the protest is being made against. In the event of the protest being lost, the fee shall be forfeited. In the event of the protest being upheld offending clubs may pay all costs of the protest (as decided by the disciplinary unit) i.e., search fees protest fees, birth certificate fees, registered letter fees and any reasonably vouched costs incurred by the club that proves same against them

RULE 2. CROSS PROTEST PROCEDURE

1. A further 72 hours will be granted for the purpose of a cross protest. All protests shall be decided by the Football Senior Management Team as they deem fit as per rule.

RULE 3. PROCEDURE FOR A PLAYER RELATED PROTEST

1. The signature and date of birth of a player must be supplied on request by the opposing manager /official within 10 minutes of the end of any match played with the match official in attendance. Not more than 6 signatures & dates of birth may be requested. Refusal to accede to such requests will be regarded as an admission of guilt.
2. The secretary or a designated representative of a club shall be at liberty to examine the registration forms of the opponents of the previous game for the purpose of making a protest. All irregularities shall be dealt with by the Football Senior Management Team or nominated official.
3. For the purpose of this the league administrator (or their nominee) shall be in attendance in the offices during working hours. Alternative arrangements may be made by appointment with the league administrator/ registrar. A fee of €10 will be charged for each named inspection requested.

2. APPEAL (RULE 4. APPEALS BY MEMBERS)

1. Any club in membership of the DDSL league has the right to appeal to the SFAI or the LFA (where applicable) against a decision of the Football Senior Management Team or any committees or nominees in accordance with the rules of either the SFAI or LFA



Merry Christmas